



**FOUNDATIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH:  
The Promise – Relationships Restored**

July 12/13, 2020

# ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)*

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## FOR OUR GUESTS

Thank you for being here. During your visit today, you will see and hear what we're all about: God's eternal love for us through his Son, Jesus Christ! Any directions for speaking or singing, standing, or sitting will be indicated in this folder or projected on the wall in front of you.

- Restrooms are available just outside the chapel doors down the hallway to the left.
- If you have young children with you today, great! We encourage families to worship together. We do have a nursery area available just outside the chapel near the bathrooms, should you feel the need to step out of worship with your child for a moment.

## CURRENT WORSHIP SERIES: Genesis—Foundations of the Christian Faith

We're spending six weeks in a series based on Genesis 1-3. These first chapters of the Bible reveal so many central truths of the Christian faith, all while remaining relevant to the relationships we have in this world. We'll see who God is, who we were created to be, and what we have become. We'll find our purpose in this world and who we are in Christ. Together, as we worship our Lord, we go back to the beginning, back to Genesis, back to the Foundations of the Christian Faith.

**Today's Focus:** *The Promise – Relationships Restored*

Genesis 3:15 is hugely foundational to the Christian faith. The hostility that sin and Satan brought (and which separated God and mankind) would be removed. Jesus would restore the relationship with God and put the hostility back between the tempter and the tempted. This restored relationship with God is also the foundation for our relationships with others.



## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Bless us, O Lord, as we prepare to worship you today. Help us to concentrate on your life-saving gospel which reminds us that heaven is ours. Help us take this to heart. Amen

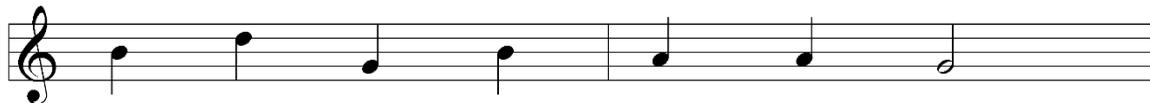
## OPENING HYMN

## To Your Temple I Draw Near

*Christian Worship #226 st. 1-3*



1 To your tem - ple I draw near;  
2 I through Christ am rec - on - ciled;  
3 While your glo - rious praise is sung,



Lord, I love to wor - ship here.  
I through Christ be - come your child.  
Touch my lips, un - loose my tongue,



Here are sac - ra - ment and Word;  
Ab - ba, Fa - ther, give me grace  
That my joy - ful soul may bless



Here be - liev - ers meet their Lord.  
In your courts to seek your face.  
Christ the Lord, my right - eous - ness.

*STAND*

## INVOCATION

*Based on Psalm 1*

Minister: Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

**Congregation: But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.**

M: He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither.

**C: Whatever he does prospers.**

M: Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.

**C: Therefore, the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.**

M: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

**C: but the way of the wicked will perish.**

M: In the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

*Based on Isaiah 45*

M: Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord issues this invitation: “Turn to me and be saved, for I am God, and there is no other.” So let us turn to the Lord, confessing our sins, and putting our faith in Jesus Christ, so that we may be saved.

**C: O Lord of heaven and earth: before you every knee must bow and every person must plead guilty to iniquity, rebellion, and sin. I, too, have broken your commands in thought, word, and deed, and deserve nothing but your anger and punishment. But, Lord, we also believe that in you alone are righteousness and strength. In your great mercy, take away our sin, and strengthen our faith, so that we may honor and obey you in all we say and do. Amen.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

M: The prophet says: “In the Lord all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and will exult.” Indeed, our righteousness comes from the Lord Jesus Christ, whose perfect life was offered to God in payment for our sin, and whose innocent death and mighty resurrection has gained our justification. Now, as you put your trust and hope in God, who is merciful and compassionate, rejoice and give praise to your Redeemer by living a life of love and service.

**C: Lord, thank you for your love and mercy. Amen.**



## THE WORD

### LESSON

### 1 John 3:1-8

*Jesus restores our relationship with God; we are truly God's children. The Apostle John puts it plain and simple when he says, "This is why the Son of God appeared: to destroy the works of the Devil."*

<sup>3:1</sup> See the kind of love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are! The world does not know us, because it did not know him. <sup>2</sup> Dear friends, we are children of God now, but what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he is revealed we will be like him, and we will see him as he really is. <sup>3</sup> Everyone who has this hope purifies himself just as Jesus is pure.

<sup>4</sup> Everyone who commits sin also commits lawlessness. Sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> You know that he appeared in order to take away our sins and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup> Anyone who remains in him does not sin. The person who keeps on sinning has not seen him or known him.

<sup>7</sup> Dear children, do not let anyone deceive you. Whoever does what is right is righteous just as Jesus is righteous. <sup>8</sup> The one who continues to sin is of the Devil, because the Devil has been sinning from the beginning. This is why the Son of God appeared: to destroy the works of the Devil.

STAND

## GOSPEL LESSON

## Matthew 27:45-54

*Restoring our relationship with God came at the highest price, the death of the Son of God. That's how much you mean to God. That's what he was willing to do to rescue you from an eternity in hell.*

<sup>45</sup>From the sixth hour until the ninth hour, there was darkness over all the land. <sup>46</sup>About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*” which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

<sup>47</sup>When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “This fellow is calling for Elijah.”

<sup>48</sup>Immediately one of them ran, took a sponge, and soaked it with sour wine. Then he put it on a stick and gave him a drink. <sup>49</sup>The rest said, “Leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.”

<sup>50</sup>After Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. <sup>51</sup>Suddenly, the temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and rocks were split. <sup>52</sup>Tombs were opened, and many bodies of saints who had fallen asleep were raised to life. <sup>53</sup>Those who came out of the tombs went into the holy city after Jesus’ resurrection and appeared to many people. <sup>54</sup>When the centurion and those who were guarding Jesus with him saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they were terrified and said, “Truly this was the Son of God.”

*BE SEATED*

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*Children may remain seated with their families for the children’s message.*

# HYMN

# Christ Be My Leader

*Christian Worship #367*



1 Christ be my lead - er by night as by day,  
2 Christ be my teach - er in age as in youth,  
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife;



Safe through the dark - ness, for he is the way.  
Drift - ing or doubt - ing, for he is the truth.  
Death can - not hold me, for he is the life. Nor



Glad - ly I fol - low, my fu - ture his care;  
Grant me to trust him, though shift - ing as sand.  
dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor sin and its stain Can



Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.  
Doubt can - not daunt me— in Je - sus I stand!  
touch my sal - va - tion— with Je - sus I reign!

# SERMON

## Genesis 3:15

“I will put hostility between you and the woman,  
and between your seed and her seed.  
He will crush your head,  
and you will crush his heel.”



**This Promise Brings Impact**

**Their Head and Heel \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Our Heart and Hands \_\_\_\_\_.**

## THE SECOND ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES' CREED

*(Luther's Explanation)*

M: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity,

**C: and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.**

M: He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature,

**C: purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil,**

M: not with gold or silver

**C: but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.**

M: All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom,

**C: and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,**

M: just as he has risen from death

**C: and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.**

## OFFERING

*The members of Eternal Love congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our church's ministry. However, we do ask that everyone take part in completing the connection card. Whether you are worshipping in person or watching online, please fill it out now or later at [www.eternal-love.org/onlineworship](http://www.eternal-love.org/onlineworship).*

## OFFERING PRAISE

**How Deep the Father's Love for Us**  
*Selah*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Blessed Lord, maker of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ,

**C: and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.**

M: By his incarnation, he became one of us.

**C: By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.**

M: By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

**C: By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.**

M: For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the leaders of our synod and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For our president, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For seasonable weather and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: Defend us, deliver us, and in your compassion protect us, O Lord, by your grace.

**C: Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

*STAND*

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

*Based on the last verses of the Bible, Revelation 22:12-21*

M: Jesus said, "Behold, I am coming soon.

I am the Alpha and the Omega,  
the First and the Last,  
the Beginning and the End."

**C: Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

M: The grace of the Lord Jesus + be with God's people.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN**

**There Is a Redeemer**

*Christian Worship Supplement #747*



1 There is a Re - deem - er, Je - sus, God's own  
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all  
3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see his



Son, Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah,  
names, Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah,  
face; There I'll serve my King for - ev - er

*Refrain*



Ho - - - ly One.  
Hope for sin - ners slain. Thank you, O my  
In that ho - ly place.



Fa - ther, for giv - ing us your Son and



leav - ing your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Dave Backus  
Scripture Readers: Ben Rusch (8:00 am) & Chris Zimmerman (9:45 am)  
Accompanist: Linda Clarey

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### To Your Temple I Draw Near

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt. Tune: Freylinghausen, Geist-reiches Gasang-Buch, Halle, 1704, alt. GOTT SEI DANK DURCH ALLE WELT. Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

### Psalm 73

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### Christ Be My Leader

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### Holy Bible

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