

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX IN GOD'S NEW FAMILY



The Eighteenth Week after Pentecost SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 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 available at the info table for those who might be sensitive to noise.

Today is the Eighteenth 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 do some people bow towards the cross? One of the goals of liturgical worship is to engage all of our senses in worship. We hear scriptures and sermons, we see the colors of the church year, we touch and taste the elements of communion. We also engage our bodies as we are able, perhaps standing as a sign of respect for the gospel or kneeling as we confess our sins. Bowing as the cross passes by in the procession or recession, or as we walk by the cross during the service, is another sign of respect. But we are not respecting the mere item; we bow not to the cross itself but towards Jesus, represented by the cross. As with other gestures, like making the sign of the cross, bowing is optional for Anglicans. But it is a way to worship God with our bodies, reminding us that our life in Christ and in the Church involves our heads, our hearts, and our bodies.

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

Cover art: James Tissot. Jesus Sits by the Seashore and Preaches, 1886-1896.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

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

THE WORD OF GOD

PROCESSIONAL

You may stand.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood: "Jesus, out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now. Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how. Though the cloud from sight received Him When the forty days were o'er, Shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, here on earth our food, our stay; Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day. Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, hear our plea, where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

- 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.

Glory in the Highest

You alone are worthy, You alone deserve the highest praise. We bow down to worship, We bow down to seek You in this place.

We sing glory, glory in the highest, Glory in the highest, glory to our God. We sing glory, glory in the highest, Glory in the highest, glory to our God.

For Your love and mercy, For the beauty of Your saving grace; We have come to thank You. We have come to worship You today.

As we bow down, Be lifted high. As we bow down, Be lifted high. Children from kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the acolyte to Children's Worship during the next song.

GLORIA



Celebrant: The Lord be with you. All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

EXODUS 17:1-7

¹ The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?"

³ But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?"

⁴ Then Moses cried out to the Lord, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵ The Lord answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the Lord saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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

- ¹ Hear my teaching, O my people; * incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- ² I will open my mouth in a parable; * I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- ³ That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, * we will not hide from their children.
- ⁴ We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, * and the wonderful works he has done.
- ¹² He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, * in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- ¹³ He split open the sea and let them pass through; * he made the waters stand up like walls.
- ¹⁴ He led them with a cloud by day, * and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- ¹⁵ He split the hard rocks in the wilderness * and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- ¹⁶ He brought streams out of the cliff, * and the waters gushed out like rivers.

⁹ Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, ¹⁰ or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God. ¹¹ Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

¹² You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is good for you. And even though "I am allowed to do anything," I must not become a slave to anything. ¹³ You say, "Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food." (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can't say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies. ¹⁴ And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.

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

ALLELUIA

lu ia, Al-lelu Al - le Al - le ia. - lu ia. A1 - le ia, Al-le - lu ia, Al - le lu ial Al - le Al - le lu ia. ia. hı Al - le Al - le lu ia, Al - le lu ia, ia.

You may stand.

THE GOSPEL

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

⁵⁻⁸ "I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can't produce a thing. Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on the bonfire. But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. This is how my Father shows who he is—when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples.

⁹⁻¹⁰ "I've loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. If you keep my commands, you'll remain intimately at home in my love. That's what I've done—kept my Father's commands and made myself at home in his love.

¹¹⁻¹⁵ "I've told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature. This is my command: Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends. You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I'm no longer calling you servants because servants don't understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I've named you friends because I've let you in on everything I've heard from the Father.

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

ALLELUIA

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Living in God's Family as a Gay Person



Kevin Millef Rector

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. 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.

The Psalm was taken from The Book of Common Prayer, public domain.

The First, and Second Lesson, and the Gospel were taken from Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®] Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.[®] Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

THE OFFERTORY

Come People of The Risen King

Come people of the Risen King, Who delight to bring Him praise; Come all, and tune your hearts to sing To the Morning Star of grace. From the shifting shadows of the earth, We will lift our eyes to Him, Where steady arms of mercy reach, To gather children in.

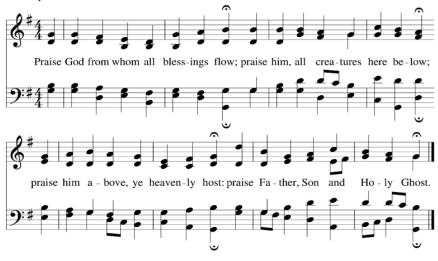
Rejoice, rejoice! Let ev'ry tongue rejoice! One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come those whose joy is morning sun, And those weeping through the night; Come those who tell of battles won, And those struggling in the fight. For His perfect love will never change, And His mercies never cease, But follow us through all our days, With the certain hope of peace.

Come young and old from ev'ry land, Men and women of the faith; Come those with full or empty hands – Find the riches of His grace. Over all the world, His people sing – Shore to shore we hear them call The truth that cries through ev'ry age, "Our God is all in all."

THE DOXOLOGY

You may stand.



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 in him.

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.

I am the Bread of Life

I am the Bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; and who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.

And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day.

The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live for ever, you shall live for ever.

I am the Resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live for ever.

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.

Salvation Belongs To Our God

Salvation belongs to our God, Who sits upon the throne, And unto the Lamb; Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks, Honor and power and strength...

Be to our God forever and ever; Be to our God forever and ever, Be to our God forever and ever, Amen!

And we the redeemed shall be strong In purpose and unity, Declaring aloud; Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks, Honor and power and strength...

Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks, Honor and power and strength.

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!" Text: W. Chatterton Dix; Tune: HYFRYDOL ©Public Domain "Glory in the Highest" Al Gordon | Hanif Williams | Luke Hellebronth © 2009 Thankyou Music

"Gloria" ©2023, John P. Rakes

"Alleluia" ©2023, John P. Rakes

"Let Everything" Ben Smith, Daniel Bashta, Jason Ingram, Pat Barrett, Sean Feucht © 2019 Capitol CMG Genesis; Housefires Sounds; Vanos Publishing; Fellow Ships Music; So Essential Ing; Remaining portion is unaffiliated

"Doxology" E. Johnson "Holy Holy Holy" ©2023, John P. Rakes

"Christ Has Died" Betty Carr Pulkingham "The Lords Prayer" Old Hundreth

"Come People of The Risen King" Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend © 2007 Thankyou Music

"I am the Bread of Life" Text: John 6; Suzanne Toolan, SM, b.1927 © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.

"His Mercy Is More" Matt Boswell, Matt Papa

© 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs; Getty Music Publishing; Love Your Enemies Publishing; Mes-senger Hymns

"Salvation Belongs To Our God" Adrian Howard [Pat Turner © 1985 Restoration Music, Ltd. "We Will Dance"

David Ruis © 1993 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing

"Celtic Benediction" ©1999 Northumbria Community Trust

CCLI License #2583835

We Will Dance

Sing a song of celebration. Lift up a shout of praise For the bridegroom will come, The glorious One. And oh, We will look on His face. We'll go to a much better place.

And dance with all your might. Lift up your hands and clap for joy, For the time's drawing near When He will appear. And oh, we will stand by His side. A strong pure, spotless Bride.

Oh, we will dance on the streets that are golden, The glorious Bride and the great Son of Man. From ev'ry tongue and tribe and nation Will join in the song of the Lamb.

Sing aloud for the time of rejoicing is near. The risen King, our Groom, is soon to appear. The wedding feast to come is now near at hand. Lift up your voice, proclaim, the coming Lamb.

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

Savior's Anniversary Choir

Be a Part of Savior's Anniversary Choir on October 28! Any singer of any age is invited to join this choir. Two rehearsals will be held for approximately 30 minutes after the services on Saturday, October 14 and October 21. If you are planning to sing or have any questions please contact John Rakes, Pastor of Music and Worship at John@friendsofthesavior.org.

Prayer & Praise Returns

Welcome to this time to enter God's presence. From 7–8:15pm on these Tuesday evenings: Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Jan. 30, Mar. 19, Apr. 23, and May 21.

Gatherings

Looking to connect with other Friends of the Savior? Sign up for a Gathering Group! "Gatherings" are informal meals shared at one another's homes on October 6th, 7th, or 8th with a host who will coordinate the time and place and food items to bring. Please sign up on the sheet at the Information Table in the narthex by tonight, Saturday, September 30 to be included. Any questions? Contact Hope Grant.

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: Future dates: October 7, 28 (please note the date has been changed from October 21st to the 28th.); November 4, 18; December 2.

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

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 23:

Budgeted Giving Goal = \$272,099 Actual Giving = \$216,574 Over/(Under) = (\$55,525)

Donations to Church of the Savior: ☑ Church of the Savior, PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187 ☐ friendsofthesavior.org/giving

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).

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

VESTRY

Christine Sloat: Senior Warden Synthia Cathcart: Junior Warden Karen Bailey: Church Clerk Karen Miller Kevin Miller Deb Nickerson Sandy Oyler Rick Page Alan Savage kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org john@friendsofthesavior.org sarah@friendsofthesavior.org steve@friendsofthesavior.org caprice@friendsofthesavior.org jeanann@friendsofthesavior.org sydney@friendsofthesavior.org

christine.kindberg@gmail.com arnold.cathcart@gmail.com



Journeying Together: Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life

FriendsOfTheSavior.org

630-387-9450

PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187