



October 4, 2026 LWML Sunday Setting 1 8:15

Prelude "Abide with Me"

On LWML Sunday, we celebrate the LWML mission statement: As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

Serve the Lord with Gladness

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

It is He alone

Who redeemed us sinners,

Guides us as His own

To enjoy the blessings

Of His love and grace,

Will at last in glory

Meet us face to face.

Onward, then, for Jesus!

Let this be our aim:

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

Glorify His name.

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

He gave us command

To proclaim His Gospel

Now in every land

So that fellow sinners

May, like us, be blest.

Leading them to Jesus,

We can serve Him best.

Onward, then, for Jesus!

Let this be our aim:

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

Glorify His name!

"Serve the Lord with gladness!"

There's no greater joy

Than to serve the Master,

Work in His employ.

As we build His kingdom

Angels, too, rejoice

Over every sinner
Brought to hear His voice.
Onward, then, for Jesus!
Let this be our aim:
"Serve the Lord with gladness!"
Glorify His name!
Text: Prof. Ernest Lewerenz
Text: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Opening Sentences

- A** Dearest Lord Jesus, you have told us that you came into this world not to be served but to serve.
- C** **In your service dear Lord we were granted forgiveness, peace and hope.**
- P** You dear Lord are the One whom we now serve.
- C** **We serve you in thought, word and deed.**
- A** Dear Lord, bless us in our service to you.
- C** **Lead and guide us dear Lord in all our acts of service.**
- P** Dear Lord, you tell us whatever we have done unto the least of these your brothers and sisters
- C** **we have done unto you.**
- A** Bless us dear Lord in our doing
- C** **that it would be done unto you and your kingdom.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Kyrie

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



- C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



- C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast (sing)

- C** This is the feast of victory
for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain,
whose blood set us free
to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory
for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom,
and strength,**

**and honor, blessing,
and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory
for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory
for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain
has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory
for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Let us pray. **(from private diary of John Ballie)**

O God, I crave Your blessing upon this day of rest and refreshment.
Let me rejoice today in Your worship and find gladness in the singing
of Your praises. Forbid, I beseech You, that only my body should be
refreshed today and not my spirit.

Give me grace for such an act of self-recollection as may again bring together the scattered forces of my soul. Enable me to step aside for a little while from the busy life of common days and take thought about its meaning and its end.

☐ May Jesus Christ be today the companion of my thoughts so that His spirit may more and more take root within my soul. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 11:10–30

- ¹⁰When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices,
and when the wicked perish there are shouts of gladness.
- ¹¹By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted,
but by the mouth of the wicked it is overthrown.
- ¹²Whoever belittles his neighbor lacks sense,
but a man of understanding remains silent.
- ¹³Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets,
but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered.
- ¹⁴Where there is no guidance, a people falls,
but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.
- ¹⁵Whoever puts up security for a stranger will surely suffer harm,
but he who hates striking hands in pledge is secure.
- ¹⁶A gracious woman gets honor,
and violent men get riches.
- ¹⁷A man who is kind benefits himself,
but a cruel man hurts himself.
- ¹⁸The wicked earns deceptive wages,
but one who sows righteousness gets a sure reward.
- ¹⁹Whoever is steadfast in righteousness will live,
but he who pursues evil will die.
- ²⁰Those of crooked heart are an abomination to the LORD,
but those of blameless ways are his delight.
- ²¹Be assured, an evil person will not go unpunished,
but the offspring of the righteous will be delivered.

- ²²Like a gold ring in a pig's snout
is a beautiful woman without discretion.
- ²³The desire of the righteous ends only in good;
the expectation of the wicked in wrath.
- ²⁴One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;
another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.
- ²⁵Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,
and one who waters will himself be watered.
- ²⁶The people curse him who holds back grain,
but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it.
- ²⁷Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor,
but evil comes to him who searches for it.
- ²⁸Whoever trusts in his riches will fall,
but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.
- ²⁹Whoever troubles his own household will inherit the wind,
and the fool will be servant to the wise of heart.
- ³⁰The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,
and whoever captures souls is wise.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

²Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Epistle

Philippians 3:4b–14

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LWML Pledge

C In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:10–20

A The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

¹³"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.**

Jesus, Greatest at the Table LSB 446

Jesus, greatest at the table,
The almighty Son of Man,
Laid aside His outer clothing,
Poured some water in a pan;
As the Twelve lay, hushed in silence,
He the servant's task began.

Marvel how their Lord and teacher
Gently taught them not to vie
As He humbly knelt before them,
Dusty feet to wash and dry,
By His tender touch expressing
True compassion from on high.

Jesus took the role of servant
When upon that gruesome span,
For all human sin He suffered
As a vile and loathsome man;
On the cross poured out like water
To fulfill the Father's plan.

Can we fathom such deep mercy?
Do we see what God has done?
Who can grasp this great reversal:
Love that gives His only Son?
Christ, the sinless for the sinners,
For the many dies the One.

Jesus gave to His disciples
A commandment that was new:
"Show My love to one another,
Do as I have done for you;
All the world will know you love Me
As you love each other too."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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Sermon "In the Marathon of Faith, Keeping your Eyes/Mind/Heart on Jesus"
Philippians 3:4b-14

Prayer of the Church

A Let us pray. Almighty God, You search our hearts and have seen our sin, and yet in Your love have reconciled us to Yourself through Your Son. Give us Your Spirit, the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ, that our lives may grow in devotion to You for the salvation You have so graciously given us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A Guide, we pray, our congregation in life and witness. Give us Your grace, so that in a land where strife is too common, we will be a place of peace. In our divided nation, make this Your congregation a gathering place of hearts united in You who extend Your welcome to all. Inspire all the members of Your congregation to love this place where Your name is invoked and Your grace proclaimed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For the mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League in this congregation and throughout the world, that every heart will beat with Your love and all hearts extend Your hand of service to others. Through the faithful gathering of mites, may Lutheran Women in Mission continue to encourage us to put all You have given us into the mission of reaching the lost and erring. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For the daily bread that sustains us in life: For food and health, for housing and clothing, for employment, for moderate weather, for justice and peace in our community and nation, that in every time of abundance and time of need, we may know Your peace in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

A In the midst of trouble, anxiety, sickness, or fear of death, comfort, heal, and raise up all who call upon You in their need, especially *Sandra Keith, Jacque Sterrett, Lennie Sprayberry, Rick Miller, John Haubold, Jan Peterson, Carla Weikert, Robert Wood, Kerstin, Krueger, Joseph Davis*. Bless all who minister healing and deliverance to those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

(Having received the Gospel's grace, let us joyfully share "Peace of Christ" with one another.)

Offering

Prepare our Hearts for Communion

1. Do I believe that I am sinful, without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ Jesus?
2. Do I harbor resentment for another or refuse to forgive another's sin?
3. Do I believe that Jesus is God's Son and my personal Savior?
4. Do I believe that He is personally present with His Body and Blood?
5. Do I desire by the Holy Spirit's power to live a Godly life?

If this is what you believe, we invite you to come forward to share Communion with us. If this is not what you understand or believe you are welcome to come forward for a blessing; simply cross your arms for the Pastor to bless you.

Communion Instructions

(For those who are intolerant to alcohol, grape juice is available in the center of each communion tray marked by purple cups. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.)

C Thank you, Lord, for blessing us that we might be a blessing to others.

Ministry Moment: LWML

Responsive Reading for Mission and Evangelism - Mites

L "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you" (John 20:21).
We are sent, equipped with the message of hope

C Here am I, Lord. Send me.

L "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). We are empowered to testify of God's greatness.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me.

L How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:15 NIV). We are called to bring good news to the broken-hearted.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me

L "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19 NIV). Our mission is global.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me

- L** "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age"
(Matthew 28:20 NIV). God promises to be with us in the mission.
- C** **Here am I, Lord. Send me**

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.



- C** And al - so with you.

- A** Lift up your hearts.



- C** We lift them to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- A** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who bestows on His people the righteousness of Christ and teaches them to live as salt and light in the world, serving with the strength that God supplies and joyfully supporting the spread of the Gospel. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (sing)

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are
full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

A Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

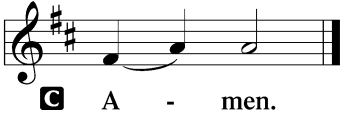
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Lord's Prayer

- C** **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.**

Pax Domini

A The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei (sing)

C Lamb of God, You take away
the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away
the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away
the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

You Are the Way; through You Alone LSB 526

You are the way; through You alone
Can we the Father find;
In You, O Christ, has God revealed
His heart and will and mind.

You are the truth; Your Word alone
True wisdom can impart;
You only can inform the mind
And purify the heart.

You are the life; the empty tomb
Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,
And those who put their trust in You
Not death nor hell shall harm.

You are the way, the truth, the life;
Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win
Whose joys eternal flow.
Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Text: Public domain

O God, My Faithful God LSB 696

O God, my faithful God,
True fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is,
All perfect gifts bestowing:
Give me a healthy frame,
And may I have within
A conscience free from blame,
A soul unstained by sin.

Grant me the strength to do
With ready heart and willing
Whatever You command,
My calling here fulfilling;
That I do what I should
While trusting You to bless
The outcome for my good,
For You must give success.

Keep me from saying words
That later need recalling;
Guard me lest idle speech
May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place
I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace
Lest I offend the weak.

Lord, let me win my foes
With kindly words and actions,
And let me find good friends
For counsel and correction.
Help me, as You have taught,
To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might
To live in peace with all.

Let me depart this life
Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul
That it may live forever;
And let my body have
A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave;
And let it sleep in peace.

And on that final day
When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand,
My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice,
Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice
With those who love Your name.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling LSB 700

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88
Text: Public domain

Thank the Lord (sing)

**☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice
and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises
and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



Jesus Shall Reign LSB 832

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns:
The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen.
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Text: Public domain

Dismissal

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Acknowledgments

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