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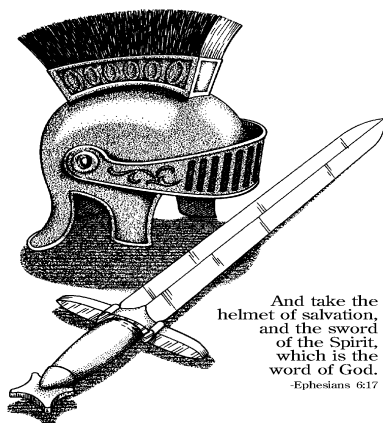
Scripture alone. Faith alone. Grace alone.

<https://www.zelcloganville.com/>

Pastor Frank Gantt

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November 9, 2025



Affiliation: Church of the Lutheran Confession

<https://clclutheran.org/>

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

For the next three Sundays, the focus of our meditations is to remind us that we are living in a world that has an ending, so that we neither set our hearts on the things of this world nor be afraid of the things that are going on in the world. Our home is in heaven and our life is hidden with Christ in heaven. So let us be primarily about sharing the Gospel with the world while looking for a new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

HYMN: #606

O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking

**O'er the distant mountains breaking
Comes the redd'ning dawn of day.
Rise, my soul, from sleep awaking;
Rise and sing and watch and pray.
'Tis thy Savior, 'Tis thy Savior,
On His bright returning way.**

**O Thou Long-expected, weary
Waits my anxious soul for Thee;
Life is dark, and earth is dreary,
When Thy light I do not see.
O my Savior, O my Savior,
When wilt Thou return to me?**

**Nearer is my soul's salvation;
Spent the night, the day at hand.
Keep me in my lowly station,
Watching for Thee till I stand,
O my Savior, O my Savior,
In Thy bright, Thy promised land.**

**With my lamp well trimmed and burning,
Swift to hear and slow to roam,
Watching for Thy glad returning
To restore me to my home.
Come, my Savior, Come, my Savior,
O my Savior, quickly come.
Amen.**

INVOCATION

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

Cong: 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 the 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 our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and 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.

FATHER, WHO THE LIGHT THIS DAY

Father, who the light this day

Out of darkness did create,
Shine upon us now, we pray,
While within Your courts we wait.
Wean us from the works of night,
Make us children of the light.

Savior, who this day did break
The dark prison of the tomb,
Bid our slumb'ring souls awake,
Shine through all their sin and gloom;
Let us fear no misery,
Rise and live from sin set free.

Blessed Spirit, Comforter,
Sent this day from Christ on high,
Lord, on us Thy gifts confer,
Cleanse, illumine, sanctify.
All Your fulness shed abroad;
Lead us to the truth of God.
Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: O God, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see, we give thanks to You that You have made Yourself known to us by sending Your Son into human flesh that He might redeem us by His blood, having tasted death for us all. Cause us, through the Spirit's work in Your holy Word, to keep our hearts and eyes focused on heaven, where Christ is, seated at Your right hand so that when He comes as judge of all mankind, we might be found watching by faith for that redemption that is to be found only in Him; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 55:1-9

(ESV) "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. (2) Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. (3) Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. (4) Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. (5) Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. (6) "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; (7) let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (8) For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. (9) For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

SECOND SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:10-20

(ESV) Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. (11) Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. (12) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. (13) Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. (14) Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, (15) and, as shoes for your feet, having put on

the readiness given by the gospel of peace. (16) In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; (17) and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, (18) praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, (19) and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, (20) for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostolic Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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, dead, and 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.

**Be strong in the Lord in armor of light!
With helmet and sword, with shield for the fight.
On prayer be dependent, be belted and shod,
In breastplate resplendent – the armor of God.**

**Integrity gird you round to impart
The truth of His Word as truth in your heart;
His righteousness wearing as breastplate of mail,
His victory sharing, be strong to prevail.**

**With eagerness hodie stand firm in your place,
Or go forth for God with news of His grace;
No foe shall disarm you nor force you to yield,
No arrow can harm you with faith as your shield.**

**Though Satan presume to test you and try,
In helmet and plume your head shall be high;
Beset by temptation be true to your Lord,
Your helmet salvation and Scripture your sword.**

THE SERMON: Matthew 24:1-14

(ESV) Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. (2) But he answered them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." (3) As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" (4) And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray. (5) For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray. (6) And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not

yet. (7) For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. (8) All these are but the beginning of the birth pains. (9) "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. (10) And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. (11) And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. (12) And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. (13) But the one who endures to the end will be saved. (14) And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

“Undistracted”

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

GENERAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN: #437

Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

**Who trusts in God, a strong abode
In heav'n and earth possesses;
Who looks in love to Christ above,
No fear his heart oppresses.
In Thee alone, dear Lord, we own
Sweet hope and consolation,
Our Shield from foes, our Balm for woes,
Our great and sure Salvation.**

**Tho' Satan's wrath beset our path
And worldly scorn assail us,
While Thou art near, we will not fear;
Thy strength shall never fail us.**

**Thy rod and staff shall keep us safe
And guide our steps forever;
Nor shades of death nor hell beneath
Our souls from Thee shall sever.**

**In all the strife of mortal life
Our feet shall stand securely;
Temptation's hour shall lose its pow'r,
For Thou shalt guard us surely.
O God, renew with heav'nly dew
Our body, soul, and spirit
Until we stand at Thy right hand
Thro' Jesus' saving merit.**

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

DAILY DEVOTIONS: Since returning from vacation, Pastor Gantt has resumed sending out the daily devotions. While these devotions are intended primarily for the benefit of the members of Faith Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church, they are being sent to about twice that number on a daily basis – some who are members of a CLC congregation but many who are not. Please feel free to forward them on to any and all you think might benefit from them. Our goal and calling is to preach the Gospel to all the world, so take whatever opportunity the Lord allows to share these messages of forgiveness, life, and salvation in our Savior's name.

NEWLY BAPTIZED MEMBER IN NORTH CAROLINA: Last week, the Lord gave our brother and sister in Him, Scott and Becky McLaurin, the gift of a baby girl. Lydia Grace McLaurin was baptized during the service conducted by Pastor Vance Fossum last Saturday. We join Scott and Becky in giving thanks to God for this gift, and we rejoice that He is, both through opportunities to share the Gospel and through the more traditional means of childbirth, that He is growing this little outreach in His own way and timing.

PRAYERS FOR THE CLC-INDIA: The last week of October, Cyclone Montha hit the east coast of India in an area where 363 CLC-India congregations and 4300 members are located. 2,000 of these members are from the impoverished and marginalized Dalit tribal colonies. Government aid was announced, but in India, such aid is distributed only by Hindu nationalist party (BJP) leaders in districts where the BJP is in the majority. Christians are routinely turned away when requesting aid, and in some cases, they are physically beaten. Local police ignore the situation and, at times, actually join in the abuse. The CLC Board of Missions has approved Kinship funding to provide immediate, life-saving humanitarian aid to CLCI members who are suffering. Please pray that the Lord will protect, provide, strengthen, and give hope to His children in India who are suffering. You can help with this and other humanitarian efforts by

contributing to Kinship at: lutheranmissions.org/kinship/ or through your local congregation.

CALL NEWS: Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, has received the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Michael Gurath of Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ, has accepted the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has returned the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Tom Schuetze of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO, has received the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Emeritus Norman Greve has returned the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Mrs. Dawn Mayhew has asked for a peaceful release from her call as teacher at Redeemer Ev. Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY, effective at the end of the 2025-26 school year. <> Pastor Emeritus Paul Tiefel, Jr. has returned the vacancy call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Matthew Ude of Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, has received the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

November 10 - November 15, 2025

Mon Matthew 21:33-44 Jesus pictures the Jewish leaders as tenant farmers of a well developed vineyard who are unwilling to give the owner his fruit when it is due, even going so far as to kill the owner's son.

Tues Revelation 2:8-11 The Lord points out to the suffering church in Smyrna how rich they truly are! They may suffer for a period of time, but even death cannot take from them the crown of life!

Wed Jonah 3:10-4:11 Jonah reveals the reason he did not want to go to Nineveh. He did not want the Lord to show mercy to them and perhaps have some fruit from His vineyard there. The LORD reproves Jonah.

Thurs Proverbs 23:19-21 A father does not seek to harm his son, but pleads with him to walk straight and avoid the side streets of drunkenness and gluttony. These will not help, but impoverish those walking in them.

Fri Proverbs 23:22-25 Parents desire wisdom, discipline, and knowledge for their children because they want every blessing for them. That is why they find joy in the righteous child.

Sat Proverbs 23:26-35 The son is warned of the dangers of immorality and then drunkenness, which can also lead to it, as both the senses and the mind are assaulted by the "sparkling wine"(v33).