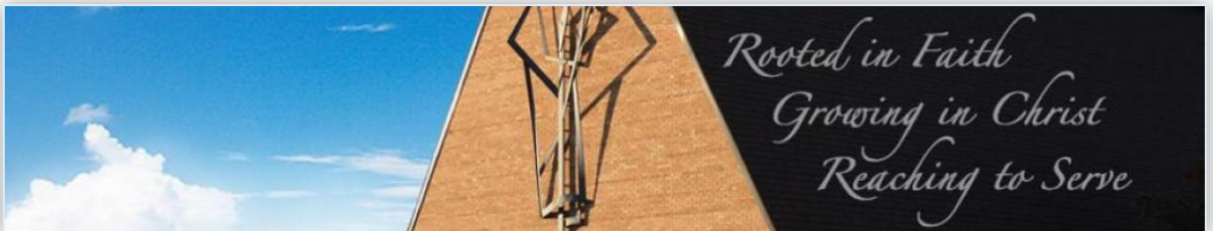


SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 2026
Season of Creation



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Virginia, MN
Pastor Liz Cheney



PRELUDE

Mark Ongalo, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

All Creatures Worship God Most High, vs. 1-3

ELW# 835

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Water! Water! We praise you, O God, for water.

the rain that nourishes animals and plants, the water for drinking and bathing.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for our water stories—a flood that cleansed the earth,

the sea that drowned the enemy, a river that healed leprosy.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We remember the waters of Jesus—baptized in the Jordan River,

calming the Sea of Galilee, drinking from Jacob's Well,

healing at the pool of Bethesda, washing the disciples' feet.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for this font, for through this water

you have birthed us into the family of Christ, bathed us in forgiveness,

and enlivened us in the Spirit.

We praise you, O God, for baptism.

We praise you, O God, for baptism.

O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth.

O God, you are the River, saving us from death.

O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being.

We praise you, O God, today, tomorrow, forever.

Amen, and amen. **Amen, and amen.**



KYRIE

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a Kyrie. The music is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff has the lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.' The second staff has the lyrics 'Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.' The third staff has the lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.' The notation includes quarter notes, half notes, and full notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

THIS IS THE FEAST

4
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu -

9
- ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1. Wor - thy is Christ, the

14
Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God

18
Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom and strength and hon - or, bles - sing and

21
glo - ry are his. This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

27
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2. Sing with all the

33
peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

37
Bles - sing, hon - or, glo - ry and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er, A -

41
- men. 3. For the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign,

46
Al - le - lu - ia. This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

52
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **tacet al fine**

PRAYER OF THE DAY O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BIBLE PRESENTATION

FIRST READING Genesis 50:15-2.

Lector, Nina Kampf

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13. *Please respond with the verses in bold print.*

[¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ **O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.]

⁸ **LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹ you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹² **As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

SECOND READING Romans 14:1-12. *This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35. The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

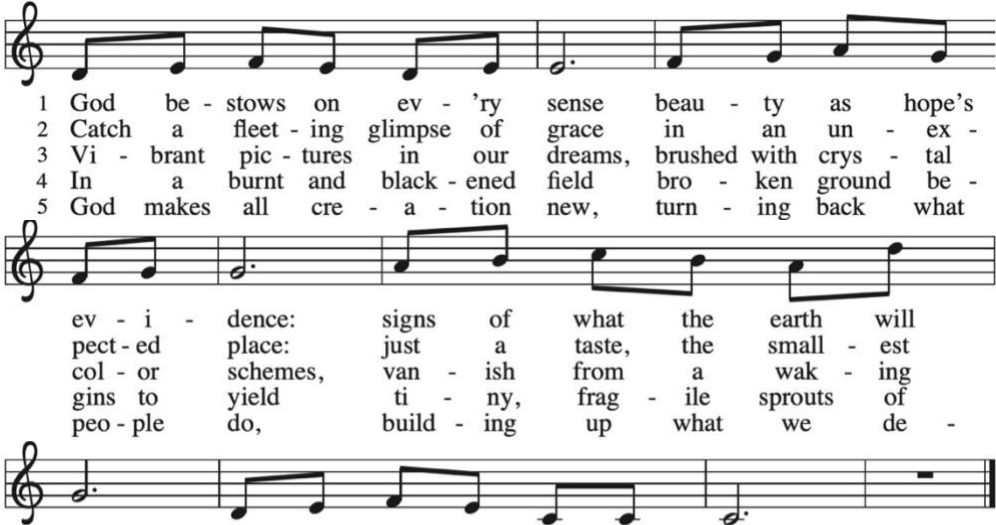
SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

HYMN OF THE DAY

God Bestows on Every Season

ACS# 1069



1 God be - stows on ev - 'ry sense beau - ty as hope's
2 Catch a fleet - ing glimpse of grace in an un - ex -
3 Vi - brant pic - tures in our dreams, brushed with crys - tal
4 In a burnt and black - ened field bro - ken ground be -
5 God makes all cre - a - tion new, turn - ing back what

ev - i - dence: signs of what the earth will
pect - ed place: just a taste, the small - est
col - or schemes, van - ish from a wak - ing
gins to yield ti - ny, frag - ile sprouts of
peo - ple do, build - ing up what we de -

be just be - yond what we can see.
crumb of the ban - quet yet to come.
mind, leav - ing just a trace be - hind.
green: hints of for - ests yet un - seen.
stroy, sing - ing sor - row in - to joy.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Please sing a verse after each prayer petition.

For the Wholeness of the Earth

ACS# 1067

1 We lift this prayer for the whole-ness of the earth. We lift this
2 We turn our lives to the whole-ness of the earth. We turn our
3 Give thanks to God for the whole-ness of the earth. Give thanks to

prayer for the whole-ness of the earth. We lift this prayer for the
lives to the whole-ness of the earth. We turn our lives to the
God for the whole-ness of the earth. Give thanks to God for the

whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it ris - ing in you?
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it spin - ning in you?
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it ris - ing in you?

SHARING THE PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry & missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving. You can give the following ways:

- + online links can be found by accessing our website at <https://www.oslcmn.com/>
- + Using the QR code found here:
- + Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving
- + Dropping off or mailing in your offering – *Thank you*



CHOIR

Now Join We to Praise the Creator

Text: Frederik Kaan; Music: Irish Traditional, arr. Anna De Foe

OFFERTORY

For the Fruit of All Creation, verse 2

ELW# 679

2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.

In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.

In our world-wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,

in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.

OFFERING PRAYER O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise...



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

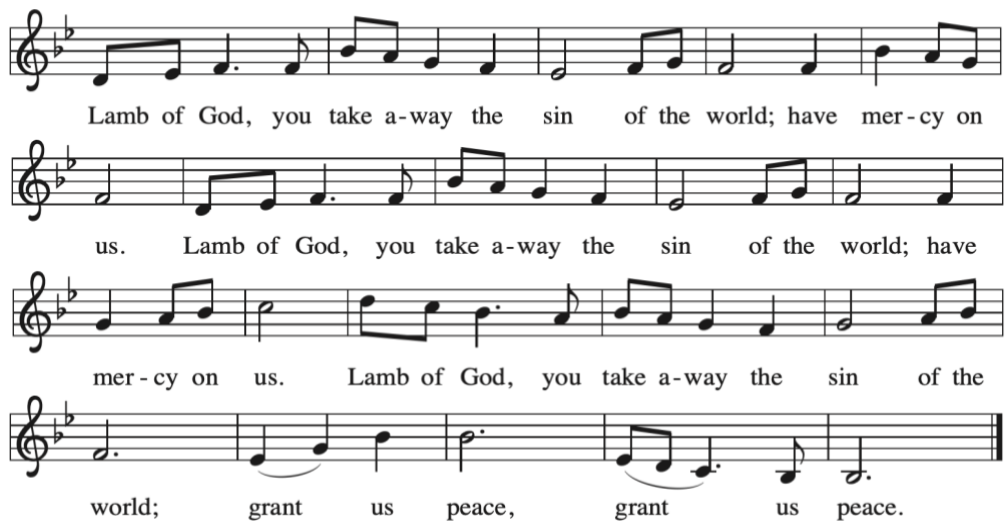
LORD'S PRAYER Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

pg. 191

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION The gifts of creation for God's beloved creatures.

Come and share. All are welcome.



***This Is My Father's World
Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory***

**ELW# 824
ELW# 561**

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING Creator God bless you and keep you. Creating Christ shine through you with grace and mercy. Creative Spirit nourish you and give you peace. **Amen.**





1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored.



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold,
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Flourish with creation. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Mark Ongalo, Organist

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Living Water
 Season of Creation 2026

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Butch, Tom, Gordy, Paul, Jean, Dan, Fred, Megan, Ellen, Steven, Gary, Chuck, Ron, Nadia, Mary, Ruth, Hudson, Wilson, Logan, Nel, Jim, Kyle, Cliff, Ryan, Alexandra W, Dan, Leslie, Shannon, Dale, Adeline, Sue, Jim, Wendy, Fred, Harry, Scooby, Larry, Caleb, Jake, Laurie, Mike, Tedd, Matthew, Rick & Betsy, Gordon, Ross, Anna, Archer, Sharon, Mary, Debbie, Leanne, Addy, Deb, Kyle, Gerilyn, Wally, Ralph, Sue.

Call the church office or Pastor if you have a prayer need: we can send it to the prayer chain if you desire.

If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call

Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

CONTACT US Office: 218-741-6207 Email: office@oslcmn.com OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN

Website: www.oslcmn.com www.facebook.com/oslcmn

YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

OFFICE ADMIN HOURS: CLOSED MONDAYS & HOLIDAYS. OPEN TUES.- FRIDAY, 9AM-5PM

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS Pastor Liz is here Tues.-Thurs. & does visits etc., Mon. & Fri.

Call @ 218-780-8907 or email at lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Mark Ongalo, Jen Fredrickson, Anna & Jim De Foe



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SUNDAY, SEPT. 13th, 2026



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS Students & Teachers, you are invited to receive a blessing for the start of the new school year ~

VLM NEWS THIS TUESDAY! Camp staff will be @ OSLC for a listening session of all area churches for ideas in camp programming etc.. We need your voice if you have been to camp, sent your children, or were a VLM delegate. VLM would love to have your input. The session is **Tues., Sept. 15th 6pm with Coffee An.'**

WELCA NEWS * An All-Women's **General Meeting** will be Sunday, **Sept. 20th** after worship in the Fireside Room. *The area **WELCA Fall Gathering** is here **Thurs., Oct. 8th**. Registration is **at 9am**, with a silent auction, lunch, Habitat for Humanity presentation, worship & communion. Auction proceeds go to the LSS Youth Foyer. **RSVP is preferred by Oct. 1st**, childcare available- call the church office. ***WELCA Fall Fest** will include a Quilter's Corner, Bake Shop, Coffee & Lunch by Youth, and Crafters can reserve a table to sell their handmade items - talk with Pastor Liz if interested! It takes place **Oct. 24th**.

LIFT Will start Wednesday, **Sept. 23rd** with Golf. The whole congregation is invited to join us from **6-8pm**. We will start with dinner at Greens on 14th.

GIFT FOR PR. LAURA @ MLC There is a small basket in the Fellowship Hall with hearts to write your name, name of family, or a farewell wish on it that will be sewn on a stole for Pr. Laura @ Messiah Lutheran. She will be working as *Asst. to the Bishop* at the Synod office. There will be a **reception for her @ MLC Sept. 20th, 11am**, you're invited.

BOOK STUDY GROUP! Join us as we study a wonderful classic titled, "*Falling Upward.*" We will meet on **Sept. 24th & 24th at 12pm** in the Fireside Room.

WELCA & Fun-Duh-Mentals BIBLE STUDY The WELCA Study will now be Tues., **Sept. 22nd @ 1pm**, and Fun-Duh-Mentals Bible Study will be Tues., **Sept. 15th @ 4pm**. Both studies are open & do not require you to be familiar with Bible Studies!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS Pastor will be blessing your animals, present or at home, on **Sunday, Oct. 4th** as we continue to celebrate our Season of Creation – mark the date!

WORSHIP SPONSORSHIP Today's Livestream is sponsored by Tom Klabecek in loving memory of wife Jarie. *Thank you for your support.* To sponsor Livestream & TV Broadcasts in honor of a person or special event (wedding annivers., birthday, graduation etc..) or in memory of a loved one, you may do so in any amount- It helps maintain our sound/camera equipment.

your pets need a blessing too

To start our *Season of Creation*, we are giving thanks for all that God has given us, and your pets are an important part of God's creation! You can bring your pet for Pastor to bless Sunday, Oct. 4th.



<u>UPCOMING @OSLC</u>	<u>TUES. SEPT. 15</u>	<u>WED. SEPT. 16</u>	<u>THURS. SEPT. 17</u>	<u>FRI. SEPT. 18</u>	<u>SAT. SEPT. 19</u>
<u>MON. SEPT. 14</u> 10:30AM AA 2 PM ORGAN PR. 6PM SCOUTS 7PM NA	10:30AM AA <i>*WELCA BIBLE STUDY IS NEXT WEEK, SEPT. 22nd</i> 2 PM ORGAN PR. 4PM FUN.DUH. MENTALS STUDY 6PM VLM SESSION	9AM QUILTING 10:30AM AA 12-3PM C.CLOSET 2 PM ORGAN PR. 5:30PM ALANON	10:30AM AA 10:30 LSS MTG 2:30PM TOPS 6PM CUB SCOUTS 7PM NA W.WING	10:30AM AA 7PM NA W.WING	10:30AM AA

GOD PAUSE. PSALM 103: (1-7) 8-13 (NRSV)

Read Psalm 103: (1-7) 8-13 on biblegateway.com

¹Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

²Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits-

³who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

⁴who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

⁵who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

¹³As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

Devotion: I find it absolutely amazing just how much God loves me, even on my worst days when I don't feel very loving towards others. The psalmist writes, "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." God's love is so deep for us! Even on those days when I am at my worst, God does not hold that against me. As we reflect on forgiveness this week, I hope we can remember how God responds when we stumble. "Bless the Lord and do not forget all his benefits" God forgives all our iniquities when we come to God in prayer. Here we see again the importance of relationship. God wants us to come in prayer, to discuss what is on our hearts. God showers us with steadfast love, a deeper love than we could ever imagine.

Prayer: Loving God, thank you for showering us with your deep, deep love and continued mercy. Amen.

Rev. Sue Lynn White '17 M.Div.Pastor, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Salisbury, NC