



3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 25, 2017

The 487th Anniversary of the Augsburg Confession



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WELCOME

God welcomes you no matter who you are – and so do we. Thank you for joining us in God’s house today. Whether you are a first-time guest, a friend or relative of a member, or a curious observer from a different religious background, we are delighted to be with you in worship.

A NOTE ABOUT WORSHIP

We believe that Jesus is the Savior of all. By his life, death, and resurrection Jesus saves all sinners simply because he loves us. That is called the gospel, and it’s the good news on every page of God’s Word. Therefore, the Bible is not just information about God or rules from God, but the saving power God uses to create and strengthen faith in our hearts and restore our lives. Lutheran worship places this good news at the center of the worship service with an order called *liturgy*. In both the Word and sacrament (Means of Grace), in specifically selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted and often ancient songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news of Jesus from start to finish.

Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out entirely. If a song is not found in this service folder, it can be found in the red hymnal located in front of you. Parts marked **L** are spoken or sung by the worship leader, and the parts marked **C** and printed in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

- **Quiet Bags** are for any parents with small children. They are on a stand in the back of church.
- **Weekly News & Notes** are printed in the back of this worship folder.
- **Restrooms** are to the left as you walk out the back of church or in the basement.
- **Website:** oursaviourwels.org

OUR CHURCH BODY

Our Saviour’s proclaims the truth about Jesus throughout the world as a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (wels.net). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod, as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).



LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

The Augsburg Confession is one of the Lutheran Confessions contained in the Book of Concord of 1580. This collection of statements is a faithful exposition of the Holy Scriptures, and includes the following:

- The Apostles', Nicene and Athanasian Creeds
- The Augsburg Confession (1530)
- The Apology (“Defense”) of the Augsburg Confession (1531)
- The Smalcald Articles (1537)
- The Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope (1537)
- The Small Catechism (1529)
- The Large Catechism (1529)
- The Formula of Concord (1577)

All members of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod [WELS]—congregations, pastors, teachers, and other rostered church workers—subscribe to and acknowledge the unaltered Augsburg Confession, as well as the other confessions in the Book of Concord, “to be a true exposition of the Word of God,” and “a correct presentation of the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.” Thus, the Lutheran Confessions declare before all the world what we believe, teach, and confess to be the true and universal teachings of the Christian Church found in Scripture.

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

The Augsburg Confession is the chief confession of the Lutheran Church. With the Apology, its longer explanation, it is the first Lutheran confession written and adopted as a testimony against the abuses that had crept into the teaching and practice of the church before the Reformation, and against the errors of the radical reformers such as Zwingli (and later Calvin) and the Anabaptists.

The Augsburg Confession was presented to Emperor Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire on Saturday, June 25, 1530, in Augsburg, Germany. The emperor had gathered church and government representatives to consider the Lutheran movement and its impact. In the Bishop’s Palace, where Charles V was lodged, the Confession was read in German by Chancellor Dr. Christian Beyer. This fearless Lutheran layman read the Augsburg Confession so distinctly and loudly that also those who were gathered outside could understand every word. The German princes around them stood up to indicate their support for the Confession. When Dr. Beyer finished reading, Dr. Bruck took the German copy of the Confession from him, handed both copies to the emperor, and said, “Most gracious Emperor, this is a Confession that will even prevail against the gates of hell, with the grace and help of God.” Thus was the Augsburg Confession presented as a unique Confession of the truth of God’s holy Word, distinct from Romanism on the one hand, and Reformed, Anabaptists, and radicals on the other. June 25, 1530, is a date every bit as important for Lutherans as is the more familiar date of October 31, 1517, the day on which Luther posted his Ninety-five Theses.

WHAT THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION TEACHES

The Augsburg Confession consists of 28 articles, of which some are short, while others are long. Of these, Articles 1–21 present the Lutheran doctrine. Articles 22–28 deal with the medieval abuses which the Lutherans had corrected. The Augsburg Confession considered only the most important matters that were in dispute at that time. Its tone is friendly and conciliatory because at that time some Lutherans still believed that those who opposed the Reformation might be won for the truth of the Gospel, if only they would hear it clearly stated. The Augsburg Confession stresses the doctrine of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ as the center of the Christian Faith. It gathers around this basic teaching of the Bible all other doctrines of the Christian Faith. In this respect, the Augsburg Confession is unique among Christian Confessions. It proclaims Christ, who died for us and rose again and who alone is the Savior of all men.

WORSHIP SERIES



June 11 -	The Festival of the Holy Trinity	July 30 -	Christian Home
June 18 -	Sin & Grace	August 6 -	Christian Life in Society
June 25 -	Faith & Works	August 13 -	The Church & your church
July 2 -	God's Word	August 20 -	Stewardship (Pastor Juergens)
July 9 -	The Sacraments	August 27 -	Evangelism
July 16 -	Creation & Preservation	September 3 -	Prayer (Pastor Wolfe)
July 23 -	Eschatology		

What is Martin Luther's legacy? He didn't set out to change the way people viewed authority, education, science, or religion. He simply used the truth of God's Word. If anyone, no matter how powerful, tried to silence the voice of God, then Luther was ready to stand on the foundation of Jesus at all costs. That is the Lutheran legacy. When we say we are Lutheran, we aren't saying that we are disciples of Martin Luther or that we love standing up to authorities. Being Lutheran means we are built on the solid rock of Christ no matter what. If it's not popular, if it's not logical, and if it's not easy, it doesn't matter. As we study the Word, this Lutheran legacy of clear biblical truth is evident. This week, we see how God's grace is made ours and what it makes us do. God's gift of faith makes Christ's victory ours. When you have this new life in Christ, it changes your perspective and priorities. We work for God not to earn anything from him, but to show our thanks for the free gifts of grace and faith he has given us for a life in heaven.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

<i>Presiding & Preaching</i>	<i>Pastor Tom Moldenhauer</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>Jim Fors</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Bill Rambough, Joel Moos, Don Martin, Durant Schiermeister</i>
	<i>Lee Roy Binder- Elder</i>

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious Father, we don't have the power or ability to come to you. In love, you come to us with your gift of faith that fills us with hope and peace as we serve you. Keep our faith strong in the Lord Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



Order of Service

Our service includes portions of the Augsburg Confession. These statements clearly summarize and explain the truth of the Bible. This Biblical truth has built and sustained our Lutheran legacy for the past 500 years.

Article IX:
Of Baptism, p. 1-2

PASTOR'S WELCOME

WELS CONNECTION

OPENING HYMN

Rock of Ages | # 389

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Reading 1: Concerning Baptism, they teach that it is necessary for salvation, that the grace of God is offered through Baptism, and that children should be baptized. They are received into the grace of God when they are offered to God through Baptism.

L In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Article II:
Of Original Sin,
p. 1-3

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Reading 2: They teach that since the fall of Adam all human beings who are propagated according to nature are born with sin, that is, without fear of God, without trust in God, and with concupiscence [the inclination to sin]. And they teach that this disease or original fault is truly sin, which even now damns and brings eternal death to those who are not born again through Baptism and the Holy Spirit.

Article XXV:
Of Confession,
p. 1-5

Reading 3: Confession has not been abolished in our churches. For it is not customary to administer the body of Christ except to those who have been previously examined and absolved. The people are also most diligently taught concerning faith in the word of absolution, about which there was a great silence before now. People are taught to make the most of absolution because it is the voice of God and is pronounced following the command of God. The power of the keys is praised and remembered for bringing such great consolation to terrified consciences, both because God requires faith so that we believe such absolution as God's own voice resounding from heaven and because this faith truly obtains and receives the forgiveness of sins.

Reading 4: Now, properly speaking, repentance consists of two parts: one is contrition or the terrors that strike the conscience when sin is recognized; the other is faith, which is brought to life by the gospel or absolution. This faith believes that sins are forgiven on account of Christ, consoles the conscience, and liberates it from terrors. Thereupon good works, which are the fruit of repentance, should follow.

Art. XII:
Of Repentance,
p. 3-6

L I now ask you before God: do you heartily repent of your sins, believe in Jesus Christ for full forgiveness, and sincerely and earnestly seek, by the power the Holy Spirit, to fight against the devil and his temptations?

C Yes, and I ask God to help me.

L Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to 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.

Reading 5: They teach that human beings cannot be justified before God by their own powers, merits, or works. But they are justified as a gift on account of Christ through faith when they believe that they are received into grace and that their sins are forgiven on account of Christ, who by his death made satisfaction for our sins. God reckons this faith as righteousness.

Article IV:
Of Justification,
p. 1-3

Reading 6: They teach that this faith is bound to yield good fruits and that it ought to do good works commanded by God on account of God's will and not so that we may trust in these works to merit justification before God. For forgiveness of sins and justification are taken hold of by faith, as the saying of Christ also testifies: "When you have done all [things] . . . say, 'We are worthless slaves.'" The authors of the ancient church teach the same. For Ambrose says: "It is established by God that whoever believes in Christ shall be saved without work, by faith alone, receiving the forgiveness of sins as a gift."

Art. VI:
Of New
Obedience,
p. 1-3

L In the peace of forgiveness, we praise the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Now Thank We All Our God | # 610

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray.

Pastor says the prayer printed on page 3, after which the congregation responds:

C Amen.

Please be seated.

The Word



Art. V:
Of the Ministry,
p. 1-3

Reading 7: *So that we may obtain this faith, the ministry of teaching the gospel and administering the sacraments was instituted. For through the Word and the sacraments as through instruments the Holy Spirit is given, who effects faith where and when it pleases God in those who hear the gospel, that is to say, in those who hear that God, not on account of our own merits but on account of Christ, justifies those who believe that they are received into grace on account of Christ.*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Children are invited up front for a brief devotion with Pastor.

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

¹After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.

I am your shield, your very great reward. ”

²But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

⁴Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” ⁵He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.”

Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

⁶Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

*Abraham
trusted the
Lord’s promises.*

PSALM

Psalms 51b | pg. 87

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Luke 17:1-10

¹Jesus said to his disciples: “Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. ²It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble. ³So watch yourselves.

“If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. ⁴Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

*Faith is powerful
when it trusts
Jesus.*

⁶ He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.

⁷ “Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along now and sit down to eat?’ ⁸ Won’t he rather say, ‘Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink?’ ⁹ Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’ ”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Faith Is a Living Power from Heaven | # 404

SERMON

Ephesians 2:4-10

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

The Right Order

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

L The churches among us teach with complete unanimity that the decree of the Council of Nicea concerning the unity of the divine essence and concerning the three persons is true and is to be believed without any doubt.

C **That is to say, there is one divine essence which is called God and is God: eternal, incorporeal, indivisible, of immeasurable power, wisdom, and goodness, the creator and preserver of all things, visible and invisible. Yet, there are three persons, coeternal and of the same essence and power: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

Article I:
Of God,
p. 1-4

L Likewise, they teach that the Word, that is, the Son of God, took upon himself human nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary so that there might be two natures, divine and human, inseparably conjoined in the unity of one person, one Christ, truly God and truly a human, being “born of the Virgin Mary,” who truly “suffered, was crucified, died, and was buried” that he might reconcile the Father to us and be a sacrifice not only for original guilt but also for all actual sins of human beings.

C He also “descended into hell, and on the third day he was” truly “resurrected.” Thereafter, “he ascended into heaven” in order to “sit at the right hand of the Father,” and he will reign forever and have dominion over all creatures. He will sanctify those who believe in him by sending into their hearts the Holy Spirit, who will rule, console, and make them alive and defend them against the devil and the power of sin. The same Christ will publicly “return to judge the living and the dead .”

Art. III:
Of the Son of
God,
p. 1-6

L They also teach that at the consummation of the world Christ will appear for judgment and will bring to life all the dead. He will give eternal life and endless joy to the righteous and elect, but he will condemn the ungodly and the devils to endless torment.

Article XVII:
Of Christ’s Return
to Judgment,
p. 1-3

C Likewise, they teach that one holy church will remain forever. The church is the assembly of saints in which the gospel is taught purely and the sacraments are administered rightly. And it is enough for the true unity of the church to agree concerning the teaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments. It is not necessary that human traditions, rites, or ceremonies instituted by human beings be alike everywhere. As Paul says: “One faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.”

Art. VII:
Of the Church,
p. 1-4

Please be seated.

THANK OFFERING

1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

The members of Our Saviour’s Lutheran join together to do the Lord’s work in Bismarck and throughout the world in our church body, the WELS. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

*Please help us be a friendly church by taking a moment to fill out the **Friendship Register** located at the end of the pew.*

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Luke 11:1-4; Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Please be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

***Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* | #203**

Please stand.

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

BLESSING

L 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.

This hymn was written by Dr. Martin Luther in 1541 because of a grave and growing threat. Militant Islam was on the move. Seeking to conquer the West and force conversions, the armies of Islam conquered much of the Mediterranean world. They fought to Vienna, the gateway to Europe. A service of prayer for the safety of Christendom was held in 1541, and Luther wrote this hymn for the boy's choir. It is prayer that God preserve his people through the pure Word regardless of the evil aims of this world.

NEWS & NOTES

THIS WEEK

Today – **Worship @ 9am**
Family Bible Hour @ 10:15
Volleyball @ 6:15 & 7:15

Sunday – **Worship @ 9am (Lord's Supper)**
Family Bible Hour @ 10:15
Volleyball @ 6:15

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bible study in the book of 1 Peter continues today.

CHURCH LEAGUE VOLLEYBALL

We have two games tonight at Pioneer Park, 6:15 and 7:15. If you signed up to play, take a look at the schedule and indicate when you can play. We are gathering an order for team shirts, so sign up if you would like one.

OUR SAVIOUR'S SHIRT ORDER

If anyone would like to order an Our Saviour's shirt, there is a website set for the next week and a half. Type in this address to your browser and make your order:

<https://oursaviorslutheran.itemorder.com/>

PRAYERS

Alice Chmielewski was hospitalized this past week. We pray for God to keep her in his tender care.

MORNINGS WITH MOMMY

We will begin this program after Labor Day. This ministry is designed for stay-at-home moms and daily childcare givers to bring their children to Our Saviour's twice a month for a Bible story, social playtime, games, songs, and more. It also gives moms a chance to connect. Finally, Mornings with Mommy is another way we can put Our Saviour's on the map in Bismarck. If you want to learn more or would like to help, talk to Pastor.

PARSONAGE

- ✓ Electrical
- ✓ Flooring
- ✓ Paint
- ✓ Installing Trim (mostly)

The plumber is finishing his work on Tuesday. Now, over the next days and weeks we will be putting the finishing touches on the basement, including: cutting the doors to allow for the carpet, installing the blinds, installing closet doors, installing the butcher block counter.

4TH OF JULY PARADE

We are teaming up with Redeemer again this year. If you would like to walk in the parade please sign up at the bulletin board. The float will be decorated on July 1st. If you would like to help with that you can also indicate on the sign up sheet.

WELS DAKOTA-MONTANA DISTRICT MISSION WORK IN WILLISTON

Your District Mission Board (DMB) has put in a request to our WELS Board for Home Missions (BHM) to start a mission in Williston, ND. While the BHM has approved this request in the past, there have never been enough synodical funds available. (For example, this year there were 16 requests sent in to the BHM but enough funds for only 7.)

What your DMB, working with the group at Williston, submitted this year could be called “The Six Month Plan.” This plan involves calling a semi-retired pastor to work with them for six months (summer through Christmas). After Christmas, we would sit down together to decide whether it is time to ask for a fulltime home missionary.

The 21 WELS members in Williston still think this is a good plan, as does your District Mission Board and the WELS Board for Home Missions. But this kind of plan, called an exploratory mission, does not fall under the BHM’s umbrella.

So, the 21 WELS members in Williston, through our DMB and with our District President and BHM’s blessing, are asking for your help—both with your prayers and with your gifts.

The total cost of The Six Month Plan is \$35,568. The group in Williston is able to promise \$16,100 for this effort. This leaves a gap of \$19,468. We are asking the congregations and individuals of our district to help fill the gap.

If you would like to help, please send your check to Good Shepherd Ev. Lutheran Church, 4800 Southeastern Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57103. Make it payable to Good Shepherd. *Please write on the memo line, “For Williston.”* Gifts will be received from now until Reformation Day.

May our Lord richly bless his work among us!

Pastor Jonathan Werre, Dakota-Montana DMB chairman

jwerre@gswels.org

605.359.6650

FAQ

What if the special gifts that are sent in for Williston fall short of the \$19,468 needed?
Or substantially exceed it?

If gifts are less than the goal, we will first try to adjust the budget to fit with the funds available. If that is not realistic, then we are asking those who sent in gifts to let the funds support some other mission effort in our district. Likewise, if gifts exceed the goal, we are asking those who sent them in to let the funds be used for some other mission effort in our district.

How will these funds be administered?

They will be received and acknowledged by Good Shepherd Lutheran, Sioux Falls, SD. They will be deposited into our district’s checking account. They will be distributed to Lamb of God, Williston, when the Six Month Plan is enacted.

Can individuals or church groups also give gifts?

Yes. Not only can congregations support this effort, but individuals and church groups (for example, a Sunday School might designate its offering for this effort) can as well. Simply send a check to Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls, being sure to note that the gift is for Williston.