

**A Prayer
Upon
Entering
Church**

Lord, open
now my heart
to hear, and
through Your
Word to me
draw near;
Preserve that
Word in pu-
rity that I
Your child
and heir may
be.

~ the hymn,
"Lord, Open
Now My
Heart to
Hear"



The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2017 + 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. "By what authority are you doing these things?" The chief priests and elders of Jerusalem put that question to Jesus, pressing him to make claims for Himself. Yet will God be tested? Will creation lord it over the Creator? In the end, our Lord's Gospel carries its own authority, the power to set sinners free and create faith in God. This same authority led God's servant, Martin Luther, to preach and teach the Gospel 500 years ago. In thanksgiving for that Reformation, our sermon series, "What is the Lutheran Church *Really?*" continues with a reflection on the authority of "the Word alone."



Sharing God's Blessings Today

- Sunday's Radio Broadcast is sponsored in loving memory of Albert F. Beckman's September 29 birthday by his family and friends.
- The flowers at the altar are sponsored by Donna Nuernberg: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."
- The sponsor charts for 2017 for Broadcasts and Flowers are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

Celebrating 500 Years of the Reformation

Martin Luther grew up in a world that was exceedingly familiar with death. Since 1320 Northern Europe had been subjected to famine, the plague (1347), from which approximately 30 percent of the population succumbed, and the Hundred Years War (1337-1453). This set the tempo for the 1500's, which would see only ten years of peace throughout Europe. The Church, and the rapidly developing urban economy, sought to provide spiritual security amidst all the trials and tribulations.

Facere quod in se est: "do what lies within you;" was the mantra for the road to salvation. It bound people to works of "perfection," cooperating with God's grace in the hopes of gaining righteousness. Like many who followed this mathematics to salvation, Luther's conscience was unforgiving, pushing him to the edge of utter despair. He states; "I did not love, indeed I hated the righteous God who punishes sinners."

After years of internal struggle, hoping to become righteous by "perfect" works of faith, the light dawned on Luther and the heavens opened up in reading Paul's letter to the Romans 1:17 where he cites Habakkuk 2:4 stating; "The righteous shall live by faith." In one step, the old road to salvation was obliterated. This good news of God's grace as His righteousness given freely to sinners, would shake the medieval world to its core, breathing new life into the darkness of death. The Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the faith which comes through trusting in His promises, is always just too good to be contained.

Announcements

Parish announcements may be found in the weekly newsletter, *For You*, provided by the ushers.



PRELUDE

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

... Variations by Janet Linker

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please kneel. Silence for reflection.

...Satan has a thousand tricks and turns the comfort of Christ upside down by setting against it the example of Christ. He says: "But your life does not correspond to Christ's either in word or in deed. You have done nothing good." When this happens, one who has been assailed should be comforted this way: "Scripture presents Christ in two ways. First as a gift. If I take hold of Him this way, I shall lack nothing whatever, even if I have committed many great sins

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church, and by the authority of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Please stand.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" green hymnal #328

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

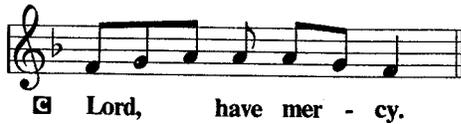
KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

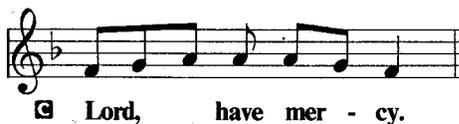
P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



... Secondly, Scripture presents Him as an example for us to imitate. But I will not let this Christ be presented to me except at a time of rejoicing, when I am out of reach of temptations, so that I may have a mirror in which to contemplate how much I am still lacking, lest I become smug. But in a time of tribulation I will only see and hear Christ as a gift, as Him who died for my sins . . . who accomplished and fulfilled what is lacking in my life."
~ Martin Luther, 1483-1546 A.D.

glo - ry. 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. 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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

☐ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God, you exalted your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. ²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-8

Choir/ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; |

L: my God, I put my 'trust in you;*
let me not be humiliated, | nor let my enemies
triumph 'over me.

**C: Let none who look to you be 'put to shame;*
let the treacherous be disappointed 'in their schemes.**

Choir/ Show me your 'ways, O LORD,*

L: and teach 'me your paths.

**C: Lead me in your 'truth and teach me,*
for you are the God of my salvation; |
in you have I trusted all 'the day long.**

Choir/ Remember, O LORD, your compas'sion and love,*

L: for they are from 'everlasting.

**C: Remember not the sins of my youth and 'my transgres-
sions;*
remember me according to your love |
and for the sake of your good'ness, O LORD.**

Choir/ Gracious and upright 'is the LORD;*

L: therefore he teaches sinners 'in his way.

**C: He guides the humble in 'doing right*
and teaches his way 'to the lowly.**

Choir/ All the paths of the LORD are 'love and faithfulness*

L: to those who keep his covenant and his 'testimonies

**All: Glory to the Father, and 'to the Son,*
and to the 'Holy Spirit;
as it was in 'the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen**

EPISTLE Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because they are generally the same people.
~ G. K. Chesterton, 1874-1936 A.D.

We believe, teach, and confess that the only rule and guiding principle according to which all teachings and teachers are to be evaluated and judged are the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testaments alone, as it is written, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps. 119).

~ Formula of Concord, 1577 A.D.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.



²³And when [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



APOSTLES CREED

P: Let us confess the faith with one heart:

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

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

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

Please be seated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00 a.m.)

During the singing of the hymn, children of preschool age through grade 4 may leave for Sunday School classes downstairs in the church hall. Please reclaim your children at 10:25 a.m. after their music time in the balcony.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” green hymnal #230

SERMON

What is the Lutheran Church Really?

Part Two: “By What Authority Are You Doing These Things?”

Please kneel.

*These bodies
of ours which
are now the
temples of the
Holy Spirit,
and are sanc-
tified and
quicken-
ed by
the body and
blood of
Christ dwell-
ing in them,
shall be
crowned with
this glory
that in them
we shall see
God face to
face*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

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.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

OFFERING

*While the offerings are received, please pass in your row the **Friendship Register**, and add your name(s). If you are a guest or visitor, please include your address.*

VOLUNTARY

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

... Stephen P. Folkemer

Please stand.

OFFERTORY

☐ Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were

sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
 hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
 give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . . Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

☐ And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

☐ We lift them to the Lord.

. . . . This holy remedy heals all the gaping wounds that sin hath made; this life-giving body of the Son of God overcomes every deadly sin; this is the sacred seal of the divine promises, which by God's grace we may exhibit at the great judgment; in the sure and sufficient pledge of eternal life thus given to us do we glory."
 ~ Lutheran pastor, Johann Gerhard, Sacred Meditations, 1606 A.D.

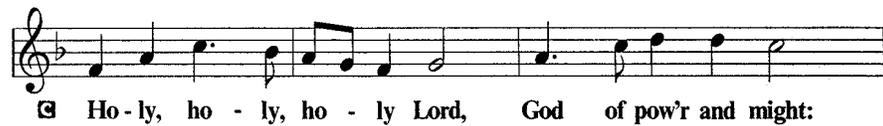
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



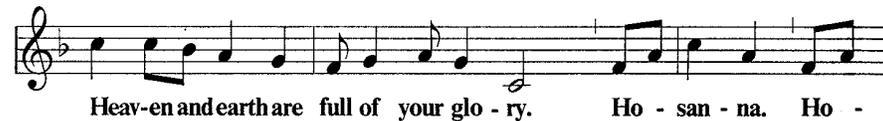
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

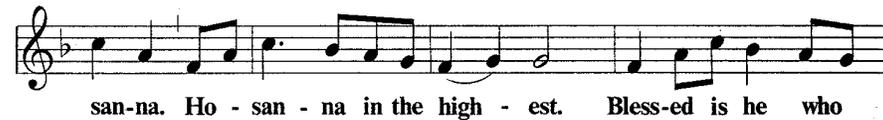
SANCTUS ("Holy")



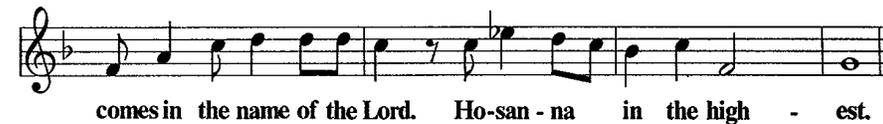
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na. Ho-



san-na. 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach 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**

ACCLAMATION

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

AGNUS DEI ("Lamb of God")



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

Please be seated.

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. If you cannot use the steps to the altar, you may either ask an usher to have Communion brought to you, or you may go to the altar in the side (west) chapel. Those not communing may cross their arms over their chest for a blessing.

Jesus feeds us with himself and, with the most tender courtesy, does it by means of the Blessed Sacrament, the precious food of all true life. And he keeps us going through his mercy and grace by all the sacraments. This is what he meant when he said, "It is I whom Holy Church preaches and teaches." In other words, "All the health and life of the sacraments, all the virtue and grace of my word, all the goodness laid up for you in Holy Church - it is I."

*~ Julian of Norwich,
1342-1416
A.D.,
Revelations of
Divine Love*

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His body and blood forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“What Wondrous Love Is This” green hymnal #385

“Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing” green hymnal #196

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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



SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

"Fugue in G Major" ("The Jig") BWV 577

... J. S. Bach

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
To God alone be glory

A Prayer

As You Go

O Lord, for Your sake, I will cheerfully suffer whatever shall come on me with Your permission. From Your hand I am willing to receive indifferently good and evil, sweet and bitter, joy and sorrow, and for all that befalls me I will be thankful. Keep me safe from all sin, and I shall fear neither death nor hell. So as You do not cast me from You forever, nor blot me out of the book of life, whatever tribulation may befall me shall not hurt me. Amen
~ Thomas à Kempis,
1380-1471
A.D.

Serving at Worship

Presiding: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

Assisting: Vicar Joseph Pinzl

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Choir: (9:00) Zion Kantorei

Lector: (9:00) Mark Gehrke

(11:00) Dave Gisselman

Radio Announcer: (9:00) Dick Ames

Acolyte: (9:00) Asa Rich

(11:00) Taylor Halverson

Elder: (9:00) Craig Zastrow

(11:00) Adam Holzschuh

Ushers: (9:00) Adele Blair; Donald Budnik;

Fred Fenhaus; Robb Halverson

(11:00) Al Lippert; Wayne Reuter; Herbert Zahrt

Communion Assistants:

(9:00) Bill Metter; Grace Mueller; Joe Pinzl

(11:00) Marge Gausewitz; Dave Gisselman; Joe Pinzl

Altar Guild: Kay Krall; Bonnie Waack

Acknowledgements

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Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

Church Telephone: 715-848-7286

Senior Pastor Steven K. Gjerde

Visitation Pastor Theodore B. Gulhaugen

Pastoral Assistant Joseph C. Pinzl

Kantor Irene Beethe

Parish Nurse Lenore Grosinske

Office Manager Pam Gabriel

Secretary Anna Mae Zeinemann

Custodian Michael Renken

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zion@dwave.net

To visit our webpage:

www.zionlutheranwausau.com

Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour

Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click "Listen Live" at www.wsau.com)

Member Congregation of Lutheran Core

www.lutherancore.org