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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's Law exposes the sins we would rather excuse. Today's Gospel reveals Jesus as David's Son and David's Lord, who fulfilled that Law and bore its judgment for us. As Revelation displays God's glory in holy judgment, we find forgiveness and peace in Christ through His Word and Sacraments.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER: *Lord Jesus Christ, open our ears to Your Word and lead us to confess the sins we have excused or hidden. Comfort us with Your forgiveness and strengthen our faith in Your finished work, that we may gladly hear You and serve our neighbors in love. Amen.*

HYMN: #16

“Glory Be to God, the Father”

**Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit:
Great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory,
While eternal ages run!**

**Glory be to Him who loved us,
Washed us from each spot and stain;
Glory be to Him who bought us,
Made us kings with Him to reign!
Glory, glory,
To the Lamb that once was slain!**

**Glory to the King of angels,
Glory to the Church’s King,
Glory to the King of nations;
Heaven and earth, your praises bring!
Glory, glory,
To the King of Glory sing!**

**Glory, blessing, praise eternal!
Thus the choir of angels sings;
Honor, riches, power, dominion!
Thus its praise creation brings.**

**Glory, glory,
Glory to the King of kings!
Amen.**

INVOCATION

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

Cong: 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.

ALL: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Pastor: On the basis of your confession and by virtue of my office as a called servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of

my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: Amen.

Pastor: Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto Thee daily. For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive: and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.

Bow down Thine ear, O Lord, hear me: for I am poor and needy. In the day of my trouble I will call upon Thee: for Thou wilt answer me.

Cong:

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
forevermore. Amen.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Glory be to God on high,
And on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
We thank You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You,
we give thanks to You, for Your great glory. O Lord God,
heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You who takes away the sin
of the world, have mercy upon us. You who takes away the
sin of the world, receive our prayer. You who sits at the right
hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For You only are holy; You only are the Lord.
You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**are most high in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong: And with your spirit.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: Almighty and merciful God, Your Law exposes our sin, and Your Son has borne its judgment for us. Grant us true repentance and steadfast faith in Jesus Christ, that, assured of Your forgiveness, we may love You above all things and serve our neighbors with willing hearts; 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: Deuteronomy 10:12-21

(EHV) So now, Israel, what is the LORD your God asking of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, (13) to keep the commandments of the LORD and his statutes that I am commanding you today for your own good. (14) Indeed, the heavens and the heaven of heavens, the earth and everything that is on it—these belong to the LORD your God. (15) Still, the LORD attached himself to your fathers, loved them, and he chose their descendants after them (that's you!) from all peoples, as it is today. (16) So cut away the tough shell of your sinful nature, and do not be stubborn any longer. (17) The LORD your God is God of Gods and Lord of Lords, the great God, the mighty one and the awesome one, who does not show favoritism and does not take a bribe. (18) He carries out justice for the fatherless and widows. He loves the alien who dwells among you and gives him food and clothing. (19) So you are to love the alien, because you were aliens in the land of Egypt. (20) Fear the

LORD your God, serve him, cling to him, and take your oaths in his name. (21) He is your glory. He is your God, who performed for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 22:34-46

(EHV) When they heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees met together. (35) One of them who was an expert in the law asked him a question, trying to trap him. (36) “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?” (37) Jesus said to him, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ (38) This is the first and greatest commandment. (39) The second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ (40) All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commandments.” (41) While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question: (42) “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The Son of David.” (43) He said to them, “Then how can David in the Spirit call him Lord, saying, (44) The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet’?” (45) “So if David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” (46) No one was able to answer him a word, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

REVELATION LESSON: Revelation 15:1-4

(EHV) Then I saw another great and remarkable sign in heaven: seven angels with seven plagues—the last plagues, because in them God’s wrath is completed. (2) And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire. I also saw those who had won the victory over the beast and his image and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass. They held the harps of God, (3) and they were singing the song of Moses, God’s servant, and the song of the Lamb. They said: Great and marvelous are your works, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are

your ways, King of the Nations. (4) Who will not fear you, Lord, and who will not praise your name? You alone are holy! All the nations will come and will bow down before you, because your righteous verdicts have been revealed.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures And ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Salvation unto us has come
By God's free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom,
They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.**

**Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and hath God's anger stilled,
Our human nature sharing.
He hath for us the Law obeyed
And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
Which over us impended.**

**Since Christ hath full atonement made
And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad
And build on this foundation.
Thy grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,
Thy death is now my life indeed,
For Thou hast paid my ransom.
Amen.**

THE SERMON: Revelation 15:5-8

(EHV) After these things I looked, and the sanctuary of the Tent of the Testimony was opened in heaven. (6) The seven angels who hold the seven plagues came out of the sanctuary. They were clothed with clean bright linen, and they wore gold sashes around their chests. (7) One of the four living creatures gave the seven angels the seven gold bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever. (8) And the sanctuary was filled with

smoke from the glory of God and from his power. No one was able to enter the sanctuary until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

“Where God Reveals His Glory”

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

HYMN: #17 (5, 6)

“Oh, Worship the King”

**Frail children of dust, And feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust Nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender, How firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!**

**O measureless Might, Ineffable Love,
While angels delight To hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation, Though feeble their lays,
With true adoration Shall sing to Thy praise.
Amen.**

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong: And with your spirit.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Cong: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

Cong: It is good and right to do so.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and spiritually beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He has fulfilled Your holy Law and borne the judgment of our sins upon the cross. By His resurrection He has opened to us everlasting life, and in this Sacrament He gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Cong: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Cong: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the same night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, blessed it and broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take; eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way, He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is My blood which is shed for you for the remission of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

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

Cong: Amen.

Cong:

**O Christ, the Lamb of God,
Who takes away the sin of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, the Lamb of God,
Who takes away the sin of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, the Lamb of God,
Who takes away the sin of the world,
Grant us Your peace. Amen.**

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION

On the basis of the Bible's teaching about Holy Communion, at Faith Lutheran Church we believe that Christ gives to us His true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine. We also understand that, while Christ instituted this meal for the strengthening of His believers' faith, this Sacrament has the potential to bring judgment on those who do not receive it with a proper understanding of its nature and purpose. In love, we ask that if you are not a member of Faith Lutheran Church, or a sister church in the CLC, that you NOT come forward to receive the sacrament.

If you would like more information concerning receiving Communion with us in the future, please speak with the pastor following the service.

Pastor: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

Cong: And His mercy endures forever.

Pastor: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this special means of grace. We ask that, of Your everlasting mercy, You would strengthen us through it in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Cong: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong: And with your spirit.

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL CONFERENCE: Pastor Gantt will be attending the SEPC pastoral conference this week. He will depart Monday afternoon and, God willing, will return Thursday afternoon. Please pray that God blesses the conference with true allegiance and obedience to His Word and that the pastors of the conference will return to share God's Word in a way that builds up His kingdom.

CALL NEWS Pastor Zachary Sippert of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN, has returned the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Missionary Todd Ohlmann has received the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD, Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD, has received the call from the CLC Board of Missions to serve as Part-Time Missionary to Mexico. <> Pastor Rob Sauers of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL, has received the call from the CLC Board of Missions to serve as Part-Time Missionary to India. <> Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Loganville, GA, and Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO, has received the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD. <> Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD, and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD, has received the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI. <> Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church, Dallas, TX, has returned the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND, and to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has returned the call to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Austin, MN.

ANNIVERSARIES Ascension Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL, will be celebrating its 60th anniversary on October 11, 2026. Pastor Emeritus David Schierenbeck will be the guest speaker.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

October 4, 2026

In Christ Our Future is Secure

My letter this month is the devotional portion of my Coordinating Council Report from last month.

For this year's Sunday Bible Class my congregation is studying through the book of Daniel. From that book we remember treasured lessons such as Daniel in the Lion's Den and the Three Men in the Fiery Furnace. Yet the main thrust of the book deals with God's hold on the future, and the great comfort this brings His redeemed people.

For example, when we look at the second chapter of Daniel, we learn that while kingdoms have their brief day on the world stage, they are merely serving God's purposes, namely His plan to bring redemption to the fallen world through the promised Savior. This is brought out in Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar's strange dream, in which he sees a massive statue made of gold, silver, bronze, iron and iron mixed with clay, representing successive kingdoms of this world. God reveals the dream's meaning through Daniel, showing how the kingdoms of men, though they arrogantly think themselves indestructible, will eventually crumble to dust. In the dream, however, there is one kingdom mightier than them all, depicted by a stone cut out without human hands. The stone crushes the statue and then grows into a great mountain filling the whole earth. This represents the spread of the Gospel throughout the world, and how God's Kingdom alone is indestructible and everlasting.

Though Nebuchadnezzar had his dream more than twenty-five centuries ago, its message applies every bit as much to our day. So many place their hopes in government programs, economic systems, military prowess, and the latest technologies. But, eventually, all these things will come to nothing. Every earthly advancement, power and nation, no matter how promising or powerful, has an expiration date stamped by heaven. The Creator holds the times and the seasons in His hands, quietly weaving His eternal purposes while earthly powers rage and fade away. As we read in Daniel: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings" (Daniel 4:17).

What does this all mean for those who trust in Christ as Savior and Lord?

It means no matter what's going on in the world or in our lives, we need not fear. Though all may look to be chaos and confusion, we trust the Lord of History, Who says to us: "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

It means as the Word and Spirit direct our hearts toward that eternal kingdom that cannot be shaken, we are able to labor for the cause of the Gospel with quiet confidence. “You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You” (Isaiah 26:3).

It means we have the privilege of reminding a hopeless world that Christ reigns supreme over every ruler and nation, and that His grace is the only refuge that will never turn to dust, the only hope that will never disappoint. “For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken” (Psalm 62:1-2).

As we all know, our synod is going through a difficult period due to the number of congregational vacancies, with likely even more vacancies on the horizon. While we are doing our best to address the situation, our confidence for the future is not in ourselves, but in the Lord of the Harvest. With the certainty of faith we continue to pray that, in His mercy, He would provide workers for His harvest field.

Though our synod, congregations, schools, and families often struggle with any number of problems, we have God’s promise that He will never leave or forsake us. Jeremiah, a contemporary of Daniel, lived in the aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple by the Babylonians. Things were about as dark as they could be for him and the people of his day. Yet Jeremiah continued to look to the future in trusting faith. In Lamentations he declares: “Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness” (Lamentations 3:22-23).

We were deeply saddened to hear that many of our fellow believers in Nepal were swept away by the recent flooding. Our hearts go out to those who lost loved ones. Likewise, we will all miss our dear friend and brother, Pastor Del Maas. Yet we take comfort in the Risen Lord Jesus, Who has triumphed over death and hell. The future for all who die in Christ is one of perfect and endless joy in that better country prepared for us from the foundation of the world. “Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:57).

Grace & Peace in Christ Jesus Our Lord,

Michael Wilke

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

October 05 – October 10, 2026

Mon Matthew 22:34-40 A lawyer tries to trap Jesus into prioritizing one commandment over another. Jesus points to **love** which unites all God's commandments. Such love took Jesus to the cross for us all.

Tues Matthew 22:41-46 Jesus reaches out to the Pharisees, showing them that the Christ is not just the son of David, but also David's Lord. Sadly, they had no response, except to avoid future discussions with Him.

Wed 1 Corinthians 1:4-9 Paul thanks God for the rich blessings showered upon the Corinthian Christians. Their troubles, which he will soon address, did not come from any failure of God to provide for their needs.

Thurs Deuteronomy 10:12-21 The commandments of the Lord are reflections of Him. He is the mighty one, who does not take bribes, who carries out justice, who loves the stranger among you. Cling to Him.

Fri Psalm 54 When godless adversaries seek to destroy David, he leaves it in God's hands. With the LORD there is help and deliverance, demonstrated in the past and promised for all time and eternity.

Sat Psalm 119:137-144 Jehovah's righteousness is the subject of this section of the psalm. It is seen in His word. His righteousness is eternally true (v142), and no trouble destroys our delight in the truth (v143).