

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



A TOP-DOWN FAITH
VIEWS DEATH DIFFERENTLY
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

June 30, 2024



Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

Service Notes For This Service



Most people fear death to some degree. Some fear death because they assume it is the end. Others fear death because they assume it isn't the end at all, but that there is some sort of reckoning after death which might not go well for them. And have you seen what happens to a dead body? It is far from pretty. So, it is understandable that most people would fear death.

Not so for those to whom God has given a top-down faith. Christianity teaches that for God's children death is not discipline but deliverance. The living Lord gives Christians such a radically different view of death that they can have confidence to face death in their effort to give Christ glory. They understand that death does not cut us down, but only raises us up. Finally, the Christian has been given the top-down faith that believes Jesus can wake us from death as easily as we can wake a sleeping child from his nap.

Those Serving in Worship

Pastor Peter Plagenz; Accompanist Destinee Fiecko; Clarinet Duo Garth & Kristi Perry

Acknowledgements

Morning Prayer from Christian Worship. Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) © 2017 Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer begins on page 207 in the hymnal.

Welcome

Hymn

846 I Know of a Sleep in Jesus' Name

Stand



O Lord, o - pen my lips,



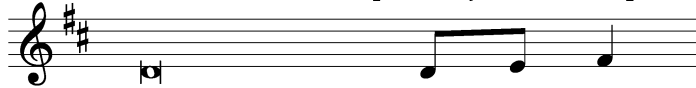
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



Has - ten to save me, O God;



O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



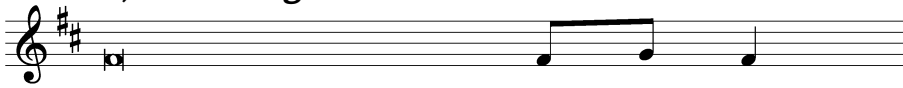
General Jesus Christ is Lord of all:



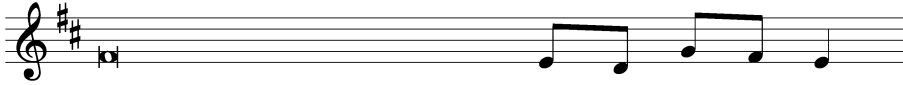
praise and thanks to God!

O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

CW 208



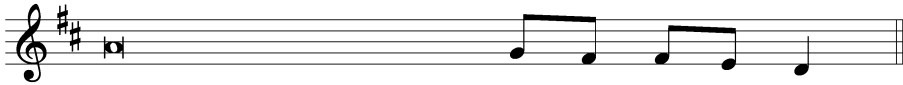
1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is his, for he made it,



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and his hand formed the dry land.



1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For he is our God,



1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.
2 the heights of the hills are also his.
3 let us kneel before the Lord our maker.
4 and we are the people of his
pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Be seated

First Reading

Lamentations 3:22–33

Jeremiah knew that suffering and impending death can focus our attention on the LORD's compassion and salvation.

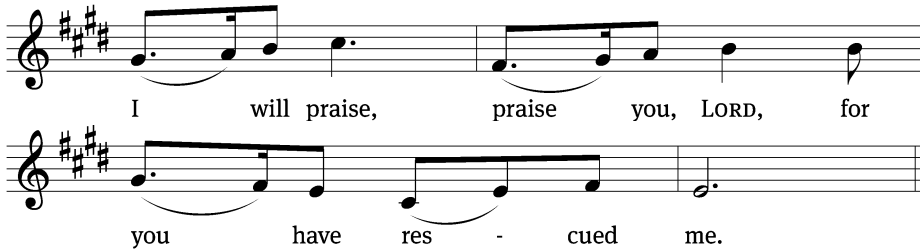
²²By the mercies of the LORD we are not consumed, for his compassions do not fail. ²³They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness. ²⁴My soul says, "The LORD is my portion. Therefore, I will hope in him." ²⁵The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. ²⁶It is good to hope quietly for the salvation of the LORD. ²⁷It is good for a man that he bears a yoke early in his life. ²⁸Let him sit alone and be silent, because the LORD has laid this upon him. ²⁹Let him stick his face in the dust. Perhaps there still is hope. ³⁰Let him turn his cheek toward the one who strikes him. Let him be filled with disgrace. ³¹For the LORD will not push us away forever. ³²Even though he brings grief, he will show compassion on the basis of his great mercy. ³³Certainly, it is not what his heart desires when he causes affliction, when he brings grief to the children of men. (EHV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Refrain



I will praise, praise you, LORD, for
you have res - cued me.

Tone



I will exalt you, LORD, for you lifted me out / of the depths;
you spared me from going down / to the pit.
Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful / people;
praise his / holy name.

I will exalt you, LORD, for you lifted me out / of the depths;
you spared me from going down / to the pit.
Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful / people;
praise his / holy name.

**For his anger lasts only a / moment,
but his favor lasts a / lifetime;
weeping may stay / for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the / morning. Refrain**

To you, / LORD, I called;
to the Lord I cried for / mercy:
“Hear, LORD, and be merci- / ful to me;
LORD, / be my help.”

**You turned my wailing into / dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed / me with joy,
that my heart may sing your praises and not be / silent.
LORD my God, I will praise you for- / ever.**

**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 4:7–15

Serving Christ might result in death. But the one who raised Jesus from the dead will also raise us.

⁷We hold this treasure in clay jars to show that its extraordinary power is from God and not from us. ⁸We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not despairing; ⁹persecuted, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed. ¹⁰We always carry around in our body the death of the Lord Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹To be sure, while we are living we are continually being handed over to death because of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our mortal flesh. ¹²So then, death is working in us, but life is working in you.

¹³Since we have that same spirit of faith, which corresponds to what is written: “I believed; therefore, I have spoken,” we also believe, and therefore we speak. ¹⁴For we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus and bring us (together with you) into his presence. ¹⁵In fact, all this is for your benefit, so that as grace increases, it will overflow to the glory of God, as more and more people give thanks. (EHV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lamentations 3:25

Alleluia. The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul who seeks him. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 5:21–24a, 35–43

Jesus raises the young daughter of a synagogue leader from the sleep of death.

²¹When Jesus had again crossed over in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around him near the sea. ²²Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came. When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet ²³and repeatedly pleaded with him, “My little daughter is near death. Please come and place your hands on her so that she may be healed and live.” ²⁴Jesus went with him.

³⁵While he was still speaking, people from the synagogue ruler's house arrived, saying, “Your daughter is dead. Why bother the Teacher anymore?”

³⁶But when Jesus heard this report, he told the synagogue ruler, “Don't be afraid. Only believe.” ³⁷He did not allow anyone to follow him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. ³⁸They went into the house of the synagogue ruler, and Jesus saw a commotion with people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹When he entered, he said to them, “Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping.”

⁴⁰They laughed at him. But after he put everyone out, he took the father of the child, her mother, and those who were with him and went in where the child was. ⁴¹Grasping the hand of the child, he said to her, “Talitha, koum!” (When translated, that means, “Little girl, I say to

you, arise!") ⁴²Immediately the little girl stood up and began to walk around. (She was twelve years old.) They were completely and utterly amazed. ⁴³Then he gave them strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and he told them to give her something to eat. (EHV)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn

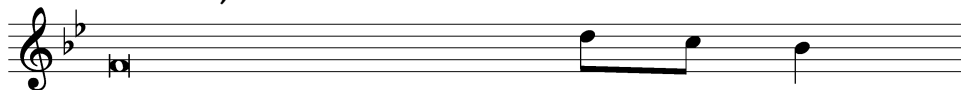
831 *Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me*

Sermon

Stand

We Praise You, O God

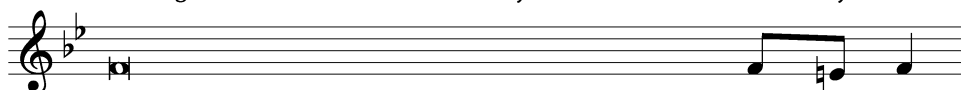
CW 210



- 1 We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heav'n - ly hosts,
- 3 The white-robed army of martyrs praise — you.



- 1 all creation worships you, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full — of your glo - ry.
- 3 Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



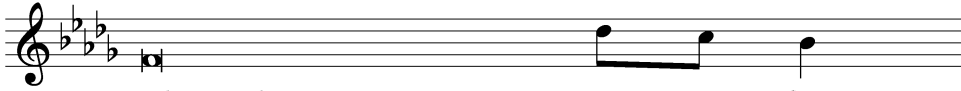
- 1 To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,
- 2 The glorious company of apostles praise — you.
- 3 Father of majesty unbounded; your glorious, true, and on - ly Son;



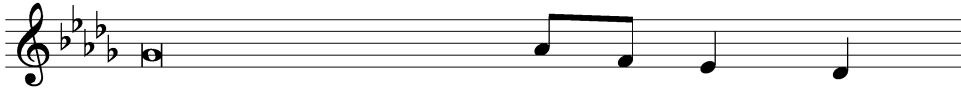
- 1 cherubim and seraphim, sing in end - less praise:
- 2 The noble fellowship of proph - ets praise — you.
- 3 and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide.



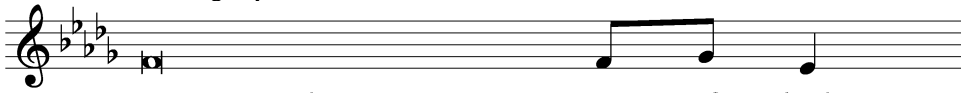
4 You, Christ, are the King of glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther.



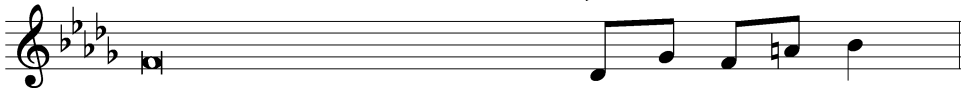
5 When you became man to set us free,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



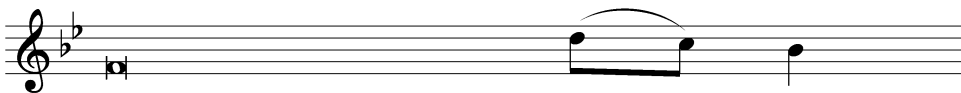
5 you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 You overcame the sting of death
6 We believe that you will come



5 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be our judge.



7 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple,



7 bought with the price of your own blood,



7 and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Be seated

Connect Card and Offering

Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card. After a few moments, the ushers will come forward to collect the offering. You may place your Connect Card and any offering you brought in the plate as it is passed. Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



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.



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

Hymn

835 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*



Take Home Questions

1. Reread the verses from our Gospel today with special note toward the opposites that exist: faith vs. fear, weeping vs. amazement, death vs. life.
 - a. In what ways was Jesus at the heart of these transformations in this account?
 - b. For what reasons must Jesus be at the center?
2. These verses from Lamentations 3 present a unique perspective of suffering and grief. Summarize this perspective in your own words.
 - a. In what ways does that differ from how our sinful hearts, the world around us, or the devil would have us view suffering?
 - b. Based on these verses, how is a Lamentations perspective possible?
 - c. Write a prayer asking God to fill you with his Spirit so that you might live with this perspective in your life.
3. Reread the list of contrasts that Paul has in the beginning of our reading from 2 Corinthians 4. Which of these resonates with you most in your life experiences?
 - a. Reflect on your past afflictions. In what ways might God's extraordinary power have been on display through those experiences?
4. A Christian Funeral is a time for individuals who are face-to-face with death to hear the proclamation of Jesus' power over death and the comfort we have from this in life's afflictions. Planning your own funeral service in advance is one way to be a part of that gospel proclamation your loved ones will hear.
 - a. Take some time to plan out what Scripture readings and hymns you would like included in your funeral service. What words of gospel comfort do you want them to hear after your death?
 - b. If you already have a plan, revisit it. Is there anything you want to change?

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study: Establishing a Christ-Centered Mindset

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM

New Principal to Lead Bible Study

June 30 & July 7

To help us get to know him better, and for him to get to know us, our new principal, Mr. Andy Van Weele, will lead a special two-part Bible Study. The first session is this Sunday, June 30, at 9:15-10:15 am. The theme is "Establishing a Christ-Centered Mindset." The study meets in the cafeteria from 9:15-10:15 am.

Pastor Called

On Tuesday, we called Rev. Michael D. Zarling to serve as an associate pastor. Pastor Zarling is currently serving, Water of Life Lutheran Church in Racine, which has two campuses, plus Wisconsin Lutheran School in Racine. He and his wife, Shelley, have three adult children. Please keep Pastor Zarling in your prayers while he deliberates this call. If you would like to contact him personally, you can find his contact information in your mailslot.

Welcome Our New Teachers

Next Sunday, we welcome five new teachers. See the bulletin board in the Welcome Center for names, faces, and positions. You can help them feel welcome in the following ways.

Give a gift. Place a donation in the decorated box on the Ministry Table. These donations will be used to purchase Scrip cards for the teachers. The cards will be presented at the potluck.

Attend the Installation Service. This special service will be held next Sunday, July 7, at 4:00 pm. We are asking that everyone where a name tag for the service, so the new called workers can better learn our names (and we, theirs).

Join the potluck. To allow extra time for everyone to introduce themselves, we are holding a potluck supper after the installation service. Please sign up at the Ministry Table, so we know how many hamburgers, brats, and hotdogs to grill.

Volunteer. We need help for the potluck supper to set up, serve, and/or clean up. Please contact Al Verjinsky to volunteer. His number is 715-569-3812.



Monthly Evening Worship Next Week

Our monthly evening worship service will be held on July 8 at 6:30 pm. It is a repeat of the Sunday service, which will include communion. This is a great option if you will be out of town or at work on Sunday.

School Supply Drive Begins

The Annual Stuff the School Bus community school supply drive begins this week and continues through the end of July. The top needed items include backpacks (plain colors preferred), notebooks (plain colors), folders (plain colors), colored pencils, markers, highlighters, water colors, glue sticks, and scissors. However, other school supplies are appreciated as well. You can drop your donations in the bin on the Ministry Table.

Stuff the Desk – If your family can use free school supplies, you can register for the Stuff the Desk event, which will be held August 16-17. There are no income requirements, but you must pre-register at UWSWAC.org/form/stuff-the-desk-registration.

Bring a Friend for Baseball

July 28

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church asks you to bring a friend to the Rafters Baseball game on Sunday, July 28 at 1:05 pm. This is an opportunity for your friends to associate with Christians on “neutral ground”, and you will get to know other Christians better. Good Shepherd has reserved the area below the Rat Trap along the 3rd base line. Tickets cost \$36/person and included all of your food through the 5th inning and all of your beverages through the 7th inning. **The deadline to reserve your tickets is next Sunday, July 7.** Please contact Chris Rhein (715-321-6474).



WELS Night at the Brewers

July 12 | 7:10 PM

Join thousands of WELS members from around the Midwest for an evening of fellowship, fun, and baseball at the annual WELS Night at the Brewers on Friday, July 12. The Brewers take on the Washington Nationals in a 7:10 pm game. WELS members will receive discounted tickets and be seated together within each seating category offered. Tickets range from \$10 to \$23, depending on the seating area. Visit brewers.com/wels to get your tickets. Why not invite a friend and carpool!



Wildcat Open

August 10

Get your golf buddies together and register for the Wildcat Open Golf Tournament. This fundraiser for Nothland Lutheran High School (NLHS) will be held August 10 at Pine Valley Golf Course in Marathon City. This is a four-person scramble, but you can sign up as a single, double, or triple. Your fee will cover 18 holes of golf, a cart, meal, and a chance at door prizes. Please register by August 1 at NLHS.org.

Give Today to Support Future Called Worker

Today, June 30, is the deadline to give a gift to MLC Congregational Partner Grant Fund. This money will be passed on to Martin Luther College (MLC) for the benefit of Emma Schroeder, who is enrolled there for fall and pursuing a career as a called teacher. If you are moved to encourage Emma's ministry, use the envelopes are on the Ministry Table in the Welcome Center.

OWLS Convention

Just because you are a senior, doesn't mean God can't use you anymore. The Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) is holding a convention to deepen your faith and inspire you to serve. This year's convention is Oct 14-17 in Omaha, NE. People over the age of 55 are welcome. In addition to speakers and workshops, there is silent auction, banquet, and a tour of Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Base. To learn more about OWLS and the convention, visit WELS.net/serving-you/christian-life/special-ministries/wels-seniors.

Oct. 14-17



Amish Country Bus Trip

August 23

Enjoy a guided tour of the Amish country near Cashton, WI on August 23. Stops will include Amish farms and shops. The cost is only \$55 and includes bus transportation and a soup & salad bar luncheon. This trip is sponsored by the Good Shepherd Ladies Group. **Registration is due by July 15.** Please see the Ministry Table for more information.

Family Camp at Camp Phillip

Your Labor Day weekend can be jam-packed with fun at Camp Phillip in Wautoma. The weekend starts with a group campfire on Friday evening. Enjoy time at Camp Phillip's waterfront. There is a disc golf tournament on Saturday and Sunday, plus a 5K run/walk for all ages on Sunday. Learn more and register at www.campphillip.com/family-camps.

Service Opportunities

Handbells – Use your musical talents as part of the handbell choir. Contact Marilyn Foley at 715-697-1511 or mmfoley@solarus.net

Technology – Serve during the worship service you normally attend. Stop in the balcony after worship or contact Chris Williams at 507-279-0167.

Before- or After-School Care for Fall – Paid or volunteer. Contact the office 715-421-3634 ext. 1119 or littlelambs@stpaulswr.org.

Dime & Dollar Thrift Store – Receive donations, sort & price items, or help with checkout. Contact the thrift store at 715-421-2030.

- Sunday 8:00 AM Worship
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 10:30 AM Worship
- Monday 1:30 PM Connect Group at WR Health Services
- Tuesday 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 9:45 AM Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
 6:30 pm Unified Board Meetings
- Sunday 8:00 AM Worship
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 10:30 AM Worship
 4:00 PM **Installation Service and Potluck**

Attendance Report

Last Week's Attendance: 193

Next Sunday

Theme: Meaningful Ministry Brings Rejection and Resentment

Readings: Ezekiel 2:1-7; 2 Timothy 2:1-13; Mark 6:1-6



Upcoming Events

- July 4 Independence Day - Office Closed
- July 7 Installation of New Teachers
- July 8 Evening Worship Service
- July 12 WELS Night at the Brewers
- July 28 Rafters Baseball Game with Good Shepherd





www.stpaulswr.org

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