

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX IN GOD'S NEW FAMILY



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023





At Church of the Savior, our vision is to grow in "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life." We hope you sense God's presence and our warm welcome. We'd love to meet you in the foyer after the service.

--Fr. Kevin and Mtr. Karen

About Our Worship: We use an Anglican liturgy. Liturgy simply means that everyone gets to participate, so please join in as you feel comfortable.

Children's Worship: Nursery is available for children 6 months through 4 years. Children's Worship rooms are available for children Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, and 3rd to 5th Grade. You may choose to keep children with your family, and coloring pages will be available to all.

Assisted Listening or Noise Cancelling Headphones: Pick up a loop in the livestream booth (the door to the right of the fireplace in the Fireside Room). An usher can guide you there. Noise cancelling headphones are also available at the info table for those who might be sensitive to noise.

Today is the Sixteenth week after Pentecost, and during this season of Ordinary Time we are looking at key people and practices of the Anglican Church. Today we ask: Why make the sign of the cross? Christians have been using this symbolic gesture for centuries, and when we make the sign of the cross we are affirming several realities. In this gesture, we profess our belief in the Trinity; we renew our baptism, reminding ourselves that we have died and risen with Christ; and we mark ourselves as disciples. The sign of the cross also reminds us of Christ's suffering. Making the sign of the cross is not required of Anglican Christians; however, it can be a powerful physical reminder that we are marked as Christ's own.

Want to Stay in Touch? Let us know how at FriendsOf The Savior.org/visitor

Please enjoy a few moments of silence during the prelude to prepare for worship.

THE WORD OF GOD

PROCESSIONAL

You may stand.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n to earth come down, fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art; visit us with Thy salvation; enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit,
let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning:
set our hearts at liberty.

Finish then Thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: And blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Good and Gracious King

I approach the throne of glory; Nothing in my hands I bring But the promise of acceptance From a good and gracious King.

I will give to You my burden As You give to me Your strength. Come and fill me with Your Spirit As I sing to You this praise.

You deserve the greater glory.
Overcome, I lift my voice
To the King in need of nothing;
Empty handed, I rejoice.
You deserve the greater glory;
Overcome with joy I sing.
By Your love I am accepted;
You're a good and gracious King.

Holy, holy, Lord Almighty, Good and gracious, Good and gracious, Holy, holy, Lord Almighty, Good and gracious King. Children from kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the acolyte to Children's Worship during the next song.

GLORIA



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

GENESIS 1:26-28, 31; 2:18, 21-25

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

- ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."
- ³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.
- ¹⁸ The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."
- ²¹ So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³ The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

²⁵ Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

PSALM 103:8-13

- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,* slow to anger and of great kindness.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse us,* nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- He has not dealt with us according to our sins,* nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,* so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- ¹² As far as the east is from the west,*
 so far has he removed our sins from us.
- ¹³ As a father cares for his children,*
 so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

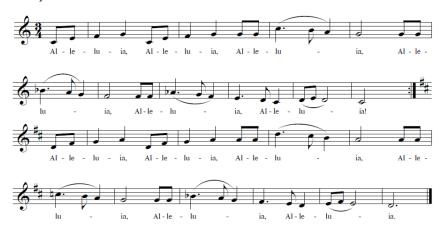
12 "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything."—but I will not be mastered by anything. 13 You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. ¹⁹ Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

You may stand.



Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²³ That same day Jesus was approached by some Sadducees—religious leaders who say there is no resurrection from the dead. They posed this question: ²⁴ "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies without children, his brother should marry the widow and have a child who will carry on the brother's name.' ²⁵ Well, suppose there were seven brothers. The oldest one married and then died without children, so his brother married the widow. ²⁶ But the second brother also died, and the third brother married her. This continued with all seven of them. ²⁷ Last of all, the woman also died. ²⁸ So tell us, whose wife will she be in the resurrection? For all seven were married to her."

²⁹ Jesus replied, "Your mistake is that you don't know the Scriptures, and you don't know the power of God. ³⁰ For when the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage. In this respect they will be like the angels in heaven.

³¹ "But now, as to whether there will be a resurrection of the dead—haven't you ever read about this in the Scriptures? Long after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had died, God said, ³² 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' So he is the God of the living, not the dead."

³³ When the crowds heard him, they were astounded at his teaching.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ALLELUIA

Please be seated.

THE SERMON



God's Surprising Plan For Our Loneliness and Isolation

Kevin Miller Rector

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7 2	110 11	Chia	

The problem is not	to be solved by	
The problem is	to be solved by	
Something amazing happens when we	move from to	
3 surprising truths about the bonds	in God's new family:	
1. In God's new family, the bonds are _		
2. In God's new family, the bonds are _		
3. In God's new family, the bonds are _		
Questions that now make sense:		
		?
		?
		?

We take a few minutes of silence to reflect, pray, and listen for what God may be saying.

THE NICENE CREED

You may stand.

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

The celebrant concludes the Prayers of the People.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please sit or kneel for a time of silence.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

At this time, parents should pick up their children from the nursery and Children's Worship.

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THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

THE OFFERTORY

His Mercy Is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done? Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum. Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore, Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

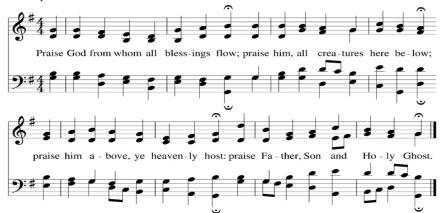
What patience would wait as we constantly roam? What Father, so tender is calling us home? He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor. Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness He lavished on us. His blood was the payment; His life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford. Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn. Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

THE DOXOLOGY





THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus



Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

All: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing:



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please join us for Communion: all who are baptized and seeking to follow Jesus are welcome. If that doesn't describe you, simply say "Blessing," or cross your arms, and the minister distributing bread will pray a short prayer for God's favor on your life. The first tray contains wine; the second contains grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayer, a prayer minister is available in the foyer.

Rock Of Ages

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee. Let the water and the blood, From thy wounded side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure; Save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill thy law's demands. Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow, All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to the cross I cling, Naked come to thee for dress; Helpless, look to thee for grace. Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me Savior, or I die.

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Our Great God

Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious and unknown; Your boundless love, Unfailing, grace and mercy shown. Bright seraphim in ceaseless flight Around Your glorious throne; They raise their voices day and night In praise to You alone.

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God! Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Lord, we are weak and frail, Helpless in the storm. Surround us with Your angels, Hold us in Your arms. Our cold and ruthless enemy, His pleasure is our harm. Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee Before our sov'reign God.

Let ev'ry creature in the sea And ev'ry flying bird, Let ev'ry mountain, Ev'ry field and valley of the earth; Let all the moons and all the stars In all the universe Sing praises to the living God Who rules them by His Word.

You Are Good

Lord, You are good, And Your mercy endureth forever; Lord, You are good And Your mercy endureth forever. People from every nation and tongue, From generation to generation.

We worship You, Hallelujah, hallelujah: We worship You for who You are; We worship You, Hallelujah, hallelujah; We worship You for who You are; For You are good.

You are good, all the time; All the time, You are good; You are good, all the time; All the time, You are good.

Glorify Your Name

Father, we love You,
We worship and adore You,
Glorify your name in all the earth.
Glorify your name,
Glorify your name,
Glorify your name in all the earth.

Jesus, we love You, We worship and adore You, Glorify your name in all the earth. Glorify your name, Glorify your name, Glorify your name in all the earth.

Spirit, we love You, We worship and adore You, Glorify your name in all the earth. Glorify your name, Glorify your name, Glorify your name in all the earth.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

You may be seated for announcements.

RECESSIONAL

Celtic Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,

Wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness,

Protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you,

May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the

Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All-Church Retreat: Join us tomorrow, September 17 from 2-5 pm at PHCC for our annual All-Church Retreat! We'll spend the afternoon connecting with God in a variety of ways. This retreat is designed to be accessible to all ages, including children and youth; childcare will be provided for our littlest ones, children from kindergarten up will be guided through the retreat by adult volunteers, and youth can participate alongside adults. Please register at the link on the website so that we have enough materials, and let Pastor Sarah know if you have any questions.

Adult Confirmation Class: Last chance to join the class! We meet on Saturdays from 3-4 pm at PHCC through Nov. 18th; contact Pastor Sarah for more information or to sign up.

Outward Journey Small Group: Interested in exploring ways to love our neighbors as the Savior community? You're invited to join a short-term small group dedicated to serving those around us. Pastor Sarah will lead and host this group, which meets on alternate Thursday nights beginning on September 28th and ending on May 23rd. Contact Sarah for more information.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Nursery & Children's Worship: We provide Nursery for children 6 months through 4 years and two Children's Worship rooms. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade may attend Young Children in Worship, and 3rd to 5th Grade may attend Following Jesus.

During Our Sexuality Sermon Series

Nothing will be graphic, but If you prefer to not have your child or youth be in for the sermon, that's fine. Please come with them to the library where there will be coloring supplies; please stay with your child.

Youth: Regular youth group meetings will restart tonight, September 9th. Future dates: September 23; October 7, 28 (please note the date has been changed from October 21st to the 28th.); November 4, 18; December 2.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for supporting this ministry of "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life."

This Year's Giving Goal: \$365,000 As of September 9:

Budgeted Giving Goal = \$256,830 Actual Giving = \$209,105 Over/(Under) = (\$47,725)

Donations to Church of the Savior:

Church of the Savior, PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187

friendsofthesavior.org/giving

SERMONS

SEASON OF PENTECOST

Relationships and Sex in God's New Family

September 16, Kevin Miller, God's Surprising Plan for Our Loneliness and Isolation

September 23, Deb Nickerson, Living in God's Family as a Single Person September 30, Kevin Miller, Living in God's Family as a Gay Person October 7, Kevin Miller, Living in God's Family as a Married Person

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Altar & Acolytes
Audio Visual Team
Care Coordination
College Ministry
Intercessory Prayer
Meals Ministry
Prayer and Communion
Prayers of the People
Scripture Readers
Setup
Welcome Team

Sandy Oyler Erik Peterson kevin@friendsofthesavior.org Sarah Lindsay sheri.l.abel@gmail.com Cara Peterson Marj Mead Deb Nickerson Hope Grant Angel Gonzalez Gayle Koehler

To ask about a ministry or volunteer to get involved, please talk with its leader (emails are found at friendsofthesavior.org/serve) or with Pastor Sarah Lindsay (sarah@friendsofthesavior.org).

CLERGY

Kevin Miller Karen Miller Brad Lindsay Sandy Oyler kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org deaconbrad@friendsofthesavior.org deacon@friendsofthesavior.org

ASSISTING CLERGY

Bill Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired Linda Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired Sandy Richter, Rector, Christ Our Peace Anglican

STAFF

Rector: Kevin Miller
Associate Rector: Karen Miller
Pastor of Family Ministries: Mary Gonzalez
Pastor of Music and Worship: John Rakes
Pastor of Adult Formation: Sarah Lindsay
Youth Pastor: Steve Dilley
Director of Communications: Caprice Miller
Bookkeeper: Jean Ann Parker
Family Ministries Admin: Sydney DePasquale

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Journeying Together: Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life