

## 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)).*

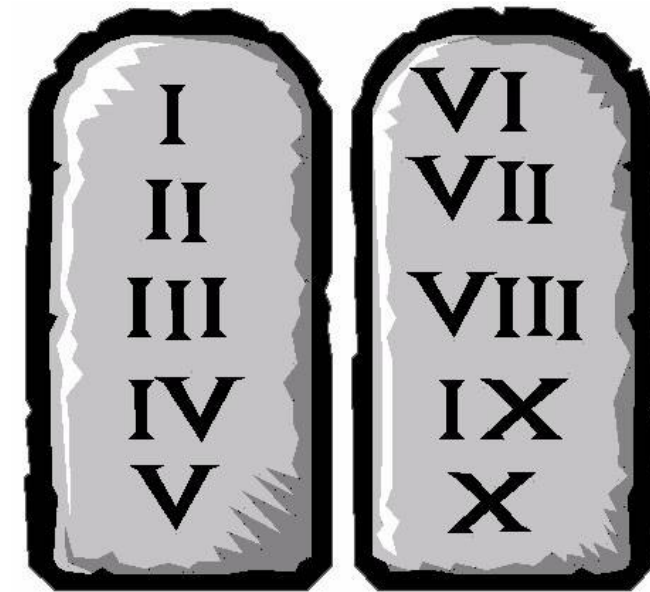
*As congregation of this synod we are striving to be a family where God is glorified and his saving message is shared with all people.*

*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: #9 & 10



Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

**AUGUST 31, 2008**



**TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)  
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**GOD'S TOP TEN:  
DON'T COVET!**

**Good morning!** How easy it is to set our hearts on things not ours and begin to plot sinful ways to obtain them. We pray for a spirit of contentment and power to overcome the powerful temptations to covet what is not ours. God bless our worship of him this morning!

**Opening Hymn**..... "The Heart of Worship"  
*Tree of Life Song Book*

**Verse 1**  
When the music fades,  
all is stripped away,  
and I simply come;  
longing just to bring  
something that's of worth  
that will bless Your heart.

**BRIDGE**  
I'll bring You more than a song,  
for a song in itself  
is not what You have required.  
You search much deeper within  
through the way things appear  
You're looking into my heart.

**Chorus**  
I'm coming back  
to the heart of worship,  
and it's all about You,  
all about You, Jesus.  
I'm sorry, Lord,  
for the thing I've made it,  
when it's all about You,  
all about You, Jesus.

**Verse 2**  
King of endless worth,  
no one could express  
how much You deserve.  
Though I'm weak and poor,  
all I have is Yours,  
ev'ry single breath.

**Closing Hymn** ..... "You Are My All in All"  
*Tree of Life Song Book*

**Verse 1**  
You are my strength When I am weak  
You are the treasure that I seek  
You are my all in all  
Seeking You as a precious jew'l  
Lord to give up I'd be a fool  
You are my all in all

**Verse 2**  
Taking my sin  
My cross my shame  
Rising again I bless Your name  
You are my all in all  
When I fall down You pick me up  
When I am dry You fill my cup  
You are my all in all

**Chorus**  
Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your  
name  
Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your  
name

**Chorus** (*Congregation sings twice*)  
Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your  
name  
Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your  
name

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

**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.

**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:** *(spoken)* Amen.

**BRIDGE**

I'll bring You more than a song,  
for a song in itself  
is not what You have required.  
You search much deeper within  
through the way things appear  
You're looking into my heart.

**Chorus**

I'm coming back  
to the heart of worship,  
and it's all about You,  
all about You, Jesus.  
I'm sorry, Lord,  
for the thing I've made it,  
when it's all about You,  
all about You, Jesus.

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**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 been content with the countless blessings that you shower upon us every day. We often desire what we cannot or should not have and scheme to get it by ungodly means. 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 10, 11 & 12* *Christian Worship Hymn 285*

“You shall not crave your neighbor's house  
Nor covet money, goods, or spouse.  
Pray God he would your neighbor bless  
As you yourself wish success.” 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.**

### 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.*

### Offering ..... “You Are My King”

*Sung by the Praise Band during the offering. Congregation may join in as comfortable.*

#### Verse

I'm forgiven  
Because You were  
forsaken  
I'm accepted  
You were condemned  
I'm alive and well  
Your Spirit is within me  
Because You died  
And rose again

#### Repeat Verse

**Chorus 1**  
Amazing love  
How can it be  
That You my King  
Would die for me  
Amazing love  
I know it's true  
It's my joy to honor You

#### Verse

I'm forgiven  
Because You were  
forsaken  
I'm accepted  
You were condemned  
I'm alive and well  
Your Spirit is within me  
Because You died  
And rose again

#### Chorus 2

Amazing love  
How can it be  
That You my King  
Would die for me  
Amazing love  
I know it's true  
In all I do I honor You

#### Bridge

You are my King  
You are my King  
Jesus You are my King  
Jesus You are my King

#### Chorus 1

Amazing love  
How can it be  
That You my King  
Would die for me  
Amazing love  
I know it's true  
It's my joy to honor You

#### Chorus 2

Amazing love  
How can it be  
That You my King  
Would die for me  
Amazing love  
I know it's true  
In all I do I honor You

**Statement of Belief** THE 9TH & 10TH COMMANDMENTS w/“What does this mean?”

THE NINTH COMMANDMENT

**C: You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.**

M: What does this mean?

**C: We should fear and love God that we do not scheme to get our neighbor’s inheritance or house, or obtain it by a show of right, but do all we can to help him keep it.**

THE TENTH COMMANDMENT

**C: You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, workers, animals, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

M: What does this mean?

**C: We should fear and love God that we do not force or entice away our neighbor’s spouse, workers, or animals, but urge them to stay and do their duty.**

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*

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

**Song of Praise** ..... “Lord Most High”

Don Harris/Gary Sadler; © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Verse

From the ends of the earth (*ECHO*)

From the depths of the sea (*ECHO*)

From the heights of the heavens (*ECHO*)

Your name be praised

From the hearts of the weak (*ECHO*)

From the shouts of the strong (*ECHO*)

From the lips of all people (*ECHO*)

This song we raise Lord

Chorus

Throughout the endless ages

You will be crowned with praises

Lord Most High

Exalted in every nation

Sovereign of all creation

Lord Most High be magnified

Verse

Chorus (*sing twice*)

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Lord, we know how easy it is for Satan to create doubt in our hearts that lead us to want things that are not ours and scheme to get them. Lead us to repent of our covetous hearts and let us gain your heart that is content with what we have. We pray this in the name of Jesus, our Savior,

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

*BE SEATED*

**FIRST LESSON**

**ROMANS 7:7-12; 21-25**

*“The law brings to light sin. Jesus gives victory in the struggle to overcome sin.”*

7 What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet." 8 But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of covetous desire. For apart from law, sin is dead. 9 Once I was alive apart from law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. 10 I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death.

*Continued on next page*

11 For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death. 12 So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

21 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

“Sing Out, Earth and Skies” ..... *Blue Insert*

**Verse 1**

*Pastor:* Come, O God of all the earth:

*Band:* come to us, O Righteous One;

*Pastor:* come, and bring our love to birth:

*Band:* in the glory of your Son.

**Verse 2**

*Pastor:* Come, O God of wind and flame:

*Band:* fill the earth with righteousness;

*Pastor:* teach us all to sing your name:

*Band:* may our lives your love confess.

**Refrain: Congregation**

**Refrain: Congregation**

Sing out, earth and skies!

Sing of the God who loves you!

Raise your joyful cries!

Dance to the life around you!

**Verse 5**

*Pastor:* Come, O Justice, come, O Peace:

*Band:* come and shape our hearts anew;

*Pastor:* come and make oppression cease:

*Band:* bring us all to life in you.

**Refrain: Congregation (sing twice)**

**SECOND LESSON**

**MATTHEW 5:17-20**

*“Jesus came to perfectly fulfill ALL the law!”*

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by

any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. 19 Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Hymn** ..... “Knowing You”  
*Tree of Life Song Book*

**Verse 1**

All I once held dear, built my life upon,  
all this world reveres and wars to own.  
All I once thought gain I have counted  
loss,  
spent and worthless now compared to  
this.

**Chorus**

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You,  
there is no greater thing.  
You're my all, You're the best,  
You're my joy, my righteousness,  
And I love You, Lord.

**Chorus**

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You,  
there is no greater thing.  
You're my all, You're the best,  
You're my joy, my righteousness,  
And I love You, Lord.

**Verse 3**

Oh, to know the pow'r of Your risen life  
and to know You in Your sufferings.  
To become like You in Your death, my  
Lord,  
so with You to live and never die.

**Verse 2**

Now my heart's desire is to know You  
more,  
to be found in You, and known as  
Yours.  
To possess by faith what I could not earn,  
all surpassing gift of righteousness.

**Final Chorus**

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You,  
there is no greater thing.  
You're my all, You're the best,  
You're my joy, my righteousness,  
And I love You, Lord.  
Love You, Lord.

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**9TH & 10TH COMMANDMENTS:  
BE CONTENT WHEN THE ANSWER IS “NO!”**

1 Kings 21:1-16

*Vicar Steve Neuman*