

STAND

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.

BLESSING

M: May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

(1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

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: *(sung)* Amen. Amen. Amen.

Closing Hymn "We Will Stand"
Lyrics on Blue Insert Chris Driesbach



HEALING miracle SEED HEARING
SPIRIT doing grace
refresh community GROWING

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

OCTOBER 12, 2008



TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**THE GOSPEL HAS THE POWER TO...
GIVE FOCUS TO LIFE!**

Good morning! This morning we start a new series entitled, "The Gospel has the power to..." Sometimes we take the sweet message that our sins are forgiven in Jesus and heaven is ours for granted. We touch on it on Sunday mornings and inadvertently forget it the rest of the week. Over the next weeks we pray that once again you will marvel at the power that the Gospel message has in your life personally! This morning we will see how it gives true focus to life! May God bless our time of worship this morning.

Opening Song..... "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah"
Lyrics on Blue Insert Chris Driesbach

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all!

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

M: As we gather this morning to hear the Gospel message, we first pause to confess our sins. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Romans, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes." (Romans 1:16) As we hear these words, we must confess that we at times have been ashamed of the Gospel's power and lived as if it has no influence in our lives.

STAND

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.

BE SEATED

Friendship Registers

Offering

Sung during the offering "In My Father's House" Chris Driesbach

Song “Be Thou My Vision”
Tree of Life Song Book

Verse 1
Be Thou my Vision,
 O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
 save that Thou art-
Thou my best thought,
 by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping
 thy presence my light.

Verse 2
Be Thou my Wisdom,
 And Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee
 and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father,
 I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling,
 and I with Thee .one

Verse 3
Riches I heed not,
 nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance,
 now and always;
Thou and Thou only,
 first in my heart,
High King of heaven,
 my treasure Thou art.

Verse 4
High King of heaven,
 my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys,
 bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart,
 whatever befall,
Still be my Vision,
 O Ruler of all.

**THE GOSPEL HAS THE POWER
TO... GIVE FOCUS TO LIFE!**

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5a
Vicar Steve Neuman

C: Almighty, merciful God, we confess to you that we have sinned against you by our thoughts, words and actions. Our thoughts have justified our sin and convinced us that we aren't as bad as we really are. Forgive us. Our words haven't always given clear testimony to our faith in you. Forgive us. Our actions have often indicated that we are more interested in serving self rather than serving our Savior. Forgive us.

Silence for personal confession

M: The heart of the Gospel is the reality that “God so loved the world so that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” The reality of the Gospel is that “God is faithful and just” and as we confess our sins, “he will forgive us from all our unrighteousness.” Unashamedly, as a called servant of Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the powerful name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

M: We rejoice in the reality of God's forgiveness.

“Glory, Glory, Hallelujah” (CHORUS) *Chris Driesbach & Congregation*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord, keep your household, the Church, in continual godliness and set us free from all adversities that, under your protection, we may serve you with true devotion and holy deeds; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (spoken) AMEN.

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON
ISAIAH 45:1-7

“The Lord’s grace produced a deliverance for his people.”

1 "This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:

2 I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron.

3 I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

4 For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge me.

5 I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me,

6 so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other.

7 I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

PSALM OF THE DAY

PSALM 73 *Christian Worship* page 94

Refrain: *Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.*

*I am always with you, O Lord:**
you hold me by my right hand.

*You guide me with your counsel,**
and afterward you will take me into glory.

*Whom have I in heav`en but you?**
And earth has nothing I desire be`sides you.

*My flesh and my heart may fail,**
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion for`ever.

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

SECOND LESSON
MATTHEW 22:15-21

“When challenged, Jesus gives the proper focus - always God first.”

15Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. 16They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are. 17Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

18But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? 19Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, 20and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?" 21"Caesar's," they replied.

Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."