



OUR
SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*7th Sunday after Pentecost
July 8th, 2017*



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WELCOME

God welcomes you no matter who you are – and so do we. Thank you for joining us in God's house today. Whether you are a first-time guest, a friend or relative of a member, or a curious observer from a different religious background, we are delighted to be with you in worship.

A NOTE ABOUT WORSHIP

We believe that Jesus is the Savior of all. By his life, death, and resurrection Jesus saves all sinners simply because he loves us. That is called the gospel, and it's the good news on every page of God's Word. Therefore, the Bible is not just information about God or rules from God, but the saving power God uses to create and strengthen faith in our hearts and restore our lives. Lutheran worship places this good news at the center of the worship service with an order called *liturgy*. In both the Word and sacrament (Means of Grace), in specifically selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted and often ancient songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news of Jesus from start to finish.

Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out entirely. If a song is not found in this service folder, it can be found in the red hymnal located in front of you. Parts marked **L** are spoken or sung by the worship leader, and the parts marked **C** and printed in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

- **Quiet Bags** are for any parents with small children. They are on a stand in the back of church.
- **Weekly News & Notes** are printed in the back of this worship folder.
- **Restrooms** are to the left as you walk out the back of church or in the basement.
- **Website:** oursaviourwels.org

OUR CHURCH BODY

Our Saviour's proclaims the truth about Jesus throughout the world as a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (wels.net). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod, as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).





summer
growth

While everything is growing in nature, so is the Church

- May 27 – Three is better than one
- June 3 – Rest is better than work
- June 10 – Family is better than foes
- June 17 – Seed is better than sight
- June 24 – Faith is better than fear
- July 1 – Life is better than death
- July 8 – Difficulty is better than delight**
- July 15 – Sending is better than staying
- July 22 – Quiet is better than noise

During this time of year trees, plants, and fields are growing lush and green. The same is true for God's Church as we enter the season of Pentecost. This is a time where the Church "wears" green as the Holy Spirit uses the teachings of Jesus to promote and produce growth. We grow as Jesus teaches us what is better for our relationship with him and in our Christian lives of service. Today is a great reminder of what is most important. All the personal happiness you can have will not help you rely on Jesus. In fact, a great life with all the things you could ever ask for almost always fosters spiritual laziness and a loose relationship with God's grace. To help us stay close to him, God gives us what we really need so that our gaze is always heavenward and our faith is always strong. Difficulties and hardships help us see the sinful weaknesses we have. They help us see how only in Christ are we strong. Therefore, our delight is not in personal happiness and goodness, but in the grace of God and his strength to save us.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Thomas Moldenhauer - pastor of Our Saviour's

Jim Fors - organist

Dick Gimbel - elder

Dexter Demaray, Nathan Danner, Evan Weiss, Cole Gross - ushers

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

This liturgy, found on page 38 in the red hymnal, offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God’s Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

PRESERVICE MUSIC & PASTOR’S WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

***Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* | 353**

Please stand.

Gathering and confessing our sins to our Triune God tells us who is here and what he is here to do. The Lord God is not in this place to plague us with loveless laws and growing guilt. He is here to fill us with forgiveness through the good news of Jesus. He is here to empower us with the good news as we live in faith. He is here to feed our starving souls with the food of his Word.

GATHERING

L The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

L 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.**

ABSOLUTION

L 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.**

PRAISE & PRAYER

L In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
 they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
 ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

What other gift could possibly give you a peaceful relationship with God and an eternal home in heaven? What other gift could possibly motivate you to follow and serve God every day? None!
 So, we lift up our voices in joyful praise (from Psalm 34) for the free gift of forgiveness that comes through Jesus.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

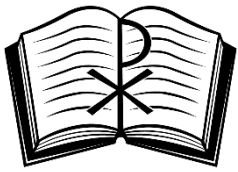
L Let us pray.

Pastor says the Prayer of the Day (at the bottom of page 3).

C: A - men.

Please be seated.

Pay attention to this prayer as it prepares us for the Scripture readings. Ask the Lord to use his Word on your hearts to amend the bad and encourage the good.



THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are invited up front for a brief devotion with Pastor.

The prophet finds joy in difficult work because it is from God and for God's people.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 2:1 - 3:4

¹ He said to me, “Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you.” ² As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

³ He said: “Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me to this very day. ⁴ The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says.’

⁵ And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a rebellious people—they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶ And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them or their words. Do not be afraid, though briars and thorns are all around you and you live among scorpions. Do not be afraid of what they say or be terrified by them, though they are a rebellious people. ⁷ You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen, for they are rebellious.

⁸ But you, son of man, listen to what I say to you. Do not rebel like that rebellious people; open your mouth and eat what I give you.”

⁹ Then I looked, and I saw a hand stretched out to me. In it was a scroll, ¹⁰ which he unrolled before me. On both sides of it were written words of lament and mourning and woe.

^{3:1} And he said to me, “Son of man, eat what is before you, eat this scroll; then go and speak to the people of Israel.” ² So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat.

³ Then he said to me, “Son of man, eat this scroll I am giving you and fill your stomach with it.” So I ate it, and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth.

⁴ He then said to me: “Son of man, go now to the people of Israel and speak my words to them.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 143

Psalms have been used in worship by God's people since the Old Testament.

- L** O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;
C **In your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.**
- L** Do not bring your servant into judgment,
C **For no one living is righteous before you.**
- L** My spirit grows faint within me;
C **My heart within me is dismayed.**
- L** Answer me quickly, O LORD;
C **Do not hide your face from me.**
- L** Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,
C **For I have put my trust in you.**
- L** Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;
C **May your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**

Psalm 143 is a prayer for deliverance and divine guidance.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

⁷Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Paul's affliction causes him to see the power of Christ through our human weaknesses.

- L** The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

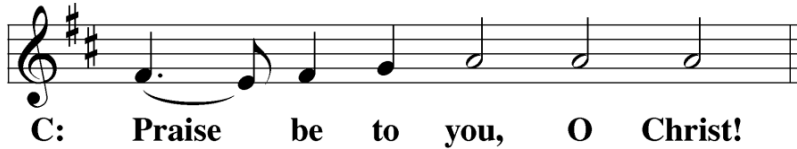
- C** (sings) **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ²When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

“Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? ³ Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.

⁴ Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.” ⁵ He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶ He was amazed at their lack of faith.

L The Gospel of our Lord.



Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head | 536

SERMON

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

APOSTLES’ CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

A creed is a statement of faith. Creed comes from the Latin “credo,” which means “I believe.” The faith God gave us publicly and regularly confesses the triune God as Lord and Savior.

THANK OFFERING

1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

The members of Our Saviour's Lutheran join together to do the Lord's work in Bismarck and throughout the world in our church body, the WELS. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

Please help us be a friendly church by taking a moment to fill out the **Friendship Register** located at the end of the pew.

As the offering is brought forward, please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Luke 11:1-4; Matthew 6:9-13

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.



Please be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

I Know My Faith Is Founded | 403

Please stand.

PRAYER

L Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The Aaronic Blessing has been spoken over God's people since the Old Testament. God watched over his people then and he still does today. Be at peace in God's loving arms.

THE LORD'S BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

L 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: A - men. A - men. A - men.



Feel free to jot some notes from the sermon for personal or family use.

SERMON NOTES

NEWS & NOTES

THIS WEEK

Today – **Worship @ 9am**
Bible Hour @ 10:15am
Volleyball @ 6:30pm Tatley Park

Thursday – Little Treasures Playgroup @ 10am

Sunday – **Worship @ 9am with Lord's Supper**
Bible Hour @ 10:15am
Volleyball @ 7:30pm

SERMONS

Copies of Pastor's sermons are available in the entryway.

JULY 4th PARADE

Thanks to those who walked in the parade with our float.



BASEBALL GAME GROUP OUTING

If you are interested in going to the Bismarck Larks baseball game on July 9th, there is a sign-up sheet at the bulletin board. Cost is \$20 per person which includes a ticket and a 90 minute buffet at the game. We still have 10 tickets available.

VBS

We will be doing a joint VBS again this year at Redeemer in Mandan. It is the weeks of August 5th. Sign up at the bulletin board where you would like to help. Thanks for the help. We enjoy these opportunities to connect and serve with our brothers and sisters at Redeemer.