



Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

August 24, 2025

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Not All the Blood of Beasts

LSB 431

- 1 Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.**
- 2 But Christ, the heav’nly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.**
- 3 My faith would lay its hand
On that dear head of Thine,
While as a penitent I stand,
And there confess my sin.**
- 4 My soul looks back to see
The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursèd tree;
I know my guilt was there.**

5 Believing, we rejoice

To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice
And sing His bleeding love.

Stand

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution

- P** The Holy Spirit gathers us in a community of believers who confess that we are sinners. God's holiness seems incompatible with our unholiness. But we hear a promise in the epistle to the Hebrews:
- C** **“You have not come to a mountain...that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom, and storm...to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them...the sight was so terrifying that Moses said, ‘I am trembling with fear.’”**
- P** We might expect that this would be a picture of the way the holy God encounters sinners. But in God's infinite love for you, he meets you in a far different way:
- C** **“But you have come...to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.”**
- P** Because God has given his new promise of the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' blood, we can stand before God in honest confession of our sinful hearts and our sinful lives. Lord,
- C** **have mercy on us and forgive our sin.**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

P You have come “to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect.” Their story is your story. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. “Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.”

C Amen! Thanks be to God for his grace and mercy!

Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Sit

First Reading

Genesis 4:1-10

Now the man was intimate with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. Then she said, “I have create a man just as the Lord did!”² Then she gave birth to his brother Abel. Abel took care of the flocks, while Cain cultivated the ground.

³ At the designated time Cain brought some of the fruit of the ground for an offering to the Lord. ⁴ But Abel brought some of the firstborn of his flock—even the fattest of them. And the Lord was pleased with Abel and his offering, ⁵ but with Cain and his offering he was not pleased. So Cain became very angry, and his expression was downcast.

⁶ Then the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why is your expression downcast? ⁷ Is it not true that if you do what is right, you will be fine? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. It desires to dominate you, but you must

subdue it.”

⁸ Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

⁹ Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” And he replied, “I don’t know! Am I my brother’s guardian?” ¹⁰ But the Lord said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying out to me from the ground!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:18-29

¹⁸ You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; ¹⁹ to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, ²⁰ because they could not bear what was commanded: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death.” ²¹ The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.”

²² But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, ²³ to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our “God is a consuming fire.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia & Verse

LSB 205

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:10-17

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, ¹¹ and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, “Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.” ¹³ Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

¹⁴ Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, “There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath.”

¹⁵ The Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Doesn’t each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? ¹⁶ Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?”

¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Glory Be to Jesus

LSB 433

1 Glory be to Jesus,
Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood
From His sacred veins!

- 2 **Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion,
Infinitely kind!**
- 3 **Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment
Did the world redeem!**
- 4 **Abel's blood for vengeance
Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus
For our pardon cries.**
- 5 **Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.**
- 6 **Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood.**

Homily

Apostles' Creed

LSB 207

**☩ 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 catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Presentation of the Offering

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Sanctus

LSB 208

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of Sabaoth adored;
Heaven and earth with full acclaim
Shout the glory of your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest,
Sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is he who comes in the name of our Lord!

Lord's Prayer

Words of our Lord

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

- C** O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord we pray.

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Sit

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.

If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

LSB 915

1 To wash away our sin.

**However great our trespass,
Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy
Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us
And make us clean today.**

2 Today Your gate is open,

**And all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome
And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten,
A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised,
A glorious crown in heav'n.**

3 Today our Father calls us;
His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessèd angels gather
Around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us
How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered,
It is our Father's home.

4 O all-embracing Mercy,
O ever-open Door,
What should we do without You
When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us,
To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open,
One ear will hear our prayer.

The Tree of Life

LSB 561

1 The tree of life with ev'ry good
In Eden's holy orchard stood,
And of its fruit so pure and sweet
God let the man and woman eat.
Yet in this garden also grew
Another tree, of which they knew;
Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned
Against whose eating God had warned.

2 The stillness of that sacred grove
Was broken, as the serpent strove
With tempting voice Eve to beguile
And Adam too by sin defile.
O day of sadness when the breath
Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,
Its awful poison first displayed
Within the world so newly made.

3 What mercy God showed to our race,
A plan of rescue by His grace:
In sending One from woman's seed,
The One to fill our greatest need—
For on a tree uplifted high
His only Son for sin would die,
Would drink the cup of scorn and dread
To crush the ancient serpent's head!

4 Now from that tree of Jesus' shame
Flows life eternal in His name;
For all who trust and will believe,
Salvation's living fruit receive.
And of this fruit so pure and sweet
The Lord invites the world to eat,
To find within this cross of wood
The tree of life with ev'ry good.

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

LSB 563

- 1** Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.
- 2** Bold shall I stand in that great day,
Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
- 3** Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives' liberty,
Was also shed in love for me.
- 4** Lord, I believe, were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.

Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

LSB 680

- 1** Thine the amen Thine the praise
Alleluias angels raise
Thine the everlasting head
Thine the breaking of the bread
Thine the glory Thine the story
Thine the harvest then the cup
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

- 2** Thine the life eternally
Thine the promise let there be
Thine the vision Thine the tree
All the earth on bended knee
Gone the nailing gone the railing
Gone the pleading gone the cry
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

- 3** Thine the truly Thine the yes
Thine the table we the guest
Thine the mercy all from Thee
Thine the glory yet to be
Then the ringing and the singing
Then the end of all the war
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

- 4** Thine the kingdom Thine the prize
Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise
Then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story
Then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

- 5** Thine the glory in the night
No more dying only light
Thine the river Thine the tree
Then the Lamb eternally
Then the holy holy holy
Celebration jubilee

**Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only
Thee.**

Dismissal

Benediction

LSB 183

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

G Amen

Crown Him with Many Crowns

LSB 525

**1 Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.**

**Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.**

**2 Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn:**

**Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.**

**3 Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.**

**No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,**

**But downward bend their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.**

**4 Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.**

**5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.**

Announcements

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Serving in worship today

August 24, 2025

Pastor

Jason Neel

Usher

Randy Herschman

Elders

Chuck Johnson
Carl Schwanbeck

Reader

Mike Voegele

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Linda Schwanbeck 8/24, and Olivia Eastlund 8/29.

Celebrating Baptisms: Beth Degler 8/24, and Shelby Parson 8/28.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Jake and Kristina Kothrade 8/25, Dale and Peggy Peterson 8/28, and Dan and Jean O’Keefe 8/3

This Week at a Glance

| | | |
|----------|------------|------------------------------|
| Today | 8:00 a.m. | Bible Study |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Worship Service |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Voters’ Meeting NYG Lunch |
| Thursday | 7:00 a.m. | Men’s Bible Study |
| Sunday | 8:00 a.m. | Bible Study |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Worship Service |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Bible Study |

Notes of Information:

Voters' Meeting: There will be a Voters' meeting **TODAY**, following the service.

Mardi Gras Meal Served by NYG Youth: Following the Voters' meeting, there will be a New Orleans lunch of gumbo, red beans and rice and beignets. The youth will share what they heard and learned in the Big Easy.

Sunday School Teachers: We are looking for volunteers willing to teach Sunday School starting September 7th, 2025 grades Prek-6th grade. You do not need kids in Sunday School to teach Sunday School!! If you feel moved to help, reach out to Leslie K, Sarah S, Paula B, or Alissa V. Thank you!!

Book Club: Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

August 25- Sensible Shoes by Sharon Garlough Broron.

September 22 -The flight by Julie Clark.

October 27- Where the Heart Is by Billie Letts.

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager

Women's Bible Study: Women's twice monthly Bible study will resume Tuesday, September 2nd at 10am. We will be meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of the month here at church.

"Measured By Grace" by Sharla Fritz is the book we will be reading. The book Focuses on Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. All women of SOC are welcome to join. Feel free to bring a friend! Books are \$15 and will be available after church service or on September 2nd. Hope to see you there!

Rally Sunday: rally Sunday is coming up on September 7th. Come join us for food, carnival fun and fellowship.

Lutheran Women in Mission: MN South Grant highlight of the month:

Theological Training for Hmong Leaders in Southeast Asia – Hmong International Mission In partnership with LCMS missionaries in Southeast Asia and Hmong Mission Society, this grant will offer

theological training to Hmong leaders, pastors, and laypersons.

The training will equip them with the Word and

Sacraments so they can share the gift of God with the Hmong

people in unreachable territories in the mountains

of Southeast Asia, who will come to know Christ Jesus as their

Savior. (hmongmissionsociety.org)

Please pray for the work of training Hmong Leaders! The MIte

Box is available in the Narthex! Give as you are led and thank you

for your generous hearts.

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Average Weekly Offering | \$6627 |
| <i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i> | <i>\$7271</i> |



Save the Date

LWML MN South District Fall Retreat

CHRIST'S CREATION:

Reclaiming Womanhood in Christ

September 12 & 13 at CAMP OMEGA
22750 Lind Ave, Waterville, MN

Bible Study: Rev Martin Schoenfeld
Rose of Sharon Church in Cottage Grove and LWML MNS pastoral counselor

Guest Speaker: Rebekah Curtis – "What is a Woman"
Author of the book, Lady-like, Living Biblically.

Register Now: mnslwml.org/2025_district_retreat



Save the Date

LWML MN South District Fall Retreat

CHRIST'S CREATION:

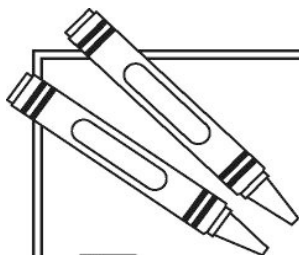
Reclaiming Womanhood in Christ

September 12 & 13 at CAMP OMEGA
22750 Lind Ave, Waterville, MN

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Author of the book, Lady-like, Living Biblically.

Register Now: mnslwml.org/2025_district_retreat



Just for **KIDS**

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Jesus knew that people would starve without physical bread to eat and water to drink. But he also knew they would die spiritually if they weren't fed by him.

Find and circle all the words horizontally. Then, starting on the top line and moving across from left to right, read John 6:35 (NIV) and write the Bible verse on the dashes.

JOHN 6:35

WORD LIST

am and be believes
bread comes I in
he hungry go He
life me me never
to never the of will
who will thirsty who

t e l r s u v w a m x y z a b t h e i
j k l m b r e a d n p o f q r l i f e
d H e e f g h i w h o j k l m n p q r
b c d f c o m e s g h i j t o k l m e
n w i l l o p q r s t u n e v e r v w
z y z b c a g o b c d e f g h i j k l
m h u n g r y n a n d o p q r s t u v
w x y z a b c d e f g h i j h e k l m
w h o n o b e l i e v e s p q r s t u
v w x y z i n a b c d e f g h i j k l
m n o p q r s t m e u v w x y z a b c
d e f w i l l g h i j k l m n o p q r
s t u v w x y n e v e r z a b c d b e
f g h i j k l m n o p q t h i r s t y

“ _____ ”

_____ , _____

_____ ”

Answer: "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35, NIV



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd
Ham Lake, MN 55304
www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people,
proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Church Office: | 763-755-7234 |
| Pastor Jason Neel: | soclcpastor@gmail.com |
| Ministers: | All Members |
| Music Director John Peterson: | carsinger@aol.com |
| Office Manager Amy Fey: | secretary@soclc.org |
| Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst): | Sd_hurst@yahoo.com |