



## EXPERIENCING JESUS TOGETHER

### WEEK TWO

*“At Our Savior’s Way Lutheran Church, we make disciples to follow Jesus by  
Experiencing Jesus Together”*

Many people have no need for worshipping God at a local church or being part of a community of believers. They believe they can experience God’s presence just as effectively at home or watching a sunrise at the beach. Who can argue with them? The Bible would agree. The psalmist writes, “Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there (Psalm 139:7-8).” God created all things, and is present everywhere in His creation. God’s presence and love are the very fibers that hold life together.

God is love and He wants us to know Him. This is the reason God sent Jesus Christ, His Only Son, to be born in human flesh so we could experience His love and His presence. “No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known (John 1:18).” The very presence of Christ is now available to everyone through the Holy Spirit, which God shares with us through His Word. “God poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit whom he has given us (Romans 5:5).”

A sports fan craves to be in the crowd on game day because it makes the whole experience more exciting. But after the game is over, the fan is still only a fan. The fan does not become a player. Worship is different. Worship is transformative. As we hear the Word of God in worship and experience the presence of Jesus in Holy Communion, the Holy Spirit empowers each of us with God’s own love. Worship transforms us from fans into players, or from believers into disciples, who share His love. When we miss worship or being in community our lives are not the same.

Jesus promised to always be with us wherever we are. Jesus also promised to make our joy complete by helping us experience His loving presence when we come together in community. Jesus promised, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them (Matthew 18:20).” Love grows when we experience Jesus together.

**John 17:10b-23:** *“I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me”*