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Pastor Frank Gantt

(470) 214-3401

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Affiliation: Church of the Lutheran Confession

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WELCOME: *Good morning and welcome to all who are present with us this morning.*

God meets Jacob with a promise of His presence and care. In the Gospel, Jesus forgives a helpless sinner and shows His authority to save. Amid Revelation's warnings of deception and judgment, our Savior calls us to stay awake and hold fast to the righteousness He gives us.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER: *Lord Jesus Christ, awaken us from spiritual carelessness. Lead us to confess the sins we have excused, and comfort us with Your forgiveness. Keep us listening to Your Word and trusting Your righteousness until You come again. Amen.*

HYMN: #395 (1, 2)

“O God, Thou Faithful God”

**O God, Thou faithful God,
Thou Fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is,
All perfect gifts bestowing,
Give me a healthy frame,
And may I have within
A conscience free from blame,
A soul unstained by sin.**

**Grant Thou the strength to do
With ready heart and willing
Whate'er Thou shalt command,
My calling here fulfilling;
That I do what I should
While trusting Thee to bless
The outcome for my good,
For Thou must give success.**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: (spoken) Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Dearly loved by God, since we have come to worship and to give praise to the triune God, we ought to acknowledge

that we come as sinners who have fallen short of His glory. So let us draw near with a true heart to confess our sins unto God, our Father, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to have mercy upon us and to grant us forgiveness.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Cong: Who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, "I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord."

Cong: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. And so we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Cong: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, so that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives the right to become children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

Cong: Amen.

Pastor: If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word do I hope. Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption. And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Cong:

**All praise to God, who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of wonders, pow'r, and love,
The God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul He fills,
The God who ev'ry sorrow stills,--
To God all praise and glory!**

**The Lord forsaketh not His flock,
His chosen generation;
He is their Refuge and their Rock,
Their Peace and their Salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand
He leads His own, His chosen band,--
To God all praise and glory!**

**Then come before His presence now
And banish fear and sadness;
To your Redeemer pay your vow
And sing with joy and gladness:
Though great distress my soul befell,
The Lord, my God, did all things well--
To God all praise and glory!
Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong: (spoken) And with your spirit.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: Almighty and merciful God, keep us from spiritual sleep and from the lies that draw us away from Your Son. Forgive our sins for Jesus' sake, and preserve us in His righteousness, that we may serve our neighbors gladly and await His coming with confidence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Cong: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 28:10–17

(EHV) Jacob set out from Beersheba and traveled toward Haran. (11) He came to a certain place and decided to spend the night there, because the sun had set. He took one of the stones from that place, put it under his head, and lay down to sleep in that place. (12) He had a dream in which he saw a stairway set up on the earth with its top reaching to heaven. There were angels of God ascending and descending on it. (13) There at the top stood the LORD, who said, “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. The land on which you are lying, I give to you and to your descendants. (14) Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south. In you and in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed. (15) Now, I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back again into this land. Indeed, I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised to you.” (16) Jacob woke up from his sleep, and he said, “Certainly the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” (17) He was afraid and he said,

“How awe-inspiring is this place! This is nothing other than the house of God, and this is the gate to heaven.”

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 9:1–8

(EHV) Jesus got into a boat, crossed over, and came to his own town. (2) There people brought to him a man who was paralyzed, lying on a stretcher. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Take heart, son! Your sins are forgiven.” (3) Then some of the experts in the law said among themselves, “This fellow is blaspheming!” (4) Since Jesus knew their thoughts, he said, “Why are you thinking evil in your hearts? (5) Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? (6) But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,” he then said to the paralyzed man, “Get up, take your stretcher, and go home.” (7) The man got up and went home. (8) When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe and glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

REVELATION LESSON: Revelation 16:1-21

(EHV) I heard a loud voice from the temple say to the seven angels, “Go and pour out the seven bowls of God’s wrath on the earth.” (2) The first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and horrible and painful sores came on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshipped his image. (3) The second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood like that of a dead man, and every living creature in the sea died. (4) The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and the springs of water, and they turned into blood. (5) And I heard the angel of the waters say: You are righteous, the one who is and who was, the Holy One, because you have made these judgments. (6) Because they poured out the blood of saints and prophets, you have given them blood to drink. They deserve it. (7) And I heard the incense altar, saying, “Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and just are your

judgments.” (8) The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and it was allowed to burn people with fire. (9) People were scorched by the fierce heat. Then they blasphemed the name of God, who had authority over these plagues, but they did not repent and give him praise. (10) The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast. The beast’s kingdom was darkened. People gnawed their tongues in their torment. (11) They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their torments and their sores. But they did not repent of their deeds. (12) The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates. Its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings coming from the east. (13) I saw three unclean spirits, like frogs, which came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. (14) They are, in fact, miracle-working, demonic spirits, which go out to the kings of the whole earth to bring them together for the battle on the great day of the Almighty God. (15) “Look: I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes on, so that he does not walk around naked and his shame is not seen.” (16) Then they brought them together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon. (17) The seventh angel poured out his bowl on the air. And a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne, saying, “It is done.” (18) There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, and crashes of thunder. There was also a great earthquake of a kind that has not occurred since mankind has been on the earth. (19) And the great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. Babylon the Great was remembered by God, and he gave her the wine cup filled with his fierce wrath. (20) Every island vanished, and the mountains could no longer be found. (21) Massive hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, fell on people from the sky. And the

people blasphemed God because of the plague of hail,
because the plague was so severe.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN: #563 (1, 2, 4) "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"

**Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.**

**Bold shall I stand in that great Day,
For who aught to my charge shall lay?
Fully through these absolved I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.**

**When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
E'en then this shall be all my plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.**

Amen.

REVELATION LESSON AND SERMON: Revelation 16:12–16

Rev 16:12-16 The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates. Its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings coming from the east. (13) I saw three unclean spirits, like frogs, which came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. (14) They are, in fact, miracle-working, demonic spirits, which go out to the kings of the whole earth to bring them together for the battle on the great day of the Almighty God. (15) “Look: I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes on, so that he does not walk around naked and his shame is not seen.” (16) Then they brought them together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

Clothed and Ready

THE OFFERTORY

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence,
And take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
And uphold me with Your free Spirit.
Amen.**

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

GENERAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN: #446 (1, 4-6) “Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray”

**Rise, my soul, to watch and pray,
From thy sleep awaken;
Be not by the evil day**

**Unawares o'ertaken.
For the Foe, Well we know,
Oft his harvest reapeth
While the Christian sleepeth.**

**Watch against thyself, my soul,
Lest with grace thou trifle;
Let not self thy tho'ts control
Nor God's mercy stifle.
Pride and sin Lurk within
All thy hopes to scatter;
Heed not when they flatter.**

**But while watching, also pray
To the Lord unceasing.
He will free thee, be thy Stay,
Strength and faith increasing.
O Lord, bless In distress
And let nothing swerve me
From the will to serve Thee.**

**Therefore let us watch and pray,
Knowing He will hear us
As we see from day to day
Dangers ever near us,
And the end Doth impend--
Our redemption neareth
When the Lord appeareth.**

Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Pastor: Almighty God, we implore You to give to Your Church
Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom which comes down from above,
that Your Word, as it proper for it, might not be bound but have

free course and be preached to the joy and edification of Your Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we might serve You and in the confession of Your name abide until the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, on God forever and ever.

Cong: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Cong: Amen. Amen. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

October 12 – October 17, 2026

Mon Matthew 9:1-8 A paralyzed man is brought to Jesus, but Jesus deals with his sin as the first priority. Then He uses His power to heal the man's body and show His authority to forgive the man's sins.

Tues Ephesians 4:22-28 Paul reminds the Ephesian Christians to take off the old sinful self and to put on the new self created to be like God. This will make a real difference in their day to day lives with one another.

Wed Isaiah 44:21-23 The LORD wants His people to keep in mind that He has made them His servants, redeeming them and removing their sins and rebellions. Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth!

Thurs Psalm 61 King David may be "out on a limb," but he remembers where his strength and refuge are (v3). He knows who has heard his vows (v5), and whose merciful presence has filled his heart with music!

Fri John 1:35-39 John the Baptizer directs his disciples to Jesus as "the Lamb of God." This one takes away the sin of the world. They go to Jesus, and He invites them to come and see where He is staying.

Sat Psalm 119:145-152 To call from the heart, to call to the LORD, this is what we want to remember to do. Whether early in the morning (v147), or late at night (v148), we wait to hear His merciful Word (v149).