

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 strive 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)

TREE OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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www.treeoflifenc.org

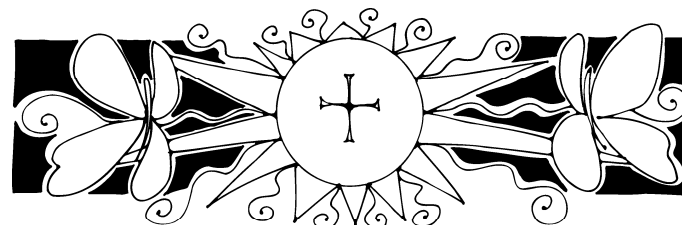
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Seventh Sunday Of Easter

Good Morning!

Welcome to worship at Tree of Life!

As we pause this weekend to remember all the men and women who have given their life to leave a legacy of freedom for us to enjoy, we also pause to reflect on the legacy of the Word that Jesus left for us. May God strengthen us today to live in line with the truth of the Word, and share this truth, even when it is not welcomed by some.

Morning Praise *Christian Worship page 45*

“Morning Praise” is based on the historic service called “Matins.” Joined to Christ, our risen Lord, we glorify God as we rise to the activities of this new day.

STAND

Opening Hymn *“Morning Hymn”
Christian Worship page 45*

Fa-ther, we praise you, now the night is o-ver,
Ac-tive and watch-ful, stand-ing now be-fore you.
Sing-ing, we of-fer prayer and med-i-ta-tion;
Thus we a-dore you.

Mon-arch of all things, fit us for your man-sions;
Ban-ish our weak-ness, health and whole-ness send-ing.
Bring us to heav-en, where your saints u-nit-ed.
Joy with-out end-ing.

All-ho-ly Fa-ther, Son, and e-qual Spir-it,
Trin-i-ty bless-ed, send us your sal-va-tion.
Yours is the glo-ry, gleam-ing and re-sound-ing
Through all cre-a-tion.

BLESSING

Christian Worship page 51

M: (♪) The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: (♪) Amen.

Closing Hymn “May the Peace of God”

Christian Worship Supplement Hymn 745

Verse 1

May the peace of God our heav’nly Father,
And the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.

Refrain

And to him be praise for his glorious reign
From the depths of earth
to the heights of heav’n.
We declare the name
of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings.

Verse 2

May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of his Communion
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

Refrain

And to him be praise for his glorious reign
From the depths of earth
to the heights of heav’n.
We declare the name
of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings.

CALL TO WORSHIP

M: (♪) O Lord, open my lips.

C: (♪) **And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

M: (♪) Hasten to save me, O God.

C: (♪) **O Lord, Come quickly to help me.**

M: (♪) The Lord is risen: let us worship him.

“Oh, Come, Let Us Sing To The Lord” (*Venite*).....*Christian Worship page 46-47*

Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord,
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.
Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv-ing,
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods.
The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
the heights of the hills are al-so his.
The sea is his, for he made it, and his hand formed the dry land.

Oh, come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord our mak-er.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.

BE SEATED

*NOTE: THE 8:30 AM SERVICE CONTINUES WITH THE PSALM ON PAGE 3
OF THIS WORSHIP FOLDER.*

*THE 11:00 AM SERVICE CONTINUES WITH THE RITE OF BAPTISM,
PRINTED ON THE PINK INSERT.*

STAND

“We Praise You O God” *Te Deum* *Christian Worship* page 48-49

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you, Father ev-er-last-ing.

To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heav'n-ly hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of proph-ets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the ho-ly Church ac-claims you:
Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son,
and the Holy Spirit, ad-vo-cate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glo-ry,
the eternal Son of the Fa-ther.

When you became man to set us free,
you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin.

You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev-ers.

You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa-ther.

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your peo-ple,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory ev-er-last-ing.

BE SEATED

Friendship Registers

Offering

FIRST LESSON
ACTS 7:54-60

“Stephen’s murder reminds us that the Gospel of Jesus can create a faith that can withstand the hatred of the world – that even imitates the prayer of Christ himself on the cross when faced with death.”

⁵⁴When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

⁵⁷At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

⁶⁰Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

SECOND LESSON
HEBREWS 7:11-27

“Jesus, our great High Priest, still prays on our behalf to the Father. One reason he does this is so that we may pray with boldness and confidence because we pray with him and through him.”

¹¹If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the law was given to the people), why was there still need for another priest to come—one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron? ¹²For when there is a change of the priesthood, there must also be a change of the law. ¹³He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar. ¹⁴For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. ¹⁵And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, ¹⁶one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

¹⁸The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless ¹⁹(for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God.

Continued on next page

²⁰And it was not without an oath! Others became priests without any oath, ²¹but he became a priest with an oath when God said to him: "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever.' " ²²Because of this oath, Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

²³Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; ²⁴but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

²⁶Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.

M: The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Death has been swallowed up in victory. Alleluia!

Hymn “Thy Strong Word”
Christian Worship Hymn 280

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank thee
While thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of thy salvation,
Breathed thine own life-giving breath.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hope confess.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia without end!

From the cross thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Give us lips to sing thy glory,
Tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats to shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia! May the light which thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

God the Father, light-creator,
To thee laud and honor be.
To thee, Light from Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

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KID'S CHURCH

Families Together

JESUS LEAVES US HIS WORD!

John 17:11-18
Vicar Steve Neuman