

MAY 11, 2008



TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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REMEMBER THE BLESSINGS OF FAMILY!

Good morning! Happy Mother's Day!

At times in life, we catch ourselves slowing down enough to be reminded of the things that are most important. Certainly Mother's Day and Father's Day are days to remember the blessing of parents in our lives. They are there as gifts from the living God. Today is also an opportunity to be reminded of and rejoice in the blessings that God gives through his family and our families.

May God bless us all as we worship him!

Opening Hymn "Oh, Blest The House, Whate'er Befall"
CW Hymn 506

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall, Where Jesus Christ is all in all! A home that is not wholly his -- How sad and poor and dark it is!	Blest such a house; it prospers well. In peace and joy the parents dwell, And in their children's lives is shown How richly God can bless his own.
Oh, blest that house where faith you find And all within have set their mind To trust their God and serve him still And do in all his holy will.	Then here will I and mine today A solemn promise make and say: Though all the world forsake his Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!
Oh, blest the parents who give heed Unto their children's foremost need And weary not of care or cost. May none to them and heav'n be lost!	

Welcome to Tree of Life!

The members of Tree of Life extend to you a hearty welcome! We are a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS: www.wels.net).

As congregation of this synod we are striving to be a family where God is glorified and his saving message is shared with all people.

We don't claim to be the only saving church, but we do strive to preserve and pass on the truth as it's found in the Bible. We at Tree of Life believe and teach that...

1. The Bible is the inspired Word of God, with no mistakes and no errors, his unchanging message to all people of all times: **"Men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21)**
2. God created people holy and without sin, but by their own choice they disobeyed God and brought sin upon the whole human race: **"Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned." (Romans 5:12)**
3. The final result of sin is not only the end of our earthly life, but eternal death and separation from God in the agony of hell: **"The wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23)**
4. The main and central message of the Bible is the gospel - the good news that: **"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish, but has eternal life." (John 3:16)**
5. Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life in the place of every human being, and Jesus suffered the punishment of hell for the whole human race when he died on the cross: **"The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)**
6. God the Holy Spirit creates and strengthens saving faith in Jesus Christ through the message about him in the Bible, in Baptism, and in the Lord's Supper: **"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the words of Christ." (Romans 10:17)**
7. Christians do good works, not in order to earn a place in heaven, but out of love and thanks to God who has already given them eternal life as a free gift through Jesus: **"I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free." (Psalm 119:32)**
8. Christians will want to gather together regularly around the Word of God for the strengthening of their own trust in Jesus and for encouraging each other in the faith: **"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the (final) Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25)**
9. Christians want to carry out the Lord's great commission to spread the good news about Jesus to others: **"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." (Mark 16:15)**
10. When the Lord returns in judgment on the last day, he will raise all the dead and give the full glory of everlasting life in heaven to all who trusted in him as Savior: **"When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." (Colossians 3:4)**

We invite you to worship with us again and we sincerely hope that you will accept this invitation. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

and heals all your diseases,

What evidence do you have in your life of God's healing?

4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

When has mom or dad bailed you out of a situation?

From what has the Lord bailed us out?

What impact does being surrounded with the Lord's love and compassion make on your household?

5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

With what do we try to satisfy our family's desires?

With what does the Lord satisfy our desires?

How does this "renew our youth"?

**Enjoy the bouquet of blessings God has given
to you and your home!**

CONFESSION FOR MOTHER'S DAY

PLEASE STAND

P: We begin our time of worship in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: God invites us as his precious children to confess our sins to him to receive the assurance of forgiveness. As families of God, let us confess our sins individually and collectively.

Children: Father in heaven, I haven't always been the son or daughter you would like me to be. I've talked back to my parents, yelled at my brothers or sisters and complained when asked to help around the house. I've taken my parents for granted and failed to show them that I appreciate them. Forgive me, Jesus.

Men: Father, you have exemplified for me the role of father and husband. I have fallen way short. I haven't loved my wife as you loved me. I have been selfish and thought only of my own needs. I have at times set unreasonable demands of my children and wife. I have placed my job and it's demands over the spiritual nurture of my family. Father, forgive me.

Women: Lord, you have given me a privileged role of woman, wife, and mother. At times I have resented these roles and failed to see them as honorable. I have gotten angry with my children and become impatient with my husband. I have neglected my own spiritual growth and have failed to love my family as you have loved me. Forgive me, Lord.

ALL: Our families are bombarded by Satan. Forgive us, protect us, and renew us with the promises you give in baptism. Give us strength each day to drown Satan's influence and let the new life empowered by your resurrection shine through.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has heard our plea for forgiveness and in Christ assures us of our forgiveness. Our guilt is washed clean and we are renewed to love and serve him. Be assured of God's promise to you as well, your sins are forgiven. You are a family belonging to God!

Song of Praise "Change My Heart, Oh God"

Tree of Life Song Book

Change my heart, oh God. Make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God. May I be like You.

You are the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, oh God. Make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God. May I be like You.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

M: Lord of our homes,

In your wisdom you established the family as the foundation of society and of your church. Bless each of our homes with your presence so that each family here may be counted as one of your children through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever,

C: *(spoken)* **AMEN.**

BE SEATED

**FIRST LESSON
GENESIS 1:26-31**

"Marriage and the family were blessings God created and directed in a perfect world!"

26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

27 So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

MESSAGE NOTES

MAY 11, 2008

"FIND A BOUQUET OF BLESSINGS IN THE CHRISTIAN HOME!"

What are you doing to remember Mom today?

READ Psalm 103:1-5

At the heart of blessings we receive from Mom is the _____!

1 Of David.

Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

2 Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—

Why do we need days like Mother's Day?

Did you remember that it was the Lord's Day?

So we do not forget all his benefits...

3 who forgives all your sins

Why do you think King David lists forgiveness first in his list of benefits from the Lord?

Why is forgiveness the greatest blessing in a Christian home?

BLESSING

Christian Worship page 44

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: *(sing)* Amen. Amen. Amen.

Closing Hymn “Oh, Give Us Homes”
Tree of Life Song Book

Oh, give us homes built firmly on the Savior,
Where Christ is head and counselor and guide,
Where ev’ry child is taught his love and favor
And gives his heart to Christ, the crucified.
How sweet to know that, though our footsteps waver,
A faithful Lord is walking by our side!

Oh, give us homes where Christ is Lord and master,
The Bible read, the precious hymns still sung,
Where prayer come first in peace or in disaster
And praise is natural speech to ev’ry tongue.
Where mountains move before a faith that’s vaster
And Christ sufficient is for old and young.

O Lord, our God, our homes are yours forever!
We trust to you their problems, toil, and care;
Their bonds of love no enemy can sever
If you are always Lord and master there.
Lord, be the center of our least endeavor;
Lord, be our guest, our hearts and homes to share.

29 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Psalm “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”
Tree of Life Song Book

I want to walk as a child of the light;
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world;
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain In him there is no darkness at all;
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God;
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Right-eous-ness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**

I’m looking for the coming of Christ;
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

SECOND LESSON
MATTHEW 12:46-50

“The members of God's family are those that hear his Word and follow his commands.”

46 While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. 47 Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you." 48 He replied to him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" 49 Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. 50 For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

Hymn“Lord Of The Home”
Christian Worship Hymn 502

Lord of the home, the Son you love	Teach us to keep our homes so fair
Received a mother's tender care,	That, were our Lord a child once more,
A father's strength like yours above,	He might be glad our hearth to share
A home with warmth and kindness there.	And find a welcome at our door.
Help us, O Lord, our homes to make	Lord, may your Spirit sanctify
Your Holy Spirit's dwelling-place;	Each household duty we fulfill.
Our hands and hearts' devotion take	May we our Savior glorify
To be the servants of your grace.	With glad obedience to your will.

We pray that all who with us dwell
Your love and joy and peace may know.
And while our lips your praises tell,
May faithful lives your glory show.

KID'S CHURCH

Children ages 3 years to 2nd grade

**FIND A BOUQUET OF BLESSINGS
IN THE CHRISTIAN HOME!**

Psalms 103:1-5

Statement of Belief Apostle's 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.

Offering

Friendship Registers

Prayer of the Church

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and forever. Amen.