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Affiliation: Church of the Lutheran Confession

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WELCOME: *To all who are present today, we offer a heart-felt welcome in Jesus' name.*

We often mistake God's patience for approval and His silence for absence. Yet Jesus' tears over Jerusalem warn us not to ignore the gracious visitation of His Word, while Revelation opens heaven to show that the prayers of His people are heard before His throne. Today the Lord calls us away from false security and self-reliance to find our refuge in Christ, who comes among us with forgiveness and gives His Spirit to serve His Church.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER: *We ask the Lord's blessings on our worship.*

HYMN: #17

Oh, Worship the King

Open now the gates of beauty -
Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty
Waits for Him who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
Filled with solace, light, and grace!

Lord, my God, I come before You,
Come, please, also unto me;
Where we find You and adore You,
There a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, oh, enter, You
Let it be Your temple true!

Here Your praise is gladly chanted,
Here Your seed is truly sown;
Let my soul, where it is planted,
Bring forth precious sheaves alone,
So that all I hear may be
Fruitful unto life in me.

You my faith increase and quicken,
Let me keep Your gift divine,
Howsoever temptations thicken;
May Your Word still o'er me shine
As my guiding star through life,
As my comfort in my strife.

**Speak, O God, and I will hear You,
Let Your will be done indeed;
May I undisturbed draw near You
While You now Your people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows,
Here is balm for all our woes.
Amen.**

INVOCATION

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

Cong: (spoken) Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

Cong: If we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanses us from all sin.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and His truth is not in us.

Cong: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Then let us confess our sins to God in prayer and seek His forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Cong: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray, of Your bountiful mercy, be merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. We are

forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord.

Cong: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**Father most holy, merciful and tender;
Jesus, our Savior, with the Father reigning;
Spirit of comfort, Advocate, Defender;
Light never waning.**

**Maker of all things, all Your creatures praise You;
All for Your worship were and are created.
Hear us, Almighty, hear us as we give You
Our adoration.**

**Trinity sacred, Unity unshaken;
Deity perfect, giving and forgiving;
Light of the angels, Life of the forsaken;
Hope of the living.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: O merciful Lord Jesus Christ, You wept over Jerusalem because she did not recognize the time of Your gracious visitation: deliver us from false security, contempt for Your Word, and confidence in outward religion without repentance and faith. By Your Holy Spirit, preserve among us the pure preaching of Your Gospel, grant to Your people gifts for the common good, and teach us to pray with confidence, knowing that through Your perfect sacrifice our prayers rise acceptably before the Father; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jeremiah 7:1-11

(EHV) The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD. (2) Stand in the gate of the House of the LORD and proclaim this message there. Hear the word of the LORD, all you people of Judah who are coming through this gate to worship the LORD. (3) This is what the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says. Reform your ways and your actions, and I will establish you in this place. (4) Do not trust in deceptive words and say, "This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD." (5) Sincerely reform your ways and your actions. Carry out justice between a man and his neighbor. (6) Do not oppress the alien who lives in your land, the fatherless, or the widow. Do not shed innocent blood in this place. Do not follow after other gods to your own harm. If you avoid these things, (7) I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave your fathers forever and ever. (8) Take warning. You are trusting in deceptive words that cannot help you. (9) Will you steal and murder, commit adultery and swear falsely? Will you offer sacrifices to Baal and follow other gods you do not know? (10) Will you come and stand before me in this temple that bears my Name, and say, "We are safe," the whole time you do all these detestable things? (11) This house bears my Name! Have you made it a den of robbers? Watch out! I myself have been watching, declares the LORD.

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 19:41-48

(EHV) As he came near, he saw the city and wept over it. (42) He said, "If you, yes you, had only known on this day the things that would bring peace to you. But now, it is hidden from your eyes. (43) In fact, the days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you, surround you, and hem you in on every side. (44) Within your walls, they will dash you and your children to the ground. And within your walls, they will not leave one stone on top of another, because you did not recognize the time when God came to help

you.” (45) Jesus entered the temple courts and began to drive out those who were selling things there. (46) He told them, “It is written, ‘My house will be a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a ‘den of robbers!’” (47) Every day he was teaching in the temple courts, but the chief priests, the experts in the law, and the leaders of the people continued to look for a way to put him to death. (48) They could not find any way to do it, because all the people were clinging to him and listening.

REVELATION LESSON: Revelation 8:6-13

(EHV) The seven angels, who had the seven trumpets, prepared to sound them. (7) The first sounded his trumpet, and hail and fire mixed with blood were thrown on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up. (8) Then the second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea became blood, (9) a third of the creatures that live in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. (10) Then the third angel sounded his trumpet, and a huge star, blazing like a lamp, fell from the sky. It fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. (11) The name of the star was Wormwood, and a third of the waters became wormwood. Many of the people died from these waters because they had been made bitter. (12) Then the fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, as well as a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them became dark. And there was no light for a third of the day and likewise for the night. (13) Then I looked and I heard a single eagle flying in the middle of the sky, saying with a loud voice, “Woe, woe, woe to those whose home is on the earth because of the remaining trumpet blasts of the three angels who are about to sound their trumpets.”

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostolic Creed

I believe 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: #261

Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word

**Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word;
Curb those who fain by craft and sword
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son
And set at naught all He hath done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Thy pow'r make known,
For Thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend Thy Christendom that we
May evermore sing praise to Thee.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth.
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.
Amen.**

THE SERMON: Revelation 8:1-5

(EHV) “When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. (2) And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. (3) Another angel, holding a gold censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given a large amount of incense to offer together with the prayers of all the saints on the gold altar that was in front of the throne. (4) And the smoke of the incense went up from the hand of the angel before God, together with the prayers of the saints. (5) The angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it on the earth. Then there came crashes of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.”

When Heaven Is Silent

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.**

GENERAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN:#457

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

**What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev’rything to God in prayer!**

Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a Friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our Refuge--
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.
Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

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.

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CIRCUIT TRIP: Pastor Gantt will be leaving Wednesday morning for the TN/NC circuit trip. God willing, He will return home Saturday evening.

CLC CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS: The actions taken by the recent CLC Convention are included in the Proceedings. You can find a copy of the Proceedings on the table in the entry.

Used Smartphones for Africa - Missionary Bruce Naumann is requesting donations of used smartphones that were previously on a Verizon plan. These are for use by pastors and pastoral students in East Africa. If you have upgraded your phone and have no use for the old one, please bring it to the church office. Verizon is preferred because it will work with African cell carriers, but most others will not. A sim card is not needed. These phones are much appreciated by students and pastors in our sister African churches - thank you!

CALL NEWS: David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has received the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, has received the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison, Heights, MI. <> Pastor Michael Roehl of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND, has received the call to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Austin, MN. <> Pastor Emeritus Paul Tiefel has received the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Vernon, British Columbia, has received the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD. <> Pastor David Reim has also received the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.**FROM THE CLC**

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

August 03 – August 08, 2026

Mon Luke 16:1-9 The cheating steward acted on the basis of the future laid before him. God's children do well to act on the basis of the eternal salvation that has been laid before them in Christ.

Tues 1 Corinthians 10:6-13 Let us learn from the consequences of God's people's unfaithful and wicked behavior. It is truly God who is faithful (v13), and who always has our best interest at heart.

Wed 1 Chronicles 29:10-13 King David gave the plans for the Temple to his son Solomon, but he gave the glory to the LORD God. "Blessed are you, LORD, the God of Israel, our father, from eternity to eternity"... (v10)

Thurs Psalm 139:1-12 God knows us thoroughly, sitting and standing, faraway thoughts, traveling or staying home. And not only does know us, but He also cares about us and is with us always and everywhere.

Fri Psalm 139:13-24 God has made us, so we are His. He determined our days (v16) before they happened. He has nothing to do with wickedness, so can be trusted to lead us in the way everlasting.

Sat Psalm 119:65-72 God has done good for us, and has both good judgment and knowledge (v65,66). "You are good, and you do good" (v68). He can even bring good for us out of distress and affliction (vv67,71).