

GOOD NEWS

FROM CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2025

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Kim Lorenzen.

After working in Mitchel for 31 years as a pathologist he retired in 2019 and relocated to Frisco Lakes in Frisco, Texas, a suburb of Dallas. He was a member of Messiah Lutheran in Plano. He and his wife Debbie came to Sioux Falls in May to be closer to some of her family. Debbie is a member of Saint Therese Catholic Church here in Sioux Falls. They have 1 son, 2 daughters and 2 grandsons.

He is a singer and used to enjoy singing solo's. Kim is an avid bowler, and plays pickleball.

He became a member at Christ July 14th of this year. We pray your faith will be nurtured and friendships found here at Christ Lutheran.



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BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER

01 Lynette Wedeking
04 Basil Wetzel
10 Emily Nix
13 Andrew Brack
13 Jenny Brack
25 Elva Clauson
29 Dr Raymond Hartwig

ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER

07 Jon-Eric and Sarah Deutsch

BAPTISM

06 Daniel Nix
19 Leah Preheim
21 Rick Guenther
23 Naarah Fick
23 Mason Hericks
27 Jeremiah Deardoff
30 Andrew Brack

The WORD of the LORD ENDURES FOREVER

Study the Bible with the Church,
Past and Present

A daily, verse-by-verse Bible Study
hosted by

Pastor Will Weedon
thewordendures.org



**Talk Radio for the
Thinking Christian**

www.issuesetc.org

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

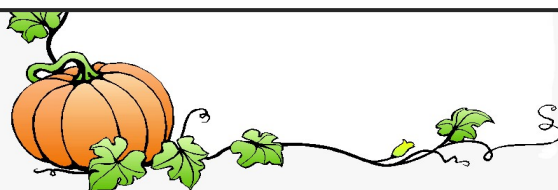
September 7 “Difficult situations like surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis can tempt us to forget our Savior’s presence and power. Comfort comes not from making deals with death but from the gifts He wrings and the privileges He brings even in and through hardship. An everlasting, unchanging, and all-sufficient Creator and Keeper not only provides life, He protects it as well!”
Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

September 14 “If we expect to be the one to change hearts by sowing seeds of judgment rather than love, we are changing the mission we have been sent to fulfill. Please use your Gospel-motivated voice For Life in love and may God bless your efforts!” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

September 21 “Good things take time. Your smiles, your encouraging words, your time and talents donated for pro-life work done in Christ are sure to be effective, even if you can’t immediately see the effects.” *Marie MacPherson, author – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

September 28 Being a child is a calling. Being a parent is a calling. Being a student is a calling. Being a citizen is a calling. Each so-called occupation is a calling. The role one fills in one’s church is a calling. As God crafts each of us in our callings, He places us in the presence of neighbors whom we are to love on His behalf.” *Rev. Adam Osier, Free Lutheran Bible College, Plymouth, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**Lutheran Doctrine:
Christ-Centered,
Cross-Focused**



Work and Keep

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15).

Genesis chapters one and two are familiar to us. We know them best as the Creation Account. Chapter one is where we hear the familiar, “let there be... and there was” directives. Chapter two gives us the account of Adam (the man) being formed from the “Adamah” (the dust) and becoming a living being when he receives the breath of life in his nostrils. Because of this, it would be quite easy to simply lump these two chapters into the category of creation accounts.

But do not be too hasty in this! While these two chapters do faithfully relate to us the account of creation, they also give us the creation of the “office” of steward. The man, created in the image of God in Genesis 1 and formed from the dust in Genesis 2, is created for a distinct purpose. He is created to be a steward of the perfect and beautiful creation that the Lord has made! In fact, this is THE reason that man was made. He — and we — were created in the image of God to be stewards of God’s creation.

This purpose is spelled out in verse 15 of Genesis 2. The steward has one job, with two purposes. It is fitting that in the month that our nation marks Labor Day, we consider the task of steward. The first purpose of the job of steward is to work. The steward is the caretaker of the Garden. Being a steward is work! Before the fall into sin, this was not an onerous task. But it was an active thing.

Imagine being a farmer in the Garden of Eden! Work would be only harvest. No plowing. No planting. No cultivating. No weeding. The perfect garden that the Lord had made would simply produce automatically to provide for man, woman, and all living beings!

But there is a second task in verse fifteen. The word “keep” is not just a synonym for work. This

second task is related to defending. This garden, holy by virtue of its being called into existence by a holy God, needed to be defended. Here is where the vocation of steward becomes priestly. The steward was to defend the perfect and holy garden from that which was unholy. Later in the Old Testament, this was the task of the priests in the tabernacle and temple. They were to defend with their lives the Holy of Holies. This too is the labor of stewardship. It is a labor that calls the steward to be willing to put the garden before life!

Stewardship was always work. It only got burdensome after the original steward, Adam, failed to defend the garden from the alien word of the serpent. But this was not a failure of harvest. It was

a failure to defend the garden! As a result, all work that followed that failure became burdensome.

The steward failed but was never fired. That is why we have such an issue with stewardship to this day. We continue to live out a pre-fall vocation in a fallen world as failed stewards. That is why we in the church need to be reminded of our vocational call to be stewards. We so easily forget that this world is not ours to do with as we please. Nothing is ours. We are but stewards entrusted with managing the creation for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor.

It is a daunting task. But it is the one to which we have been called. We cannot do it on our own. Apart from the grace of God shared with us through Jesus, we would be burdened to the point of temporal and eternal death. But the Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel! This Gospel connects us to the fertile garden of Christ’s Work on our behalf. Now we are stewards of that grace! The Holy Spirit works this in and through us today and every day.

This is the work of the church. It is also the work of the individual steward. The Lord has placed us in the “garden” with the same twofold purpose: work and keep! Enjoy your labor. For in the Lord, our labor is never in vain!

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT

September 2ndth, 2025

	<u>06/2025</u>	<u>07/2025</u>	<u>08/2025</u>
Deposits:	\$ 7,810.10	\$ 15,490.44	\$ 13,973.91
Disbursements:	\$ 13,847.09	\$ 73,605.54	\$ 15,536.03
Deposit Breakdown:			
General Fund:	\$ 7,786.10	\$ 15,481.44	\$ 13,966.91
Designated Funds:	\$ 24.00	\$ 9.00	\$ 7.00
Monthly Budget Requirement:	\$ 16,987.20	\$ 16,987.20	\$ 21,234.00
Mortgage Balance as of 09/02			\$ 29,929.42



IN OUR PRAYERS

Mildred Corey, at home
Susan Powell, at home
Elva Clauson, at home

RALLY DAY



Sunday School begins on Sunday, September 14th. Sunday school begins on Rally Day. There will be a Voters' Meeting instead of the Adult Bible class. Adult Bible Study will begin the following week. Everyone is invited to a potluck dinner after Sunday school. Hot dogs and brats are provided, please bring a dish to share. Following the meal, there will be a time of activities for the children, including bounce houses, both wet and dry.

VOTERS' MEETING



The 3rd Quarterly Voters' Meeting will meet after church during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, September 14th. There will be no Adult Bible Study due to the meeting. We will have a Pot Luck Dinner after the meeting.

Potluck Dinner



POTLUCK DINNER

Get out your favorite recipe and bring it along with your appetite to our annual Rally Day Potluck meal. We will share a meal and fellowship after the Sunday School hour and Voters' meeting. There will be fun kid activities after the meal. Please come and join us.



A Multitude Comes from the East and the West

Lutheran Service Book 510 | study by Marion Lars Hendrickson

Introduction

In the Early Church, the believers “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42). It is revealing within that description that the fellowship of the believers is found between the Word and the Lord’s Supper. This is true for the Christian congregation still today. Fellowship always springs forth from the Gospel of Christ and finds its fulfillment in the Sacrament of His body and blood. The whole of the Christian fellowship lives between the Word and the Sacrament, anticipating with eager expectation the glorious wedding feast of heaven.

- The first man, Adam, was alone until God created Eve. Who has God created as the bride for the Second Adam, Jesus?
- Why is the Christian never alone?

Exploring the Scriptures

This hymn is appointed for three different Sundays in the church year. While the Gospel Readings for each of these Sundays are different, the three also bear similarities.

Read Matt. 22:1–14 (for Proper 23A). In the banquet parable Jesus urges His listeners to repent. The generosity of the king’s invitation is matched with the severity of the king’s judgment.

- What does the king do in response to the rejection of his invitation (v. 7)?
- What made the initial recipients of the king’s invitation unworthy to attend (v. 8)?

Read Luke 13:22–30 (for Proper 16C). In this banquet parable Jesus speaks of the struggle of repentance. The struggle is not in getting through the narrow door itself, but rather between faith and the sinful nature, a

struggle that the Lord’s call produces in the human heart.

- What does the master of the house mean when he says, “I do not know where you come from” (v. 26)?
- A multitude joins the patriarchs in the kingdom of God, but some will be cast out (v. 28). Who are the first? Who are the last (v. 30)? Why?

Read Luke 14:15–24 (for Trinity 2). This is a banquet parable that begins with a blessing (v. 15) and ends with a warning (v. 24).

- In verse 17 the master’s invitation says, “Come, for everything is now ready.” Do the invited guests have any requirement to fulfill in order to attend?
- From his words in verse 23, what is the master’s desire for this banquet?

Exploring the Hymn Background

Magnus Brostrup Landstad (1802–80) knew human suffering and the trials of life by personal experience. He grew up in the far north of Norway, a place of solitude, storm and darkness. War, hunger and inflation added to the trials of his childhood. Not surprisingly, Landstad could long for heaven, as he writes in this hymn, when “all trials shall be like a dream that is past” (st. 3).

- How do times of trial change in faith, when we consider that Christ comes to share them with us?

Landstad also put into poetic expression the deprivations of sin that the faithful can see within themselves. Called a “penitential hymn poet,” Landstad could

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plumb the depths of repentance in a hymn such as “To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All” (LSB 613). Yet this hymn of repentance does not dwell so much on the sorrow of the repentant as on the joy that comes in Christ to the penitent. It is because of Christ’s lavish grace that Landstad wrote how he was always eager to sing a penitential hymn with joy.

■ St. Paul wrote, “For when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Cor. 12:10). What does he mean?

In many ways Landstad writes his hymns for a pilgrim on his or her way toward heaven. While he writes about storms and trials, it is not to use fear to drive the pilgrim onward. Rather, Landstad’s portrayal of the pilgrim way is one of an eager longing and a hopeful expectation for that which lies ahead.

■ St. Paul wrote, “One thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:13–14). How is it only the grace of God in Jesus Christ that allows us to say this along with the apostle?

Text

While the three parables discussed above all have the elements of blessing and judgment, the hymn text focuses solely on the blessing of the Lord’s invitation.

■ In the distinction between Law and Gospel — the Law commands but cannot give; the Gospel bestows what it promises — how is this focus on the blessing in the parable a focus on the Gospel itself?

Read the closing refrain, “Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!” in light of the hymn’s focus on the blessing of the invitation.

■ Is this repeated refrain a confession of sin

or a cry for help in need? What difference does this make?

Stanza 1 also draws upon Matt. 8:11–12. Commending the faith of the Roman centurion, Jesus includes this Gentile Roman among those reclining at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

■ Does the hymn limit saving faith to the New Testament saints? Read Hebrews 11.

Stanza 2 sings of God as the Shepherd of His people. Read Ps. 107:2–9 and compare the imagery with Psalm 23.

■ What is the urgency described in stanza 2 (“while there is time”)?

Stanzas 3 and 4 carry the singer to the communion of saints in glory, where “all trials shall be like a dream that is past,” where “the blest” receive the crown of life. Read Rev. 7:9–17 and Rev. 2:10.

■ Is the Sacrament of the Altar also a sharing in the eternal feast? Why or why not?

■ How does the promise of life forever with Christ, given in the Lord’s Supper, sustain us now in our times of trial?

■ What would you say in response to the skeptic who understands these stanzas only as “pie in the sky”? Read St. Paul’s response in 1 Cor. 15:12–34.

Making the Connection

The sick person, the one who endures persecution for his or her faith, the prisoner, the lonely and many other sufferers each see in a fellow Christian the presence of the gracious God. Both the one who visits and the one who is visited recognize each other as “little Christs” (Luther’s term) of the Christ who is present with each and, more so, with both together.

■ What does a Christian lose when he absents

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KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is the "Collect"?

The word "collect" (pronounced COLL-ect) comes from the Latin word "collectus" which means "gathered together." A Collect is a prayer to God which **gathers together** the thoughts of the congregation into one prayer for the day.

Why do we use a Collect in the Divine Service?

We use the Collect in the Divine Service because it focuses the congregation's prayers and attention on the readings from God's Word, which will be read shortly after the Collect. The Collect highlights the theme of the Sunday throughout the Church Year.



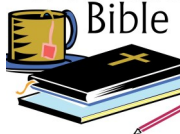
Parents: Before the Collect is prayed in the service, remind your children to pray in their minds along with the pastor. Encourage them to pay close attention to his words. Encourage them to listen for the theme in the collect and in the Gospel reading.

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WOMEN OF CHRIST LUTHERAN

Be on the lookout for information about women of Christ.

Women's
Bible



All of our students should be back in school at this time. Please lift the Students, their teachers, administrators, and schools in your prayers.

UPCOMING 2024

2025

- Sept 14 Rally Day and Potluck meal
- Sept 14 Voters Meeting
- Nov 02 Daylight Saving Time Ends, 2am
- Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day Divine Service, 9:30 am
- Dec 3 Advent Service, 7pm
- Dec 10, 17, 22 Advent Services, 7pm
- Dec 14: Voters Meeting, after Divine Service
- Dec TBA Children's Christmas Service
- December 24 Christmas Eve service, 5pm
- December 25 Christmas Day Service 9:30 am
- No New Year's Eve/Day Service



CHURCH CLEANING:

Keep an eye on the bulletin to see when the official cleaning day will be this fall.

Anyone is welcome to come in and clean on there own, just let pastor know so you can get in the church.

Whoever welcomes
one of these
little children
in my name
welcomes me
- Mark 9:37



SERMON TEXT AND TITLES FOR SEPTEMBER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HYMN of the DAY</u>	<u>TEXT</u>	<u>LSB</u>	<u>SERMON TITLE</u>
09/07/25	How clear is our vocation, Lord	Luke 14:33	853	Have you renounced all?
09/14/25	Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle	John 12:21	454	Do you too wish to see Jesus?
09/21/25	What is the world to me	Matthew 9:11	730	Why does your Master eat with sinners?
09/28/25	Lord, Thee I love with all my heart	Luke 16:25	708	Remember in your lifetime!!

himself from the fellowship of believers in worship?

- Does the blessing of Christian fellowship deny a blessing to Christian solitude? Why or why not?
- What are some of the challenges when pondering the Christian fellowship on earth in light of the fellowship of saints in heaven?
- Stanza 4 says, “the heavens ... ring with an anthem more grand /Than ever on earth was recorded.” Name two or three temptations to despair because of the weaknesses of the earthly fellowship of believers. In what way is the earthly fellowship the means to sustain one another in those temptations to despair?

In Closing

Jesus promised His fellowship of disci-

ples “... that where I am you may be also” and “I will not leave you as orphans” (John 14:3, 18). So we Lutherans believe, teach and confess that one Holy Church will remain forever. The Church is the assembly of believers among whom the Gospel is purely taught and the Sacraments are rightly administered according to that Gospel (see AC VII).

■ Sing or read aloud together LSB 510.

Prayer

Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen (Collect for Proper 23).

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