

LWML Sunday

Seventeen Sunday after Pentecost

September 30-October 1, 2017

2017 marks two significant anniversaries: the 500th anniversary of Luther's posting of the 95 *Theses* and the 75th anniversary of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Confessing the faith has not gotten any easier since these two events occurred. In fact, it may be more difficult to speak and to live as Christians now – and the future may even more challenging. Yet God is faithful and has promised that His church will survive all the trials that the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh can throw at us. Building on God's promises, we know that this is our time to be distinctly Lutheran. Since 1942, the LWML has affirmed each woman's identity as a child of God and her relationship with Jesus Christ, encouraged and equipped Christian women to live out their lives in active mission ministries, and supported missions around the world through their sacrificial gifts of mites, tithes, offerings, and tireless service. Now is our time to "Be Ready to Confess!" faithfully and boldly of Christ's redemptive work for us and for all the world.

Hymn

Christ Is Our Cornerstone

LSB 912

Stand Invocation and Confession

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy,**

innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as an ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 147:1-5; antiphon: Ps. 147:6

P The LORD lifts up the humble;
he casts the wicked to the ground.

C **Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**

P The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

C **He heals the broken- hearted
and binds up their wounds.**

P He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.

C **Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.**

C **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.**

P The LORD lifts up the humble;
he casts the wicked to the ground.

Kyrie

LSB 186

C ♪ *Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

P ♪ Glory be to God on High,

C ♪ *and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.*

*we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P ♪ *The Lord be with you.*

C ♪ *And with thy spirit.*

P ♪ *Let us pray.*

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ♪ *Amen.*

Sit Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

...

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life.

²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Ps. 91:11; 103:1

P He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

C **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**

Epistle

Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

...

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand Alleluia and Verse

P Alleluia. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria,

C and to the end of the earth. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23–27

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?”

²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say,

‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’

²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

(Sunday)

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;**

who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed (Saturday)

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence 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.

Children's Message

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

LSB 733

Sermon

"Be Ready"

Philippians 2:3-4

Stand **The Lutheran Women's Missionary League Pledge**

C In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life, to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen!

Sit **Offering**

While we worship the Lord with our offerings, please write your names in the fellowship registers, indicating the date and time of the service you are attending. To help us serve you more effectively, please use the blanks provided to indicate a change in mailing address, phone numbers (home, work, cell, fax) or e-mail address(es). Please tear out the sheets with names on them and let them stick out of the top of the folder so that the ushers can collect them. Thank you!

Stand **Offertory**

LSB 192

C *♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.*

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P For the Church, that God our Father in heaven, may look with mercy on us and grant us grace so that His name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of His Word and the fervent love of our lives, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the extension of God's kingdom, that all who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom be brought to know Jesus Christ His Son through faith, and that the number of Christians may be increased, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the women of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, that they always be ready to confess in thought, word, and deed, here in our country and throughout the world, Christ's work of redemption for all people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the leaders of these United States, for the President of our nation, our representatives and senators, and all public servants, that they may be faithful in their leadership and just in their decisions, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For vulnerable neighbors—the unborn, widows, orphans, the lonely, the poor—and all needy and suffering persons, that our gracious Lord would meet all their needs of body and soul according to His will, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick, the suffering, the grieving, and the dying, especially those whom we name in our hearts (silence for personal intercession) that they would be healed, comforted, consoled, and delivered, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P (*Sunday*) For all who eat and drink the Lord's precious body and blood, that they may receive the forgiveness of sins, strengthening of faith, life, and salvation, and be filled with the love of Christ to offer their lives in service to their neighbors near and far, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Almighty God, since You have granted us the favor to call on You with one accord and have promised that were two or three are gathered together in Your name You are in the midst of them, fulfill

now the prayers of Your servants, granting us in this world knowledge of Your truth and in the world to come life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord:

C Amen.

Saturday Worship Continues below with The Lord's Prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB 195

C ♪ *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

P 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.

C ♪ *For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.*

Saturday Worship Continues on page 11 with The Benediction.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C ♪ *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin
of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin
of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin
of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.*


Sit **Distribution Hymns**

“Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake

LSB 688

How Firm a Foundation

LSB 728

C  *Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Thanksgiving

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, since You have called Your Church to witness that in Christ You have reconciled us unto Yourself, grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may proclaim the Good News of Your salvation that all who hear may receive the gift of salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever

C Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.


A Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn

Jesus Shall Reign

Acknowledgments

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