

## 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](http://www.wels.net)).*

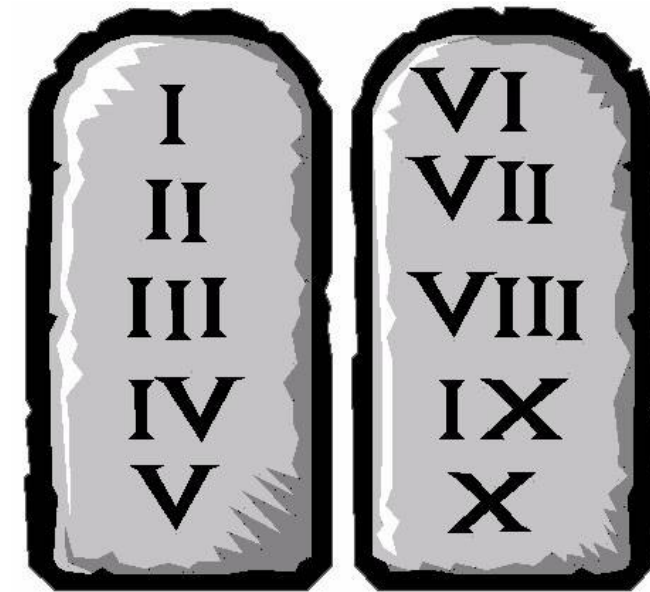
*As congregation of this synod we are striving to be a family where God is glorified and his saving message is shared with all people.*

*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.*

## God's Top Ten: #5



Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

**AUGUST 3, 2008**



**TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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**GOD'S TOP TEN: PROTECT HUMAN LIFE!**

**Good morning!**

The fact that you are here this morning indicates you are enjoying the gift of life God has given. Human life is valuable because of the soul God has placed inside.

May we be encouraged to help protect the body of our fellow man and even avoid harboring hateful thoughts that seek to harm our neighbor.

May God bless us as we worship him this day and always!

**Opening Hymn**..... “They’ll Know We’re Christians by Our Love”  
*Tree of Life Song Book*

**Verse 1**

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

**Chorus**

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

**Verse 2**

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

**Chorus**

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C: (sing) And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: (sing) Amen.**

**BLESSING**

*Christian Worship page 25*

M: 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** ..... “Your Hand, O Lord, In Days Of Old”  
*Christian Worship Hymn 520*

Your hand, O Lord, in days of old  
Was strong to heal and save;  
It triumphed o'er disease and death,  
All darkness and the grave.

To you they came, the blind, the dumb,  
The paralyzed and lame,  
The lepers in their misery,  
The sick with fevered frame.

Your touch then, Lord, brought life  
and health,  
Gave speech and strength and sight;  
And youth renewed and frenzy calmed  
Revealed you, Lord of light.  
And now, O Lord, be near to bless,

Almighty as before,  
In crowded street, by beds of pain,  
As by Gennes' ret's shore.

Oh, be our great deliv'rer still,  
The Lord of life and death;  
Restore and quicken, soothe and bless,  
With your life-giving breath.

To hands that work and eyes that see  
Give wisdom's healing pow'r  
That whole and sick and weak and  
strong  
May praise you evermore.

Text and Tune: public domain. Setting: Ralph

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, when ever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

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

"O Christ, Lamb Of God" ..... *Christian Worship page 23*

*O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us.*

*O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us.*

*O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace.*

*A-men.*

BE SEATED

**DISTRIBUTION**

STAND

"Song of Simeon" ..... *Christian Worship page 24*

*Lord, now you let your servant de-part in peace  
ac-cord-ing to your word.*

*For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have pre-pared be-fore the face of all people,*

*a light to light-en the Gen-tiles  
and the glo-ry of your peo-ple Is-ra-el.*

**Verse 3**

We will work with each other, we will  
work side by side,  
We will work with each other, we will  
work side by side.  
We'll respect people's dignity and in  
love abide.

**Chorus**

And they'll know we are Christians by  
our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by  
our love.

**Verse 4**

All praise to the Father, from whom all  
things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, his only  
Son,  
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes  
us one.

**Chorus**

And they'll know we are Christians by  
our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by  
our love.

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: Hear, O people of God, the LORD your God, the LORD is one. He has given his commands to his people for them to know, understand and follow. As we look at the commandments he gave, we realize we have not been perfect as he is perfect. We recognize that he is a jealous God and has every right to punish those that break his law. With humble hearts, we confess our sins against his commands and plead for his mercy.

**C:** *(sing)* ..... "The Ten Commandments Are The Law"  
*Verse 1* *Christian Worship Hymn 285*

The Ten Commandments are the law  
Which Israel heard in holy awe.  
In smoke and fire from Sinai  
The voice of God shook the sky. Have mercy, Lord!

**C: Dear LORD, our God, we confess that we have not always helped others in every bodily need. We have not befriended others, but have hurt them or harmed them by our actions and by our failures to act. We confess that we have not always taken care of our bodies, your temple, the way that we should. For these, and for all our sins we do not deserve to be called your children. But trusting in Jesus, who kept your commands perfectly in our place, we pray: Have mercy, Lord !**

**C:** *(sing)* ..... “The Ten Commandments Are The Law”  
*Verses 6, 11 & 12* *Christian Worship Hymn 285*

“You shall not murder, hurt, nor hate;  
Your anger dare not dominate.  
Be kind and patient; help, defend,  
And treat your foe as your friend.” Have mercy, Lord!

God gave these laws to show therein,  
O child of man, your life of sin,  
And help you rightly to perceive  
How unto God you should live. Have mercy, Lord!

Our works cannot salvation gain;  
They merit only endless pain.  
Forgive us, Lord! To Christ we fly,  
Our mediator on high. Have mercy, Lord!

**M:** Not only does the Lord threaten to punish those that disobey his commands, he also promises to show love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments. The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love and mercy. For the sake of Jesus, who obeyed every law of God perfectly in our place, God forgives our sins and does not count our sin against us. As Moses had the privilege of proclaiming God's mercy to Israel, I proclaim, as God's servant, that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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

**THE SACRAMENT**

**The Celebration of Holy Communion** ..... *CW pages 21-24*



*At Tree of Life, we desire to have all commune with us at the Lord's Table. However, since the Scripture encourages us to "recognize the body and blood of the Lord," "examine ourselves," and join together as "one body," we ask those who are visiting with us this morning to take the time to understand these teachings and establish a unity of beliefs with us before partaking of this act of fellowship. By this practice of close communion, we are in no way judging your personal faith and relationship with Jesus, we just ask for an opportunity for us to share our beliefs with you so that together we can make a true expression of oneness at the Lord's Table.*

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** *(sing)* **And also with you.**

**M:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** *(sing)* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C:** *(sing)* **It is good and right to do so.**

**M:** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name, and join their glorious song:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” ..... *Christian Worship page 22*

*Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of heav-en-ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.*

*Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est.*

*Bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he,  
bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est.*

**Statement of Belief** THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT w/“What does this mean?”

**C: You shall not murder.**

M: What does this mean?

**C: We should fear and love God that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every bodily need.**

M: What does God say about all these commandments?

**C: He says, “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations who love me and keep my commandments.”**

M: What does this mean?

**C: God threatens to punish all who transgress these commandments. Therefore we should fear his anger and not disobey what he commands.**

**But he promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore we should love and trust him and gladly obey what he commands.**

*BE SEATED*

**Friendship Registers**

**Offering**

**Prayer of the Church** *PLEASE STAND*

**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.

M: In the peace of this full and free forgiveness, let us praise the LORD!

**Song of Praise** ..... “Jesus Sinners Does Receive”  
*Verses 6 & 7* *Christian Worship Hymn 304*

Oh, how blest is it to know,  
Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
By your blood and bitter passion,  
For these words I do believe  
Jesus sinners does receive.

Jesus sinners does receive.  
Even I have been forgiven.  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to him I cleave  
Jesus sinners does receive.

*Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.*

*BE SEATED*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Lord of Life, in your eternal design you gave life to all things, but especially to human beings. Cause us to value our own lives and the lives of others that we may never hurt or harm our neighbor, but do all we can to protect their body and life. Through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord,

**C: (sung) AMEN.**

*BE SEATED*

**FIRST LESSON**  
**ROMANS 12:17-21**

*“Even to our enemies, we are not to repay evil with evil.”*

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. 20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

**PSALM 139b** ..... *Christian Worship* page 117

**Refrain:** *I will praise you, O Lord, for I am wonderfully made.*

<p>O Lord, you created my inmost `being;* you knit me together in my `mother's womb.</p> <p>I praise you because I am fearfully and wonder `fully made;* your works are wonderful, I know that `full well.</p> <p>My frame was not hidden `from you;* your eyes saw my unformed `body.</p>	<p>All the days or `dained for me* were written in your book before one of them `came to be.</p> <p>How precious to me are your `thoughts, O God!* How vast is the `sum of them!</p> <p>Were I to `count them,* they would outnumber the `grains of sand.</p>
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**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen**

**Refrain**

**Refrain**

**SECOND LESSON**

**LUKE 7:18-23**

*"The mark of our Savior was the good news he proclaimed and the acts of healing he performed."*

18 John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, 19 he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?"

20 When the men came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?'"

21 At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. 22 So he replied to the messengers, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. 23 Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."

**Hymn** ..... **Let Your Heart Be Broken"**  
*Blue Insert*

**Verse 1**

Let your heart be broken  
For a world in need  
Feed the mouths that hunger  
Sooth the wounds that bleed,  
Give the cup of water  
And the loaf of bread.  
Be the hands of Jesus,  
Serving in his stead.

**Verse 4**

Add to your believing  
Deeds that prove it true  
Knowing Christ as Savior,  
Make him master too:  
Follow in his footsteps;  
Go where he has trod;  
In the world's great trouble, Risk your-  
self for God.

**Verse 2**

Here on earth applying  
Principles of love  
Visible expression  
God still rules above.  
Living illustration  
Of the living Word  
To the minds of all who've  
Never seen and heard.

**Verse 5**

Let your heart be tender  
And your vision clear  
See mankind as God sees;  
Serve him far and near.  
Let your heart be broken  
By a brother's pain;  
Share your rich resources  
Give and give again.

**Verse 3**

Blest to be a blessing,  
Privileged to care,  
Challenged by the need  
Apparent ev'ry where  
Where mankind is wanting,  
Fill the vacant place;  
Be the means through which the  
Lord reveals his grace.

**5TH COMMANDMENT:  
LIFE IS A GIFT FROM GOD!**

*Genesis 4:1-12*