



SEEKING THE LOST...FEEDING THE FOUND...WITH GOD'S WORD AND SACRAMENTS

WELCOME!

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord!

If you are a guest today, know that we are thankful you have joined us, and hope that you will join us again soon. Later in the worship service you'll be asked to fill out your contact information in the worship register binder in your row. We would simply like to thank you for joining us for worship today.

ABOUT OUR SERVICE

The gospel (or good news) is not just information about what Jesus did to save sinners. It is also the power God uses to work faith in our hearts and transform our lives. Therefore, Lutheran worship places the gospel in central focus in our order of service. In the sermon, in specially selected Bible readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers and creeds, our order of service proclaims the good news about 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 in the following pages. If a song is not found in the service folder, it can be found in the red hymnal. Parts marked **M** are spoken or sung by the minister, and parts marked **C** and printed in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

- If you are in need of **restrooms**, they are located on the left as you exit the worship area. There are also restrooms on the right side of the Fellowship Hall.
- If your child needs a moment to be quieted, a **children's room** is available in the Fellowship Hall (exit the worship area and turn to your right down the hallway) in the first room on the right. A television in that room has a live audio/video feed of the service.
- **Children's activity sheets**, which include activities and lessons pertaining to today's Bible readings, are available from the ushers in the entryway.

WORSHIP SERIES: FALL RETREAT

- August 26: A foundation that never fails
September 2: Walls that need to come down
September 9: The problem of pleasure
September 16: Tolerance vs. true love
September 23: No limit on letting go

TODAY'S FOCUS

Sometimes before you can move forward, you have to take a step back to get everyone on the same page. Every Fall we see it on the football field. It's just as true for the church. Before sending the church out into the world, Jesus reminded them of what Christianity was all about, and, as a result, what they had to offer.

This Sunday we see that Christianity has no limit on letting go. Forgiveness is arguably the core message of the Christian faith - indeed, some have said it is the doctrine on which the church stands or falls. We have no desire or power to forgive on our own, but in Christ we have a spiritual wealth so great there is no limit on what we will let go. Christianity offers full and free forgiveness to all.

Peter asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

Matthew 18:21,22

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

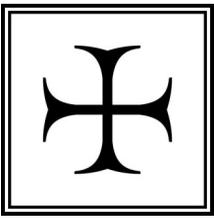
Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

HYMN

By Grace I'm Saved
Christian Worship 384

STAND

Matthew 28:19 **M** In the name of the Father and of the (✚) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:8,9 **M** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

M Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
With his holy life and innocent death.
Trusting in him, I pray:
God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

M Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (✙) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

M 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.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

M Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

*Having received
the gift of the
Lord's forgiveness,
we now make our
requests on the
basis of his mercy.*

M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



Jesus said that the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner who repents. In response to the repentance expressed through confession and absolution, the church sings as the angels sang on Christmas night: "Glory be to God on high."

GLORY BE TO GOD

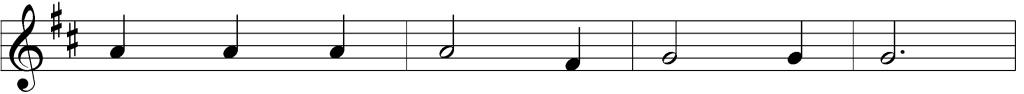
Gloria in Excelsis



1 All glo - ry be to God on high!
2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,
3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
4 You, Christ, are ho - ly— Lord a - lone;



Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;
For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,
You take all hu - man sin a - way.
The Fath - er's glo - ry you made known.



We praise you for your peace and grace,
For all, O Fath - er, you have done
Have mer - cy, Lord; re - ceive our prayer;
We by your Spir - it sing a - gain:



Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.
Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.
From God's right hand, your mer - cy share.
"All glo - ry be to God!" A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 50: 15-21

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

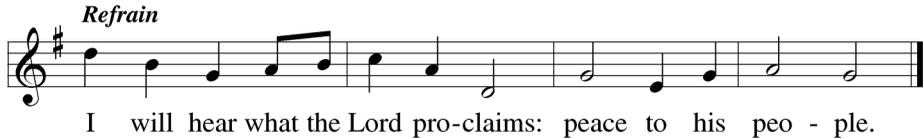


Joseph forgives his brothers.



PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 103



Psalms have been used in worship by God's people since the Old Testament.



Psalm 103 reminds us that God is always merciful, never holding our sins against us.

Praise the LORD, Q my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.*

He forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;*

he redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with love and compassion.*

Refrain

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.*

He does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.*

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,*
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.*

Refrain

As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;*

for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.*

Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;
the wind blows over it and it is gone.*

But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him
from everlasting to everlasting.*

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 READING

Ephesians 4:29-5:2

*Be kinds and
compassionate,
forgiving as God
forgives us.*

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. ¹ Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

STAND

Because we are about to hear the very words and works of Jesus in the Gospel, the congregation acknowledges the Lord's presence in their midst through his Gospel by standing and singing "Alleluia," (which means "Praise God!")

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the



mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



A story about forgiving starts with being forgiven.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.’ ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

M This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise be to you, O Christ.

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY

If Your Beloved Son, O God

Christian Worship 393

SERMON

STAND

APOSTLES CREED

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there 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.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

In response to God's love, we bring him our offerings. The members of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

*We ask that everyone, both guests and members, sign the **worship register** during the collection of the offering so that we might thank our guests who have joined us today.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Brief intercessory prayers may be added at the beginning of the prayer.

- M** Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Guide us that we may see clearly the path you have laid out for us.
- C** **Fill us with the Word we have heard today and move us to believe it and live it.**
- M** Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours and lead them to proclaim the forgiveness of sins and all people.
- C** **Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.**
- M** Guard and guide the families of our congregations. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Move parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus even when their children grow up. Grant joy to those who are single and make them a blessing to others.
- C** **Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.**
- M** Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crimes. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves. Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.
- C** **Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends.**
- M** Overcome unbelief and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.
- C** **Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in your grace.**

Through the Prayer of the Church we heed Christ's command to "love one another." One of the greatest forms of love we can show for our neighbor is to pray for them.

M Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Fill eager minds with wisdom to discover new ways to treat disease and illness. Give patience and compassion to those who care for the sick and dying.

C **Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.**

M Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer.

M Eternal Lord, you guide the world with your mighty power and in Christ you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer in your wisdom and grace.

C **In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

M 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 **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name

Christian Worship 321

Please join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall

(take the hallway to the right) following the service!

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Elizabeth Hohenstein, *Pianist*

Andy Hinz & Joe Moya, *Ushers*

Karen Seckler, *Altar Care*

Phil Prellwitz, *Elder*

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

| | | |
|------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Today | 9:00 a.m. | Worship |
| | 10:15 a.m. | Sunday School & Adult Bible Class |
| Monday | 6:30 p.m. | Council of Elders |
| Tuesday | 8:00 a.m. | Pastors' Conference at RMLHS |
| Wednesday | 8:00 a.m. | Pastors' Conference at RMLHS |
| Saturday | 9:00 a.m. | CPR Class |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Fall Festival Setup |
| | | Church Cleaners: Sinner & Ingmanson |
| Sunday | 9:00 a.m. | Worship |
| | 10:15 a.m. | Children's Fall Festival |

Next Sunday Ushers: Goforth

Next Sunday Snacks: Prenzlów & Recknor

Next Sunday Elder: Goforth

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Bible Class: Have you ever been curious about the future? Have you wondered if things are going to get better or worse on earth? Have you wondered how the world is going to end? Have you wondered how much time is left for this world? Then this Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class is for you!

It's the End of the World as We Know It will shine a light on what Scripture reveals about the end of the world, Christ's second coming, the resurrection of the body, judgment day, and events leading up to judgment day. Join us, this morning at 10:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Today's lesson is

Sunday School: Classes for children age 3 through Grade 8 will meet in the Bible Study Room in the Education Wing at 10:15 a.m.

Pastor Holtz Accepts Position as Pastor in Appleton, WI: Since Pastor Holtz has accepted a position as pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Appleton, WI, District President Phil Hirsch, pastor at Hope Lutheran Church in Manhattan, KS will help us through the process of getting our next pastor. Pastor Hirsch will lead us in worship and preach on October 14. He will then conduct a "Pre-Call" meeting where he will meet with the entire congregation and get input on what skills and characteristics the congregation needs in its next pastor. He'll use that input to prepare a list of pastors for the congregation to choose from at another meeting (yet to be determined).

At the meeting on October 14 the congregation will officially ask Pastor Kevin Klug of Abiding Love Lutheran Church in Loveland to serve as our "Vacancy Pastor." Pastor Klug's first Sunday among us will be October 28. **October 21** will be Pastor Holtz's last Sunday here.

Pastor Klug is recommending this Sunday Worship Schedule during the vacancy:

- Abiding Love (8:00 - 9:00 a.m.)
- Shepherd of the Hills (9:30 - 10:30 a.m.)
- Abiding Love (10:45 - 11:45 a.m.)

This schedule allows both congregations to keep their "close to normal" Sunday start times. It also gives Pastor Klug times to get from congregation to congregation.

Pastor Farewell - Save the Date: Sunday, October 21 we are planning a farewell brunch for Pastor Holtz and family following our church service. There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for families to bring a dish for the potluck and the committee would encourage all attending to sign the potluck sheet no later than October 17. The Fellowship Committee is encouraging all members to plan on coming to the service/potluck and wish Pastor Holtz and family God's riches blessing on their new ministry in Wisconsin. If there are any questions, please speak with Joan Ingmanson or Bret Bollmeier.

Children's Fall Festival: This year's Children's Fall Festival will be on Sunday, September 30. We will once again need all of your help. A sign-up sheet for donations and volunteer positions is posted in the Fellowship Hall.

Pastor Holtz Out of Town: Pastor will be out of town Monday night through Wednesday afternoon to attend a Pastors' Conference at Rocky Mountain Lutheran High School in Commerce City. If you are in need of pastoral care during that time you can call or text him at 970-576-1154.





**Sign up for C18 at
welscongregationalervices.net/c18**

1,000,000. It is a big number. Yet, that is the goal—to share the gospel with one-million souls prior to and on Christmas Eve 2018. The only way to reach that goal for the army of saints that is the WELS to work together. Each member, young and old, needs to embrace the privilege and responsibility of sharing Christ with unchurched friends, relatives, and neighbors.

A simple way to do that—invite them to come with you to your congregation’s Christmas Eve worship service. Christmas Eve has surpassed Easter as the worship service that unchurched individuals are most likely to attend. A recent survey found that 80% of unchurched adults would seriously consider accepting an invitation, extended by a friend, to attend a Christmas Eve service.

C18 (short for “Christmas 2018”) is a program produced by WELS Congregational Services to help our churches and members undertake this effort. When you sign up at welscongregationalervices.net/c18, you will receive weekly updates, resources, and encouragement to help you in your effort to share the good news of the Christ child.

Christmas will be here before you know it. Sign up now!

WHOM WILL YOU REACH?

C18 Resources

Here are some of the resources that will be made available at welscongregationalervices.net in upcoming weeks.

Worship materials for the Sundays in Advent and Christmas. Using worship folders makes it easy for guests to follow along. C18 will provide ready-to-use worship folders templates with liturgy and music that edify heart, soul, and mind.

Training for friendship witnessing. C18 utilizes the WELS evangelism video *To the Ends of the Earth* to help train and encourage members to engage in friendship witnessing. This training can be done on a congregational level or at home with your family.

Advent devotionals. Where does one get the motivation to witness for Christ? From the Holy Spirit, who empowers us through the Word. In the weeks of Advent, WELS online daily devotions will provide that motivation. Printable resources will be made available for parents to help them use those online devotions for family worship.

Evangelism materials for Christmas Eve. The theme for C18's Christmas Eve service is *A Light in the Darkness*. Low-cost outreach postcards have been made available. There are free evangelism resources, such as: a Facebook video ad, digital files for the congregational website, a template for tent-fold cards, etc.

School resources. C18 will provide training materials to help equip our Lutheran elementary school children to invite their unchurched friends and their family to Christmas Eve.

Special-needs ministry. Studies show that most families with special-needs children do not have a church home. C18 will include materials to help congregations reach out to families with special needs children.

ABOUT US

OUR MISSION

Shepherd of the Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church began public worship in 1975, so that with the gospel of Jesus Christ, we might strengthen the faith of our members and reach out into our community and the world. Shepherd of the Hills has Jesus', the Good Shepherd's mission, to SEEK THE LOST and FEED THE FOUND with God's Word and Sacraments.

OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

950 43rd Avenue
Greeley, CO 80634
(970) 353-6582
sothgreeley.org

OUR MINISTRY

Sunday Worship: 9:00 a.m.
Adult Bible Study and Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

OUR STAFF

Matthew Holtz, *Pastor*
pastor@sothgreeley.org
(970) 576-1154

Karen Schott, *Preschool Director/Teacher*
preschool@sothgreeley.org
(970) 353-6582

Kevin Goforth, *Facilities Elder*

Elizabeth, Hohenstein, *Pre-K Teacher*
ellie.r.hohenstein@gmail.com
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Bret Bollmeier, *Fellowship Elder*

Ron Ehrlich, *Finance Elder*

Kim Schulz, *Office Assistant*
sothlutheran@sothgreeley.org

Phil Prellwitz, *Outreach Elder*

Thomas Krafft, *Spiritual Growth Elder*

OUR CHURCH BODY

Shepherd of the Hills proclaims the truth about Jesus throughout the world as a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). The WELS—so-named because it began in Wisconsin—has about 400,000 members, congregations in all 50 states, and missions throughout the world. For more information about WELS go to www.wels.net.