

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



Who We Are:
Our Core Focus

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 5, 2025

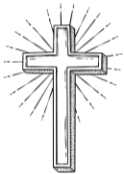


Welcome To Worship

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



So many things in the world today vie for our attention. Ads flash on every website. Billboards line the highway. Phones buzz with notifications. With all of these distractions, focus becomes all that much more important. Like a parent putting down their phone to play with their child, we put distractions aside when things that truly matter and have value are in front of us.

We have identified things that truly matter for us as a family of believers—being missionaries, the gospel, the Word, and each other. Now, with these core values guiding us and letting distractions go, we move forward in ministry with this core focus: Shaped by the Word, we grow as one family equipped and transformed through the power of the gospel.

Today's service includes a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For personal preparation, consider using the Questions for Examination on page 8 of this service folder or Christian Questions on page 295 of the blue hymnal.

Those Serving in Worship

Pastor Peter Plagenz; Accompanist, Tammy Paul; Offering Music, Bob Hafermann Jr.

Acknowledgements

Setting Two 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

Welcome

Hymn

736 Lord, You Call Us as Your People

Stand

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 172

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, followed by a half note G4. The second staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3, followed by a half note G3. Below the second staff, 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 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.
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. A-men. A-men.
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his
 peo-ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Messiah and Son of the living God. Keep your church firm on the rock of this faith that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-7

Christ, the chosen Servant of the LORD, brings righteousness to the nations and makes us ministers of his saving work.

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight. I am placing my Spirit on him. He will announce a just verdict for the nations.

²He will not cry out. He will not raise his voice. He will not make his voice heard in the street. ³A bent reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not snuff out. He will faithfully bring forth a just verdict. ⁴He will not burn out, and he will not be broken, until he establishes justice on the earth. The coastlands will wait for his law.

⁵This is what the true God says, the LORD who creates the heavens and stretches them out, who spreads out the earth and everything that it produces, who gives breath to the people on it and life to those who walk on it. ⁶I am the LORD. I have called you in righteousness. I will hold on to your hand, and I will guard you. I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people, to be a light for the nations, ⁷to open the eyes of the blind, to bring the prisoners out from the dungeon, and to bring those who sit in darkness out of prison. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Colossians 1:15-20

The Son of God is supreme. We live and work under him, the head of the Church and firstborn from all the dead.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation, ¹⁶for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, things seen and unseen, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and all things hold together in him.

¹⁸He is also the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that in all things he might have the highest rank. ¹⁹For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰and through him to reconcile all things to himself (whether things on earth or in heaven) by establishing peace through the blood of his cross. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 16:18b

Alleluia. "On this rock I will build my church"
"and the gates of hell will not overpower it." Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 16:13–20

Jesus builds his Church on the confession of the Son of the living God and gives it the eternal work of using the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

¹³When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

¹⁴They said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

¹⁵He said to them, “But you, who do you say that I am?”

¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ. (EHV®)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

752 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

Sermon

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

Special Prayers This Week

- † For Jennifer Dehnert, who is having surgery on Oct. 7
- † For Randy Pahl, who is recovering from a heart attack
- †
- †
- †

Prayer of the Church

Today, the prayer will be offered by individual petitions. Each petition will end this way:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The final petition will end this way:

...who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.



Musical Offering

Questions for Examination

- † Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness?
- † Do I believe that Jesus died on the cross to win forgiveness for me?
- † Do I believe that Jesus offers his true body and blood with the bread and wine in this sacrament?
- † Do I believe this sacrament strengthens my faith and strengthens me to live a God-pleasing life?
- † Am I a member of a church that belongs to the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS)?
- † If you answered “no” to any of these questions, please hold off on communing with us today. Following worship, the pastor would be happy to explain why we ask you to do this.

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 183

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

CW 184

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of eight staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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 T 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 T 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.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

The musical score consists of six staves of music in a single system. Each staff is in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us." This phrase is repeated three times, with the final line ending in "grant us your peace." The music concludes with a double bar line.

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Be seated

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

670 I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

Stand

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 you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, 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.

Hymn

748 Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly



Take Home Questions

Isaiah 42:1-7

1. Reread verses 1-7. In what ways do you see these phrases fulfilled in the life of Jesus? Can you think of an example from Jesus' ministry for each verse?
2. In what ways does this inform what we focus on in our ministry?

Colossians 1:15-20

3. Make a list of everything Paul says about Jesus in these verses.
4. As we focus on ministry, in what ways is Jesus' supremacy a comfort for us?

Matthew 16:13-20

5. The confession of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the Living God" is the rock on which the church is built. For what reasons is belief in that truth so foundational to the Christian faith?
6. Unpack the image in verse 19. What are the keys to the kingdom of heaven? (Hint: read John 20:22-23 and Part V. of Luther's Small Catechism [p. 292 in the hymnal].)
7. Think through our regular activities at St. Paul's. In what ways do you see this confession and the use of the keys taking place?

Bonus

8. Read the core focus statement in the Service Notes on page 2 of the service folder. Think through each phrase. In what ways do you see our four core values reflected in that statement?
9. Challenge! See if you can commit our core focus to memory.

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study Hour: The Council of Nicaea and Its Creed

Join us in the cafeteria at 10:30 AM

Calling a Teacher

Oct. 21 | 6:00 pm

Although Mrs. Beth Krohn is serving us this year through an emergency call, we need to call someone to teach 1st-2nd grade on a permanent basis. We will hold a meeting to do this on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 6:00 pm. Please note the earlier start time. This is because a Council meeting is already scheduled for that night.

Pastor at Conference

Oct. 6-7

Pastor Plagenz will be at the Fall Pastor's Conference in Marathon this Monday and Tuesday. This is a time for the pastors in our region to discuss topics of doctrine and practice as well as connect with other pastors for encouragement in their ministry. If you have a family emergency during this time, you can reach pastor by phone at 920-689-3036.

October Is Pastor Appreciation Month

Most pastors report feeling fulfilled in their ministry. But many also report feeling unqualified, discouraged, guilty, overworked, depressed, or stressed. Your words of encouragement and support can go a long way. Please consider sending our pastor an email, text, or note during Pastor Appreciation Month. You can share general words of encouragement or specific times when he has helped your walk with Christ.



Serving at Food Pantry

Oct. 13-17

We will be serving at the FOCUS Food Pantry the week of October 13-17. Volunteers are needed on Mon/Thurs/Fri from 11:45 to 3:45 and Tues from 3:45 to 6:45. (The pantry will be closed Wed that week.) If you can help fill grocery orders at any of those times, please contact our coordinator, Kaytlyn Peardot at kaytlyn.peardot@gmail.com or 970-413-0883.

If you cannot serve at the food pantry, please consider making a donation of non-perishable food items. There is a donation bin under the Ministry Table for this purpose.

New Bible Study Starts on Thursday

Oct. 9 | 2:50-3:30 pm

Starting this Thursday, our principal will be leading a short bible study intended for ALL adults and teenagers. It will feature a brief devotion followed by a study on that particular thought or topic. The study will be held in church from 2:50 to 3:30 pm. We hope to see you there!

NLHS Open House This Afternoon

Oct. 5 | 12:00-2:00 pm

Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) is holding an Open House from noon until 2:00 pm this Sunday. Whether you are a prospective parent or just want to check out the ministry at NLHS, please stop in to meet the teachers and see what our high school has to offer. NLHS is located at 2107 Tower Rd in Kronenwetter.

Panther Home Games This Week

Oct. 6 & 9 | 4:30 pm

You have two opportunities this week to cheer on our volleyball teams. On Monday, the Panthers will take on Assumption Catholic at 4:30 pm. Then on Thursday, Trinity Lutheran – Marshfield will be our opponent. Play gets underway at 4:30 pm both days, and concession will be available.

Mission Rally on Saturday

Oct. 11 | 9:00-noon

The Fall Mission Rally for our area is next Saturday, Oct. 11, at St. Matthew's in Marathon City. If you would like to carpool, please contact Kristie Schroeder at 715-213-7904. St. Matthew's Little Lions Childcare Center will be serving a **taco bar fundraiser** after the rally. The group that is carpooling plans to stay for this luncheon.

Mission offerings are due today. If want make a donation to the rally's mission projects, please submit that gift today. An additional offering will be taken at the rally to support the Central Africa Medical Mission.

Thank You for Your Gift

Our special offering for FOCUS Neighborhood Meal generated \$403 to cover the cost of food for this program. Thank you to everyone who gave.

Mark Your Calendars

Oct. 26 | 10:30 am

The Fall Congregational Meeting will held on Sunday, Oct. 26 at 10:30 am. A packet of ministry reports and updates will be available in the next couple of weeks.



Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship
	10:30 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (3K – 5 th grade)
	12:00 PM	Open House at Northland Lutheran High School
Monday	1:30 PM	Spiritual Health Group in the chapel at Wisc Rapids Health Services
	4:30 PM	HOME Panthers Volleyball Game in the gym
	6:00 PM	Choir Practice in the balcony
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
Wednesday	8:45 AM	School Chapel Service
	6:00 PM	Catechism Class in room 110
	6:00 PM	Bible & Brews at B’s Tap House
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
Thursday	7:00 AM	Men’s Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	2:50 PM	Principal’s Bible Study in the church
	4:30 PM	HOME Panthers Volleyball Game in the gym
	6:30 PM	Foundations of the Christian Faith in the Resource Center
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship
	10:30 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (3K – 5 th grade)
	3:30 PM	WELS Youth Night in Rib Mountain

Attendance Report

Last Week’s Attendance: 284

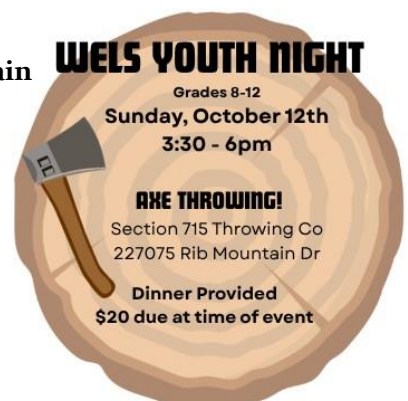
Next Sunday

Theme: Cause/Effect: Generosity/Gratitude

Readings: Genesis 8:15-22; 2 Corinthians 9:10-15; Luke 17:11-19

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 6-7 Pastors’ Conference in Marathon, WI
- Oct. 11 LWMS Mission Rally in Marathon, WI
- Oct. 13-17 Serving at FOCUS Food Pantry
- Oct. 26 Fall Congregational Meeting



Location:



Waiver Required:



Sign Up:





www.stpaulswr.org

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