

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



THE NEED FOR FOLLOWERSHIP:
Christ's Followers Have Powerful Allies
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 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 can continue to serve you.

Restrooms are located in the hallway outside the gym. If you would like one, large print copies of the service folder or a children's bulletin for kids are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can also help you find the restrooms or answer any other questions you may have.

Service Notes For This Service

Green Berets. Rangers. SEALs. Delta Force. These special forces groups are part of the United States military. They are elite: highly trained with unique skill sets. Many of their important missions are carried out in total secrecy.

Last week, we acknowledged that we are in the middle of a massive spiritual war. Today, we thank God that we fight this war with the protection of special forces. Since the fifth century, Christians have observed the Festival of St. Michael and All Angels. We commemorate that God has sent Michael, one of the great archangels described in Scripture, and countless of his fellow angels to protect and serve mankind. Let us rejoice that followers of Christ have powerful allies!



Those Serving in Worship

Liturgist, Staff Minister Randy Pahl; Preacher: Pastor John Melke from Good Shepherd Ev. Lutheran Church, Wisconsin Rapids; Organist Destinee Fiecko

Acknowledgements

Setting Four 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.

The Service: Setting Four

Setting Four is not found in the hymnal.

Welcome

Hymn

679 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

10:30 - Recognition of a Private Baptism: Jace Ross Provost

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

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

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 to God in the Highest

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of several phrases of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "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". The score ends with a double bar line.

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.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

Tune: © 2002 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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.

Be seated

First Reading

2 Kings 6:8–17

As Elisha fulfilled his mission to proclaim the word and will of God, the angels fulfilled their mission by providing Elisha with protection.

⁸Now when the king of Aram was waging war against Israel, he would make plans with his officials, saying, “My camp will be at such and such a place.”

⁹But the man of God would send a message to the king of Israel, saying, “Be careful when you pass this place because the Arameans are going down there.” ¹⁰So the king of Israel would send scouts to the place that the man of God had pointed out. So the man of God warned him, and he was kept safe—and not just once or twice.

¹¹The king of Aram was enraged because of this. He summoned his officials and said to them, “Won't you tell me who of us is for the king of Israel?”

¹²One of his officials said, “No, my lord the king. It is Elisha, the prophet in Israel, who tells the king of Israel the words which you speak in your bedroom.”

¹³Then he said, “Go and see where he is. Then I'll send men and capture him.”

He was told, “Dothan is where he is.”

¹⁴So he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They came at night and surrounded the city. ¹⁵When the man of God's servant got up early and went out, there were soldiers, horses, and chariots surrounding the city. So his attendant said to Elisha, “Oh no, my lord! What will we do?”

¹⁶He answered, “Don't be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

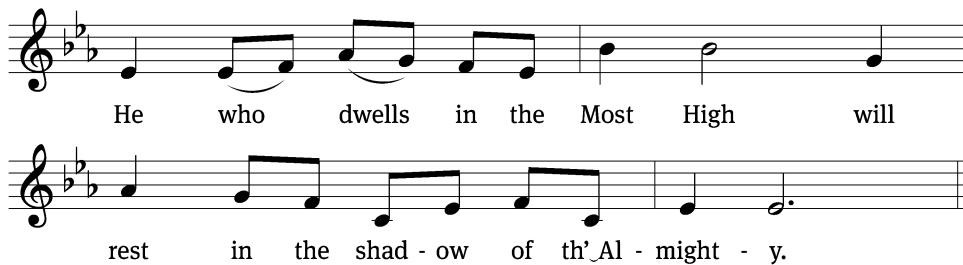
¹⁷Then Elisha prayed and said, “O LORD, open his eyes so that he can see.” Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he saw that the hills were full of horses and chariots of fire, all around Elisha. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

91A The Shadow of the Almighty

Refrain



He who dwells in the Most High will
rest in the shadow of th'Al-might-y.

Tone



Surely he will save you from the / fowler's snare
and from the deadly / pestilence.
He will cover you with his / feathers,
and under his wings you will find / refuge.

You will not fear the ter- / ror of night,
nor the arrow that / flies by day,
nor the pestilence that stalks in the / darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at / midday. *Refrain*

If you say, "The LORD is my / refuge,"
and you make the Most High your / dwelling,
no harm will over- / take you,
no disaster will come / near your tent.

For he will command his angels con- / cerning you
to guard you in / all your ways;
they will lift you up / in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot a- / gainst a stone.

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

Revelation 12:7–12

When war broke out in heaven, Michael and his angels defeated Satan and his demons.

⁷There was also a war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought with the dragon. The dragon fought back along with his angels, ⁸but he was not strong enough. There was no longer a place for them in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was thrown down—the ancient serpent, the one called the Devil and Satan, the one who leads the whole inhabited earth astray—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

¹⁰I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying:

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Christ,
because the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down,
the one who accuses them before our God day and night.

¹¹They conquered him

because of the blood of the Lamb and
because of the word of their testimony.

They did not love their lives in the face of death.

¹²For this reason, rejoice, you heavens and those who dwell in them.

Woe to the earth and the sea,

for the Devil has gone down to you.

He is full of rage, because he knows that his time is short. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 103:20

Alleluia. Praise the LORD, you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding. Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 10:17–20

We rejoice that Christ enables us to overcome the work of demons. We rejoice even more that our names are written in heaven.

¹⁷The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name!”

¹⁸He told them, “I was watching Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹Look, I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy. And nothing will ever harm you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names have been written in heaven.” (EHV®)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

500 Lord God, to You We Give All Praise

Sermon

Who are angels? What is God's purpose for angels?

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

O Lord of hosts, eternal, immortal, and invisible King, we praise and thank you for protecting your people through your holy angels, who always behold your face and worship your majesty. Grant, we pray, as you have commanded them to do your will and to serve those who are the heirs of salvation, that they may also care for us that we may be delivered from every peril of body and soul that threatens us. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Be merciful to the people of all nations, O Lord. And since you will reveal your Son Jesus from heaven with his mighty angels to take vengeance on all who have denied you and rejected your love in Christ, extend for the nations their time of grace so that they might come to believe and live eternally. Use us as messengers of your gospel to penetrate the powers of darkness and to bring many to glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Look on our own land with your favor. Give our citizens a love for what is true and right. Grant your blessing to all who have authority over us. Prosper our schools and colleges as they train many to proclaim your grace. Bless those who work with their minds and those who labor with their hands so that all human work may benefit your holy Church. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Direct your holy angels to serve all who are in want, trouble, pain, sorrow, disappointment, anxiety, or any other trouble. Comfort them with your power and grace. Grant that your presence may brighten our homes, that children may learn of your tender love, and that all parents may walk in the counsel of your Son. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Special Prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer.

May your holy angels serve you as they serve us and at the end of our lives lead them to carry us to the riches of paradise. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer. Amen.

Special Prayers This Week

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Connect Card & Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. 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.



Musical Offering

Hymn

499 Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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.

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.

Be seated

Hymn

836 I Walk in Danger All the Way sts. 1,4,5



Take Home Questions

1. Read 2 Kings 6:8-17 again. Although our physical eyes may not see all the angels guarding and protecting us, our eyes of faith are open to this reality? In what ways can you reflect that reality in your everyday life?

2. What would you say to a Christian friend who reads Psalm 91 and questions why they still have suffering in their life?
 - a. In what ways does the gospel of Jesus Christ give a full understanding to this Psalm?

3. Read Revelation 12:7-12 again, especially focusing on verses 10-12. Where do these verses talk about you?
 - a. In what ways does that bring comfort considering the devil's current location and work?

4. There is comfort and joy in the work angels do for us. However, where does Jesus say true joy comes from? (Hint: read verse 20)
 - a. In what ways does that shape our focus and attention in life and ministry?

5. What are some questions about angels you still have after this service? Jot them down below and share them with Pastor.
 - a. Read John 20:31. Based on this passage, which reveals the overall purpose of God's Word, for what reasons might we not get all our questions answered?

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study: Foundations of the Christian Faith

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

Seasonal Connect Groups Start in One Week!

Do you want to connect with more people in our church, or connect on a deeper level? Then a Connect Group is a good place to start. Our fall session begins the week of Sept. 29 and runs for four weeks. Men from our church will lead discussion of the Take-Home questions in the church bulletin. Meetings usually take about an hour and a half. This season's groups are:

Spiritual Health Group – Mondays at 1:30 pm in the chapel at Wisconsin Rapids Health Services. Led by Norm Paul

Faith Group – Mondays at 6:30 pm at the home of Todd & Kay Ferkey

Bible & Brews – Wednesday at 6:30 pm at B's Tap House. Led by Greg Paul

Peace Group – Thursday at 6:30 pm in St. Paul's Resource Center. Led by Garth Perry

You can sign up for a group at the Ministry Table or look for a link on our website.

NPH Book Fair Gets Underway Next Sunday

Sept. 29-Oct. 27

You will be able to browse books physically here at church or virtually from your phone or home computer. (We will have laptop on-site to assist people who do not have a computer at home.) There will be books to help you defend your faith or grow closer to God. Buy something for yourself or start your Christmas shopping early. Look for the display in the Welcome Center beginning next Sunday.

Fall Mission Rally

Oct. 12

Everyone is invited to hear about the mission in Kronenwetter at Fall LWMS Mission Rally being held at St. John's in Christie on Saturday, Oct. 12. The opening worship service is at 9:00 am with closing devotion at noon. People are planning to carpool from St. Paul's, leaving here at 7:30. If you have a mite box or want to give a gift to mission work through the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS), please turn it in to the church office by Oct. 6.

Join the Choir

Sept. 30

If you enjoy singing, we would love to have you as a part of our church choir. Practices are held on Mondays at 4:30 pm in the balcony. The choir performs at special services such as Reformation Sunday. Practices begin on Sept. 30



Cheer on the Home Team

Sept. 24 | 4:30 pm

Our Panthers Volleyball Team has another home game this week on Tuesday. We will be playing Trinity Lutheran School of Marshfield. The B team games start at 4:30 with the A team games scheduled for 5:30. Concessions will be available. Come cheer on the home team!

5K Run/Walk at NLHS on Saturday

Sept. 28 | 9:00 AM

Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) is celebrating their homecoming this week. Things culminate on Saturday with a 5K Run/Walk and a homecoming soccer game. The run/walk is a fundraiser for the school. The fee is \$25 per person, which includes a t-shirt and a meal coupon for the soccer game. Sign in is at 8:00 am with the race beginning at 9:00. You can register online at NLHS.org.

What Will You Make?

Our Fall Bake & Craft Sale is just a month away on Oct. 19-20. If you love to bake, please consider making something for the sale - cookies, bars, breads, etc. If you have a special pie recipe, we have pre-made crusts available. If you are a canner, consider donating a jar or two of your jam, salsa, pickles, or whatever. (Tip: Put an address label on the bottom of your jar, so you get your jar back.) Crafters, we would love to include a few of your hand-made items. Donations of baked goods can be dropped off at the church on Oct. 18. (If your item contains nuts, please note that on the label.) You are welcome to bring in other items earlier.

Evening Compline Service on Oct. 1

We just want to remind you that the monthly evening service is on Wednesday, Oct. 1. This is a Compline Service and focuses on peace and forgiveness. You can find the service on page 225 of the hymnal. Everyone is invited.

Magazine Orders/Renewals Due Next Sunday

If you would like to order the *Meditations* devotion booklets or the *Forward in Christ* magazine, please submit your order or renewal to the office by next Sunday, Sept. 22. Ordering information can be found on the Ministry Table.

Fall Teen Retreat

Oct. 18-20

“Glow in the Dark” is the theme of the Fall Teen Retreat at Camp Phillip on Oct. 18-20. Students in 8th-12th grade are invited. The weekend begins on Friday night with a campfire and devotion to close. Saturday is filled with activities, outdoor games, Bible studies, and some free time, and another campfire and devotion. The retreat conclude with Sunday worship at 9:30 am. The cost is \$80. Learn more and register at www.campphillip.com/retreat-groups.



- Sunday
 - 8:00 AM Worship
 - 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 - 9:15 AM Sunday School for grades 3K-5th
 - 10:30 AM Worship

- 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
 - 4:30 PM HOME Panther Volleyball Games in the gym**
 - 6:30 PM Leadership Council in the Resource Center
 - 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Peer Group in the Welcome Center

- Wednesday
 - 8:55 AM School Chapel Service
 - 6:30 PM Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
 - 6:30 PM Catechism Class

- Thursday
 - 7:00 AM Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 - 1:30 PM Pie Making Session**

- Sunday
 - 8:00 AM Worship
 - 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 - 9:15 AM Sunday School for grades 3K-5th
 - 10:30 AM Worship

Attendance Report

Last Week's Attendance: 195

Next Sunday

Theme: The Need for Followership:

Christ's Followers Are Humble Servants

Readings: Numbers 12:1-15; James 3:3-18; Mark 9:30-37

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 28 NLHS Homecoming and 5K Run/Walk
- Sept. 29 First Week of Connect Groups
- Sept. 29 NPH Book Fair Begins
- Sept. 30 Choir Practices Begin
- Oct. 1 HOME Panther Volleyball Games
- Oct. 2 Evening Complaine Service





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