

A person with long dark hair, seen from behind, is sitting on a dark wooden bench. They are looking out over a vast valley with rolling hills and mountains under a warm, golden sunset sky. The scene is peaceful and contemplative.

Humble yourselves
in the sight of the LORD,

and he will **lift you up.**

James 4:10

9:30am October 3, 2021



ROCK OF AGES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rock-Solid Faith for a Shattered World.

Welcome! May you be filled with peace and joy from Jesus who lived, died, and rose again to be your Savior. He is forever our living Rock of Ages.

Our Mission is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.

Our Message centers around the forgiveness, freedom, and fellowship we have in Jesus.

Membership: We are part of a church family and together we reach out with the amazing gospel message. We'd love to have you join with us in our mission!

Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.

Large Print service folders and **hearing assistance** devices are available.

Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.

We Support the world-wide gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit wels.net



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.



Service of the Word

This service focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

Greeting

Commissioning of New Missionaries 4-minute video

Our synod commissioned four new home missionaries and one new world missionary. Please pray for these five men as they begin their new missionary calls!

- Lucas Callies, home missionary at Good Shepherd Luth. Church in North Liberty, Iowa
- Isaac Hayes, home missionary at St. John's on the Hillside in Milwaukee, Wis.
- Timothy Walsh, home missionary at Grace of God Lutheran Church in Dix Hills, N.Y.
- Andrew Westra, home missionary at a new mission start in Waco, Tex.
- Mark Zondag, world missionary on the Asia One Team

Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Christian Worship 200:1-3

Resist the Devil and he will flee from you because of Jesus your fortress

♪ **A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need That has us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.**

**2. With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant one Whom God himself elected.
You ask, "Who is this?" Jesus Christ it is,
The almighty Lord. And there's no other God;
He holds the field forever.**

**3. Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done!
One little word can fell him.**

Invocation

(Matthew 18:20, 28:19)

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession & Absolution

(John 20:23; 1 John 1:9)

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Christian Worship 200:4

**4. The Word they still shall let remain,
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With his good gifts and Spirit.
And do what they will -- Hate, steal, hurt, or kill --
Though all may be gone, Our victory is won;
The kingdom's ours forever!**

Prayer of the Day

Lord of all nations, we pray that you bless those whom we send to share your kingdom in our nation and around this world; give our missionaries success in spreading your gospel; keep them safe from the attacks of the evil one and lift them up secure in your hands, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16,24-29

The Lord graciously sends us his Spirit to carry out his work

The foreign rabble who were among the Israelites were overcome by their craving. The Israelites also wept once again and said, "Who is going to give us meat to eat? ⁵We remember the fish we ate in Egypt free of charge, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. ⁶But now our lives are wasting away. We have nothing at all to look at except this manna."

¹⁰Moses heard people from all the clans weeping, each one at the entrance to his own tent. At the same time, the Lord's anger burned fiercely, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your eyes? Why do you put the burden of all these people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all these people by myself? Am I the one who gave birth to them so that you tell me to carry them in my arms to the land which you swore to their fathers, just as a woman who is nursing carries a baby? ¹³Where is there meat for me to give to all these people? Listen, they are weeping to me and saying, 'Give us meat so that we can eat.' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all these people by myself, because that is too much for me. ¹⁵If you are going to treat me this way, please kill me right now. If I have found favor in your eyes, do not let me see my own ruin." ¹⁶So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather seventy men from the elders of Israel for me, men whom you know to be elders and officers for the people. Take them to the Tent of Meeting and make them stand there with you.

²³The Lord said to Moses, "Is the arm of the Lord too short? Now you will see whether what I have said to you will happen or not." ²⁴Moses went out and told the people the Lord's words. He gathered seventy men from the elders of the people

and had them stand all around the tent. ²⁵The Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him. He took from the Spirit that was on Moses and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but they did not do it again.

²⁶Two men, however, remained in the camp. The name of one was Eldad, and the name of the other was Medad. They were listed among the elders, but they had not gone out to the tent. The Spirit rested on them, and they prophesied back in the camp. ²⁷A young man ran and reported this to Moses. He said, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp!"

²⁸Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide from his youth, answered, "My lord Moses, stop them!"

²⁹Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? If only all of the Lord's people were prophets so that the Lord would put his Spirit on them!" ³⁰Then Moses returned to the camp along with the elders of Israel.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 51b

Christian Worship Supplement

Refrain

Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, God and Lord,
be all your grac - es now out - poured!

Psalm Tone

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

♪ Come, Holy Spirit, God and Lord, be all your graces now outpoured!

Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.

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.

♪ Come, Holy Spirit, God and Lord, be all your graces now outpoured!

Second Lesson

James 4:7-12

Be humble towards God and your neighbor

So, submit yourselves to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Come near to God, and he will come near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded people. ⁹Lament, mourn, and weep. Let your laughter be changed into mourning and your joy into gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he will lift you up.

¹¹Do not speak against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother is speaking against the law and judging the law. But if you judge the law, you are not one who does the law, but a judge. ¹²There is one lawgiver and judge. He is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

Verse of the Day

(Philippians 2:10,11)

Alleluia. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 9:38-50

Humbly live at peace under God and with one another.

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name. We tried to stop him, because he was not following us."

³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not try to stop him, because no one who does a miracle in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil about me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹Amen I tell you: Whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in my name, because you belong to Christ, will certainly not lose his reward.

⁴²"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to fall into sin, it would be better for him if he were thrown into the sea with a large millstone hung around his neck. ⁴³If your hand causes you to fall into sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed, than to have two hands and go into hell, into the unquenchable fire, ⁴⁴'where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.'

⁴⁵If your foot causes you to fall into sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell, ⁴⁶'where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.' ⁴⁷If your eye causes you to fall into sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸'where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.' ⁴⁹For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good. But if the salt loses its flavor, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Hymn of the Day

Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing

Christian Worship 121

Our struggle against temptation and pride cannot be won without Christ

♪ Jesus, grant that balm and healing
In your holy wounds I find,
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling
Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within
Tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,
Show the peril, and from sinning
Keep me from its first beginning.

2. Should some lust or sharp temptation
Fascinate my sinful mind,
Let me think about your passion,
And new courage I shall find.
Or should Satan press me hard,
Let me then be on my guard,
Saying, "Christ for me was wounded,"
That the tempter flee confounded.

3. If the world my heart entices
With the broad and easy road,
With seductive, sinful vices,
Let me think about the load
You were willing to endure;
Then I'll flee all thoughts impure,
Mastering each wild temptation,
Calm in prayer and meditation.

4. Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me
By your wounds, Lord, is made whole;
When I'm weak, your cross revives me,
Granting new life to my soul.
Yes, your comfort renders sweet
Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;
For your all-atoning passion
Has procured my soul's salvation.

**5. O my God, my Rock and Tower,
Grant that in your death I trust,
Knowing death has lost his power
Since you crushed him in the dust.
Savior, let your agony
Ever help and comfort me;
When I die be my protection,
Light and life and resurrection.**

Sermon

James 4:7-12

LET THE LORD DO THE HEAVY LIFTING



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 national church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Today you may place your offering on the table by the entryway as you enter or exit.

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayer of the Church

Christian Worship 412

**♪ Lord, teach us how to pray aright,
With rev'rence and with fear.
Though dust and ashes in your sight,
We may, we must draw near.**

**2. We suffer if we cease from prayer;
Oh, grant us pow'r to pray.
And when to meet you we prepare,
Lord, meet us on the way.**

**3. Give deep humility; the sense
Of godly sorrow give;
A strong desire, with confidence,
To hear your voice and live;**

**4. Faith in the only sacrifice
That can for sin atone,
To cast our hopes, to fix our eyes
On Christ, on Christ alone.**

**5. Give these, and then your will be done;
Thus strengthened with your might
We, through your Spirit and your Son,
Shall pray, and pray aright.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. - *Silent prayer.*

We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.

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.

Closing Prayer

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.

Amen.

Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. 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.

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.**

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Become An Advocate for Survivors of Domestic Abuse

Every survivor of domestic abuse faces a unique set of challenges that impact their road to healing. Pastors, friends, and family can be a resource for a survivor. And so can an Advocate. As an Advocate, you'll join the survivor's team. You will walk alongside them. You will be another shoulder to lean on, another ear to listen. Another friend to point them toward the true and lasting healing found in Jesus. Talk to pastor Barthel today if you are interested in serving to help survivors of domestic abuse. He will connect you with the training needed. <https://kingdomworkers.com/volunteer/service-opportunities/be-an-advocate-for-survivors-of-abuse/>

Coyote Night (8th Grade Visit Night)

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 | 4:00-6:00

Eighth grade students are invited to join us for a sneak peek of Arizona Lutheran Academy, interact with ALA teachers, and meet other future Coyotes. The goal is to provide a fun, interactive, and relaxed ALA experience beyond the school day. See more information and register at ALAcoyotes.org/CN

Kingdom Workers

This group works with churches in fellowship with the WELS and 23 other church bodies around the world in fellowship with us. They provide training and tools for local churches to reach out with the gospel. Learn more about their ministry and how to become a sustaining supporter at kingdomworkers.com.

Kingdom Workers says: We like to ask, "What makes you lose sleep at night?" This question always connects us to real needs such as food security, access to water, health, nutrition, education, and more. While exploring these issues, we always keep in mind the deeper, most urgent question of salvation. Both spiritual and physical needs are central to our work. So whether it's building water solutions in Indonesia, or providing disability care in Malawi, or addressing the foster care crisis in the United States, we innovate solutions to real problems as a demonstration of God's radical love and grace.

WELS & ELS Singles Group

"If you're single (unmarried, divorced, widowed) and looking to socialize, make friends, or enjoy fellowship with other singles who share your faith, we encourage you to join our Facebook group! Our group consists of over 500 members from around the world with ages ranging from 18-65+. We are an active group sharing Biblical encouragement, prayers, Lutheran memes, personal victories, and food. Our page is full of discussion posts and we typically have a weekly video hangout on Sunday evenings. We'd love to have you join us." facebook.com/groups/wels.els.singles

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- All who serve in our church body as missionaries; that God would keep them and their families safe and bless their efforts.

Starting Point Class

Come join our group as we go through the fundamental teachings of Christianity. This course will give you a good introduction or review of the Christian faith. Everyone is welcome from absolute non-Bible readers to life-long Christians. Sundays 10:30 am Starting today with the study "Lost and Found."

Serving This Week

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

Received in August \$12,075.82

Received in September \$10,022.57

Attendance

9/16 Confirmation Class: 3
9/19 Sunday Service: 54
9/19 Youth & Adult Bible Study: 26
9/19 Children's Bible Study: 5
9/23 Confirmation Class: 2
9/26 Sunday Service: 38
9/26 Youth & Adult Bible Study: 17

Spread the Word

Want to share today's message? You can find the sermon text, audio, and video at rockofages-payson.com/sermons

CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Saturday, October 2

8:00am LWMS West Grand Canyon Circuit Rally

Sunday, October 3

9:30am Service

10:30am Bible Study (all ages)

Wednesday, October 6

9:00am Elders Meeting

Thursday, October 7

9:00am Midweek Bible Class

5:00pm Youth Confirmation Class

Saturday, October 9

9:00am Mary Martha Treasure and Treats fundraiser

Sunday, October 10

9:30am Service with Lord's Supper

10:30am Bible Study (all ages)

Monday, October 11

6:00pm Council Meeting

Thursday, October 14

9:00am Midweek Bible Class

5:00pm Youth Confirmation Class

Sunday, October 17

9:30am Service

10:30am Bible Study (all ages)

October 18-20

WELS Arizona-California Pastors Conf.

Rock of Ages Choir

Please contact pastor if you might be interested in serving as part of a choir group at Rock of Ages.

Host Family

Want Please contact pastor if you might be interested in serving as a host family June-July 2022 for our summer student teacher.



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