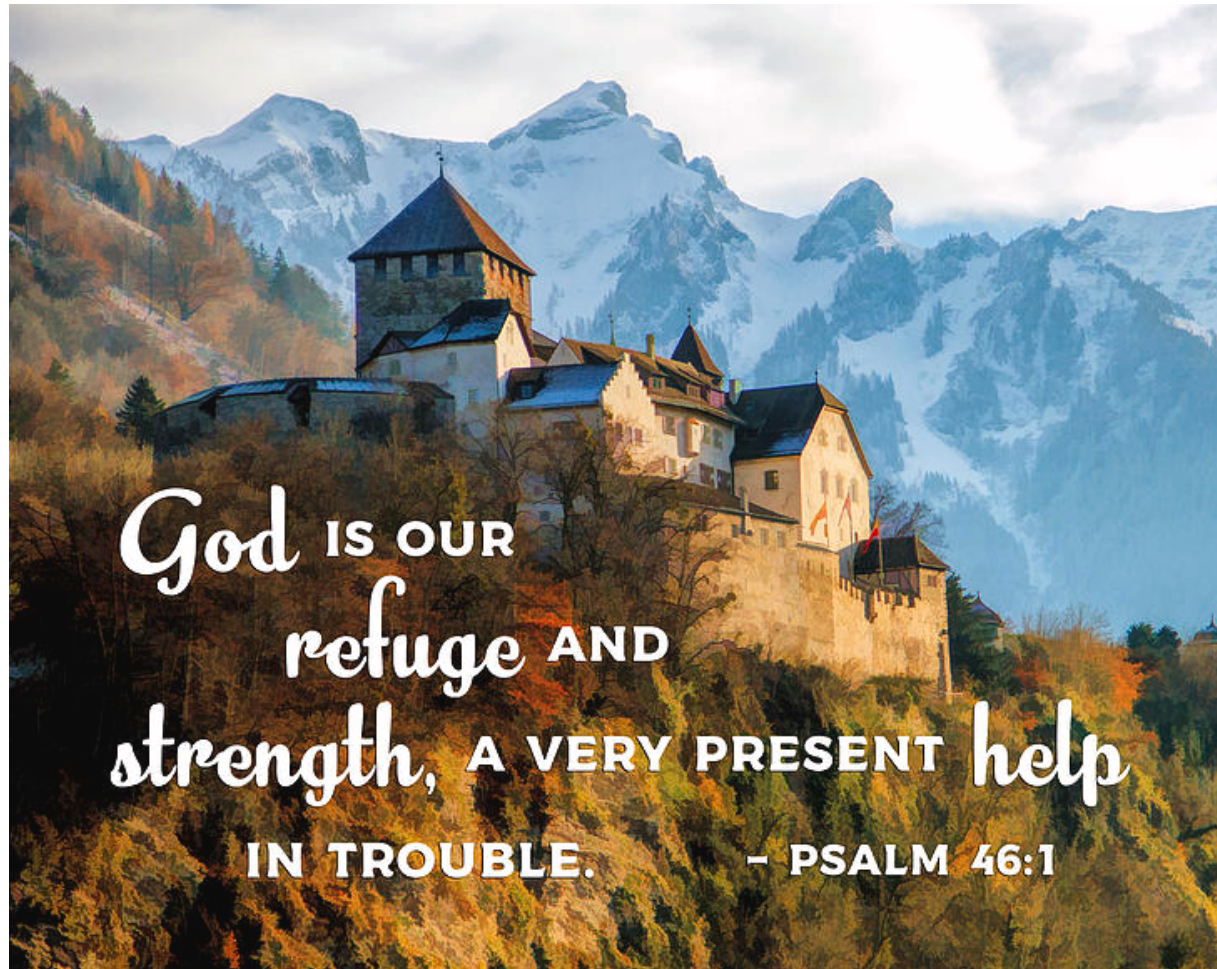


THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, August 24, 2025, 10:00 am

"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education"

"Persevere With Thanksgiving"



Music of Preparation,
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

Our Ministry: We are a people of God who are: ***"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."***

Welcome! Welcome! We worship in the name of God, creator and protector of all; and of Jesus, our Savior and friend; and of the Holy Spirit, our comforter and guide. Amen.

Devotions & Publications Available are found in the main entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... WORSHIP NOTES

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshipping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. **Please list the name of each person in worship.** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Our church and school have a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available in the main (west) entryway.

For Parents with Small Children...We love and want children in our services as a part of God's family, to spend time with Jesus, and to learn how to worship. We want you and your children to experience our Lord's love and to have a great opportunity to worship the Lord along with all who are gathered here to praise our Savior's name.

AS WE GATHER: "You are the Christ," said Peter, "the Son of the living God." This confession that Jesus is the Christ of God was the rock upon which Jesus built the Church of which this congregation is but one little corner of the vineyard. As we celebrate God's goodness to this congregation in the past and as we look toward the challenges of the future, we continue to proclaim Christ as the Son of God. May God bless our communal life of proclamation and use us to gather all His sheep into His fold.

Before worship prayer
Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new unto us every morning, and though we have not deserved Your goodness, You abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Anniversary Hymn: "With Thanks, We Persevere" tune LSB651

With thanks, we persevere,
And serve our Lord each day.
We gather and we serve Him here,
Rejoice, with thanks, we say.

With thanks, we praise our God,
For His great love and grace.
He uses us to share His love,
With every tribe and race.

We worship and we pray,
Confess, give thanks and sing.
We gather as God's children here,
And let our praises ring.

We teach the love of Christ,
In every class and grade.
Good news is shared with parent, child,
Hearts changed, disciples made.

With thanks, for pastors here,
That served for countless years,
And boldly shared God's Word and truth,
To all whom God holds dear.

With thanks, we persevere,
His truth, we preach and share,
For countless years, we still proclaim,
God's love, salvation dear.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*
P: The Lord be with you!
C: **And with thy spirit!**
P: We praise God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!
C: **We praise Him now and forever. Alleluia!** *1888 Dedication litany*
P: This is the name by which our God reveals Himself.
C: **This is the name He has given us in baptism.**
P: In this name, we have gathered for 165 years!
C: **In this name, we have taught children for 160 years!**
P: In this name, we gather and rejoice in His goodness.
C: **In this name, we gather today to celebrate His gracious acts.**
P: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, in our baptism, God has chosen us and made us His children. He has called us to a life of repentance. As His children, let us confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Let us confess our sins to God our Father, . . . O God,
C: **By ourselves we have chosen to neglect Your commandments, choosing instead to trust the contemporary rules and conventions of society. Our hearts and minds are burdened with guilt - theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance, and folly. We are guilty of these things in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us and cleanse us from our sin. Amen.**

P: Children of God, rejoice! Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.** *John 20:19-23*

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

(Please be Seated)

Song of God's Blessings: "Jesus Messiah"

- 1) He became sin, who knew no sin;
That we might become His righteousness;
He humbled Himself, and carried the cross.
Love so amazing, Love so amazing.

*Chorus) Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names;
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.
The Rescue for sinners, The Ransom from heaven;
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.*

- 2) His body the bread, His blood the wine
Broken and poured out, all for love.
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn.
Love so amazing, Love so amazing. *(Chorus)*

*Bridge) All our hope is in You, All our hope is in You;
All the glory to You, God, The light of the world.*

*Final Chorus) Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names;
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.
The Rescue for sinners, The Ransom from heaven;
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all. Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.*

THE READING OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Psalm 46

(Refuge And Strength)

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see the works of the LORD, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Stand (as you are able)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Lesson: Luke 13:22-30

(The Last Will Be First)

[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be Seated)

Children's Message

Jamie Stirnaman

Sermon Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

LSB, hymn #657

A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!

Sermon: "Persevere With Thanksgiving - Refuge And Strength" *Psalms 46*

Stand (as you are able)

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And 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 sits at the
right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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**

(Please be Seated)

Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards

Offering Song: "Your Grace is Sufficient for Me"

*Chorus) Your grace is sufficient for me,
Your strength is made perfect when I am weak;
All that I cling to I lay at Your feet, your grace is sufficient for me.*

- 1) I'm no longer striving to merit Your love,
I rest in Your promise to me;
That all of my sins have been washed in Your blood,
Your mercy is all that I need. *(Chorus)*
- 2) You see me as righteous because of the blood
that made the atonement for me;
Your mercy has triumphed where I should be judged,
so now, by Your grace, I am free. *(Chorus)*

PRESENTATION - 2nd Graders Receive Bibles

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people
according to their needs. . . . Dear loving heavenly Father: Your
loving-kindness toward us is especially evident today. We thank and praise
You for creating Your Church and for giving life to this congregation and our

school through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Hear now our petitions for Jesus' sake as we come to You as Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We give You thanks for the blessings You have given to our congregation during these 165 years and our school for 160 years. Work in our hearts that we may not be obstacles, but channels for the coming of Your kingdom to a lost and evil world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: This year, O Lord, we remember Your hand at work in the life of our church school in the past. You have blessed us and guided us these many years. We thank You this day for the past, in which You have made known Your salvation time and time again. For Your past blessings, we give You thanks. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, while we celebrate the past, we also do not forget that You are with us this very moment. For Your present blessings, we give You thanks. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God, even as we celebrate our past and rejoice in our present, we also look forward to the future in joy. We pray that You would continue to make Your saving acts known among us. Give us a zeal for mission. Help us to look beyond our walls to those who do not know You. Make this church and school a blessing to those around us, and embolden us to move forward with strength toward what lies ahead. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for Your children, who are at times, attacked by trials and losses. We especially pray for those who are ill and those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit. We lift up before You those hospitalized this past week (*Especially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). Sustain them by Your strength and protection. Preserve all of us from despair and depression caused by the circumstances of our lives. Keep us strong in faith and give us the wisdom of perspective that places all earthly concerns under Your care. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray:

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.

Matthew 6:9-13

BLESSING

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 103:1

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

Closing Hymn: “Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”

- 1) What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to Him belong.
Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes, apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand.

*Chorus) O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.*

- 2) What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good.
Where is His grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer’s blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ? *(Chorus)*
- 3) Unto the grave, what shall we sing?
“Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!”
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with Him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy,
When Christ is ours forevermore. *(Final Chorus)*

Final Chorus) O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.
O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.

See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer
Almighty and everlasting God, of Your great mercy in Jesus Christ You have granted us forgiveness of sin and all things pertaining to life and godliness. Send us Your Holy Spirit that He may so rule our hearts that we, being ever mindful of Your fatherly mercy, may serve You in holiness and pureness of living and may give You continual thanks for all Your goodness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Altar Flowers Altar flowers this weekend are given in praise and thankfulness for God’s abundant blessings, by Ron & Lydia Brown; also in loving memory of my husband, Gordon F. Palmer, for his 86th birthday, August 24th, by his wife Julie Palmer and his children, grandchildren & great-grandchildren.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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