

# Victory of the Lamb Lutheran Church

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*Proclaiming the Victory of Jesus to All*



The Harvest Is Coming!

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2020

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Victory of the Lamb is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

## The Opening Hymn

## I'm But a Stranger Here

*Red hymnal #417 vs. 1,4*

1. I'm but a stranger here,  
Heav'n is my home;  
Earth is a desert drear;  
Heav'n is my home:  
Danger and sorrow stand  
Round me on every hand;  
Heav'n is my fatherland,  
Heav'n is my home.
4. Therefore I murmur not,  
Heav'n is my home;  
Whate'er my earthly lot,  
Heav'n is my home:  
And I shall surely stand  
There at my Lord's right hand:  
Heav'n is my fatherland,  
Heav'n is my home.

## The Confession of Sins

L(eader): In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C(ongregation): Amen.**

L: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.  
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,  
For sins of habit and sins of choice,  
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,  
You should cast me away from your presence forever.  
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

## The Absolution of Sins

*The use of the keys (the power to forgive sins) is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners (See John 20:21-23).*

L: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:  
I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

# The Song of Thanks

*Gloria in Excelsis*

*Tune: Old Hundredth*

Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.

1 All glo - ry be to God on high!  
2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,  
Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;  
For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,  
We praise you for your peace and grace,  
For all, O Fath - er, you have done  
Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.  
Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.

# The Prayer of the Day

*This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship and marks the beginning of the Word and sacrament sections of the service. The Prayer of the Day asks God to help us in an area that is tied to the theme of our worship service today.*

L: Let us pray:

L: O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants, who come to you in Jesus' name. Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# The First Lesson

Romans 1:18-25

**The harvest is coming!** There is much evil in this world. Sinful people engage in warped activities. But that doesn't mean God is a failure, or that his truth won't win in the end.

<sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, <sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup> They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

## The Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the

mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## The Gospel Lesson

## Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**The harvest is coming!** We are wheat among the weeds. We should not be surprised! And we should not be afraid either.

<sup>24</sup> Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. <sup>26</sup> When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

<sup>27</sup> “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’

<sup>28</sup> “‘An enemy did this,’ he replied.

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

<sup>29</sup> “‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’ ”

“I will open my mouth in parables,  
I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.”

### *The Parable of the Weeds Explained*

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

<sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

<sup>40</sup> “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. <sup>42</sup> They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

## The Children’s Message

The Hymn of the Day is assigned because of its rich content and connection to the Scriptures that the sermon is based upon.

# The Hymn of the Day

# In Christ Alone

Vs. 1,2



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found.  
2 In Christ a - lone— who took on flesh,  
3 There in the ground his bod - y lay,  
4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,



He is my light, my strength, my song;  
Full - ness of God in help - less babe.  
Light of the world by dark - ness slain;  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;



This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground,  
This gift of love and right - eous - ness,  
Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day  
From life's first cry to fi - nal breath,



Firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.  
Scorned by the ones he came to save.  
Up from the grave he rose a - gain!  
Je - sus com - mands my des - tin - y.



What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
Till on that cross, as Je - sus died,  
And as he stands in vic - tor - y,  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man



When fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!  
The wrath of God was sat - is - fied;  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
Can ev - er pluck me from his hand;



My Com - for - ter, my all in all,  
For ev - 'ry sin on him was laid.  
For I am his and he is mine—  
Till he re - turns or calls me home,

(Fine)

Here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 Here in the death of Christ I live.  
 Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

*This christological hymn summarizes the sacrificial, earthly life of our Savior and the glory that is now his forever and ours through faith.*

Tune: IN CHRIST ALONE (88 88 D)  
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## The Sermon Message

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

### “The Harvest Is Coming!”

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**As you listen to the sermon message, see if you can answer the following questions.**

1. What sin do these Scripture verses point out to me?
2. Where in these Scripture verses do I see God's plan of forgiveness through Jesus?
3. What is one attitude adjustment these Scripture verses help me to have?

## Apostles' Creed

*Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word, Christians composed the Apostles' Creed as a simple confession of what the Apostles taught. It has been in use since the second century.*

**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.**

## The Prayer of the Church

*The Lord invites our prayers and asks that Christians pray for many people and circumstances. Each week we'll regularly include a few from our church family in this prayer. Today, that's the Langer, Loggins and McCormick families, and all our guests worshipping with us this morning.*

- L:** *Pastor speaks the prayer of the church, ending with...* Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake, for it is in his name that we join 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. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.**

## The Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

*The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on (them), and I will bless them"(Numbers 6:27).*

L:       The LORD bless you and keep you.  
          The LORD make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.  
          The LORD look on you with favor, and give you peace.



## The Closing Hymn

In Christ Alone  
Vs. 3,4

# Announcements

Connect with one of our Summer Bible Studies!

Topic	Day and Time	Location
The Ten Commandments	Sundays 11:00-11:45a	Zoom
Grace Alone! Studying Paul's Letter to the Galatians	Fridays 9:30-10:30a	Zoom

**Pantry Pounding for Vicar Micah Schoeneck and his wife Sarah!** Help us welcome them to Texas in August. We are collecting paper products (toilet paper, paper towel, tissues), cleaning products and grocery store gift cards. **Please bring items to church by Sunday, August 16.** Questions? Please talk to Kurt and Amy Verhulst.

## The Week Ahead

Sun	8/9	9:30am	Worship online
		11:00am	Sunday School on Zoom for all ages
Wed	8/12	7:00-8:15pm	Bible 201
Fri	8/14	9:30-10:30am	"Selected Psalms" Bible Class on Zoom
Sat	8/15	4:00pm	Worship
Sun	8/16	9:30am	Worship online Vicar Installation????
		11:00am	Sunday School on Zoom for all ages

### Our Gifts for Jesus

General Fund Expected (Jul '19 - Jun '20).....\$288,480    General Fund Received (Jul '19 - Jun '20).....\$327,764 Building Fund thru 6/30/20.....\$450,168

*Take God at his Word! Trust him, and give generously to him, as he has given to you.*

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