

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

BUT GOD SHOWS
HIS OWN LOVE FOR
US IN THIS: WHILE
WE WERE STILL
SINNERS, CHRIST
DIED FOR US.

ROMANS 5:8

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

WELCOME



Worship Series: Cause/Effect

November 9, 2025

“Every why hath a wherefore.” That was Shakespeare’s poetic way of saying that very little happens by chance. Generally there is an agent behind an action. There is cause and effect. And to navigate life well, it is vital we understand both. If you want to effect a healthy heart, you need to know the causes of heart disease. Before a major purchase causes you to go into debt, you need to think about the effect it will have on your budget. If you want the peace of being close to God, you need to know what causes that effect. Again, to navigate life well, it is vital we understand cause and effect.

Today’s Focus: Grace/Joy

King David once said that guilt makes you feel like your very bones are rotting. Guilt makes you feel weak . . . sick. Guilt can make it hard to focus on anything else . . . hard to function. And guilt is an inescapable fact of life. Everyone carries guilt about something. Worse, our efforts to deal with guilt—minimizing our mistakes, making excuses for our sin—don’t help, but only make us feel worse. What alleviates the burden of guilt?

Just one thing—God’s gift of grace. Christ’s love is undeserved and unconditional. He pardons every sin. This is the entire reason Jesus came to earth. This was his mission—to give the gift of grace! When we receive that gift, our guilt melts. Left in its place is the joy of our salvation.

Opening Hymn

583 God Loves Me Dearly



1 God loves me dear - ly, grants me sal -
2 I was in slav - 'ry, sin, death, and
3 He sent forth Je - sus, my dear Re -
4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, him - self did
5 Now I will praise you, O Love e -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, loves e - ven me.
dark - ness; God's love was work - ing to make me free.
deem - er, he sent forth Je - sus and set me free.
of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, paid all I owed.
ter - nal; now I will praise you all my life long.



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, loves e - ven me.

Text: August Rische, 1819–1906; tr. composite
Tune: German
Text and tune: Public domain

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

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

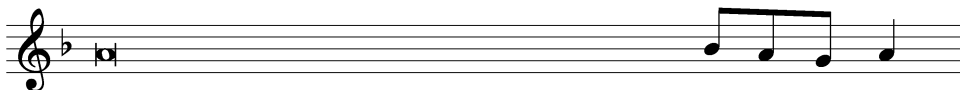
Silence for meditation and reflection

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 $\dagger$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



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



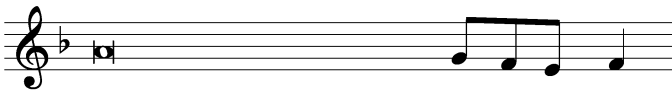
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Tune: Kevin Becker
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Glory Be to God on High



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



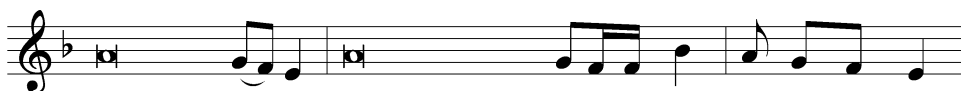
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



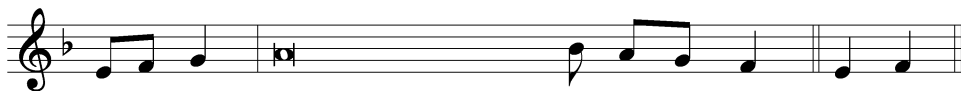
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, forgive the wrongdoing of your people, and be gentle with us in our weakness. Deliver us from the bondage of our sin, and direct us to the path of righteousness; 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

Micah 7:18–20

There is no God like the LORD. He is defined by his pardoning, forgiving grace.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 63

Refrain



Lord, you are my hope and stay; I will ev - er sing your praise.

Verses



1 O Lord, my God, now hear my plea; I seek your
2 O Lord, your ten - der lov - ing care is more than
3 Be - neath your ev - er shel - t'ring wings I sing my



ho - ly face, with - in your house a - gain to see the
life to me; so I will praise you all my days and
joy and praise; you hold me in your pow'r - ful arms through



glo - ries of your grace. A - part from you I
pray con - tin - ual - ly. In you my soul has
trou - bled nights and days. All those who seek my



long and thirst, and naught can sat - is - fy; I wan - der
all it needs, my dark - ness turns to light, and joy - ful
life will fall; my life is in your hand. God's king and



Refrain

in a des - ert land where all the streams are dry.
med - i - ta - tions fill the watch - es of the night.
peo - ple will re - joice, in vic - t'ry they will stand.

Text (sts. 1-3): Psalter, 1912, alt.; (Ref): Hal H. Hopson
Tune: (Ref) Hal H. Hopson; (sts. 1-3) Psalter, 1912, alt.
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Second Reading

Romans 5:6–11

The gift of God's grace is seen most clearly in Christ's death for sinners.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 19:9,10



Refrain

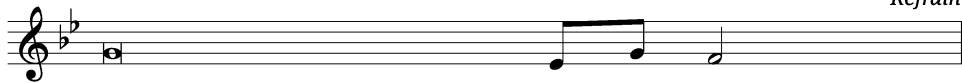


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Salvation has come to this house to - day,



Refrain

for the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

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Gospel

Luke 19:1–10

The grace that Jesus showed to Zacchaeus causes that tax collector to demonstrate the joy of his salvation.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day 570 God Loved the World So That He Gave



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; his Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives the



Son the lost to save that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in
 sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
 sins that you have done. You're jus - ti - fied by



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 him a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares that we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood; bap - tized, you are a child of God.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
 this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
 Christ Jesus saves my soul from death;
 this is the anchor of my faith!

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To you, O blessèd Trinity,
 be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens- Opfer, Stettin, c. 1778; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893
 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.

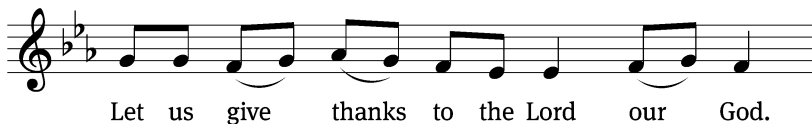
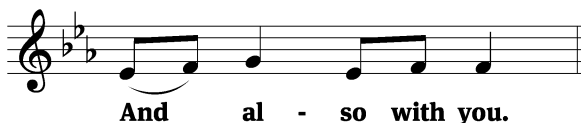
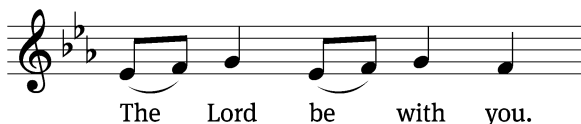
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offering

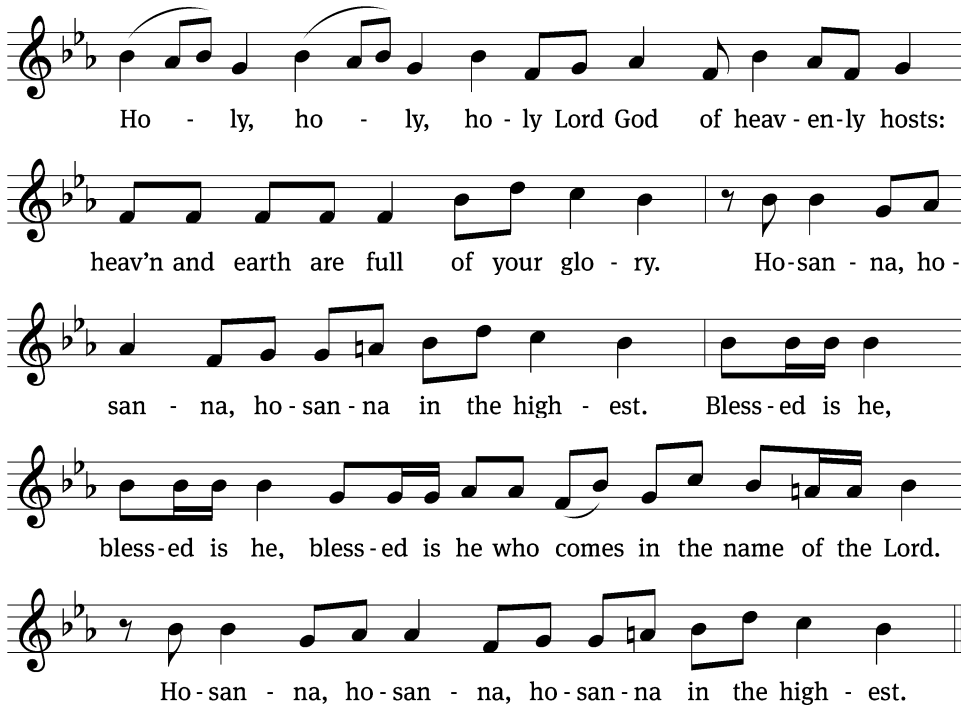
The Sacrament

Preface



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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -
san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,
bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 $\dagger$ 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 $\dagger$ 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.

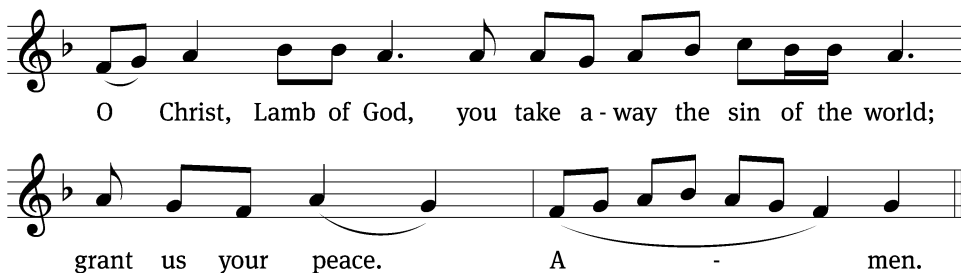
Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

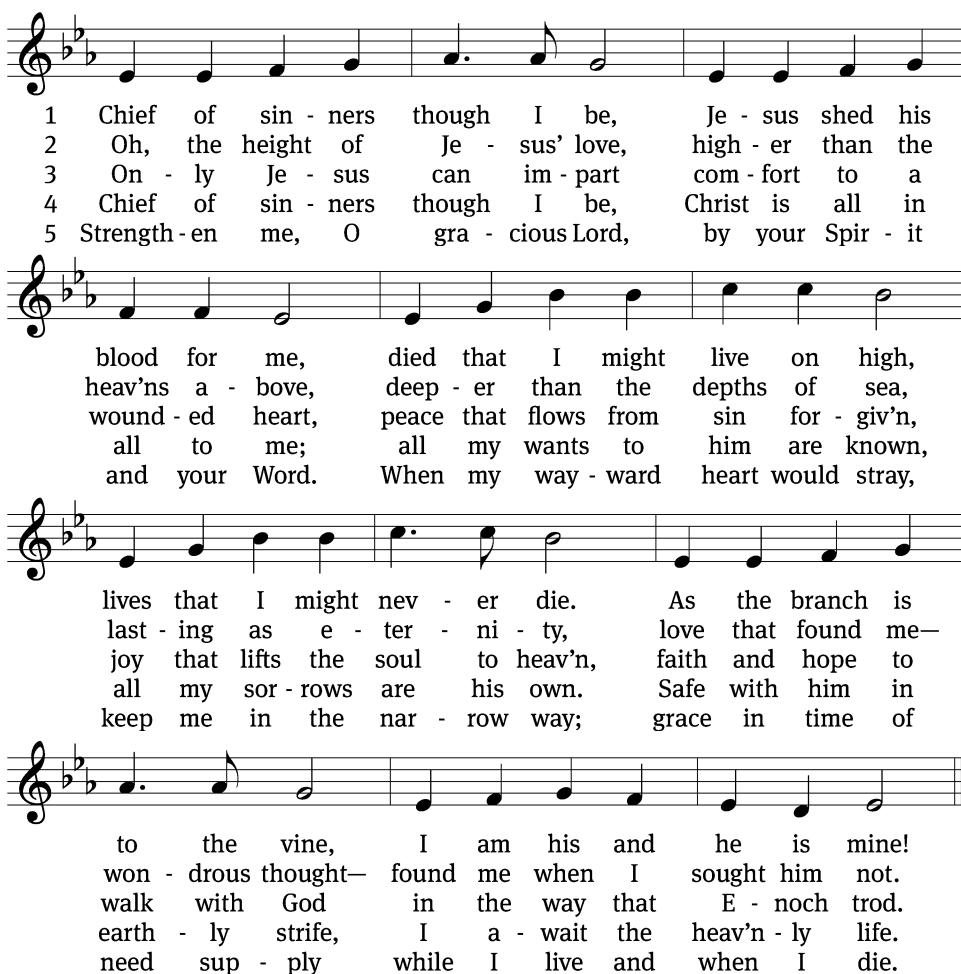
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

Distribution Hymn

578 Chief of Sinners Though I Be



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, high - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part com - fort to a
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 Strength - en me, O gra - cious Lord, by your Spir - it
blood for me, died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; all my wants to him are known,
and your Word. When my way - ward heart would stray,
lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty, love that found me—
joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, faith and hope to
all my sor - rows are his own. Safe with him in
keep me in the nar - row way; grace in time of
to the vine, I am his and he is mine!
won - drous thought— found me when I sought him not.
walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.
earth - ly strife, I a - wait the heav'n - ly life.
need sup - ply while I live and when I die.

Distribution Hymn

783 Abide with Me



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
 4 Thou on my head in ear - ly youth didst smile,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 but kind and good, with heal - ing in thy wings,
 and though re - bel - lious and per - verse mean - while,



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea;
 thou hast not left me oft as I left thee;



help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
 on to the close, O Lord, a - bide with me.

- 5 I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
 Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
 Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!
- 6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
 ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
 I triumph still if thou abide with me.

- 7 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.
Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–1889
Text and tune: Public domain

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

579 His Mercy Is More



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
 2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,
 3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;
 what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!
 his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.



thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,
 He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;
 We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;



our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
 our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
 our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our



sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more!

The refrain for stanza 3 is sung three times (twice, with no break between, then a final time).

Text: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983

Tune: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983

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SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Presiding Minister: Pastor Derek Bartelt

Accompanist: Robert Joseph | **Elder:** David Bachman and David Thurow

Altar Guild: Kris Hills and Kelly Schwartz | **Projectionist:** Judy Gifford

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS

Worship | 9:00am

1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Worship with Lord's Supper | 6:30pm

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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.