

UNDIVIDED ATTENTION

ON A NEIGHBOR IN NEED



Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Reaching Out. Reaching Up. Reaching Across.

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WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning, whether in-person or online. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper will be offered to our members during the service this morning. Lamb of God follows the historic Christian practice of close communion. We ask that only members of Lamb of God partake of the sacrament. Our pastor is eager to speak with anyone who would like to commune with us in the future.

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

If you would like to meet with Pastor Koepke, please contact him to make an appointment. Our pastor is here to serve both Lamb of God members and our community.

Undivided Attention: On a Neighbor in Need

✕ The Gathering ✕

OPENING SONG: *Come, People of the Risen King*



1. Come, peo - ple of the ris - en King, who de - light to bring Him
2. Come, those whose joy is morn - ing sun, and those weep - ing through the
3. Come, young and old from ev - 'ry land, men and wom - en of the



praise. Come, all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morn - ing Star of
night. Come, those who tell of bat - tles won, and those strug - gling in the
faith. Come, those with full or emp - ty hands; find the rich - es of His



grace. From the shift - ing shad - ows of the earth we will lift our eyes to
fight. For His per - fect love will nev - er change, and His mer - cies nev - er
grace. O - ver all the world His peo - ple sing; shore to shore we hear them



Him, where stead - y arms of mer - cy reach to — gath - er chil - dren
cease, but fol - low us through all our days with the cer - tain hope of
call the Truth that cries through ev - 'ry age: "Our — God is all in



in.
peace. Re - joice! Re - joice! Let ev - 'ry tongue re - joice! One heart, one
all!"



voice, O Church of Christ, re - joice!

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SONG: *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong!"
Let the poor say, "I am rich!"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong!"
Let the poor say, "I am rich!"
Because of what the Lord has done for us, give thanks!

(Musical Interlude)

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong!"
Let the poor say, "I am rich!"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong!"
Let the poor say, "I am rich!"
Because of what the Lord has done for us, give thanks!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

✠ The Word ✠

FIRST READING: *Galatians 5:1,13-25*

Those who have been set free from the law by Christ naturally bear fruit that benefits their neighbor.

¹It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

¹³You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. ¹⁴For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

¹⁶So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL READING: *Luke 10:25-37*

In a well-known parable, Jesus teaches us how one loves their neighbor.

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

²⁶ “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

²⁷ He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

²⁸ “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead.

³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

³⁷ The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Oh, How Good It Is*



1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God
 2 Oh, how good it is on this jour - ney we share
 3 Oh, how good it is to em - brace his com - mand



dwells to - geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty.
 to re - joice with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn.
 to pre - fer one a - noth - er, for - give as he for - gives.



Where the bonds of peace, of ac - cep - tance and love
 For the weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace
 When we live as one we all share in the love



are the fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.
 when we of - fer the bles - sing of be - long - ing.
 of the Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.



So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord; and with one heart we'll



live out his Word. Till the whole earth sees the Re - deem - er has



come for he dwells in the pres - ence of his peo - ple.

SERMON: Ruth 1:1-19a

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab.

² The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

³ Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, ⁵ both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶ When Naomi heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. ⁷ With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah.

⁸ Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show you kindness, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. ⁹ May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband."

Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud ¹⁰ and said to her, "We will go back with you to your people."

¹¹ But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? ¹² Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— ¹³ would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD's hand has turned against me!"

¹⁴ At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵ "Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her."

¹⁶ But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me." ¹⁸ When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

¹⁹ So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed

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.

✠ The Prayers ✠

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

✠ Holy Communion ✠

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

M: Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Lamb of God follows the historic Christian practice of close communion. We ask that only members of Lamb of God partake of the sacrament. Our pastor is eager to talk with anyone who would like to commune with us in the future.

CLOSING PRAYER

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S BLESSING

M: 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.

CLOSING SONG: *Before You I Kneel*



1. Be - fore you I kneel, my Mas - ter and Mak - er,
 2. Be - fore you I kneel and ask for your good - ness
 3. Be - fore you we kneel, our Mas - ter and Mak - er;



to of - fer the work of my hands. For this is the day you've
 to cov - er the work of my hands, for pa - tience and peace to
 es - tab - lish the work of our hands, and or - der our steps to



giv - en your ser - vant; I will re - joice and be glad
 shape all my la - bor; your grace for thorns in my path.
 seek first your king - dom in ev - 'ry small and great task.



for the strength I have to live and breathe,
 Flow with - in me like a liv - ing stream;
 May we live the gos - pel of your grace,



for each skill your grace has giv - en me,
 wear a - way the stones of pride and greed,
 serve your pur - pose in our fleet - ing days,



for the needs and op - por - tu - ni - ties that will
 till your ways are dwell - ing deep in me and a
 then our lives will bring e - ter - nal praise and all



glo - ri - fy your great name.
 har - vest of life is grown.
 glo - ry to your great name.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE CLASSES

- ✝ Our Sunday Bible class and Children's Sunday School will resume in August.
- ✝ Foundations class, Tuesdays at 6:30pm at church.

GIVING TO LAMB OF GOD

If you wish to give your offering to Lamb of God online, this QR code is provided for your convenience. Several types of payment are accepted on this secure site. Thank you for your financial gifts to assist with the ministry of Lamb of God.



DIVINE CALL

Pastor Koepke received a divine call to serve dual parishes in Missouri: Zion Lutheran Church in Springfield and Peace Lutheran Church in Marshfield. Very soon he will decide where he can best serve in his ministry. As we heard in last week's worship, please pray that the Lord of the harvest provides workers for each of these congregations.

ADDICTION RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

An Addiction Recovery Support Group meets weekly on Tuesday evenings at 6pm at the Heritage Lutheran Church fellowship hall at 421 E. Ray Rd in Gilbert. Anyone struggling with addiction is welcome. Contact Bruce VanLokeren at (520) 245-5842 or bvanloke@gmail.com if you have questions or want more information.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER AND CARE

When all you can do is the most powerful thing we can do for you...Let us pray. Your prayer request will be treated with great discretion and shared with a limited group of prayer warriors who will consider it a gift to cover you in prayer. This is also a way to reach the Caring Committee if you need other assistance.



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