

to live is
CHRIST



to die is
GAIN

Philippians 1:21

Pentecost 15
September 13/14, 2020

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: REJOICE

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" – *Philippians 4:4*. Really? Always rejoice? Always have joy? Don't you know what I'm going through?

Sometimes it's hard to imagine being able

to rejoice when the stresses, pains, and anxieties of life start to pile up. Yet Paul writes this beautiful, joy filled letter to the Philippians, and he writes it from a jail cell! He writes it to a church that is suffering, poor, and persecuted. God gives this letter to us, too. Rejoice!



Today's Focus: In today's selection from Philippians, we'll see that we can rejoice in Paul's motto: To Live is Christ, to Die is Gain. As we rejoice in this motto, this mindset, we clearly know see that it's all good.

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 PRAISE

By Faith



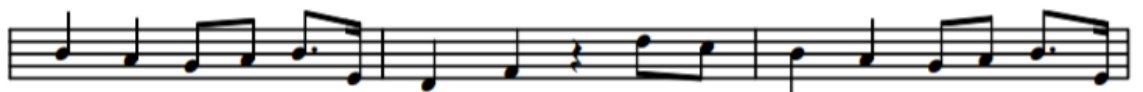
1. By faith we see the hand of God in the light of cre - a - tion's grand de -
 2. By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth, with the pow'r of His prom - ise in their
 3. By faith the proph - ets saw a day when the longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap -
 4. By faith the church was called to go, in the pow'r of the Spir - it to the
 5. By faith this moun - tain shall be moved and the pow'r of the gos - pel shall pre



sign; in the lives of those who prove His faith - ful - ness,
 hearts of a ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,
 pear, with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
 lost, to de - liv - er cap - tives, and to preach good news
 veil, for we know in Christ all things are pos - si - ble



who walk by faith and not by sight. (to v.2) reign. We will
 a place where peace and jus - tice _____
 and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. (to v.4)
 in ev - 'ry cor - ner of the _____ earth.
 for all who call up on His _____ name.



stand as child - ren of the prom - ise. We will fix our eyes on Him, our



soul's re - ward. Till the race is fin - ished and the work is done,



we'll walk by faith and _____ not by sight.

INVOCATION

Based on Romans 14:17, Psalm 28:7

Minister: With joyful anticipation, we call upon the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFIRMATION ESSAYS ON BAPTISM

(10:45 am) Madison Mielke, Natalia Rodriguez

OPENING RESPONSES

(8:00 am)

M: The Lord makes known to his people the paths of life.

C: He will fill us with joy in his presence.

M: The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking,

C: But of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

M: The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped.

C: My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song.

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: The Lord has given us a great treasure in the Bible. It was inspired by the Holy Spirit, preserved for us down through the centuries, and is provided for us in modern translations. Though we recognize that we have received a treasure in the Scriptures, we have also neglected them and lived contrary to them. We struggle against a sinful nature in us which despises the Word. Let us confess our sins to the Lord and, trusting in his mercy, ask for his Holy Spirit to help us be more faithful learners and doers of the Word of God.

C: Almighty and merciful Father, we confess our sins to you. We have despised your words, and disobeyed your commands in our actions, words, and thoughts. Lord, show us mercy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

M: Since you have humbly confessed your sins before Almighty God, be strengthened in faith, remembering that he does not want any sinner to die, but would rather have him turn from his evil ways and live. God has commanded his called ministers to declare the forgiveness of sins to all who are penitent. Rest assured, therefore, that your sins have been covered up by the blood and righteousness of Jesus Christ, your Savior. May God's peace be with you.

C: Amen.

CONFIRMATION ESSAY ON THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

(10:45 am) Samuel Ferge

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: *Let us pray.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Conduct
yourselves in
 a way
worthy of the
GOSPEL 

STAND

THE WORD

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-26

Last week, we listened as Matthew recorded a beautiful confession by Peter of who Jesus is. No doubt the disciples understood who Jesus was. But they failed to understand his work. When Jesus speaks clearly about his cross, Peter spoke Satan's words of compromise. Thanks be to God that our Savior saw the necessity of the cross before the crown.

²¹ From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you."

²³ But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men."

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵ In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?"

BE SEATED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

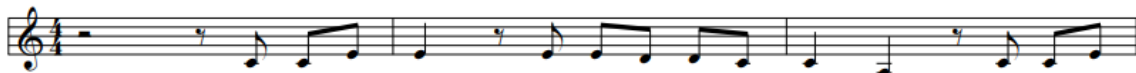
(8:00 am) Pastor shares a message for the young children

CONFIRMATION ESSAY ON HOLY COMMUNION

(10:45 am) Allison Oleszak

SONG

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me



1. What gift of grace is Je - sus, my Re - deem - er? There is no
 2. The night is dark, but I am not for - sak - en. For by my
 3. No fate I dread, I know I am for - giv - en. The fu - ture
 4. With ev - 'ry breath I long to fol - low Je - sus, for He has



more for heav - en now to give. He is my joy, my right - eous - ness and
 side, the Sav - ior He will stay. I la - bor on in weak - ness and re -
 sure, the price it has been paid. For Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my
 said that He will bring me home. And day by day, I know He will re -



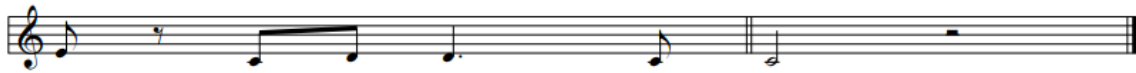
free - dom, my stead - fast love, my deep and bound - less peace. To this I
 joice - ing, for in my need His pow - er is dis - played. To this I
 par - don, and He was raised to o - ver - throw the grave. To this I
 new me, un - til I stand with joy be - fore the throne. To this I



hold: My hope is on - ly Je - sus, for my life is whol - ly bound to
 hold: My shep - herd will de - fend me, through the deep - est val - ley He will
 hold: My sin has been de - feat - ed, Je - sus now and ev - er is my
 hold: My hope is on - ly Je - sus, all the glo - ry ev - er - more to



His. Oh, how strange and di - vine, I can sing, "All is mine," yet not
 lead. Oh, the night has been won, and I shall o - ver - come, yet not
 plea. Oh, the chains are re - leased, I can sing, "I am free," yet not
 Him. When the race is com - plete, still my lips shall re - peat, "Yet not



I, but through Christ in me.
 I, but through Christ in me.
 I, but through Christ in me.
 I, but through Christ in me."

^{18b} Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, ¹⁹ because I know that this will turn out for my deliverance, through your prayer and the support of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. ²⁰ This matches my earnest expectation and hope that I will in no way be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, so even now, Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ Yes, for me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²² But if I am to go on living in the flesh, that will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet which should I prefer? I do not know. ²³ I am pulled in two directions, because I have the desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far. ²⁴ But, it is more necessary for your sake that I remain in the flesh. ²⁵ And since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and will continue with all of you, for your progress and joy in the faith. ²⁶ And so by my coming to you again, my goal is to give you even more reason to boast in Christ Jesus.

“It’s All Good”

It’s All Good, to Live With Christ

It’s All Good, to Live For Christ

to live is
CHRIST



to die is
GAIN

CONFIRMATION ESSAY ON THE APOSTLES' CREED

(10:45 am) Maleah LaBarge

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.**

OFFERING

Those who wish to give an offering today may place it in one of the offering plates near the door when exiting the chapel after worship.

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.

CONFIRMATION RITE

Adult Confirmands/New Members (8:00 am):

Rob & Sue Fritsch

Erik & Amanda Geiger

Marsha Green

Tom Schaefer

Cory Smith

John, Ariel, & Zailynn Stilp

Youth Confirmands (10:45 am):

Samuel Ferge – *My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. (John 10:27–28, EHV)*

Maleah LaBarge – *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6, EHV)*

Madison Mielke – *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified and do not be overwhelmed, because the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9, EHV)*

Allison Oleszak – *In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:6, EHV)*

Natalia Rodriguez – *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9, NIV)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

PRAYER

M: 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.

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.

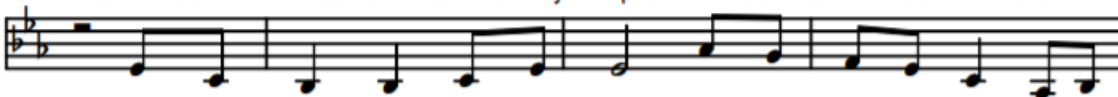
BE SEATED



1.From the break - ing of the dawn to the set - ting of the
 2.When I stum - ble and I sin, con - dem - na - tion press - ing
 3.When I'm faced with an-guished choice, I will lis - ten for Your
 4.Hope that lifts me from des - pair; Love that casts out ev - 'ry



sun, I will stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.
 in, I will stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.
 voice and I'll stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word,
 fear as I stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.



Words of po - wer strong to save, that will ne - ver pass a -
 You are faith - ful to for - give, that in free - dom I might
 Through this dark and troub - led land, You will guide me with Your
 Not for - sa - ken, not a - lone, for the Com - for - ter has



way, I will stand on ev' ry pro - mise of Your Word.
 live; so I stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.
 hand as I stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.
 come; And I stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.



For Your co - ve - nant is sure and on this I am se -
 Guilt to in - no - cence re - stored, You re - mem - ber sins no
 And You've pro - mised to com - plete ev - 'ry work be - gun in
 Grace suf - fi - cient, grace for me; Grace for all who will be -



cure, I can stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.
 more. So I'll stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.
 me. So I'll stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.
 lieve. We will stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your Word.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our songs of praise today are accompanied by **Eternal Praise**,
one of our congregation's own musical groups.

Liturgist: Pastor Dave Backus

Preacher: Pastor Dave Pries

Scripture Readers: Randy Pelischek (8:00 am)

Bruce Heckmann (10:45 am)

By Faith

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Every Promise of Your Word

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Holy Bible

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CONTACT US

Dave Pries, Pastor

920.285.1068

Pastor.Pries@eternal-love.org

Dave Backus, Pastor

920.716.7987

Pastor.Backus@eternal-love.org

Kara Krull, Wee Love Director & Teacher

920.858.3933

Kara.Krull@eternal-love.org

Rebecca Fleming, Office Manager

920.749.9744

Office.Manager@eternal-love.org



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