

## 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.*



Third Sunday In Lent

**MARCH 15, 2009**



**TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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**PERKS OF THE PASSION:  
WE HAVE ALL WE NEED!**

**Good morning!**

Do you find it easy these days to find yourself worrying a bit about the future of your job, your household, and your country? How easy it is to begin to be overly concerned about our physical well being. Today we are reminded that the one who gave himself for us in his passion will also provide all we need for this life as well. May God bless our time of worship this morning.

**Opening Song**..... "Praise The One Who Breaks The Darkness"  
*Christian Worship Hymn 353*

Praise the one who breaks the darkness With a liberating light; Praise the one who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight. Praise the one who preached the gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease, Calming storms and feeding thousands With the Father's word of peace.	Let us praise the Word incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place; Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done; Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the one who makes us one.
Praise the one who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word; Praise the one who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand; From this well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.	

**Closing Hymn** ..... "Ready, Lord"  
*Tree of Life Song Book*

**Verse 1**

Ready, Lord, I'm ready Lord,  
to follow where You lead;  
Oh, show me, Lord, just show me,  
Lord,  
the service You will need.  
Ready, Lord, I'm ready, Lord,  
I'm ready, come what may,  
So call me, Lord, just call me, Lord,  
and I'll be on Your way.

**Verse 2**

Feed Your lambs, I'll feed Your lambs,  
and first of all with food.  
Give them drink and comfort them  
and build their fortitude  
Then I'll feed them with the Word  
You fed me with until  
They're ready Lord, so ready Lord  
to go and do Your will.

**Verse 3**

More than words, yes, more than words  
I know You want from me;  
Moving, Lord, I'm moving, Lord,  
I'm moving eagerly.  
Take my heart and take my hands,  
my feet, my life, my all;  
I'm ready, Lord, so ready, Lord,  
to follow till I fall.

**Verse 4**

If today's my final day,  
my final day on earth,  
Thank you, Lord, oh, thank you, Lord,  
for life, for breath, for birth.  
If this town is gonna be  
my final resting place,  
I'm ready, Lord, yes, ready, Lord,  
to meet You face-to-face.

**Verse 5**

Feed your lambs, I'll feed your lambs  
your words of truth alone;  
Fill their hearts with saving faith  
and claim them as your own.  
Let me feed them with the Word  
you fed me with until  
They're ready, Lord, so ready, Lord,  
to go and do your will.

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

**C: (spoken) and his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give you 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: (spoken) AMEN**

### BLESSING

*Christian Worship page 44*

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

### CONFESSION OF SINS

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

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

M: God invites us during this season of Lent to come before him with repentant hearts seeking his forgiveness and his strength to turn from sin and amend our lives. As we stand at the foot of the cross and gaze at our Savior suffering for us, let us confess our sins to him.

**C: Dear Lord Jesus, it is for our sake that you suffered under the hands of the rulers and the soldiers. It is for our sake that you allowed them to nail you to the cross even though you could have walked away. It is for our sake that God the Father laid on you the iniquity of us all. It is with repentant hearts that we fall before your cross pleading, "Lord have mercy on us sinners." It is with humble hearts that we ask you to hear us as we confess to you.**

*Silence for personal confession.*

M: The thief on the cross asked Jesus to remember him when he came into heaven. Jesus did. The soldiers and religious leaders sinned unknowingly against Jesus, yet Jesus said, "Father forgive them." It is the same mercy and grace that Jesus now gives to you. For sins, known or unknown, he speaks to you, "You are forgiven." For comfort and certainty that your sins no longer separate you from God he says, "You will be with me in paradise." Receive this promise of forgiveness with a heart of faith in the name of the Father, and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: (spoken) AMEN**

M: With hearts cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ, let us respond with joyful praise!

**Song of Praise** ..... “The Love of Christ, Who Died for Me”  
*Christian Worship Supplement Hymn 749*

The love of Christ, who died for me Is more than mind can know,  
His mercy measureless and free To meet the debt I owe.  
He came my sinful cause to plead, He laid his glories by,  
For me a homeless life to lead, A shameful death to die.

My sins I only see in part, My self-regarding ways;  
The secret places of my heart Lie bare before his gaze.  
For me the price of sin he paid; My sins beyond recall  
Are all alike on Jesus laid, he died to bear them all.

O living Lord of life, for whom The heavens held their breath,  
To see, triumphant from the tomb, A love that conquers death,  
Possess my heart that it may be Your kingdom without end,  
O Christ who died for love of me And lives to be my friend.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants,  
who come to you in Jesus’ name. Teach us always to ask according to your  
will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; 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**  
**2 KINGS 4:42-44**

*“Elisha gives evidence of the Lord’s ability to provide for the needs of his people.”*

<sup>42</sup> A man came from Baal Shalishah, bringing the man of God twenty loaves of  
barley bread baked from the first ripe grain, along with some heads of new grain.  
"Give it to the people to eat," Elisha said.

<sup>43</sup> "How can I set this before a hundred men?" his servant asked.

But Elisha answered, "Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the LORD  
says: 'They will eat and have some left over.'" <sup>44</sup> Then he set it before them, and  
they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the LORD.

**C: "Holy, Holy, Holy"** ..... *Tree of Life Song Book*

“Holy, holy, holy,” angel host are singing.  
“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord our God  
Holy, holy, holy is God, the Lord of might.  
Your glory fills the heavens; your glory fills the earth.”  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna is our song.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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

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

**C: "Lamb of God"** ..... *Tree of Life Song Book*

**Verse 1**

Your only Son no sin to hide,  
But you have sent him from your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod  
And to become the Lamb of God

**Refrain**

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,  
I love the holy Lamb of God.  
Oh, wash me in his precious blood,  
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

**Verse 2**

Your gift of live they crucified;  
They laughed and scorned him as he  
died;  
The humble King they named a fraud  
And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

**Refrain**

**Verse 3**

I was so lost I should have died,  
But you have brought me to your side  
To be led by your staff and rod  
And to be called a Lamb of God.

**Refrain**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**C: "Give Thanks"** ..... *Tree of Life Song Book*

**Verse 1**

Give thanks with a grateful heart;  
Give thanks to the Holy One.  
Give thanks because he’s given Jesus  
Christ, his Son. *(Repeat)*

**Verse 2**

And now let the weak say “I am  
strong,”  
let the poor say “I am rich”  
because of what the Lord has done  
for us. *(Repeat)*

**Final Ending:** Give Thanks

## 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.

## THE SACRAMENT

### The Celebration of Holy Communion



*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: (spoken) And also with you**

M: Lift up your hearts

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

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

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

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## PSALM OF THE DAY

**PSALM 19** ..... *Christian Worship* page 70

**Refrain:** *Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.*

*The heavens declare the glory of God,\*  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.*

*Their voice goes out into all the earth,\*  
their words to the ends of the world.*

### Refrain

*The law of the Lord is perfect,\*  
giving joy to the heart.*

*The commands of the Lord are radiant,\*  
giving light to the eyes.*

*They are more precious than gold,\*  
they are sweeter than honey.*

*By them is your servant taught,\*  
in keeping them there is great reward.*

### Refrain

*May the words of my mouth and the mediation  
of my heart\*  
be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my  
Redeemer.*

***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 2 CORINTHIANS 9:8-11

*"God has been generous in giving us his son and all we need so we in turn might be generous to others." ."*

<sup>8</sup>And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written:

"He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

<sup>10</sup>Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

<sup>11</sup>You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

**Hymn** ..... “What God Ordains Is Always Good”  
*Christian Worship Hymn 429*

What God ordains is always good;  
His will is just and holy.  
As he directs my life for me,  
I follow meek and lowly.  
My God indeed  
In ev'ry need  
Knows well how he will shield me;  
To him, then, I will yield me.

What God ordains is always good.  
Though I the cup am drinking  
Which savors now of bitterness,  
I take it without shrinking.  
For after grief  
God grants relief,  
My heart with comfort filling  
And all my sorrow stilling.

What God ordains is always good;  
He never will deceive me.  
He leads me in his righteous way  
And never will he leave me.  
I take content  
What he has sent;  
His hand that sends me sadness  
Will turn my tears to gladness.

What God ordains is always good;  
This truth remains unshaken.  
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,  
I shall not be forsaken.  
I fear no harm,  
For with his arm  
He will embrace and shield me;  
So to my God I yield me.

What God ordains is always good;  
He is my friend and Father.  
He will not let me suffer harm  
Though many storms may gather.  
Now I may know  
Both joy and woe;  
Some day I shall see clearly  
That he has loved me dearly.

**KID'S CHURCH**

Jesus Notices a Widow Giving  
*Children ages 3 years to 2nd grade*

**LORD, WHAT YOU ASK IS IMPOSSIBLE!**

John 6:1-15  
*Rev. David Kehl*

**Statement of Belief** ..... Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*BE SEATED*

**Friendship Registers**

**Offering**

**Prayer of the Church**