CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

TEACHING AND REACHING PEOPLE FOR THE KINGDOM

Pastor: Chuck Westra Pastor: Isaac Crass

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WELCOME VISITORS! We are glad that you have joined us for worship this morning. We have come into God's presence to worship him as our Lord and Savior.

- Restrooms are located to the right of the main doors.
- There is a staffed nursery available outside of the worship area for children under 3.
- ❖ There is a private area for nursing mothers located in the main preschool classroom.
- Coffee and drinks are available after the service.
- Please sign the guest register in the fellowship area.

PENTECOST 10 AUGUST 17, 2025

Wounds that Heal—God's Word Divides



SERIES THEME:

Not all wounds are bad. A skilled surgeon takes a deadly sharp scalpel and cuts through flesh and muscle. The result of that wound: not harm, but healing. In the same way, we often say that words cut us to the heart. Words can wound. Sometimes, however, those painful words provide the very healing we need. "Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem" (Luke 13:22). Jesus knows that when he gets to Jerusalem, he is going to die. So, with a sense of extreme urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them. In this series, we might not like everything that Jesus says. Yet, to ignore what Jesus teaches is to court eternal death. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. For while Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.

THEME OF THE DAY:

We often divide humanity into groupings that are not really significant: this ethnic group versus that one, men versus women, wealthy versus poor. Yet, every ethnic group is under God's law. That law equally convicts men and women of sin. Because of sin, both the wealthy and poor will die. Only through faith in Christ is sin forgiven and the sting of death removed. God's Word creates that saving faith, but not in everyone who hears it. Fallen mankind retains the awful power to reject the Word and God's gift of faith. Therefore, God's Word produces the only people distinction that matters—believers and unbelievers. We desire to live in peace with other people. But Jesus teaches, this side of heaven, that desire is a pipe dream. Those who embrace the gospel in faith will inevitably face hostility. Following Jesus will come at a price. Yet he promises that our perseverance will be rewarded.

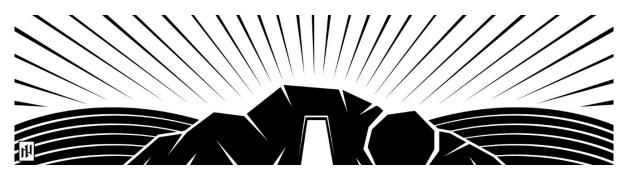
SERVICE OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT





- 5 Give us lips to sing thy glory, tongues thy mercy to proclaim, throats to shout the hope that fills us, mouths to speak thy holy name. Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which thou dost send fill our songs with alleluias, alleluias without end!
- God the Father, light-creator,
 to thee laud and honor be.
 To thee, Light from Light begotten,
 praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 glory, glory be to thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976 Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944 Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712940 Tune: Public domain



INVOCATION 1

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS 2

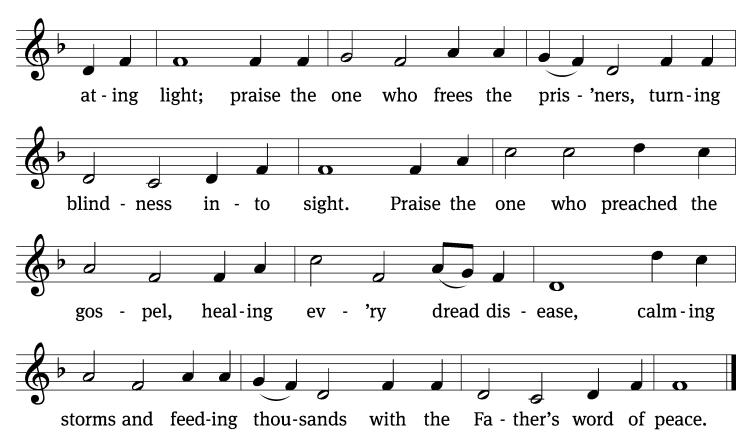
- P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.
- P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

517 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



¹The Invocation, which uses the words spoken over us at our baptisms, reminds us of who we are (children of God) and what we are members of—the church of God on earth.

² We cannot approach God without having our sins forgiven. He is holy and we are not. Confession assures us of a clean slate before God and prepares us for worship, hearing God's Word, and receiving the Lord's Supper.



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt. Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844 Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712940 Tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY 3

P: Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

³ We pray that we would faithfully serve God with the goal of receiving what he has promised us. This prayer comes from the Leonine Sacramentary of the 7th century, the oldest known church order in Western Christianity.

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON: JEREMIAH 23:23-29 4

23"Am I only a God nearby,"
declares the LORD,
"and not a God far away?
24Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?"
declares the LORD.
"Do not I fill heaven and earth?"
declares the LORD.

²⁵"I have heard what the prophets say who prophesy lies in my name. They say, 'I had a dream! I had a dream!' ²⁶How long will this continue in the hearts of these lying prophets, who prophesy the delusions of their own minds? ²⁷They think the dreams they tell one another will make my people forget my name, just as their ancestors forgot my name through Baal worship. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream recount the dream, but let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. For what has straw to do with grain?" declares the LORD. ²⁹"Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

SECOND LESSON: HEBREWS 12:1-13

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

⁴ The Word of the Lord divides what is true from what is false.

⁴In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."

⁷Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? ⁸If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. ⁹Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! ¹⁰They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. ¹³"Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

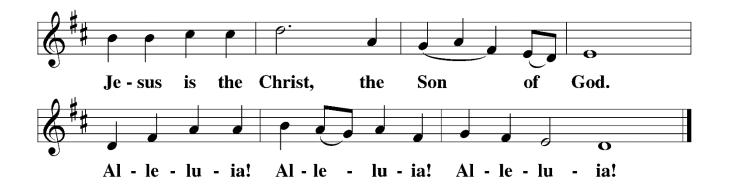
VERSE OF THE DAY 5

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

P: Alleluia. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. Alleluia.

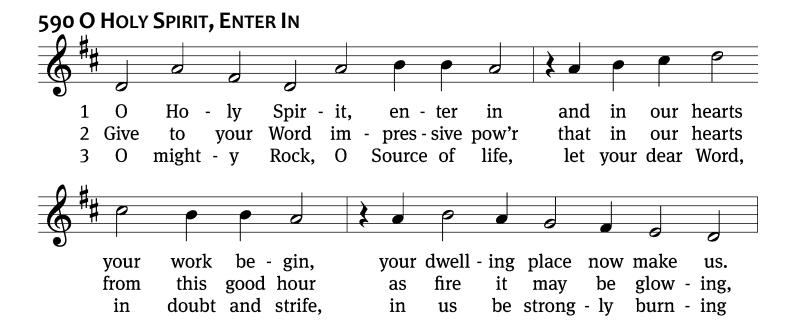


⁵The Verse of the Day, traditionally called the Alleluia (a Latinized form of the Hebrew word meaning "praise the Lord") highlights a text of particular relevance to the theme of the day.

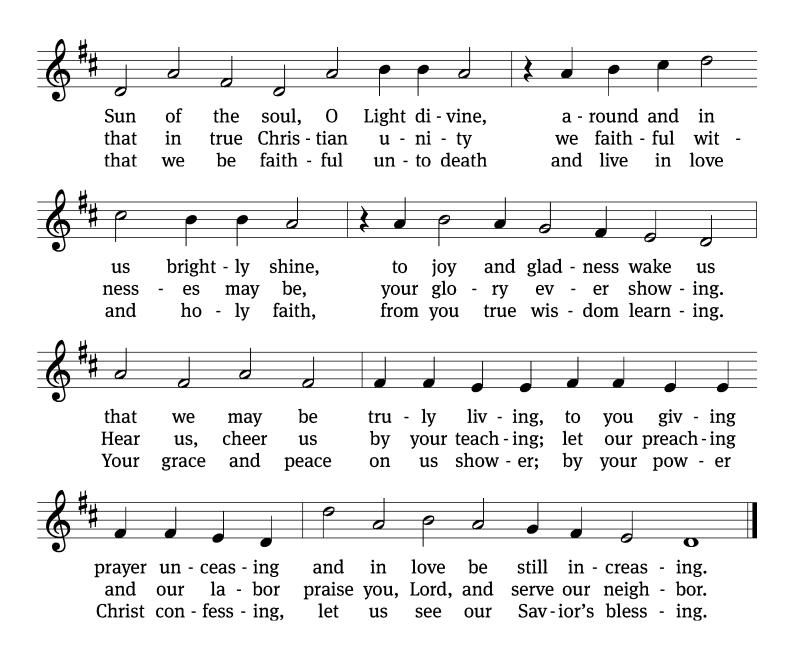


GOSPEL LESSON: LUKE 12:49-53 6

⁴⁹"I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. ⁵²From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. ⁵³They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."



⁶ Jesus was fully aware that his work would cause division that would often cut close to home.



SERMON ⁷ HEBREWS 12:1-13

Cling to God's Promises

I. Rooted in ChristII. In the midst of discipline

⁷The Sermon is the Word of God, proclaiming the living voice of the Gospel to God's people. The preacher is the appointed representative who illuminates the Scripture for the congregation and applies it to our contemporary situation. He is neither lecturer nor entertainer, but a link through whom the Holy Spirit brings law and gospel to bear upon the hearts and minds of the worshiper and enlivens their faith and life.

NICENE CREED 8

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

⁸ The Nicene Creed is the great Confession of the Christian faith professed by all Christians. The Creed originated at the First Council of Nicaea (c. A.D. 325) and was finalized at the First Council of Constantinople (c. A.D. 381), which are respectively known as the First and Second Ecumenical Councils of the Church. The Creed itself was crafted as a clear confession of Scripture – that the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit are God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

The members of Christ Our Savior have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. An offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary. We also offer an electronic giving option. If you would like to start giving your weekly offering electronically, please go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "Vanco Mobile" to download the App for free or use this QR Code:

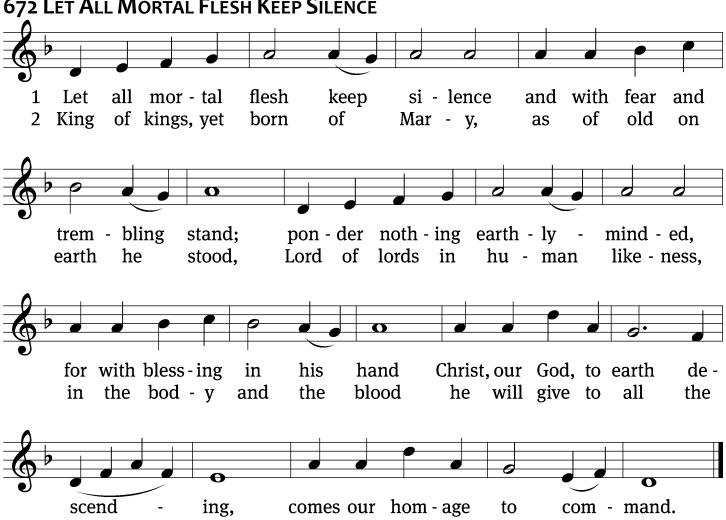
hymn.

faith

ful

This offering is a joyful response of our faith; so, if you are visiting with us this morning, we do not want you to feel obligated. Please stand for the next

672 LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE



Text: tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.; Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent. Tune: French, 17th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE ORDER OF COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

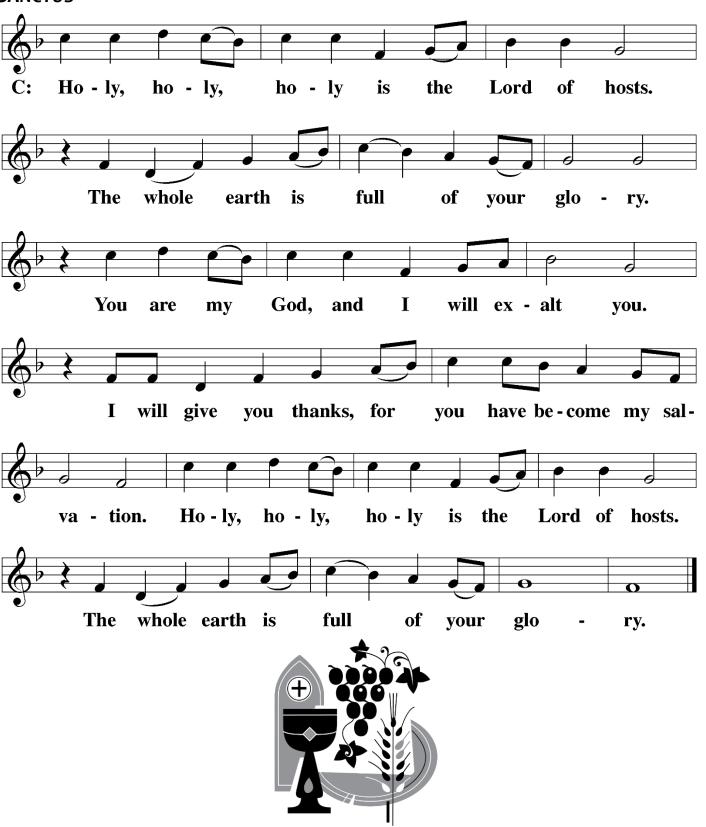
C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

SANCTUS 9



⁹ Sanctus means "holy." The body and blood of our Lord are present in this Sacrament, and so we use the words of the angels from Isaiah 6 and of the Palm Sunday crowds from Matthew 21 to acknowledge the holy presence of God in this meal. Take note of the intense reverence of God's holiness in this song. We pray that we may daily show such reverence.

THE WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION 10

P: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to them, and said: "Drink of it all of you. This is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. 11

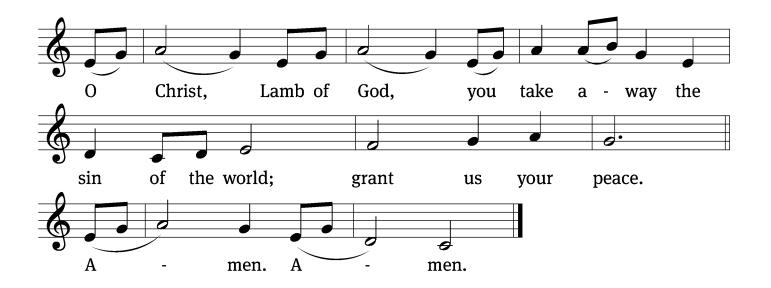
C: Amen.



¹⁰ As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus (Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; 1 Corinthians 11) to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death, which is necessary for this Sacrament.

¹¹ "The peace of the Lord..." The resurrected Lord calmed the fears of his disciples with his peace. The resurrected Lord is present in the Supper, and so the pastor speaks to us on his behalf (John 20:19–21, 26).

¹² With the words of John the Baptist, the *Agnus Dei* confesses the mercy and peace that we receive from the Lamb of God in his Supper. He gave of himself – body and blood – that we may receive forgiveness, life, and salvation through that very body and blood in this meal.



DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Christ Our Savior practices "close communion". This means that we ask that only members of Christ Our Savior or those who have spoken to the pastor in advance take communion. We do this out of love and concern for our fellow men and women, for the Scripture clearly says, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) In communion we have a very close form of fellowship with our fellow Christians and we need to be sure that we stand together on the teachings of the Scripture. We read in 1 Timothy 4:16, "Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers."

PERSONAL PRAYER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.



Tune: Dale A. Witte © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712940

LORD'S BLESSING 14

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

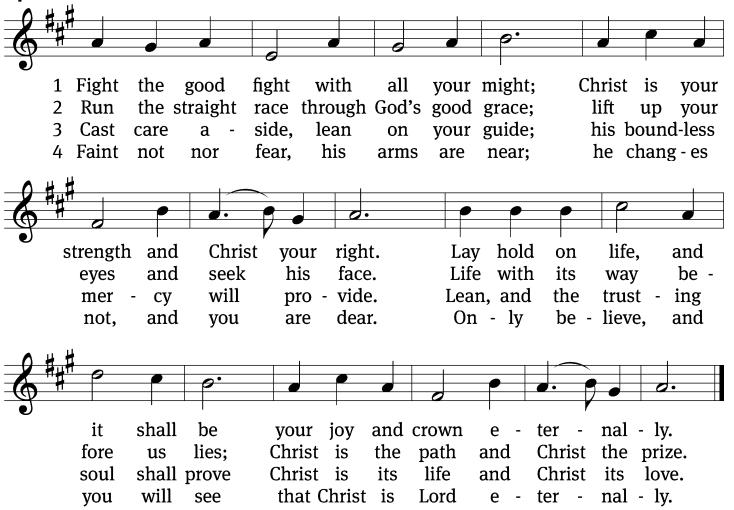
C: Amen.

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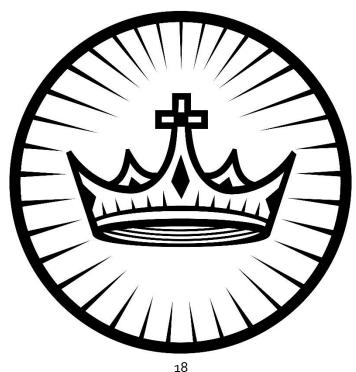
¹³ The *Nunc Dimittis*, which is Latin for, "Now you dismiss," is a song that uses the words of the priest, Simeon, found in Luke 2. The Lord promised Simeon that he would see the Savior with his own eyes before his death. When Mary and Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the temple, Simeon held the Son of God in his hands. Out of thanks for the fulfillment of his promise, Simeon praised God with these words.

¹⁴The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them." (cf. Numbers 6:27) As we began the service with the Lord's name, so we are sent out in his name.

876 FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT



Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt. Tune: The Methodist Harmonist, New York, 1821 Text and tune: Public domain



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS:

The altar flowers are given by Carolyn Gumm in memory of her husband, Pastor Alan Gumm.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Isaiah 66:18-24 Hebrews 12:18-24 Luke 13:22-40

SERVING THEIR SAVIOR AT CHRIST OUR SAVIOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 24:

Flowers: Shelton

Nursery: 8:30am—Jennifer Walters/Bridget Janda

11:00am—Shelle and Ava Jones

Ushers: 8:30am—Ryan Hintz/Christopher Fowler

11:00am—Duane Smith/Bob Betzelberger

Landscaping: Dave Tonak (8/23-9/5)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT CHRIST OUR SAVIOR:

Sunday Worship 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Sunday School, Adult and Teen Bible Study 9:45-10:45 AM

Lord's Supper 1st and 3rd Sundays

Youth Confirmation Sundays, 6:00 PM (begins 9/7) Sunday Night Bible Study Sundays, 6:00 PM (begins 9/7)

Canvassing Wednesdays, 6:00 PM

Women's Bible Study 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10:00 AM

Youth Cookout 8/24, 4:00-7:00 PM

Church Retreat 9/12-9/14

Iron Sharpens Iron 9/27, 8:30 AM



Want to hear more from us? Use this QR code to sign up for our weekly devotion and newsletter.

<u>Open Forum:</u> There will be an open forum today during the Bible study hour (9:45am). The topic of discussion will be an update on the status of the cell phone tower. There have been numerous conversations and several changes in the plans for the cell phone tower. In an effort to communicate clearly, we would like to offer an update to the entire congregation. Please make plans to attend. There will be no Sunday School or Adult Bible Study today.

New Adult Bible Study: The New Testament book of Colossians was written by the Apostle Paul to the church in Colosse. Like many New Testament letters, it was written to combat false teaching. The false teaching in Colosse was one that has made a resurgence in modern America: Gnosticism. Gnosticism is the claim that Jesus is not enough, and that you need deeper, secret knowledge to truly know God. Paul writes this letter to the Colossians to stress the all-sufficiency of Christ. Join us on Sunday mornings during the Bible study hour at 9:45am as we mine this timeless letter for the godly treasures it contains. The first lesson will be on August 24th.

<u>Confirmation</u>: Youth confirmation classes will begin on September 7^{th} . Please contact the pastoral staff or email the church office (office@coslutheran.com) if you have a child entering 7^{th} or 8^{th} grade.

Ladies Bible Study:

My Life for the Kingdom: The Story of Joseph, uses the biblical account in Genesis to showcase how God's grace, revealed in his promises and their fulfillment, was everpresent for Joseph and his family. Through this study, we will be encouraged to trust in God in difficult circumstances and motivated to dedicate our lives to the welfare of God's kingdom.

The group will meet on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from September to May at 10:00 am at church.

<u>Sunday Night Bible Study</u>: Beginning September 7th, the Sunday night men's and women's bible classes will be studying the books of Judges and Ruth. We meet in the Sunday School classrooms at 6pm. All are welcome. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

Online Bible Study Opportunity: Join fellow WELS members from around the country for a special online Bible study today, August 17, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. (Central). The topic is distorted Bible passages and principles for biblical interpretation. The Bible study will be led by Pastor Andrew Schroer, who recently prepared the *Forward in Christ* series "Distorted Bible Passages". More details and a online registration are available at <u>forwardinchrist.net/online-study/</u>.

<u>COS Youth Cookout:</u> The COS youth (6th-12th grade) will be having a cookout on Sunday, 8/24 @ 4 PM until 7 PM at Adam and Melissa Moore's house. Swimming will also be available for those who are interested. Please RSVP on the signup sheet or email <u>john.dale@coslutheran.com</u> if you plan to attend.

<u>Church Retreat:</u> Everyone is invited to take part in the upcoming church retreat this September at Horton Haven in Lewisburg, TN from Friday, 9/12 – Sunday, 9/14. This will be a time for everyone to enjoy some time to relax in God's Word along with recreation and fellowship. The topic of the retreat will be "WELS Synod History." The cost for lodging + food will be \$350 per household. If you only need food, please indicate that on the signup sheet and the price will be figured out based on the total number. Information and sign-up sheets can be found in the gathering area. Please see your elder for details or if you have questions.

<u>Canvassing:</u> Our canvassing efforts for the summer are nearing an end, but it's not too late to join us! We would love to have many involved in our attempts to reach those who don't know Christ with the life-saving message of the gospel. We will meet at church at 6:00 pm each Wednesday night. If you are unsure, please note you will partner with an experienced canvasser and receive "on the job" training. Please consider giving canvassing a try!

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