

FIRST LUTHERAN
CHURCH AND SCHOOL

So then we say with confidence:

**THE LORD IS MY HELPER,
AND I WILL NOT BE AFRAID.
WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?**

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 28, 2025

WELCOME



Worship Series: Wounds that Heal

September 28, 2025

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.

Today's Focus: What Helps in Life Fails in Death

What do John D Rockefeller, King Solomon, Henry Ford, and Joseph Stalin all have in common? Two things. First, they are all in the list of the twenty wealthiest individuals who ever lived. Second, they are all rotting in the ground. The reality is that while money may help you achieve some objectives, it fails to prevent death. So Jesus speaks some sharp words this week, warning that those who live with hearts filled with love for money and void of love for God will receive the only eternity that money can buy—one void of God and filled with torment. Money seems helpful, but it fails in death. Conversely, what often seems of little help in this life will be our only source of help in death. The world scoffs at those who set aside plentiful time to listen to Jesus' words and eat his holy meal. “Of what practical good are such things?” Only this. Such things enable us, at death, to receive a reward that dwarfs even the best things money can buy.


SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Presiding Minister: Pastor Derek Bartelt | **Accompanist:** Robert Joseph

Elder: Dave Schwartz | **Altar Guild:** Helen Hacht & Gail Michnay | **Projectionist:** Margie Smith

Opening Hymn

632 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear



1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, and through your
2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; your Word grants
3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the

Word to me draw near. Let me your Word e'er pure re -
heal - ing from my sin. Your Word has pow'r to guide and
Spir - it, Three in One, shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or

tain; let me your child and heir re - main.
bless; your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.
be now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1611–1684; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915; (st. 2): Mark A. Jeske, b. 1952
Tune: Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg, Wittenberg, 1543, ed. Joseph Klug
Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712282
Text (sts. 1, 3) and tune: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our
sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned
against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you
with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your
punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my
sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from a - bove and for our sal - va - tion,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - be - ing



of the Church of God, and for the un - i - ty of all,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this ho - ly house and for all who of - fer here their
wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Help, save, com-fort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men.**

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer
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Glory to God in the Highest

Glo-ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa-ther. We
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on

us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the

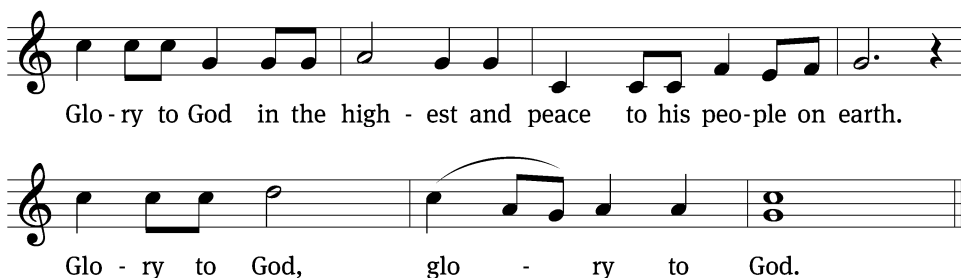
Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on

earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



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The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Amos 6:1–7

At the time of Amos, the Israelites enjoyed prosperity, but spiritually they were drifting from the LORD. The prophet warns not to let prosperity provide a false sense of security.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 146



1 Praise the Al - might - y; my soul, a - dore him!
 2 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,
 3 Trust not in princ - es, they are but mor - tal;
 4 Praise, all you peo - ple, the name so ho - ly



Yes, I will laud him un - til death. With songs and
 par - don and peace from him ob - tain; ev - er the
 earth-born they are and soon de - cay. Vain are their
 of him who does such won-drous things! All that has



an - thems I'll come be - fore him as long as
 wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, their faith - ful
 coun - sels at life's last por - tal when the dark
 be - ing, to praise him sole - ly, with hap - py



he al - lows me breath. From him my life and
 God he will re - main. He helps his chil - dren
 grave will claim its prey. Since, then, no one can
 heart its a - men sings! Chil - dren of God, with



all things came; bless, O my soul, his ho - ly
 in dis - tress, the wid-ows and the fa - ther -
 help af - ford, trust on - ly Christ, our God and
 an - gel host praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



name. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 less. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Ghost! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann D. Herrnschmidt; tr. Alfred E. R. Brauer, alt.
 Tune: Neu-vermehrte Christliche Seelenharpf, Ansbach, 1665, alt.
 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712282
 Tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Hebrews 13:1–6

All Christian virtue—including a proper attitude toward wealth—comes from knowing the Lord is our help.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 16:31



Refrain

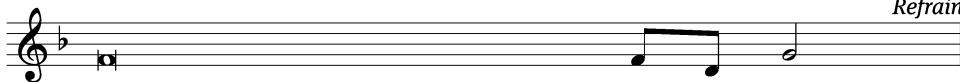


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



If they do not listen to Moses and the Proph - ets,



they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.

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Gospel

Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells a parable about two men, one whose confidence was in his wealth, another whose confidence was in his God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

817 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart



1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart; I pray thee,
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas thy rich boun - ty gave my bod - y,
3 Lord, let at last thine an - gels come, to A - br'ham's



ne'er from me de - part, with ten - der mer - cy cheer me.
soul, and all I have in this poor life of la - bor.
bos - om bear me home that I may die un - fear - ing;



Earth has no plea - sure I would share; yea, heav'n it -
Lord, grant that I in ev - 'ry place may glo - ri -
and in its nar - row cham - ber keep my bod - y



self were void and bare if thou, Lord, wert not near me.
fy thy lav - ish grace and help and serve my neigh - bor.
safe in peace - ful sleep un - til thy re - ap - pear - ing.



And should my heart for sor - row break, my trust in thee can
Let no false doc - trine me be - guile; let Sa - tan not my
And then from death a - wak - en me that these mine eyes with



noth - ing shake. Thou art the por - tion I have sought; thy pre - cious
soul de - file. Give strength and pa - tience un - to me to bear my
joy may see, O Son of God, thy glo - rious face, my Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
cross and fol - low thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, for - sake me not! I trust thy Word.
Lord, my God and Lord, in death thy com - fort still af - ford.
tend, my prayer at - tend, and I will praise thee with - out end.

Text: Martin M. Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tablatur, Strassburg, 1577
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

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 truly 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.

Prayer of the Church

Offering

The Sacrament

Preface



The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

The musical score is written on six staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in treble clef. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

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."

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef. It begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score is divided into two systems, each containing three staves of music. The first system covers the first two lines of the lyrics, and the second system covers the last two lines. The final line of the score ends with a double bar line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.
A - men. A - men.

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Distribution Hymn

678 Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters



1 Once in the blest bap - tis - mal wa - ters I put on
 2 His bod - y and his blood I've tak - en in his blest
 3 Though death may come to - day, to - mor - row, I know in
 4 And thus I live in God con - tent - ed and die with -



Christ and made him mine; now, num - bered with God's sons and
 sup - per, feast di - vine; now I shall nev - er be for -
 Christ I per - ish not; he grants the peace that stills all
 out a thought of fear; to God's good plans I have con -



daugh - ters, I share his peace and love di - vine. My God, for
 sak - en for I am his and he is mine. My God, for
 sor - row, gives me a robe with - out a spot. My God, for
 sent - ed, my faith is fo - cused, firm, and clear. By grace, in



Je - sus' sake I pray your peace may bless my dy - ing day.
 Je - sus' sake I pray your peace may bless my dy - ing day.
 Je - sus' sake I pray your peace may bless my dy - ing day.
 Je - sus' name I say, "Lord, you will bless my dy - ing day!"

Text: Emilie Juliane von Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, 1637–1706, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: Christian Möck, 1737–1818
 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

668 Jesus Comes Today with Healing



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, knock - ing at my
 2 Christ him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, yet in bread and
 3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the
 4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, gives him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.
 wine a - bid - ing in this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,
 Sav - ior ho - ly, blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,
 me this hour — in this or - di - nar - y sign.



He him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, and I hear his
 gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, and the cup, the
 ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, who to bit - ter
 On my tongue his pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept his



in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."
 pre - cious to - ken of his sa - cred cov - e - nant.
 death was giv - en, hung up - on the curs - ed tree.
 grace, be - liev - ing that I taste his love di - vine.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
 whose own feast of love I savor,
 bidden by his gracious call.
 Wedding garments he provides me,
 with a robe of white he hides me,
 fits me for the royal hall.</p> | <p>6 Now have I found consolation,
 comfort in my tribulation,
 balm to heal the troubled soul.
 God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
 cleanses me from sin and error,
 makes my wounded spirit whole.</p> |
|---|---|

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

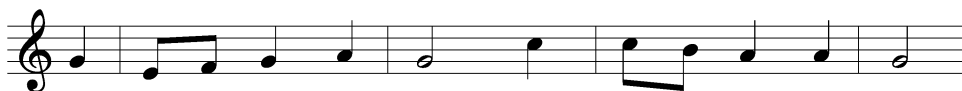
We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our
love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

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.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

730 Blest Be the Tie That Binds



- 1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
- 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
- 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
- 4 When here our path - ways part, we suf - fer bit - ter pain;
- 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free



the fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
yet, one in Christ and one in heart, we hope to meet a - gain.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.



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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS

Worship | 9:00am

1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Worship with Lord's Supper | 6:30pm

OUR STAFF

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OUR MISSION

As a family of believers, the mission of First Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God by growing in the faith of our Savior Jesus Christ and by sharing the good news of His Word with others.

OUR INVITATION

It is a privilege for us to share with you the assurance Jesus offers about how imperfect people like us can enjoy a right relationship with our holy Creator.

Our church services are designed to be Christ-centered worship and include three main elements: God speaks to us in His Word, we respond with praises and prayers, and we encourage each other.

We are eager to have you learn more about the Triune God and about our church. If you are looking for a spiritual family in which you can be at home, please speak with our pastor.