

Welcome to Tree of Life!

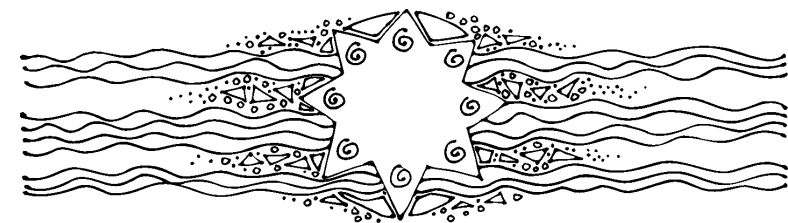
The members of Tree of Life extend to you a hearty welcome! We are a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS: www.wels.net).

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.



Second Sunday After The Epiphany

JANUARY 25, 2009



TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
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“CALLED TO LISTEN!”

Good morning!

At times we ourselves feel “called” or hear people speak of a “calling from the LORD.” How do we know if we are “called” and to what we are “called?” Over the next weeks we will see Jesus call us to discipleship as he reveals his glorious attributes and speaks his glorious Word. God bless your worship of him today!

M: As we gather to worship in your name, Lord, we ask that you would remove the distractions of this day and focus our heart on you. Cause your Word to sink deeply into our souls that our faith might grow and our hope of eternal life through Jesus be strengthened. Be with us Almighty Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as we gather here to worship.

Opening Song..... “Here I am to Worship”
Tim Hughes; CCLI License #1483936

Verse 1
Light of the World, You stepped down into
darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus
So here I am to worship,
here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you’re my God.
You’re altogether lovely,
altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me.

Verse 2
King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth You
created,
All for love’s sake became poor.

Chorus
Bridge (*sing twice*)
And I’ll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.

Chorus

Closing Hymn “Go My Children, with My Blessing”
Verse 4 *Tree of Life Song Book*

I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace.
I the Lord will smile upon you and give you peace.
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter and Brother.
Go, My children, I will keep you and give you peace.

“You Are Mine” *Text and music: David Haas*
Verses 1, 2 & 4 *Blue Insert*

Verse 1

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

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.”

Chorus

“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 all to freedom,
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk and live!”

Chorus

“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.”

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: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We marvel at the love you have for us that you would call us your children and we might call you our God. As we take an honest look into our hearts, we must pray, “Create in Me a Clean Heart.”

“Create in Me a Clean Heart” *Tree of Life Song Book*

C: *(sung)*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve You,
Create in me a clean heart, O God, that I might be renewed.
So fill me and heal me, and bring me back to You.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, the I might serve You.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve You,
Create in me a clean heart, O God, that I might be renewed.

C: Holy and most merciful God, we humbly come to you seeking your mercy and forgiveness. All too often, we fail to stop and listen to the Word you have given to us. We like to listen at times to the media, our friends, and the words of the web much more faithfully and with more confidence. The background noise of life can crowd out our quiet times with the Lord in his Word. We ask for your forgiveness and desire your strength to amend our lives where needed and to always walk with you.

C: *(sung)*

So fill me and heal me, and bring me back to You.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, the I might serve You.

Song of Praise “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”
Chris Tomlin, Edwin Otbello Excel, John Newton, John P. Rees; Louie Giglio
 CCLI License #1483936

Verse 1

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
 That saved a wretch like me.
 I once was lost, but now am found,
 Was blind but now I see.

Chorus

My chains are gone. I've been set free,
 My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
 And like a flood, His mercy reigns
 Unending love, amazing grace.

Verse 2

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 And grace my fears relieved.
 How precious did that grace appear,
 The hour I first believed.

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me,
 His word my hope secures.
 He will my shield and portion be,
 As long as life endures.

Chorus *(sing twice)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ’s glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* AMEN.

FIRST LESSON

2 THESSALONIANS 2: 13-17

“The call of the Gospel is the call that brings us to faith and following the LORD.”

13But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. 14He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

16May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, 17encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

Verse 2: Praise Band

*Oh what I would do to have the kind of strength it takes to stand before a giant
 With just a sling and a stone.*

*Surrounded by the sound of a thousand warriors, shaking in their armor
 Wishing they'd have had the strength to stand
 But the giant's calling out my name and he laughs at me
 Reminding me of all the times I've tried before and failed
 The giant keeps on telling me time and time again
 “Boy, you'll never win. You'll never win”*

Chorus: Congregation & Praise Band

Bridge: Praise Band

*But the stone was just the right size to put the giant on the ground
 And the waves they don't seem so high from on top of them looking down
 I will soar with the wings of eagles when I stop and listen to the sound
 Of Jesus singing over me*

Chorus: Congregation & Praise Band *(sing twice)*

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.

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.

Offering

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.

Praise Band & Congregation: “Voice of Truth” *(words printed below)*

“Voice of Truth” Congregation joins on Chorus
Mark Hall and Steven Curtis Chapman

Verse 1: Praise Band

*Oh, what I would do to have the kind of faith it takes to climb out of this boat I'm in,
Onto the crashing waves,
To step out of my comfort zone, into the realm of the unknown where Jesus is.
And he's holding out His hand.
But the waves are calling out my name and they laugh at me,
Reminding me of all the times I've tried before and failed.
The waves, they keep on telling me, time and time again,
“Boy, you'll never win. You'll never win.”*

Chorus: Congregation & Praise Band

**But the voice of truth tells me a different story
The voice of truth says do not be afraid
And the voice of truth says this is for My glory
Out of all the voices calling out to me
He calls me to listen
And believe the voice of truth.**

PSALM OF THE DAY

“Ancient Words” Lynn DeShazo
CCLI License #1483936

Verse 1

Holy Words long preserved
For our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart.
O let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope
Give us strength, help us cope.
In this world where e're we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

Verse 2

Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice.
O heed the faithful words of Christ
Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart.
O let the ancient words impart.

Chorus

Ancient words, ever true
Changing me and changing you.
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.

Chorus *(sing twice)*

SECOND LESSON

JOHN 1:43-51

“Skeptical at first, Jesus' call compels Philip and Nathanael to follow.”

43The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."
44Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."
46"Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip.
47When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false."
48"How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." *Continued on next page*

49Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel."

50Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that." 51He then added, "I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

Hymn "Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening"
Christian Worship Hymn 283

Speak, O Savior; I am list'ning, As a servant to his lord. Let me show respect and honor To your holy, precious Word, That each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you. Let your Word e'er be my pleasure And my heart's most precious treasure.	Lord, your words are waters living Where I quench my thirsty needs. Lord, your words are bread life-giving; On your words my spirit feeds. Lord, your words will be my light Through death's cold and dreary night; Yes, they are my sword prevailing And my cup of joy unfailing.
Oh, what blessing to be near you And to listen to your voice! Let me ever love and fear you; Let your Word still be my choice. Many hardened sinners, Lord, Flee in terror at your Word, But to all who feel sin's burden You give peace and words of pardon.	As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let your words in me take root. May your Spirit e'er be near me That I bear abundant fruit. May I daily sing your praise, From my heart glad anthems raise, Till my highest praise is given In the endless joy of heaven.

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*Setting: c 1993 Alfred Bloedel

"CALLED TO LISTEN!"

1 Samuel 3:1-10
Pastor Mike Geiger

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Neil Yentsch
by Adult Confirmation

Mandy Noth
by transfer from St. Paul's in Bangor, WI.

Ken and Jennifer Brunetti and children Ryan, Chris, and Alicia
by transfer from St. Paul's in Amberst, NH.

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