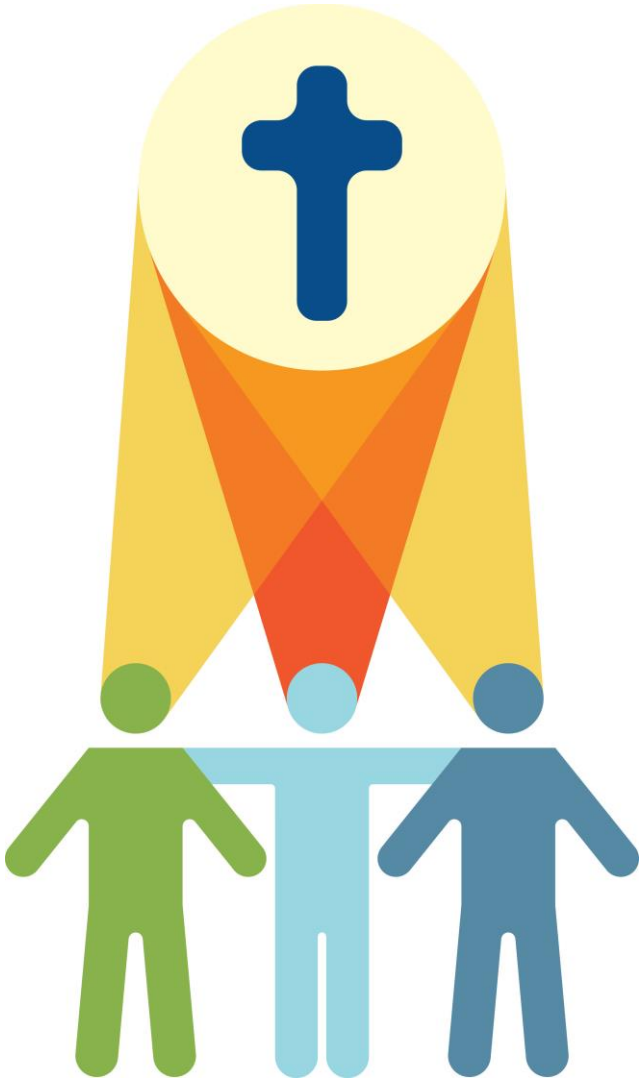




OUR SAVIOR'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



WELCOME

We welcome you to God's house for worship this Thirteenth Sunday after our Lord's Pentecost. Today we continue a worship series under the theme, "The Church God Wants". Today's lessons, hymns, and prayers emphasize the truth that God wants the people of his church to be willing to say hard things to people when it is necessary to save them from the fires of hell. Warning against sin is not easy. It upsets people, even offends them. But saying hard things is the loving thing to do when it is a matter of eternal life and death. May the Lord bless you as you worship him!



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord Jesus, thank you for rescuing me – by grace alone – from the eternal punishment that I deserve because of my many sins. Help me show my thankfulness by being a faithful watchman to my brothers and sisters in Christ. Bless my worship. Assure me of forgiveness for all my sins and give me strength to faithfully serve you. In your name I pray. Amen.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

- Minister ~ Pastor Jeff Mahnke
 - Organist ~ Marie Kurth
 - Ushers ~ Tim & Ellen Heil
- Next week ~ Phil Brost, Travis Kurth*

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2023

THE CHURCH GOD WANTS:

A Church Willing to Say Hard Things

Welcome

Opening Hymn

CW 656 sts. 1-6



1 "As sure - ly as I live," God said, "I would not
2 And so our Lord gave this com - mand: "Go forth and
3 "All those whose sins you thus re - mit I tru - ly
4 "What you will bind, that bound shall be; what you will



see the sin - ner dead, but that he turn from
preach in ev - 'ry land; be - stow on all my
par - don and ac - quit, and those whose sins you
loose, that shall be free; un - to my Church the



er - ror's ways, re - pent, and live through end - less days."
par - d'ning grace who will re - pent of sin - ful ways.
do re - tain con - demned and guilt - y shall re - main.
keys are giv'n to op'n and close the gates of heav'n."

- 5 The words which absolution give
are his who died that we might live;
the minister whom Christ has sent
is but his humble instrument.

(verse 6 on next page)

6 When ministers lay on their hands,
absolved by Christ the sinner stands;
he who by grace the Word believes
forgiveness, sure and sweet, receives.

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, abr.
Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 154

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.

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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

CW 656 st. 7

**Praise God the Father and the Son
and Holy Spirit, Three in One,
as was, is now, and so shall be
forever and eternally!**

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, abr.
Text: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Be seated

The Word

First Reading

Ezekiel 33:7–11

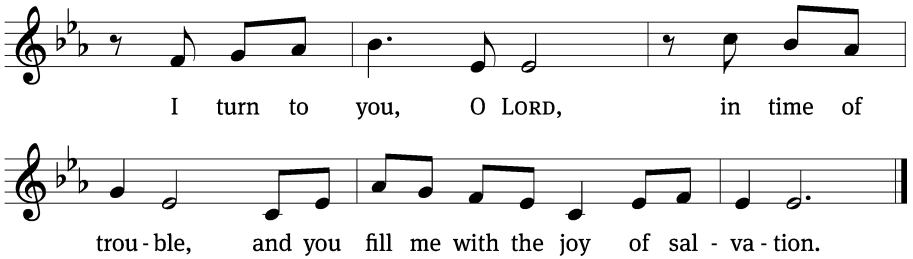
⁷“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰“Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ ¹¹Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

I Turn to You, O LORD

Psalm 32A

Refrain



I turn to you, O LORD, in time of
trou-ble, and you fill me with the joy of sal - va - tion.

Tone



Blessed is the one whose transgressions are for- / given,
whose sins are / covered.

Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count
a- / gainst them
and in whose spirit is / no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wast- / ed away
through my groaning / all day long.

For day and night your hand was heav- / y on me;
my strength was sapped as in the heat of / summer.

Then I acknowledged my / sin to you
and did not cover up my in- / iquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions / to the LORD."
And you forgave the guilt / of my sin. *Refrain*

You are my / hiding place;
you will protect me from / trouble.

Many are the woes of the / wicked,
but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the one who /
trusts in him.

**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**

Text: Michael Guimont

Tune: Michel Guimont

Setting: Michel Guimont

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Second Reading

Galatians 2:11–16

¹¹When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹²For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. ¹³The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

¹⁴When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, “You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?”

¹⁵“We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles ¹⁶know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

1 Timothy 2:4



Refrain



Tone



Refrain

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Gospel

Matthew 18:15–20

¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.

¹⁶But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’

¹⁷If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.

²⁰For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

CW 732

In Unity and Peace



How good it is and how pleas-ant to live in u-ni-ty and peace.



How good it is and how pleas-ant to live to-geth-er in one Lord.

(Last time only)



to live to - geth - er in one Lord.



1 In the name of our Lord Je - sus Christ, a -
2 Live a life that is wor - thy of your call, be
3 Share the love that has joined us as one, u -



gree in ev - 'ry-thing you say. May there be no di-
hum - ble, gen - tle, and pa-tient. Bear with each oth - er in
nite in spir - it and i - deals. Nev - er be ri - vals, do



vi - sions a - mong you, but be u - nit-ed in one mind.
ways that are lov - ing, pre - serve the u - ni - ty of faith.
not be con - ceit - ed, but look to oth - ers in their need.



For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all.
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all.
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all.

Text: James J. Chepponis, b. 1956

Tune: James J. Chepponis, b. 1956

Text and tune: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716671

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

Thank Offering & Friendship Register

Members of Our Savior's give generous and free will gifts to honor the Lord and support our ministry of the gospel. Guests are welcome to give but should not feel obligated to do so.

As the offering is gathered, please sign the Friendship Register as it is passed down the pew.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Blessed Lord, you have promised that where two or three are gathered in your name, you are in the midst of them. Hear the prayers of your people, and grant our supplications. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you have sent us pastors as watchmen. Let them be ever faithful in calling sinners to repentance and joyfully announcing your forgiveness to those who heed their warning. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious Father, because you have made us our brother's keeper, fill us with care for the members of our earthly families and for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive our sins and strengthen us to live so that we owe no one anything except to love each other. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, look with compassion upon those who are struggling with illness, grief, loneliness or any malady. Reassure them of your love, which is like that of the shepherd who seeks and saves the one lost sheep. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, because you desire that none of your little ones should perish and because sin is constantly crouching at our door, we beg you to call us back to yourself when we are tempted to stray. Deliver us from temptation, and keep us in the faith. Make us humble like little children, seeing how your Son humbled himself for us and for our salvation. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Special prayers may follow.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we join together and pray:

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.

Closing Hymn

CW 745

Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus crying,
 "Who will go and work today?
Fields are ripe and harvests waiting;
 who will bear the sheaves away?"
Loud and long the Master calleth;
 rich reward he offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
 "Here am I, send me, send me"?

- 2 If you cannot speak like angels,
 if you cannot preach like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus,
 you can say he died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked
 with the judgment's dread alarms,
you can lead the little children
 to the Savior's waiting arms.

3 If you cannot be a watchman,
standing high on Zion's wall,
pointing out the path to heaven,
off'ring life and peace to all,
with your prayers and with your off'rings
you can do what God demands;
you can be like faithful Aaron,
holding up the prophet's hands.

4 Let none hear you idly saying,
"There is nothing I can do,"
while the multitudes are dying,
and the Master calls for you.
Take the task he gives you gladly,
let his work your pleasure be;
answer quickly when he calleth,
"Here am I, send me, send me!"

Text (sts. 1–2, 4): Daniel March, 1816–1909, sts. 1,2,4, abr., alt
Text: Public domain

***Thank you for worshipping with us!
May God richly bless your week.***

Serving the Pastoral Vacancy

Pastor Jeff Mahnke from St. Peter Lutheran Church is serving as Our Savior's vacancy pastor. Should you need his pastoral guidance and service, call / text him anytime at 715.297.0132. His email address is pastorm@mysaintpeter.org.

Divine Call – Our voters issued a Pastoral Call to Rev. Darin Warnecke. Pastor Warnecke currently serves St. John's Lutheran Church in Sturgis, Michigan. Please keep him and his wife, as well as both of our congregations in your prayers as he deliberates where he may best serve our Lord. You may contact him by email to offer your words of encouragement or to set up a time to chat: dwarnecke12@gmail.com

Welcome! – Last week we welcomed the Sandstrom family into our membership: Paul & Jenny, along with their daughter PJ (Penelope). We also welcomed Christine Verstein, who is Charles and Diann Newby's niece. Please give them a warm hello!

Sunday School and Bible Class – Join us next Sunday, September 10, following our worship service (about 10:15).

- We are occasionally in need of a **substitute Sunday School teacher**. Please speak with Lori Cramer or Marie Kurth if you're willing to help.
- **Ninety-Five Theses for the 21st Century** will be our Sunday Bible Class series this fall. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther shared *Ninety-Five Theses* with the world. These *Theses* did not present the mature teaching of what later became the Lutheran Church but focused on one topic – the abuse of indulgences in the church of the time. They were the spark that began the Lutheran Reformation. As part of the Reformation 500 celebration in 2017, the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference prepared a new set of *Ninety-Five Theses* which present all the basic teachings of the Bible as confessed in the Lutheran church. They are organized according to the outline of Luther's Catechism. During the September 10th Bible class, we'll discuss questions 1-7: Foundational Truths and The Bible.

Please pick up your August Newsletter today!

Devotion Materials - The September issue of *Forward in Christ* and the most current issues of *Meditations* and *Portals of Prayer* are available. Please pick up your copy of these publications in the narthex.

- **Large Print Meditations:** Please sign up or let Marie know if you'd like the large print version of *Meditations*. We've cut back on our subscriptions to reduce waste.

OWLS News Chapter 82 - We pray everyone had a pleasant and safe summer. It is now time to renew old acquaintances and prayerfully make new ones. The OWLS will be meeting on September 12 at the Pizza Ranch, meeting at 11:30. We will be planning the year's activities so please bring all your ideas so we can discuss how we can continue to serve the Lord. Any questions please contact Ruth Jakubowski 715-573-2142. Non-members are always welcome, come join us!!



Mission Needs a Guitar for Worship – Faith Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas is our LWMS Befriend a Mission assignment for this year. As a new congregation, they are trying to identify musical talents within their membership. They don't yet have a pianist, but they do have someone who is able to play guitar. The catch? They don't have a guitar and therefore need funds to purchase one.

If you'd like to help this mission, please place your gift in the plate at the door as you leave today, and please keep them in your prayers. Thank you!

Food Pantry Collection Is Next Sunday - On the second Sunday of each month we collect non-perishable food items for The Neighbor's Place food pantry. If you choose to participate, please place your donations in the grocery cart in the office link hallway.

Northwinds Choir Is Coming on September 17!

Northland Lutheran High School campus pastor Jeff Grundmeier and the Northwinds Choir will lead our worship on Sunday, Sept. 17. Our Savior's students will also be singing. Join us for this special worship service with an emphasis on Christian education.

Last Sunday's Open Forum Recap

We thank the nearly 50 members of Our Savior's who attended last Sunday's open forum. An update was given on the pastoral vacancy, along with encouragement to reach out to Pastor Warnecke. There was also an update on conversations between the leaders of Our Savior's and St Peter about a possible future merging of the ministries, including the schools. Pastor Mahnke reported that the leaders of St Peter are doing the following:

- Have reached out to the WELS Commission on Lutheran Schools for input and guidance.
- Are reaching out to a number of churches in our synod that have schools on multiple campuses.
- Are getting an estimate on what a building expansion to the current St Peter Lutheran School to see what that would cost. It was noted that St Peter's school building has reached its maximum capacity with 105 students enrolled this year.
- The St Peter School Ministry Board may conduct a survey of the current parents with children in the St Peter Lutheran Elementary School.
- The chairman of the Properties Ministry Board, Tony LePine, has reached out to Travis for a tour of the Our Savior's campus.
- The seven ministry boards of St Peter (Adult Spiritual Growth, Childcare, Elders, Family, Outreach, Properties, and School) at their next meetings have been asked to discuss how a merging of ministries would impact the gospel work they each do.

There was also discussion about what merging could look like. The membership lists of both congregations would be combined into one list with over 1,100 souls. Offerings and gifts would be joined as well. There would be one Coordinating Council which would include some leaders from Our Saviors. It's uncertain what impact a merger could have on Sunday morning worship at Our Savior's; it may be that worship would have to be held at other campuses (either St Peter or what used

to be Salem). It's possible a merger could lead to the Our Savior's campus being used for meetings of the Men's Club, Ladies Aid / WinGS, Pioneers, Mornings with Mommy, etc. Should there be a merger, there could be discussions about adopting a new name for the church. A combined school would be considered accredited and would be part of the School Choice program.

At the open forum, we did take the time to watch again the WELS Connection for August about the church mergers of St Matthew's (Marathon), St John's (Rib Falls) and Zion (north of Marathon) as well as of the three churches in West Allis, WI, that merged. Both of these mergers happened for the sake of working together to conduct more gospel ministry to the glory of Christ.

This Week at Our Savior's

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Today | 9:00 AM | Worship |
| Monday | | Labor Day – No School |
| Thursday | 4:30 PM | Home Volleyball Triangular |
| Next Sunday 9/10 | 9:00 AM 10:15 AM | Worship with Communion Sunday School & Bible Class resume <i>Food Pantry Sunday</i> |

Growing Together

August 27, 2023

| | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| <u>Weekly</u> | <u>Vision</u> | <u>Debt Red</u> | <u>Plate</u> | <u>Bldg Maint</u> | <u>NLHS Op</u> |
| \$5,165.00 | \$365.00 | \$390.00 | \$20.00 | \$150.00 | \$250.00 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>WELS Lutherans for Life</u> | <u>School Fees</u> |
| \$10.00 | \$8,418.00 |

Anticipated Weekly Offerings: \$4,077

Attendance: Sunday, August 27 – 78



BBQ & FUN

**SAT. OCT 7, 2023
11AM - 2PM
FREE BBQ SAMPLES
MUSIC
GAMES**

FOOD DRIVE

**HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR
BRING
NON-PERISHABLE
ITEMS FOR
NEIGHBORS' PLACE
FOOD PANTRY**

**EVERYONE WELCOME
REDEEMER CHURCH - PARKING LOT
6404 OLD COSTA LANE, WESTON**

Redeemer is hosting our second HOLY SMOKE community BBQ contest on Saturday, October 7. You're welcome to come and taste the different smoked meats prepared by the team. We'll also have kids games, a bouncy house, music and activities. Bring your family or some friends and stop in!

If you want to participate in the Holy Smoke BBQ, fill out the team registration at www.redeemerweston.com



OUR SAVIOR'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Growing in Jesus, Sharing His Love

Our Savior's Ev. Lutheran Church

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