

elcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our service we gather before Jesus our Savior to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word. Also,

- *f* Restrooms are down the hall and to the right from the back of church.
- We love families! Your children are welcome in our service! Thanks for bringing them to hear about Jesus! If you would like, there are children's bulletins with crayons in the back of church and a cry room in the back of the sanctuary.
- Please fill out the Friendship Registers located at the end of each row.
- *t* If you want to review or share today's service, you can find it on our website.
- *f* For upcoming events and activities, "like" us on our Facebook page.

Please come again and worship with us very soon!

TODAY'S THEME: HERE WE STAND

## **Worship Participants**

Worship Leaders	Pastor Brian Adams & Pastor Jacob Hoff
Organist	Charles Bonow

## A Worship Service Concert Combining the Word of God and Song



## Soli † Deo † Gloria

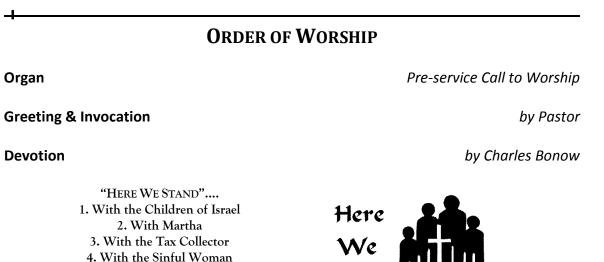
Welcome to the Lord's house and to worship of our loving Savior Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Our service concert today is entitled "Here We Stand." It is presented to the glory of God. As we join together in worship, devotion, and praise, may God more deeply strengthen and confirm each of us in our Christian faith through the message

and truths of His Holy Word, that Word whereupon - "Here We Stand."

For centuries, the Christian Church has worshiped according to the Church Year. We are now approaching the close of the Church Year and the beginning of another. To mark the end of this year, the Church celebrates the Season of End Times. End Times reminds us that the time is short, and our Savior is coming again soon.

Today, the Christian Church also celebrates "Saints Triumphant." It is a day when we remember the eternal glory enjoyed by the saints in heaven—glory prepared and waiting for us.



4. With the Sinful Woman 5. With Joseph 6. With Luther 7. With Simeon 8. With Stephen, Saints and Martyrs

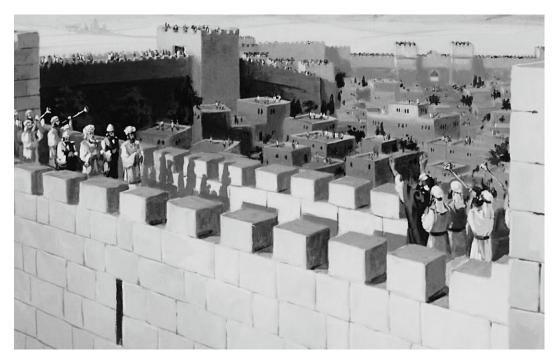


## HERE WE STAND 1. WITH THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL IN PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

SCRIPTURE READING

## NEHEMIAH 12:27-43 SELECTED VERSES

At the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, the Levites were brought to Jerusalem to celebrate joyfully the dedication with songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps and lyres. The singers also were brought together from the region around Jerusalem. I (Nehemiah) had the leaders of Judah go up on top of the wall. I also assigned two large choirs to give thanks. Ezra the scribe led the procession. I followed them on top of the wall, together with half the people. The two choirs that gave thanks then took their places in the house of God; so did I, together with half the officials, with their trumpets. And on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away.



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## HERE WE STAND 2. WITH MARTHA IN FAITH, FIRMLY GROUNDED

SCRIPTURE READING

## SELECTED VERSES

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days. Then he went on to tell them (His disciples), "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead."

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him. "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. "Take away the stone," he said. So they took away the stone. Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."



# JOHN 11:1-44

HYMN

Vs. 1 – All Vs. 2 – Ladies & Girls Vs. 3 – Men and Boys Vs. 4 – All

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(Students will come up to the front of the church)

#### STUDENT ANTHEM

WE COME TO PRAISE YOU (10:30 AM ONLY) BY ROBERT M. BJORNSTAD

Heavenly Father, we come to praise You, And to say thank You here in our song, For all the gifts You give through Your kindness, Showing Your love, forgiving our wrong.

Jesus, our Savior, we love and follow, For all the blessings You died to share; Life and salvation we have forever, Trusting Your mercy, knowing Your care.

Comforting Spirit, move us to worship, Showing Christ's love in all that we do. Help us to serve our brothers and sisters, Knowing the off'rings given to You.

## HERE WE STAND 3. WITH THE TAX COLLECTOR IN HUMBLE REPENTANCE

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 18:9-13

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men — robbers, evildoers, adulterers — or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

#### STUDENT ANTHEM

## PRAISE TO THE TRINITY (10:30 AM ONLY) BY ROB GLOVER

#### **Refrain:**

In the night, in the day, we give praise to the Trinity, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer of life, Singing praise, living, praise, breathing praise to our God of glory, Alleluia, forever, alleluia!

Blest are you, God of all Creation, through your goodness we have life; Hearts of thankfulness, hands of playfulness, voices resounding in praise. Refrain

Blest are you, God of all Creation, through your goodness we have life; Body, mind and voice, spirit too, rejoice, singing renews all our days. Refrain

Blest are you, God of all Creation, through your goodness we have life; Word of field and vine, now our bread and wine, gift of the harvest we bring. Refrain

Alleluia forever! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Students will return to their seats)

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Vs. 5 - All

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## HERE WE STAND 4. WITH THE SINFUL WOMAN IN OUR SAVIOR'S FORGIVENESS

#### SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 7:36-50; JOHN 3:16,17

Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his



feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is that she is a sinner." Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said. Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven — for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

#### ALL SING:

God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.

#### SOLOIST:

O Savior, precious Savior, Whom, yet unseen, we love; O Name of might and favor, All other names above, We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing; We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our holy Lord and King.

#### ALL SING:

Redeemed, restored, forgiven Through Jesus' precious blood, Heir of His home in heaven I am at peace with God. My Savior sought and found me My many sins He bore, With cords of love He bound me To Him forevermore.

#### SOLOIST:

Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blest With healing gifts for souls distrest, To find in Thee my life, my rest, Christ crucified, I come.

## MEN & BOYS SING:

How well You know my griefs and fears, Your grace abused, My mis-spent years; So now to You with contrite tears, Christ crucified, I come.

## LADIES & GIRLS SING:

Wash me and take away each stain; Let nothing of my sin remain. For cleaning through Your cross and pain, Christ crucified, I come.

## ALL SING:

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, The emblem of suffering and shame; And I love that old cross where the dearest and best For a world of lost sinners was slain. So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, Till my trophies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rugged cross, And exchange it some day for a crown.

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, A won-der-ous beauty I see; For 'twas on that old rugged cross Jesus suffered and died To pardon and sanctify me. So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, Till my trophies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rugged cross, And exchange it some day for a crown.

#### HERE WE STAND 5. WITH JOSEPH STRONG AGAINST TEMPTATION

SCRIPTURE READING

GENESIS 39:1-10 SELECTED VERSES

Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there. The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. The Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Joseph was well-built and handsome, and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.



Hymn

Vs.	1 – All 2 – Soloist 3 – Ladies &			Vs. 4 – Men & B Vs. 5 – All Vs. 6 – Soloist	Boys
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The Who Re - And You Your He'll	hosts of sir in the stren new it bol take, to arm may o'er - com ar - duous wor take you at	gth of Je - d - ly ev - n you for he through Christ rk will not	sus trusts Is	draw you from the more than con - que help di - vine in whole ar - mor o stand at peace a you ob - tain yo His di - vine a	er - or. n - plore. f God. t last. ur crown.

HERE WE STAND 6. WITH LUTHER FAITHFUL TO GOD'S WORD

## HISTORICAL READING & SCRIPTURE READING MARTIN LUTHER, BY MCNEER/WARD JOHN 8:31 & ISAIAH 40:8

The ninety-five theses that Martin Luther had nailed on the church door were written by him as subjects for debate. He said that papal indulgences did not remove guilt. He declared that forgiveness must come through faith in Christ alone. Luther's theses against selling indulgences were printed and sent out through Germany. His voice was now heard far and wide. He had made a pledge to uphold the truths of the Bible. But, all sorts of arguments were offered to prove that Martin Luther was offering false religious beliefs. However, standing on the truths of God's Holy Word, Luther could answer them all.

11

In the year 1521, Emperor Charles V called together his first gathering of princes at the city of Worms. This meeting was known as the Diet of Worms. It was decided to bring Luther to trial at the Diet. The royal herald and the imperial marshal came to escort Dr. Martin Luther to the Diet. The great hall was packed. Along the walls stood lines of Spanish and German soldiers. The emperor, Charles V, sat on his throne. Around him were the six princes, electors of the empire, and the representatives of the pope. There were bishops and ambassadors and knights. All eyes were fixed on Martin Luther. His questioner was a Dr. Eck. Dr. Eck stepped forward. He pointed at a pile of books and pamphlets on a table. He asked if Dr. Luther had written these books, and if he would admit that he had been wrong in the opinions put into them. Luther said that they were his books, and that he had written others, too. Then he asked for a time to consider Dr. Eck's question. Dr. Eck spoke to the emperor, who gave Luther one day. All that night Luther prayed.

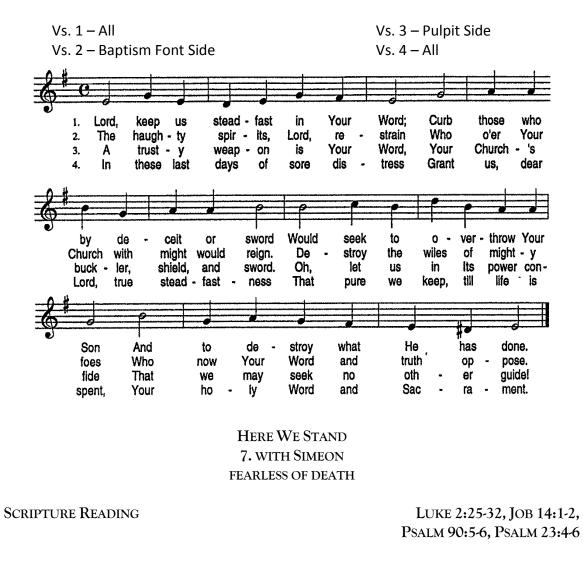
The next day at four o'clock he was escorted to the large hall. This day Luther spoke for some time in German. He spoke of his writings, and what they meant. He was asked to repeat all that he had said in Latin. When he finished, Dr. Eck shouted, "Luther, you have not answered to the point. Will you take back what you have written, or not?"

Martin Luther raised his head. His eyes blazed, and his voice echoed to the ends of the hall. He said simply: "Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason, I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted, and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and will not recant anything, for it is neither safe or right to act against one's own conscience. Here I stand. I cannot to otherwise. God help me. Amen.

And from the Gospel of St. John and the prophet Isaiah we read: "Jesus said, 'If ye continue in My Word, then are ye My disciples indeed.' (KJV) 'The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God stands forever.'"



Hymn



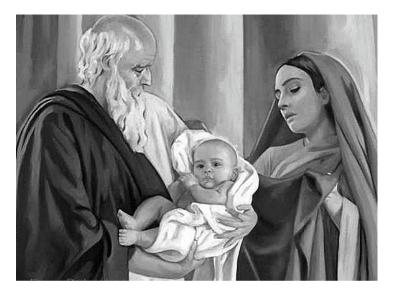
And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the

law, then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. (KJV)

"Man born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. He springs up like a flower and withers away; like a fleeting shadow, he does not endure.

You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning — though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (KJV)



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### **RESPONSIVE READING**

## SAINTS TRIUMPHANT

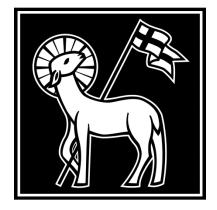
- **P:** I am resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;
- C: And whoever lives and believes in me will never die. (John 11:25-26)
- **P:** Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.
- C: Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. (Colossians 3:1-2)
- P: Irmgard Molkentin December 1, 2017
- **P:** I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.
- C: And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God. (Job 19:25-26)
- **P:** I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes in him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned;
- C: He has crossed over from death to life. (John 5:24)
- P: Virginia Gold January 31, 2018
- **P:** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
- C: Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness. (2 Timothy 4:7-8)
- **P:** For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord.
- C: So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. (Romans 14:7-8)
- P: Steven Viljevac February 5, 2018
- **P:** Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
- C: I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise. (Luke 23:42-43)
- **P:** Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope.
- C: We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)
- P: Marie Hille May 3, 2018

- P: In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God;
- C: We trusted in him, and he saved us." (Isaiah 25:9)
- P: My flesh and my heart may fail,
- C: but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (Psalm 73:26)
- P: George Gold April 20, 2018
- **P:** Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.
- **C:** For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. (1 Corinthians 15:51-52)
- P: Pearl Kolbow July 19, 2018
- **P:** Be faithful, even to the point of death.
- C: And I will give you the crown of life. (Revelation 2:10)
- P: Jean Villwock August 24, 2018

## HYMN RESPONSE

FOR ALL THE SAINTS CHRISTIAN WORSHIP 551, VERSE 1

For all the saints who from their labors rest, All who their faith before the world confessed, Your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!



## HERE WE STAND 8. WITH STEPHEN, SAINTS AND MARTYRS MARCHING TO VICTORY AND STANDING IN GLORY

SCRIPTURE READING

## ACTS 6 & 7, HEBREWS 11:35-38, REVELATION 7:9-10,13-17 SELECTED VERSES

Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, did great wonder and miraculous signs among the people. .... Men began to argue with Stephen. Then they secretly persuaded some men o say, "We have heard Stephen speak words of blasphemy against Moses and against God." So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. Then the high priest asked him, "Are these charges true?"

(Stephen said:) "You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered Him."

When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God." At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated, the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their

hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, Who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb. Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes – who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, they are before the throne of God and serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tent over them. Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their Shepherd; He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

## ALL SING:

Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus going on before. Christ, the royal Master, leads against the foe; Forward into battle See His banners go! Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus going on before.

## SOLOIST:

The martyr Stephen with his eye Could pierce beyond the grave, He saw his Master in the sky And called on Him to save. Like Him, with pardon on His tongue, In midst of mortal pain, He prayed for them that did the wrong, --- Who follows in his train?

## ALL SING:

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross! Lift high His royal banner; It must not suffer loss. From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army shall He lead Till ev'ry foe in vanquished And Christ is Lord indeed.

## SOLOIST:

A noble army, men and boys, And women, girls and maid, Around the Savior's throne rejoice, In robes of light arrayed, They met the tyrant's brandished steel. The lion's gory mane; They bowed their necks the death to feels --- Who follows in his train?

#### ALL SING:

Stand up, stand up for Jesus! The strife will not be long; This day the noise of battle, the next, the Victor's song. To them that overcometh A crown of life shall be; We with the King of glory Shall reign eternally.

#### Please Stand

Onward, then, ye faithful; Join the happy throng, Blest with ours your voices In the triumph song: "Glory, laud and honor unto Christ the King." This through countless ages Saints and angels sing. Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus going on before... "Here We Stand" on God's Word, - blest forevermore!

Please be Seated

#### THE OFFERTORY AND OFFERING

(As our offering is gathered, we invite everyone to sign the Friendship Registers in each pew.)

## THE CLOSING PRAYER

## THE 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.

THE BLESSING

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SERVICE CONCERT:** This weekend at our worship services, organist Charles Bonow will present his new worship service concert, *"Here We Stand,"* here at St. Paul's. Charles Bonow was born in Winona, Minnesota, and was raised with his three brothers and two sisters on his parents' farm near Lewiston, Minnesota. Having parents who were intent on providing their children with a Christian education, he attended and graduated from St. John Lutheran School, Dr. Martin Luther High School, Northwestern College, and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. From 1975-1979 he served as Pastor of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Charles, Michigan. In 1977 God blessed him with a faithful helpmate by joining him in marriage with Sandra Cox of Flint, Michigan. They are the parents of two sons, Joseph and Jared, whom the Lord has also blessed with faithful helpmates, Tonia and Kelly, respectively. Charles and Sandra are thus now "empty-nestled" in Lewiston, Minnesota and are members of St. John Lutheran Church.

Charles Bonow has as his full-time ministry the presentation each week of his service concerts in our churches in all parts of the country. He, with the help of his wife, pursues this extensive work with the prayer that through such a ministry of God's Word and song the name of our saving Lord will truly be hallowed and His Kingdom continue to come.

To better equip himself for his ministry, Charles Bonow has studied organ with Byron Blackmore, former professor of organ the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse; music theory and composition with Jeff C. Krauklis, LaCrosse; and organ performance and hymn improvisation with Dr. Paul Manz, the foremost and profoundly influential Lutheran organist and composer of church music of our time.

**FREE-WILL OFFERING**: As you leave the church today, a free-will offering will be received for Charles Bonow and his family in recognition of his service of leading us in worship here today. Charles Bonow now has as his full-time ministry the presentation of his service concerts in one of our churches each week in all areas of the country, and he depends on the free-will offerings received at these service concerts for the support of himself and his family. Your gift of support is truly appreciated. Thank you very much!

**CHARLES BONOW RECORDINGS**: If you are interested in obtaining a CD of Charles Bonow's organ recordings, please see him at the organ following this service. He has the

following CDs available: (1) "God Bless America" – patriotic and old Gospel hymns, (2) "Beautiful Savior" – 16 well-loved hymns, (3) "Oh, Come, Let Us Adore Him" – Christmas, (4) "Jesus, Lead Thou On" – 16 hymns of faith, (5) "Glory Be To Jesus" – Lent, Easter and Ascension.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**: This weekend's altar flowers are given by Connie Myer, wishing all members of St. Paul's a Blessed Thanksgiving!

**VOTER'S MEETING**: We will be having a Voter's Meeting next Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM to authorize the calling of a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teacher to replace Mrs. Miriam Schaewe, whose husband will be serving as a vicar next year. We encourage all voting members to attend.

**COMMUNION SERVICE CHANGE:** Because of our special service this weekend, we will move Communion from this weekend to next weekend, November 25 & 26, in all the services.

**CLASSES FOR NOVEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>:** Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, next weekend there will be no Adult Bible Study, Sunday School or Public School Confirmation Class. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School will resume on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Public School Confirmation Class will resume on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE & MEAL:** On Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> we will be having our only Midweek Advent worship service. Junior Choir and Handbells will be a part of this special service. The Board of Elders will also be serving a meal prior to the service beginning at 5:30pm. In order to assist in our planning for the meal, we ask that you sign-up on the sheets in the back of church if you'd like to attend the meal. Monetary donations are welcome at any time, and there will be a free-will offering gathered at the meal.

**LIVING NATIVITY:** Our Living Nativity will be held on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be performances with live animals celebrating the birth of the Savior at 6:00 pm, 6:30 pm and 7:00 pm each night. Following each performance there will be refreshments and crafts. St. Paul's families are encouraged to invite family and friends! There are flyers located in the back of church or in the school lobby bookshelf

that you can feel free to take and use for inviting others. Please consider helping volunteer for this important event where we have an opportunity to share the best news this world has ever received with our community. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church and school office.

**LIVING NATIVITY SET-UP**: We are in need of a few more people to help in setting up the manger for our Living Nativity. If you are available to lend a hand, we will be setting up on Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 AM.

MARY & MARTHA COOKIE SALE: A signup sheet is located in the narthex for anyone in the congregation who is interested in making Christmas cookies for the annual Mary & Martha cookie sale. Please consider baking a batch of cookies (100 cookies if possible) for this sale. Please have your cookies labeled "Mary & Martha cookie sale" and dropped off at church by 9:00a.m. on Saturday, December 8th. Anyone from St. Paul's is welcome to come and help pack the cookie boxes on Saturday, December 8th at 9am. The sale will take place after each service on Sunday and Monday, December 9th and 10th. The proceeds from this sale benefit the ongoing work of the Mary and Martha Society and their support of missions.

**REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:** The Refreshment Committee is in need of 1 or 2 people to clean up after the second service. Please consider offering your talents for one Sunday per month for 15-20 minutes. The more volunteers we get, the less often you will be needed. Duties include: emptying and washing out the coffee makers, cleaning the serving trays and table, putting away the coffee condiments and taking out the garbage. If you are willing to lend a helping hand or you have additional questions, please contact Tony Tripoli 414-232-5817.

**MARY & MARTHA SOCIETY**: Mary and Martha will meet this Tuesday, November 20, at 6:30pm in the Bible classroom. Pastor Aaron Strong will be here to speak about 'Point of Grace' - Milwaukee Area Campus Ministry. WELS Campus Ministry has been active on the East side of Milwaukee for almost 40 years and has increased its presence to include UW-Milwaukee, MSOE, Marquette, and a developing relationship with Wisconsin Lutheran College. Everyone is invited to learn more about this valuable ministry available to the youth in Milwaukee. YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

**THRIVENT "CHOICE DOLLARS":** The "Thrivent Choice" program is an easy way for eligible Thrivent members to recommend how Thrivent Financial should distribute a portion of its charitable funds to organizations that have been approved by Thrivent. St. Paul's has been an approved non-profit of Thrivent for nearly ten years. This is a program that is only open to people who are members of Thrivent and have Thrivent products. If you wish to donate Choice Dollars to our Budget, you may do so. St. Paul's only receives a total amount that is directed toward St. Paul's each quarter. It doesn't receive a dollar amount as to what each individual has directed. Up to this point, those dollars have simply been going into the Escrow Account here at St. Paul's. In order for those dollars to be directed toward our Budget, individual members would need to contact St. Paul's to let us know the amount you wish to direct toward St. Paul's ministry budget.

**MARY & MARTHA SOCIETY:** We will be conducting a collection of items needed for new mothers and newborn babies on behalf of **Lutherans for Life**— a ministry that unites us in *"…protecting a child's right to live and be loved."* 

## Items Needed for the Lutherans for Life Christmas Party:

- Pretty Ornaments / Holiday Decorations (new or lightly used not large)
- Coffee / Flavored Water

## Items Needed for New Mothers:

(who attend the Lutherans for Life 'Loving Parents' parenting classes)

- Body Soaps / Lotions (women's or men's)
- Bath Scrubbies
- Lip Balm
- Hairbrushes / Combs
- Soft Slippers / Socks (all sizes)
- Gloves / Mittens (all sizes)
- Scarves / Neck Warmers
- \$10 gift cards (e.g. Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, Pick 'n' Save, etc.)
- Any other 'comfort' item you might give to a friend

## The above lists of items will be collected now through December 9-10, 2018

#### Items Needed for Newborns:

- Bottles (like the old-fashioned kind)
- Baby Bath Soap / Baby Lotion
- Pacifiers
- Socks
- Mittens
- Onesies (up to 12-18 months)
- Sleepers
- Stuffed Animals
- Hand-made (crocheted or knit) blankets
- This last list of items will be collected now through January 13-14, 2019

A bin is set up in the church narthex to collect these items. (Mary and Martha members will sort through and distribute these items.) We appreciate ANY help you can give in helping us bring the Good News of LIFE – to new mothers and their newborn babies – with the Good News of JESUS. As Jesus says, *"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me." Matthew 25:40* **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!** 

**ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT**: The second quarter mission project for our school is <u>Feeding America</u>: <u>Eastern Wisconsin</u>. This is the leading hunger-relief organization in the state, operating food banks in Milwaukee and the Fox Valley. They also develop innovative solutions to improve the health of our communities. With the Lord's blessing we will help to provide for the physical needs of many who are in need of help. We have set 2 goals for St. Paul's: raise \$500 in funds and collect 1,000 lbs. of nonperishable food items. The collection of food will occur in the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please look for more information on that later.

The congregation of St. Paul's is welcomed to participate in meeting our 2 goals. If any members would like to give financially towards this, there are designated envelopes on the counter in the narthex. Please place them in the offering plate. Thank you in advance for any support you can give! If there are any questions please contact Heather Schmidt (hschmidt@stpaulsfranklin.org or 262-391-1056).



**SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** On Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, we began our Sunday morning adult Bible class for this year. The title of the study is: *"I Can't Believe That's in the Bible."* Below is the list of topics that we will discuss.

- 1) Girl Dismembered Body Parts Shipped Throughout the Country (Judges 19)
- 2) Prophet Marries Prostitute (Hosea)
- 3) Church Benefactors Struck Down After Presenting Gift (Acts 4 & 5)
- 4) Assassin Kills Obese King In His Own Bathroom (Judges 2 & 3)
- 5) Long Winded Preacher Kills Heals Sleepy Parishioner (Acts 20)
- 6) Man After God's own Heart Calls For Revenge On Terrorists (Psalm 109)
- 7) Talking Donkey Rescues Prophet (Numbers 22)
- 8) Police Boat Crashes, Arrested Preacher Among Survivors (Acts 27)
- 9) Biological Warfare Unleashed on World Power (Exodus 7-9)
- 10) Prophet Disappears Not All Believe Successor's Story (2 Kings 2)
- 11) A Father's Plan To Get Rid Of His Future Son-in-Law Backfires (1 Samuel 18)
- 12) God Gets In Wrestling Match (And Taps Out) (Genesis 32)
- 13) Religious Ceremony Used To Wipe Out A City (Genesis 34)
- 14) Think You Have A Sordid Family Tree, Think Again (Genesis 38)

Please come and join us at 9:15am on Sunday mornings.

**CHRISTMAS AT WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY**: The Seminary Chorus, a 52-voice men's choir composed of students at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, will present its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 and 7:00 PM in the campus auditorium. Featured will be traditional and contemporary anthems for choir and hymns and carols for the audience. There are no advanced ticket sales; a free will offering is appreciated. The seminary is located at 11831 N. Seminary Drive in Mequon. Find more information on Facebook and at wls.wels.net.

**GRADE SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT:** The grade school Winter concert will be held at Wisconsin Lutheran High School on Saturday, December 1, at 4:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Festive Christmas music will be performed by concert, symphonic, and jazz bands, as well as vocal selections by the Children's Choir. Everyone is invited to attend.

**WLHS CHRISTMAS POPS CONCERT:** Enjoy early Christmas merriment at the annual Christmas Pops Concert on Sunday, December 2, at 3:00 p.m. in the WLHS auditorium.

This concert features the WLHS Concert Band, A Cappella Choir, Inspiration, Wisco Kids Show Choir, Jazz Ensemble, Jubilation Handbell Choir, and other instrumental ensembles. Admission is free, and a freewill offering will be taken during the concert. Afterward, enjoy a reception of Christmas cookies, coffee, and punch.

WLHS SACRED CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The annual Sacred Christmas Concert will take place on Sunday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the WLHS auditorium. The concert will feature A Cappella, Cantorei, and Freshman Choirs of WLHS, Inspiration, Jubilation Handbell Choir, Wisconsin Lutheran Children's Choir, and numerous instrumentalists. Admission is free, and a freewill offering will be taken during the concert.

**WLHS JOB OPENING:** Wisconsin Lutheran High School is looking for a Gift Services and Tuition Specialist. This position is responsible for recording gifts to WLHS and the Foundation in Raiser's Edge, managing tuition payments in Smart Tuition, preparing congregational reports and assisting with events as needed. Experience with making entries into financial software is preferred. A good working knowledge of Microsoft Office is required. Candidates must be a member in good standing in a WELS congregation. Applicants should submit a resume to hr@wlhs.org.

## VOLUNTEERS

- GREETERS FOR THIS WEEK (November 18 & 19) 8:00 AM – Randy & Nancy Willms 10:30 AM – Dee Kresa; Taylor 6:30 PM – Joan Shevey
- GREETERS FOR THANKSGIVING EVE (November 21) 6:30 PM – Mark & Rosie Derouin
- GREETERS FOR THANKSGIVING DAY (November 22) 10:00 AM – Larry & Marion Klug
- GREETERS FOR NEXT WEEK (November 25 & 26) 8:00 AM – Bob & Sue Dittrich 10:30 AM – Tim & Denise Rasmussen 6:30 PM – Walter & Laurie Falkowski

#### **USHERS FOR NOVEMBER**

8:00 AM – TEAM #3 – Donn Johnson, John Migacz, Todd Grunze, Frank Krajewski 10:30 AM – TEAM #7 – David Brightsman, Kyle Brightsman, Luke Raduenz, Randy Raduenz

6:30 PM – TEAM #9 – Terry Plant, John Kiesow

#### ALTAR GUILD

Nov 14-20 – TEAM #2 – Jane Koplein, Joan Shevey, Rebecca Kragh Nov 21-27 – TEAM #3 – Jane Koplein, Carol Willms, Connie Myer

#### **REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE**

Nov 18: Set-up – Don & Marge Gebert, Clean-up – Chris & Naomi Hathaway Nov 25: Set-up – Jerry & Alyce Lehtinen, Clean-up – Larry & Marion Klug

#### THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, November 18

Worship Service featuring Charles Bonow	8:00 AM
Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	
Public School Confirmation Class	9:15 AM
Worship Service featuring Charles Bonow	10:30 AM

#### Monday, November 19

Lutherar	n Girl Pioneers	6:00 PM
Worship	Service featuring Charles Bonow	6:30 PM

#### Tuesday, November 20

School Devotion	8:30 AM
Mary & Martha	6:30 PM

## Wednesday, November 21

NO SCHOOL – Teacher Inservice	
Thanksgiving Eve Worship	6:30 PM
Men's Basketball	7:30 PM

## Thursday, November 22

NO SCHOOL	
Thanksgiving Day Worship	10:00 AM

## Friday, November 23

NO SCHOOL

#### Sunday, November 25

Worship Service with Communion	8:00 AM
NO Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	
NO Public School Confirmation Class	
Worship Service with Communion	
Voter's Meeting	
-	

#### Statistics – Last Week

Attendance: 8:00 AM – 120, 10:30 AM – 167, 6:30 PM – 65 Total Attendance – 352 Sunday Bible Class – 25, Sunday School – 15