

FIRST LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

I, A SINNER, COME TO YOU
WITH A PENITENT CONFESSION.
SAVIOR, SHOW ME MERCY, TOO;
GRANT FOR ALL MY SINS REMISSION.
LET THESE WORDS MY SOUL RELIEVE:

Jesus sinners does receive.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

WELCOME



Worship Series: Wounds that Heal

September 14, 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: The Found are Left; the Lost are Found

“He’s lost.” We use that term not only to refer to someone who is bewildered about where they are but also to refer to someone who is in a helpless, hopeless state. Mankind’s natural state is one of complete spiritual helplessness, a profound lostness. It manifests itself in countless ways. The one who simply wants God to leave him alone: lost. The one who feels she can handle life on her own: lost. The one who thinks he has the right to repent of his sins on his own timetable and terms: lost. The one who thinks God owes her in some way: lost. Wandering around physically lost can lead to winding up in bad places.

Jesus’ wounding words this week teach that wandering around spiritually lost puts you in the worst place of all. Fortunately, Jesus does not leave us in our lostness. He relentlessly seeks us. He involves the rest of the Christian community in seeking the lost and rejoicing over the found.

Opening Hymn

706 Come unto Me, Ye Weary



- 1 "Come un - to me, ye wea - ry, and I will give you rest."
2 "Come un - to me, ye wan - d'ers, and I will give you light."
3 "Come un - to me, ye faint - ing, and I will give you life."
4 "And who - so - ev - er com - eth, I will not cast him out."



O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, which comes to hearts op - pressed!
O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to cheer the night!
O cheer-ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to aid our strife!
O pa - tient love of Je - sus, which drives a - way our doubt,



It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, of par - don, grace, and peace,
Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, and we had lost our way,
The foe is stern and ea - ger, the fight is fierce and long,
which, though we be un - wor - thy of love so great and free,



of joy that has no end - ing, of love that can - not cease.
but thou hast brought us glad - ness and songs at break of day.
but thou hast made us might - y and strong - er than the strong.
in - vites us ver - y sin - ners to come, dear Lord, to thee!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857
Text and tune: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the \dagger 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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

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

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 mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

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,



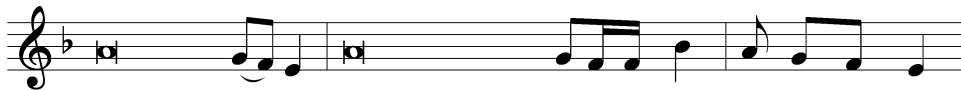
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



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



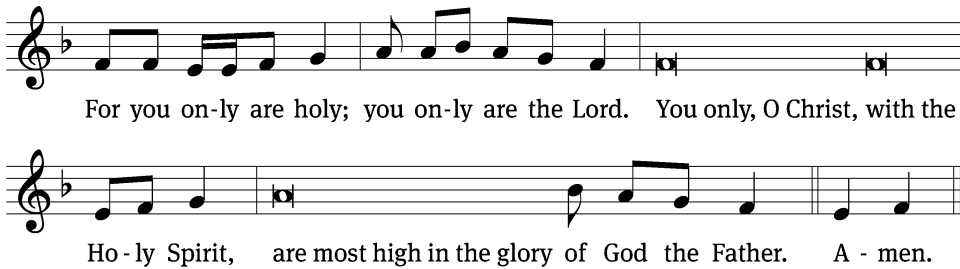
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



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.



The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; 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

Hosea 3:1-5

The LORD called the prophet Hosea to seek his adulterous wife and love her again. This served as an object lesson, showing our God is a God who seeks and redeems those who are lost.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51

Refrain



Tone



Have mercy on / me, O God,
according to your un- / failing love;
according to your great com- / passion
blot out my trans- / gressions.

Wash away all my in- / iquity
and cleanse me / from my sin.
For I know my trans- / gressions,
and my sin is always be- / fore me. *Refrain*

Against you, you only, / have I sinned
and done what is evil / in your sight.
Surely I was sin- / ful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother con- / ceived me.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I / will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whit- / er than snow.
Hide your face / from my sins
and blot out all my in- / iquity.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 2:5–11

A member of the church in Corinth had been lost in sin, but through loving church discipline, had been moved to repent. Paul encourages the members to joyfully welcome him back.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

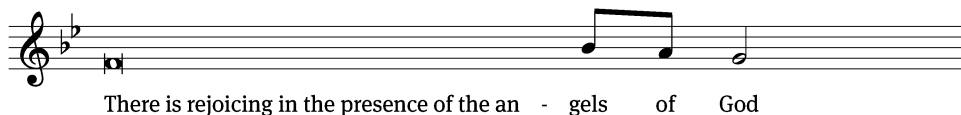
Luke 15:10



Refrain



Tone



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Gospel

Luke 15:1–10

Through two parables, Jesus rebukes those who consider themselves already found and not in need of repentance.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

654 Jesus Sinners Does Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, yet his words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray are not by the
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to you with a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 grace re - veal - ing, par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
 Lord for - sak - en; wea - ry souls who lost their way
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



and from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope for
 here their ills have per - fect heal - ing who with hum - ble
 are by Christ, the Shep - herd, tak - en in his arms that
 grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 hearts be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 they may live: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know,
 were as scarlet my transgression,
 it shall be as white as snow
 by your blood and bitter passion,
 for these words I do believe:
 Jesus sinners does receive.

Verses 6 and 7 are on page 10.

- 6 Now my conscience is at peace,
 from the law I stand acquitted.
Christ has purchased my release
 and my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners does receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners does receive,
 even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave:
Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Neu-verfertigttes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699
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

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
Amen.

Offering

The Sacrament

Preface

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

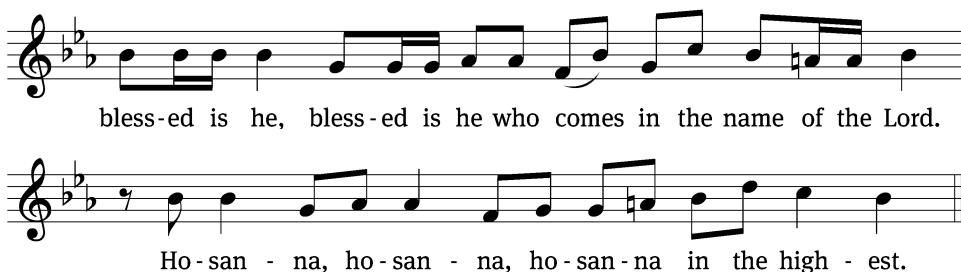
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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,



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 + 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

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.

The musical notation is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and so on. The final line of music ends with a double bar line. There are long horizontal lines (breath marks) under the lyrics 'A - - - men.' to indicate a long note or a pause.

Distribution Hymn

550 Lamb of God

Your only Son, no sin to hide,
but you have sent him from your side
to walk upon this guilty sod,
and to become the Lamb of God
(Refrain)

REFRAIN

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in his precious blood,
my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love they crucified,
they laughed and scorned him as he died:
the humble King they named a fraud
and sacrificed the Lamb of God
(Refrain)

I was so lost, I should have died,
but you have brought me to your side
to be led by your staff and rod,
and to be called the lamb of God.
(Refrain)

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.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.
 Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901
 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

814 Just as I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not to rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me and that thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y_a doubt, fight-ings and fears with - in, with-
heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in thee to



thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868
Text and tune: Public domain

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Presiding Minister: Pastor Derek Bartelt | **Preaching Minister:** Pastor Kenneth Frey

Organist: Ben Warmuth

Elder: Jacob Pelas | **Altar Guild:** Jan Lazzaroni | **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

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.