

Heritage of Our Fathers

Preaching the Word of God with the Lutheran Confessions

"GIVE TO CAESAR
WHAT IS CAESAR'S,
AND TO GOD
WHAT IS GOD'S."

MATTHEW 22:21



Civil Government



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*Trinity is a member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran
Confession (www.clclutheran.org)*



July 5, 2026

Pentecost 7

Serving Us Today

Organist: Kathy Conway

We Enter God's House and Prepare for Worship

Pre-service Meditation: *Psalm 33* (hymnal p. 131)

Pre-service Prayer:

LORD God, thank you for the 250 years you have given to our country and for the many ways You pour out your abundant and rich blessing upon her. You have granted these blessings in spite of our sin. Have mercy upon us, forgive our sins, and turn hearts in our nation to You, to repentance, and to a genuine trust in Jesus. While grateful for Your gift of my earthly country, keep my heart truly resting in the joy of being a citizen of Your kingdom. Keep my eyes looking forward to my heavenly country—life with You forever in Heaven. Amen.

Order of Worship (The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 5)

*When the congregation is asked to stand, please do so only if you are able.
You may remain seated if standing is difficult.*

Welcome to Worship

Hymn: 26(1-4,6) — Praise the Almighty, My Soul, Adore Him

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (sings): **Amen**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C (sings): **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C (sings): **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

C (sings): **Amen.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 33:4,8,10-12,20

Pastor: The word of the Lord is upright,

Cong: and all his work is done in faithfulness.

P: Let all the earth fear the Lord;

C: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!

P: The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;

C: he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

P: The counsel of the Lord stands forever,

C: the plans of his heart to all generations.

P: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

C: the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

P: Our soul waits for the Lord;

C: he is our help and our shield.

P: For our heart is glad in him,

C: because we trust in his holy name.

P: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,

C: even as we hope in you.

Congregation Sings (TLH, p. 6ff)

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

The Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Pastor: Glory be to God on high:

Cong: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, We glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takes

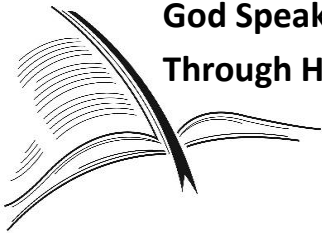
away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us. You who takes away the sin of the world, Receive our prayer. You who sits at the right hand of God the Father, Have mercy upon us. For You only are holy; You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, Are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C (sings): And with Your spirit.

P: Let us pray...

C (sings): Amen!



God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Scripture Lesson:

1 Samuel 24:1-19

David would be the next king of Israel—God said so. Saul had forsaken the LORD and would perish—God said so. Saul was pursuing David to kill him,

yet David did not take advantage of killing Saul when he had the chance. Why? Because Saul was still king; he was still God’s appointed authority in the land and David honored his king—put in authority by God--and would not take his life.

When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, “Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi.” Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel and went to seek David and his men in front of the Wildgoats’ Rocks. And he came to the sheepfolds by the way, where there was a cave, and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. And the men of David said to him, “Here is the day of which the Lord said to you, ‘Behold, I will give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it shall seem good to you.’” Then David arose and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul’s robe. And afterward David’s heart struck him, because he had cut off a corner of Saul’s robe. He said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the Lord’s anointed, to put out my hand against him, seeing he is the Lord’s anointed.” So David persuaded his men with these

words and did not permit them to attack Saul. And Saul rose up and left the cave and went on his way. Afterward David also arose and went out of the cave, and called after Saul, "My lord the king!" And when Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the earth and paid homage. And David said to Saul, "Why do you listen to the words of men who say, 'Behold, David seeks your harm'? Behold, this day your eyes have seen how the Lord gave you today into my hand in the cave. And some told me to kill you, but I spared you.[c] I said, 'I will not put out my hand against my lord, for he is the Lord's anointed.' See, my father, see the corner of your robe in my hand. For by the fact that I cut off the corner of your robe and did not kill you, you may know and see that there is no wrong or treason in my hands. I have not sinned against you, though you hunt my life to take it. May the Lord judge between me and you, may the Lord avenge me against you, but my hand shall not be against you. As the proverb of the ancients says, 'Out of the wicked comes wickedness.' But my hand shall not be against you. After whom has the king of Israel come out? After whom do you pursue? After a dead dog! After a flea! May the Lord therefore be judge and give sentence between me and you, and see to it and plead my cause and deliver me from your hand." As soon as David had finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul said, "Is this your voice, my son David?" And Saul lifted up his voice and wept. He said to David, "You are more righteous than I, for you have repaid me good, whereas I have repaid you evil. And you have declared this day how you have dealt well with me, in that you did not kill me when the Lord put me into your hands. For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go away safe? So may the Lord reward you with good for what you have done to me this day.

P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and treasure it! Hallelujah!

C (sings): Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Scripture Lesson: Acts 5:22-32

C (sings): Glory be to You, O Lord!

Earthly authorities are put in their position by God and according to His will. They are His representatives. Nevertheless, if God's earthly representatives give direction/command that is contrary to God's Word, we ought to obey God rather than men. The apostles did just that.

But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people. And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

C (sings): Praise be to You, O Christ!



Confession of Faith: The Apostolic 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.

Hymn: 581 – All Ye Who on this Earth do Dwell

The Sermon

Text: *Romans 13:1-7*

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

“Civil Government Is a Blessing”

- I. It is established by God
- II. It receives its purpose from God
- III. It is honored by God's children

Cong. (sings): Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me with Your free Spirit.

Hymn: O Lord of Nations (tune = TLH 412)

O Lord of nations, hear our prayer.
We thank You for this land most fair, created by Your might,
For mountain sunset, lake at dawn,
For woodland bloom and robin song,
For stars that lace the night,

For farms and fields of golden grain,
For science and medicine, for wealth beyond compare,
For leisure time and work to do—Lord,
All these blessings, come from You,
Signs of Your loving care.

Most grateful, gracious God, are we
that in this country we are free to worship You above.
We gather here to speak Your name,
Then leave this place spread Your fame
That all may know Your love.

Forgive us, Lord, when we forget Your gifts to share,
Your Word to spread to those who ache and bleed.
Renew our will to help the weak,
To feed the hungry and to speak
Your Word to souls in need.

And for the leaders You ordained
We pray, O Lord, that they remain courageous, honest, wise.
O give them guidance, make them strong
To stand for right, and battle wrong,
That freedom's song may rise.

When storm and terror strike our land,
Remove our fear and help us stand against our enemies.
Lord, may no wicked men prevail.
May ev'ry plot of treach'ry fail.
May we remain in peace.

Prayer



Thank-offerings may be left in the offering plate in the narthex, mailed to the church, or made electronically via the link on our website home page.

Offering Prayer (Congregation sings, Tune = TLH 423)

Gracious God, You send great blessings
New each morning all our days.
For Your mercies never ending,
For Your love we offer praise.
Lord, we pray that we, Your people
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings
May bring glory to Your name. (LSB 782:1)

Lord's Prayer

Children's Sermon

Benediction (Pastor)

C (sings): **Amen! Amen! Amen!**

Hymn:

577— God Bless Our Native Land
584 – Swell the Anthem, Raise the Song
(Please stand for the final verse)

Silent Prayer

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Welcome to Worship at Trinity! to all who have gathered for worship this morning. We especially welcome guests and visitors—

please sign our guest book in the north entry. We look forward to having you worship with us again!



Thank-offerings may be left in the offering plate in the back of the church or mailed to the church.

Prayer List: Kathy Conway;
Bertie Hein; Maggie, Miles,
and Sia Toland; Donna Zarling;
CLC pastoral vacancies



This Week's Schedule

(If the Lord wills we shall do this or that)



Today

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Next Sunday (July 12)

9:15 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

News & Notes

Vicar Radermacher Contact: 651-403-0818 / samurade@ilc.edu

The Radermachers plan to return to Spokane on Wednesday following a family wedding in Minnesota.

Bible Study in the Summer: Typically, there is no Bible Study at Trinity during the summer months. However, with our summer vicar serving throughout the summer, we plan to have Sunday and midweek Bible Classes when possible. The first Sunday Bible Study is set for next week. Stay tuned for more to come on the midweek plan.



Vacation Bible School at Trinity: As part of the summer's ministry and outreach, we are planning to host a Vacation Bible School at Trinity—August 3-7. There are ways for the membership of Trinity to help. Areas of helping in VBS include teaching, crafts, snacks

(providing and serving), and more. A sign-up sheet is in the north entry to volunteer to help. Talk to Vicar Radermacher or Pastor E. for more information, questions, etc. This is an exciting opportunity!



Student registration: tinyurl.com/TrinityVBS26

Gethsemane welcomes the members of Trinity to its annual Spokane Indian's Baseball game



The ticket site is open and ready for business. The game starts at 6:35 p.m.

<https://tinyurl.com/GetBB26>





July Cleaners

Sanctuary: Estes / **North Entry:** Clark
Basement: Helke



Gethsemane's First Pastor has been Given the Crown of Life

Robert Dommer
(1925-2026)

Robert Dommer graduated from the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary at Mequon, WI and then served congregations in Salem, OR; Tacoma, Portland, Seattle, and Yakima WA. In the summer of 1951, Pastor Dommer was called to go to Opportunity, WA as a missionary. He accepted the call and on the third Sunday of September, what would become Gethsemane Lutheran Church held its first worship service.

In 1957, Pastor Dommer and Gethsemane Lutheran Church resigned from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Two years later, he accepted the call to serve as teacher and principal at Immanuel Lutheran High School. He and his family moved to Mankato in the summer of 1959.

In 1959, Pastor Dommer was called to serve as professor at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary in Mankato, MN—later moved to the present campus in Eau Claire, WI. He would continue to serve as a full-time professor at Immanuel for 29 years until retiring in 1988. He was the high school principal for 27 of those 29 years. Even after retirement, Prof. Dommer taught part time—filling in with teaching upper-level College Greek and Church History.

During his time at Immanuel, Prof. Dommer also chaired the Music Committee, taught organ, and was the director of the Mass Choir and Tour Choir until 1984.

Many of the Immanuel alumni through from 1960-1988 fondly remember Prof. Dommer in his various roles as teacher, principal, and choir director.

The Lord brought Pastor/Prof. Dommer's earthly pilgrimage to its close on July 3, 2026, having given him 101 years of grace.



News from around the Church of the Lutheran Confession

Call News: Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD, Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD, has returned the call to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Austin, MN / Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer of Berea Lutheran Church, Inver Grove Heights, MN, has returned the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI / Pastor Michael Roehl of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND, has returned the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI / Mr. Steve Sydow has returned the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI / Jill Liepold has accepted a one-year teaching call to St. John's Lutheran School, Okabena, MN / Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN is considering the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, A / Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, is considering the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD and the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN.

Pray for Laborers--Current locations that are in need of pastor-trained men:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Our Redeemer, Red Wing | 2. Living Hope, Appleton |
| 3. Trinity, Spokane | 4. Holy Cross, Phoenix |
| 5. St. Paul's, Austin | 6. St. Luke's, Lemmon |

7. Mt. Zion, Detroit

8. Messiah, Eau Claire (3rd pastor)

9. Gift of God, Mapleton/St. Paul, Ponsford

Mission Helpers Depart: The Mission Helper Trip for 2026 has begun. The prayerful goal is to share the Gospel of Christ with an estimated 6000 children. Some of these children will be members of CLC-affiliated congregations and preaching stations, but most of them will not be. For many, this will be the first time they have heard a clear Law and Gospel presentation of the Bible's story of salvation. **Due to the Ebola outbreak in Congo and Uganda,** Team Kenya will not be making their planned stops in Uganda. **The theme for our Child Evangelism program is "Get to Know the Real Jesus"** with lessons that teach the truths of Scripture which reveal that Jesus is True God, True Man, the Savior, and for Everyone. This year's Mission Helpers are: **Team Kenya:** Pastor Tom Naumann (Grace, Fridley, MN), Elijah Sumey (Berea, Sioux Falls, SD, Abigail Gerbitz (Berea, Inver Grove Heights, MN), Lauren Gurgel (Messiah, Eau Claire, WI). **Team Tanzania:** Missionary Bruce and Paula Naumann (Arusha, Tanzania), Jeff and Sarah Radichel (Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN). **Team Zambia:** Missionary Todd Ohlmann (Faith, Manchester, MO), Josh Ohlmann (Gethsemane, Saginaw, MI), Lydia Ohlmann (Faith, Manchester, MO), Alexis Aichele (Morning Star, Fairchild, WI), Andrew Lau (Messiah, Eau Claire, WI). **Please pray that the Lord would grant an abundance** of wisdom, love, humility, compassion, patience, joy, and safety for the Mission Helpers, their hosts, and those they serve. Pray for the pastors and church leaders who have spent much time and effort preparing for the Mission Helper's arrival and child evangelism program.

Experience the Mission Helper Trip via Their Blog:

<https://tinyurl.com/CLCMHT2026>



We Believe & Confess

It is taught among us that all government in the world and all established rule and laws were instituted and ordained by God for the sake of good order, and that Christians may without sin occupy civil offices or serve as princes and judges, render decisions and pass sentence according to imperial and other existing laws, punish evildoers with the sword, engage in just wars, serve as soldiers, buy and sell, take required oaths, possess property, be married, etc.

Condemned here are [those] who teach that none of the things indicated above is Christian.

Also condemned are those who teach that Christian perfection requires the forsaking of house and home wife and child, and the renunciation of such activities as mentioned above. Actually, true perfection consists alone of proper fear of God and real faith in God, for the Gospel does not teach an outward and temporal but an inward and eternal mode of existence and righteousness of the heart. The Gospel does not overthrow civil authority, the state, and marriage, but requires that all these be kept as true orders of God and that everyone, each according to his own calling, manifests Christian love and genuine good works in this station of life. Accordingly, Christians are obliged to be subject to civil authority and obey its commands and laws in all that can be done without sin. But, when commands of the civil authority cannot be obeyed without sin, we must obey God rather than men (Act 5:29).

The Augsburg Confession Article XVI
Translator Theodore G. Tappert / ©1959 Fortress Press

Additional Reading in the Confessions: *The Apology of the Augsburg Confession* Article XVI; The Fourth Commandment in Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* and *Large Catechism*.