



The Eternal Light

Eternal Savior Lutheran Church
2688 North Park Drive
Lafayette, CO 80026
303-665-6105

August 2025

WORD IS . . .

Volume 3/Issue 7 August
A WORD FROM PASTOR THORSON

Comfort in Confrontation, Thanks in Thorns

The world is messed up in a lot of ways – disease, drugs, gangs, terror, hate and on and on the list goes. But then again, we knew that already. The ultimate reason is of course sin but knowing that doesn't do us much good. In fact, because we know it we are tempted to fall into another sort of sin. Because the world is messed up and often times a very hostile place for Christians to live, especially when we are accosted by people who want to reconcile their own comfortable sins with God, it is easy to think that we should just give up on the world. Instead of constantly living with the thorns of accusation and misunderstanding, instead of dealing with the constant barrage of our past mistakes being brought up, it would be really easy to find a nice quiet spot on the earth where we only interacted with other Christians.

“Romans and Jeremiah remind us that God is at work for us and for our future even through evil things and pandemics.”

The problem in doing this is that we'd be doing the exact opposite of what God asks of his people. So, guess what! We get to live right in the middle of the confrontation. We get to live with the thorns and discord others have for us, but we can do so with thanksgiving because of the comfort that our God gives us. Take a moment to read Psalm 9. This Psalm is a prophecy for the church that still holds true today. It reminds us that in the middle of persecution the Lord is with us. He is our refuge during conflict. When we are in pain from the thorns, God has not forsaken us, but stands ready to uphold our cause. Read it again. In turmoil and strife, the Psalmist is singing praise and thanksgiving to God who is the one maintaining the writer's just cause.

PSALM 9: 1-2

I WILL GIVE THANKS
TO THE Lord WITH
MY WHOLE HEART; I
WILL RECOUNT ALL
OF YOUR
WONDERFUL DEEDS.
I WILL BE GLAD
AND EXULT IN YOU;
I WILL SING PRAISE
TO YOUR NAME, O
MOST HIGH.



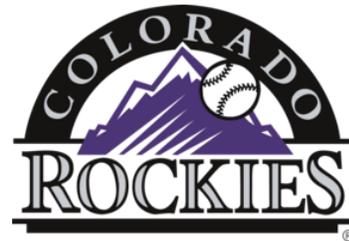
This Psalm foreshadows Jesus' own words in John 16. There he assures his disciples that though they might suffer in the world, he has overcome that very same world. He is the ruler seated on his throne for justice, your justice. He is the one who will rebuke the nations so that we can continue in our mission, the Great Commission. So even amid confrontation with our own government, friends, or even family, we can take comfort in our God. Because of that, we can be thankful that God might take our thorns, be they terrorists, politicians or just random troublemakers, and through our "discipling" of the world turn them into our brothers and sisters who seek Jesus and his shelter. Take heart! Do not retreat! God is with you. He has saved you and through you he might even save a thorn or two. God's peace!

In Christ,

Pastor Paul D. Jr.

Upcoming Events

August 3rd – Rockies Faith Day game and concert



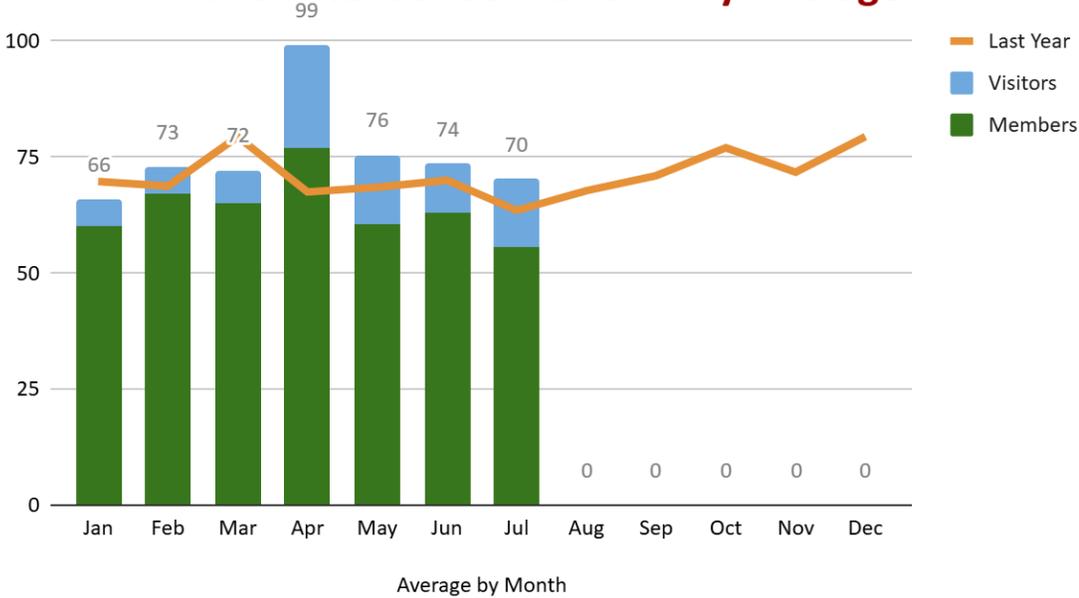
LISTEN
For **God's**
voice
IN EVERYTHING
you do

Attendance Graphs!

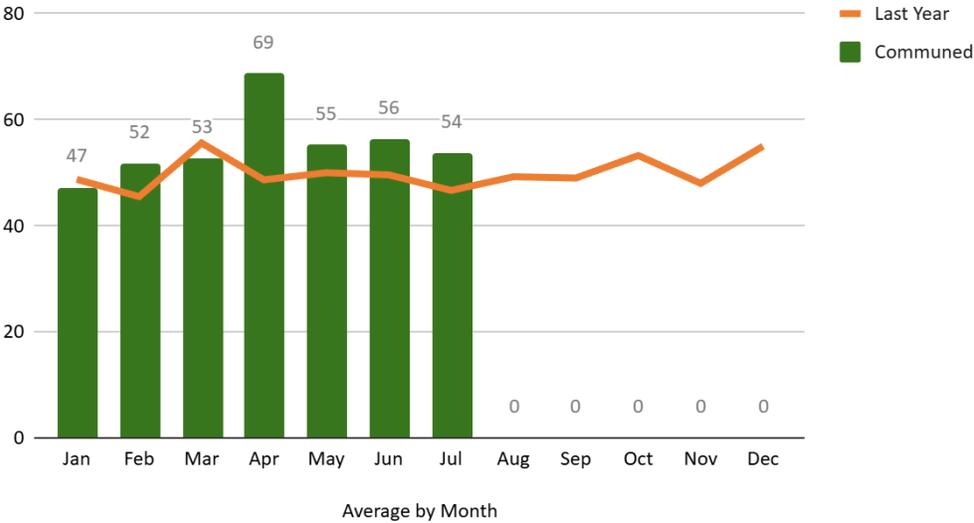
Members of Eternal Savior.

These are graphs showing our attendance and communion for 2025.

2025 Attendance: Per-Sunday Average



2025 Communed: Per-Sunday Average



OFFERING REPORT

Offerings for the month of July were:

July 6	\$2,180
July 13	\$6,845
July 20	\$1,035
July 27	\$2,295
Online Offerings	\$3,796



This weekly average (\$3,230) compares to our 2025 weekly budget needs of **\$5,018**.

COUNTER SCHEDULE

If you have a conflict on a day you are scheduled, please arrange with another counter to cover that day.

Aug. 3 – Marc and Jan Ertle
Aug. 10 – Sam and Lynn Kelley
Aug. 17 – Sam and Lynn Kelley
Aug. 24 – Polly Cowley and Cindy Stahly
Aug. 31 - Katherine Moore and Polly Cowley

Sept. 7 Katherine Moore and Cindy Stahly
Sept. 14 Mark and Mary Bunge
Sept. 21 Mark and Mary Bunge
Sept. 28 Marc and Jan Ertle



MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

As of the end of July, our General Fund continues to maintain a healthy balance. It appears that we may be in a position that we may not need to dip into our Rainy Day Funds. This would be the first time in several years that this was the case.

In addition to the General Fund our other funds are allowing us to support the following:

- Soon we will be replacing furniture in the narthex and we currently have the funds to cover that.
- Work has started on two additional stained-glass windows that are also fully funded.
- The Deacon's fund continues their ongoing work both inside and outside of our congregation.

In September our Church Council will begin work on next year's budget, please keep this work as well as the financial status of ESLC in your thoughts and prayers.

If you have any questions on financial information or giving options, please let me know.



ULC Support

In 2025 ULC is seeking to host its very first academic conference centered around the Lutheran role in the humanities. Specifically, this year is the 500th anniversary of the important debate between Luther and Erasmus on free will which culminates in Luther's seminal philosophical tract and response *On the Bondage of the Will*. In collaboration with the Bruce D. Benson Center for the Study of Western Civilization, they have a date set for a one-day conference on **Saturday September 13th** that will be open to public. The theme will be exploring the Lutheran role in the humanities and classical education, and how the ideas formulated in the debate between Luther and Erasmus still have ramifications today for western civilization and our society.

For funding, they have already secured a \$5,000 grant from the Lutheran Concerns Association for commissioning Lutheran speakers to present at the conference. In this they are excited to announce Dr. Carl P.E Springer, Professor of Classics at the university of Tennessee – Chattanooga and Dr. Christopher Boyd Brown, Associate Professor of Church History at Boston University and General Editor of *Luther's Works*.

In addition, LCA have also set aside \$10,000 as matching funds for their fundraising efforts. This is where they hope you will prayerfully consider financial support for ULC in the coming months. If that \$10,000 is matched, they will have \$25,000 in funds with which to run this conference. That funding will cover all additional expenses, including additional speakers, including travel and lodging, food, photography, website and communication efforts, and supplies.

Please consider donating to this exciting conference at ULC. You can include a donation and indicate that donation on your envelope.

with
God
all things
ARE POSSIBLE

Matthew 19:26

National Youth Gathering

The youth will host a special reception after church on **August 17th**. Please join us for some treats and to hear from the kids about their time in New Orleans.





REMINDERS

The Deacon's Fund supports Emergency Family Assistance, ULC, and other charities as well. All of these funds will be used to alleviate the needs of people who are in very vulnerable circumstances. The agencies have expressed great gratitude. We are only able to do this because of the generous and faithful contributions of you, our dear members, to the Deacon's Fund! Please consider contributing via your offering envelopes or in the Deacons' Fund collector in the Narthex! Thanks!!!

Please be responsible!!! For everyone who has access to the church building, it is your responsibility when you leave to make sure that all lights are off, the heat/air-conditioning/fans are turned back or off and all of the **doors are locked and secure!!** Please do double checks before you leave.

We ask that all members of the congregation please be conscious of protecting their valuables while at church. Many times, the doors are left unlocked, and people are downstairs. This gives easy access to someone who may not be a member. We will try to remember to lock the doors after service.

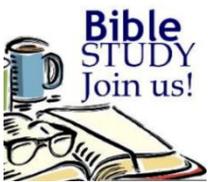
Sign Up to Receive Text Messages - Eternal Savior is building a text message list for urgent communications. i.e., Service is cancelled due to a blizzard. If you would like to receive notifications like that via text message, please text **ETERNALSAVIOR** (one word, no space) to 84576. Contact Laura Raben if you need help signing up.

***** There are many open spots for flowers on Sunday.** Please look to see if there is a service you would like to provide flowers. Also include if the flowers are for a special occasion.

Parking spaces in front of the church should be reserved for those members and visitors that need to park close to the building due to health concerns or weather. Please be considerate and leave these spaces to those who need them most.

Large print worship service folders and assisted listening devices are available. Please ask an usher if needed.

***** For the month of August we will not have Sunday Morning Bible Study or Sunday School. These will resume with Rally Day on September 7th! *****



Sunday Morning Bible Study – Please join us after service downstairs for Sunday morning Bible Study. This Bible Study is covering the Book of Ezekiel.

Sunday School! We are studying the “Enduring Faith” curriculum. Sunday School opening is at 10:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. All children are encouraged to join us!

Thursday Morning Bible Study - Please join us for Thursday morning Bible Study at 10:30a.m. We will be studying the book of Romans. ***** This Bible Study will resume August 7th.**

SERVING IN AUGUST

Sunday, August 3

Organist /Pianist	Linda Innes
Acolyte	Lydia Hurst
Usher(s)	Keith Cowley, Katherine Moore
Greeter(s)	Bob and Brenda Vieyra
Counter(s)	Marc and Jan Ertle
Elder(s)	Marc Ertle, Wayne Thomas
Altar	Brenda Vieyra
A/V Booth	Laura Raben
Snow/Lawn	Pete Hinrichs
Flowers	Linda Thompson

Sunday, August 10

Organist /Pianist	Linda Innes
Cantor	Mark Bunge
Acolyte	Cole Mayer
Usher(s)	Keith Cowley, Katherine Moore
Greeter(s)	Kirk and Melisa Anderson
Counter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Elder(s)	Ryan Lambrecht (r), Eric Olson
Altar	Brenda Vieyra
A/V Booth	Nick and Noah Mayer
Snow/Lawn	Kyle Martz
Flowers	Innes

Sunday, August 17

Organist /Pianist	Linda Innes
Acolyte	Luke Hinrichs
Usher(s)	Tom and Cindy Stahly
Greeter(s)	Cindy Griffin
Counter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Elder(s)	Kirk Anderson, Keith Cowley
Altar	Brenda Vieyra
A/V Booth	Pete and Levi Hinrichs
Snow/Lawn	Kyle Martz
Flowers	Koeller

Sunday, August 24

Organist/Pianist	Valerie Iglar
Cantor	Tom Stahly
Acolyte	Dylan Mayer
Usher(s)	Tom and Cindy Stahly
Greeter(s)	Michael Scott
Counter(s)	Polly Cowley and Cindy Stahly
Elder(s)	Wayne Thomas (r), Kirk Anderson
Altar	Brenda Vieyra
A/V Booth	Tom Stahly and Micah Anderson
Snow/Lawn	Noah Mayer
Flowers	Ertle

Sunday, August 31

Organist/Pianist	Valerie Iglar
Acolyte	Anna Lambrecht
Usher(s)	Levi Hinrichs and Ryan Lambrecht
Greeter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Counter(s)	Katherine Moore and Polly Cowley
Elder(s)	Wayne Thomas, Kirk Anderson
Altar	Melisa Anderson
A/V Booth	Kirk and Micah Anderson
Snow/Lawn	Noah Mayer
Flowers	OPEN

We have many ways in which our members can share their gifts with others each Sunday. Some of those are Greeters, Offering Counters, Ushers, Livestream and Audio Engineers, Lawn Mowing/Snow Removal. These are all listed on the Servant Calendar on our web site. Please reach out to Mary at the church office if you can serve. We so appreciate and thank God for your service!