

2017 LWML Sunday Worship

“Be Ready To Confess Jesus!”

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.

Opening Hymn

Christ Is Our Cornerstone

LSB 912, TLH 405, LW 290

Confession and Absolution

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Glory Be to God the Father

LSB 506, TLH 244, LW 173

Kyrie

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis (choose one)

All Glory Be to God on High

LSB 947, TLH 237, LW 215

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord. You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people, making us ready to confess Jesus. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading 1 Kings 8:54-61

Now as Solomon finished offering all this prayer and plea to the Lord, he arose from before the altar of the Lord, where he had knelt with hands outstretched toward heaven. And he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying, "Blessed be the Lord who has given rest to his people Israel, according to all that he promised. Not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he spoke by Moses his servant. The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers. May he not leave us or forsake us, that he may incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his rules, which he commanded our fathers. Let these words of mine, with which I have pleaded before the Lord, be near to the Lord our God day and night, and may he maintain the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel, as each day requires, that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no other. Let your heart therefore be wholly true to the Lord our God, walking in his statutes and keeping his commandments, as at this day."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody Psalm 46

P: God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**C: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

P: though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

**C: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

P: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

**C: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

P: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**C: Come, behold the works of the Lord,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

P: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

**C: "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"**

P: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**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.**

Epistle 2 Timothy 4:1-4

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Verse Acts 1:8

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 10:26-33

P: The Holy Gospel According to Saint Matthew, the tenth chapter:

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn (choose one)

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 656 or 657, TLH 262,

LW 297 or 298

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

LSB 733, TLH 123, LW 180

Sermon

Nicene Creed

**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 League Pledge

P: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

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;

P: God has entrusted to His people the task of teaching all nations. We thank Him for the 75 years He has blessed the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

P: 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.

P: That the joyous truth of the Gospel may be known in every generation;

C: 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,

P: We are mindful of the shortness of time and uncertainties of life. Preserve our faithfulness and strengthen us for service in our communities and throughout the world.

C: to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen!

The worshippers may greet one another now in the name of the Lord, saying, "The peace of the Lord be with you," as a testimony to their oneness in Christ.

Offering

Offertory

Built on the Rock

LSB 645, TLH 467, LW 291

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.

(a pause for silent reflection)

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 President of our Synod, the President of our District, and for all servants of the Church, that they may be filled with the Holy Spirit as they do the work of ministry and missions You have given them to do with excellence and faithfulness, 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: 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.

Service of the Sacrament of the Altar

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P: It is truly good, 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 the Day of Pentecost sent the Holy Spirit upon His disciples, empowering them to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

LSB 507, TLH 246, LW 168

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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 ever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

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."

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

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

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434, TLH 146, LW 208

Distribution

Distribution Hymns

How Firm a Foundation

LSB 728, TLH 427, LW 411

The Lamb

LSB 547

Come, Follow Me, Said Christ the Lord

LSB 688, TLH 421, LW 379

Post-Communion Canticle (Choose one)

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

LSB 643, LW 247

C: Thank the Lord and sing His praise. Tell everyone what He has done. Let ev'ry one who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Post-Communion Collect

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.

Benedicamus

P: Let us bless the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

P: We are ready to confess Jesus,

C: The author and perfecter of our faith.

P: Who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross,

C: Despising the shame.

P: We are ready!

C: We are ready to confess Jesus. Amen!

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.**

Closing Hymn

Jesus Shall Reign

LSB 832, TLH 511, LW 312



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Mission: To assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.