



## **OUR GOD PATIENTLY SEEKS FRUITS OF FAITH**

*9:00 & 11:15 am      October 18, 2020*



# ROCK OF AGES

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

---

### **Welcome to our guests!**

- We pray that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace and joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Our mission is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.
- Large print service folders and hearing assistance devices are available.
- Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.
- Thank you for respecting your fellow worshippers by practicing social distancing. You are encouraged to socialize in the sanctuary area or outside rather than causing a crowded area in our entryway. Volunteers are sanitizing the shared touch points between services.
- Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.
- We are part of a world-wide Christian body and support the gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit [wels.net](http://wels.net)





# Morning Praise

*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.*

---

## Greeting

## Responses

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.**

"Peace, peace, to those far and near," says the LORD. "Peace to this house."

**Peace to all of you who are in Christ.**

The LORD gives strength to his people;  
**the LORD blesses his people with peace.**

## Hymn

Father, We Praise You  
*Christian Worship 581*

♪ **Father, we praise you, now the night is over.  
Active and watchful, standing now before you,  
Singing, we offer prayer and meditation;  
Thus we adore you.**

**2. Monarch of all things, fit us for your mansions;  
Banish our weakness, health and wholeness sending.  
Bring us to heaven, where your saints united  
Joy without ending.**

**3. All-holy Father, Son, and equal Spirit,  
Trinity blessed, send us your salvation;  
Yours is the glory, gleaming and resounding  
Through all creation.**

# Confession & Absolution

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven,  
whose sins are covered

**Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**According to your promises in Jesus Christ.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

God our merciful Father, has forgiven all your sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

# Response of Praise

O Lord, open my lips.

**And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

Hasten to save me, O God.

**O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

Praise be to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: let us worship him.

# Psalm 95

## Come, Let Us Worship And Bow Down - *Venite*



Come, let us wor-ship and— bow down, let us



kneel before the Lord, our God, our Mak - er.



Come, let us wor-ship and— bow down, let us



kneel before the Lord, our God, our Mak - er. For



He \_\_\_\_\_ is our God, and



we are the peo - ple of His pas - ture, and the



sheep \_\_\_\_\_ of His hand, just the



sheep \_\_\_\_\_ of His hand.

# First Lesson

2 Kings 21:1-15

*Manasseh's story shocks us. Though he was king of God's people, he committed every evil imaginable. His wickedness knew no bounds.*

*God had to be unimaginably patient in dealing with all this evil.*

Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned for fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah.

<sup>2</sup>He did evil in the eyes of the LORD, following the disgusting practices of the nations which the LORD had driven out before the people of Israel. <sup>3</sup>He rebuilt the high places which his father Hezekiah had destroyed. He erected altars to Baal and made an Asherah pole, just as Ahab king of Israel had done. He bowed down to the whole army of the heavens, and he served them. <sup>4</sup>He built altars in the House of the LORD, about which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put my name." <sup>5</sup>He built altars to all the army of the heavens in the two courtyards of the House of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>He made his son pass through the fire. He practiced fortune telling and sought omens and dealt with mediums and spiritists. He greatly increased the evil he did in the eyes of the LORD and provoked him to anger.

<sup>7</sup>He put an image of Asherah, which he had made, into the house about which the LORD said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel, I will put my Name forever. <sup>8</sup>I will not make the feet of Israel wander again from the land which I gave to their fathers, if they will just be careful to do whatever I commanded them and to observe the whole law which my servant Moses commanded them." <sup>9</sup>But they did not listen. Manasseh led them astray so that they did more evil than the nations whom the LORD exterminated before the people of Israel.

<sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said through his prophets:

<sup>11</sup>Because Manasseh king of Judah has engaged in these disgusting practices and has done more evil than all that which the Amorites who had gone before him had done, and he has caused Judah to sin with his filthy idols, <sup>12</sup>therefore, this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says. Pay attention! I am bringing such disaster on Jerusalem and Judah that the ears of all who hear of it will tingle. <sup>13</sup>I will stretch out over Israel the plumb line that was stretched out over Samaria and the level used on the house of Ahab. I will wipe away Jerusalem just as someone wipes a bowl clean and turns it upside down. <sup>14</sup>I will hand over the remnant of my possession and give them into the hand of their enemies, so

that they become plunder and spoils for all their enemies,<sup>15</sup> because they have done what is evil in my eyes and have provoked me to anger from the day when their fathers came out of Egypt until today.

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 118

*Christian Worship page 108*

*Refrain*

This is the day the Lord has made, let us re -  
joyce and be glad! This is the day the  
Lord has made, let us re-joyce and be glad!

*Psalm tone*

The LORD is my strength and my song;  
he has become my salvation.

The LORD is my strength and my song;  
he has become my salvation.

"The LORD's right hand is lifted high;  
the LORD's right hand has done mighty things!"

I will not die but live,  
and will proclaim what the LORD has done. **Refrain**

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;  
you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;  
the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**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 Lesson

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

*We are the new workers in the vineyard. The apostle warns us not to squander the opportunity before us by receiving the grace of God in vain.*

As fellow workers we also urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says:

At a favorable time I listened to you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.

Look, now is the favorable time! See, now is the day of salvation!

<sup>3</sup>We are giving no one a reason to stumble in any way, so that our ministry will not be blamed. <sup>4</sup>Rather, in every way we show ourselves to be God's ministers: in great endurance, in troubles, in hardships, in difficulties, <sup>5</sup>in beatings, in imprisonments, in riots, in hard work, in sleepless nights, in times of hunger; <sup>6</sup>in purity, in knowledge, in patience, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love, <sup>7</sup>in the word of truth, in the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness on the right and on the left; <sup>8</sup>through glory and dishonor, through bad report and good report; treated as deceivers yet being honest, <sup>9</sup>treated as unknown and yet being well known; as dying, and yet look—we live; as punished yet not put to death; <sup>10</sup>as grieving yet always rejoicing; as poor yet making many rich; as having nothing yet possessing everything.

<sup>11</sup>We have spoken to you openly, Corinthians. Our heart is standing wide open.

<sup>12</sup>We have plenty of room for you, but you do not have room for us in your affections. <sup>13</sup>I am speaking as to my children: In exchange, open your hearts wide too.

## Gospel

Matthew 21:33-43

*Jesus teaches both of the patience of God for workers in his vineyard and of warning to those who stubbornly continue to reject him.*



“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. He leased it out to some tenant farmers and went away on a journey. <sup>34</sup>When the time approached to harvest the fruit, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. <sup>35</sup>The tenant farmers seized his servants. They beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. <sup>36</sup>Then the landowner sent even more servants than the first time. The tenant farmers treated them the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. <sup>38</sup>But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance!’ <sup>39</sup>They took him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>So when the landowner comes, what will he do to those tenant farmers?”



<sup>41</sup>They told him, “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end. Then he will lease out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him his fruit when it is due.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?

<sup>43</sup>“That is why I tell you the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruit.

## Seasonal Response

Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name;

**Make known among the nations what he has done.**

## Hymn of the Day

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your **Word**

*Christian Worship 203*

♪ **Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;**

**Curb those who by deceit or sword**

**Would seek to overthrow your Son**

**And to destroy what he has done.**

**2. Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,  
For you are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend your Christendom that we  
May sing your praise eternally.**

**3. O Comforter of priceless worth,  
Send peace and unity on earth.  
Support us in our final strife,  
And lead us out of death to life.**

## **Sermon**

**2 Kings 21:1-15**

*DISCOVER REAL PATIENCE IN GOD'S DEALINGS WITH KING MANASSEH*

## **Confession of Faith**

**We Praise You, O God**

*Te Deum Laudamus*

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;  
**all creation worships you, Father everlasting.**

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim, sing in  
endless praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full  
of your glory.**

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

**The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.**

The white robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy  
Church acclaim you:

**Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and  
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

**When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.**

You overcame the sting of death

**and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.**

You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

**We believe that you will come to be our judge.**

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood,

**and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting. Amen.**

## Offerings Gathered

*Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. You are invited to place your offering on the table by the entryway on your way in or as you exit.*

## Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*



M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



C: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Special Prayers**

*Special prayer requests are spoken concluding with...* through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**Amen**

## **Prayer for Grace**

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.

**Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Blessing**

*2 Cor. 13:14*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Amen.**

# Hymn

## Fight the Good Fight

*Christian Worship 457*

♪ **Fight the good fight  
With all your might;  
Christ is your strength and Christ your light.  
Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
Your joy and crown eternally.**

**2. Run the straight race  
Through God's good grace;  
Lift up your eyes and seek his face.  
Life with its way before us lies;  
Christ is the path and Christ the prize.**

**3. Cast care aside,  
Lean on your guide;  
His boundless mercy will provide.  
Lean, and the trusting soul shall prove  
Christ is its life and Christ its love.**

**4. Faint not nor fear;  
His arms are near.  
He changes not, and you are dear.  
Only believe, and you will see  
That Christ is Lord eternally.**

# The LORD HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR US

## **The Conclusion for King Manasseh**

...The Lord spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention.

<sup>11</sup> So the Lord brought against them the army commanders of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh prisoner, put a hook in his nose, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon. <sup>12</sup> In his distress he sought the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his ancestors. <sup>13</sup> And when he prayed to him, the Lord was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord is God.

2 Chronicles 33

## **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Remember with Prayer**

- The friends and family of Hank Brumley, who was called home on the night of September 30<sup>th</sup>; thanks to God for bringing Hank to faith and delivering him from all his troubles; that all who grieve find lasting comfort in the sure hope of the resurrection. The memorial service was held yesterday.
- Donna Lanphear; that God provides comfort, strength, and healing as she battles returning cancer.

### **Attendance**

10/01 Confirmation Class: 2  
10/01 & 02 Midweek Bible Class: 15  
10/04 Sunday Worship: 59  
10/04 Sunday Bible Class: 23  
10/11 Sunday Worship: 44  
10/14 Confirmation Class: 2  
10/14 & 15 Midweek Bible Class: ?

**Received in October** \$4,648.32 (to date)

### **Serving This Week**

Flowers, Communion Setup: Pat Solomon  
Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ  
Presiding Minister: Tom Barthel  
Ushers: Del Kary, Creig Solomon, Jerry Zuvich

## **CALENDAR**

*rockofages-payson.com/calendar*

### **Sunday, October 18 Pentecost 20**

9:00am Service  
10:05am Bible Study  
11:15am Service

### **Monday, October 19**

6:00pm Council Meeting

### **Tuesday, October 20**

WELS Arizona-California Pastors Conf.

### **Wednesday, October 21**

WELS Arizona-California Pastors Conf.  
12:30pm Mary & Martha

### **Sunday, October 25 Pentecost 21**

9:00am Service with Lord's Supper  
10:15am Voters' Meeting  
11:15am Service with Lord's Supper

### **Wednesday, October 28**

5:00pm 1<sup>st</sup> Responders Dinner

### **Sunday Bible Class**

Join us for a video & discussion on "American Gospel: Christ Crucified."

### **Acknowledgments**

Artwork: Ian Welch © 2011 paramentics.com  
Scripture taken from The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version®, EHV®, © 2019 Wartburg Project, Inc. All rights reserved.  
The following service items are printed under CCLI #2524351 or Onelicense.net #A 716430 all rights reserved, used by permission.  
Order of Service "Morning Praise" ©1993 - Northwestern Publishing House  
"Midday opening responses and closing responses" from Christian Worship Supplement © Northwestern Pub. House.  
"Confession & Absolution" are from a preview of the 2021 Christian Worship Hymnal © NPH  
"Come, Let Us Worship and Bow Down" (Venite): Dave Doherty © 1980, 2002 Holland Davis



[RockofAges-Payson.com](http://RockofAges-Payson.com)

204 W. Airport Rd. Payson, AZ 85541 • Office: 928-474-2098 • [pastorbarthel@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbarthel@gmail.com)  
Pastor Tom Barthel • Mobile: 928-612-8463