

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).

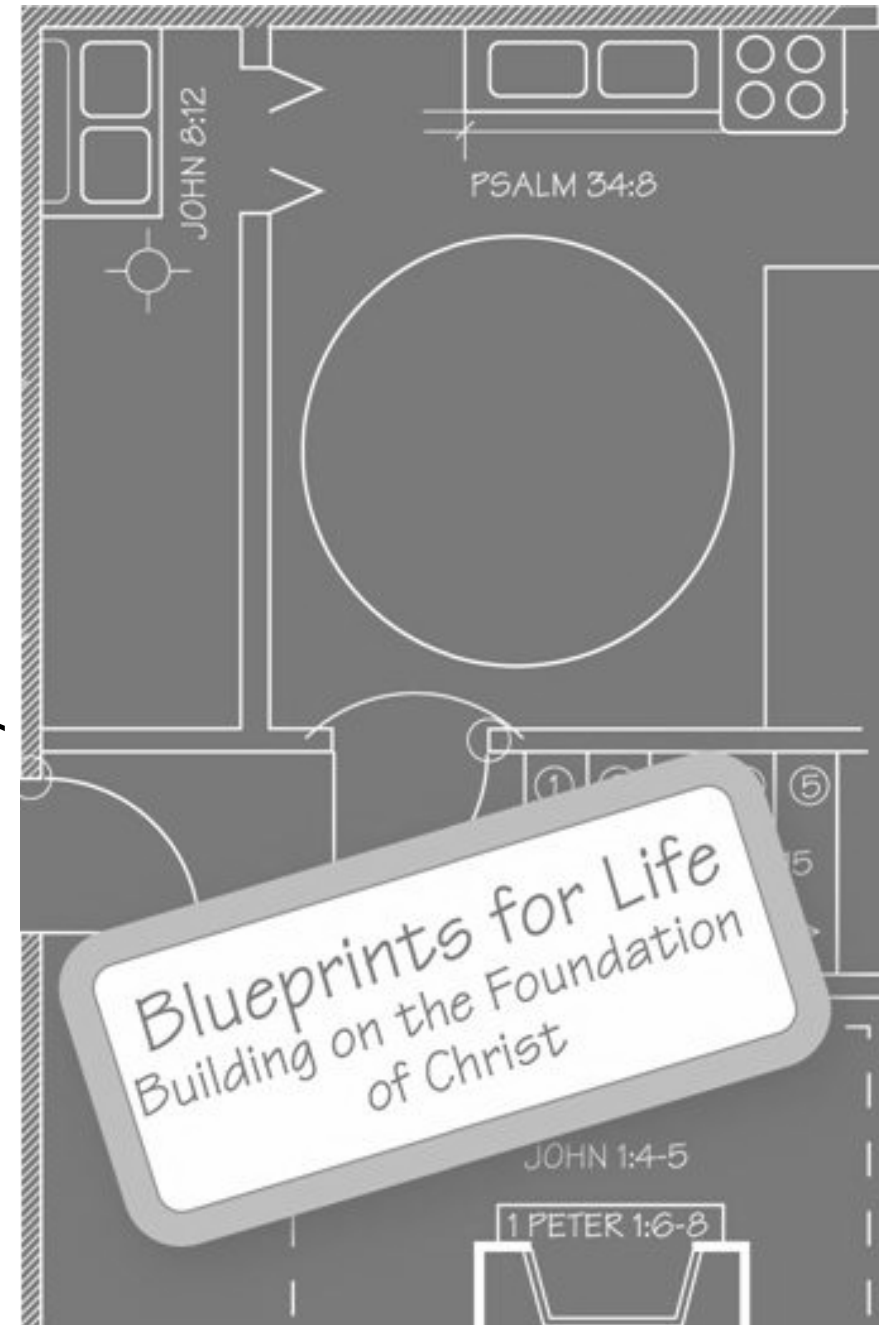
As congregation of this synod we are striving to be a family where God is glorified and his saving message is shared with all people.

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.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



JUNE 22, 2008



TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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BLUEPRINTS FOR LIFE:
THE BEDROOM

Good morning! Maybe one of your favorite rooms in the house is the bedroom. It's a solice after a long day. It is rest for a weary body. God knew we needed rest - that's why he designed into his plan a day of rest where we would gain the spiritual refreshment we need. May God bless us as we rest in him this morning.

Opening Song..... “I Was Glad”
Blue Insert

Refrain
I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”
I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Verse 1
Called from ev’ry nation,
called from ev’ry race,
gathered here for worship
in this holy place;
God is here among us,
lift your hearts and sing,
make the walls and rafters ring.

Refrain

Verse 2
Words that must be spoken,
grace that must be heard,
mercy and forgiveness
from God’s holy word,
here will be repeated;
peace to all proclaimed,
shouted out in Jesus' name

Refrain
Verse 3
Here the poor are welcomed,
here the lost are claimed.
Broken lives are mended,
deepest fears are named.
Here the wise are children
and the weak are strong.
Here, in Christ, we all belong.
Refrain

BLESSING

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 Song: “God Be With You”
Blue Insert

Verse 1
God be with you. God be with you.
In the morning when you wake,
and with ev’ry breath you take,
God be with you.

Verse 3
God be with you. God be with you.
And wherever you may go,
as the spirit winds will blow,
God be with you.

Verse 2
God be with you. God be with You.
When you travel far away,
in your daily work and play,
God be with you.

Verse 4
God be with you. God be with you.
As you listen, teach and learn,
and then safely home return,
God be with you.

Note: Please leave the Blue Inserts on your pew at the end of the service so we might reuse them at a later date.

Song “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”
Tree of Life Song Book

Verse
Lord, I lift Your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I’m so glad You’re in my life;
I’m so glad You came to save us.

Chorus
You came from heaven to earth
to show the way.
From the earth to the cross
my debt to pay;
From the cross to the grave,
from the grave to the sky;
Lord I lift Your name on high.

Verse
Chorus (SING TWICE)

RITE OF BAPTISM



Rachel Alexis Howard and Rebecca Ashley Howard

Born: January 20, 1998

Parents: Phillip and Tamara Howard

Sponsors: Bryan Howard & Courtney Wellford

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

M: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought these children to be baptized. Jesus told us "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." It is in Baptism that God grants a new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

M: Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart + to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

Rachel Alexis Howard/Rebecca Ashley Howard, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven.

May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Rachel and Rebecca may remain children of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

Song “Word of God Speak”

Verse 1 Praise Band

I'm finding myself at a loss for words
And the funny thing is it's okay
The last thing I need is to be heard
But to hear what You would say

Verse 2 Praise Band

I'm finding myself in the midst of You
Beyond the music beyond the noise
All that I need is to be with You
And in the quiet hear Your voice

Chorus All

Word of God speak
Would You pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty
To be still and know
That You're in this place
Please let me stay and rest
In Your holiness
Word of God speak

Chorus All (sing twice)

Word of God speak
Would You pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty
To be still and know
That You're in this place
Please let me stay and rest
In Your holiness
Word of God speak

Final Ending

I'm finding myself at a loss for words
And the funny thing is it's okay

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Sharing of Prayer Requests

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.

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 (*Sung during the offering*) "Word of God Speak"

Friendship Registers

Thank you for joining us this morning! Please take a moment to make a record of your time with us! Please check any boxes that apply.

Gathering of Prayer Requests

The congregation is invited to submit their prayer requests on the index cards that are handed out by the ushers. Once you have printed your request, please hand them to an usher.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray:

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of Baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptisms as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our lives. Look with special favor on Rachel and Rebecca and grant them a rich measure of your Spirit that they may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

C: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

"Faithful Father" *Blue Insert*

Verse 1

Father, I can't explain this kind of love,
this kind of grace.
I know I still break your heart, and yet
You run to welcome me.

Verse 2

Father, I love the way You hold me close
and say my name.
I know when my life is through,
my heart will find its home in You.

Chorus

This is my song of praise to You.
For who You are and all that You do.
From the moment my life began
You have been faithful

Chorus (*sung twice*)

Final Ending

You will be faithful,
forever faithful, my Father.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Creator of the heavens, as you rested on the seventh day, cause us to pause in our lives long enough to spend meaningful and meditative time with you. Forgive us for the times we have neglected the word and sacraments in our lives. Lead us to love your word and your promises to find rest in you and your Son and your Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: (spoken) AMEN.

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON
GENESIS 2:1-3

"God finished his perfect creation with a day of rest."

1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.
2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Psalm "You Make Me Lie Down in Green Pastures"
Blue Insert

You make me lie down in green pastures,
You make me wanting for nothing.
You fill my hunger with honey from Your sweet, sweet Word;
You let me worship before You so I will love and adore You,
You are my Shepherd,, You are my Jesus, You are my Lord.

SECOND LESSON
MATTHEW 11:25-30

"True rest is found in our Savior Jesus."

25At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. 26Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.
27"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
28"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
29Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Hymn "You are Mine"
Blue Insert

Verse 1
"I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice,
I claim you as my choice.
Be still and know I am here.

Verse 3
"I am strength for all the despairing,
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see,
the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name.

Verse 2
"I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light.
Come and rest in me.

Refrain
Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine."

Refrain
Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine."

Verse 4
"I am the Word that leads to all freedom,
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk and live!

Refrain

ENJOY THE ULTIMATE REST!

Hebrews 4:1-11