

Zion Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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September 6, 2026 – The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME – ANNOUNCEMENTS

“RECKLESS LOVE”

Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me
You have been so, so good to me!
Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me!
You have been so, so kind to me!

Chorus

***Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God!
Oh, it chases me down, fights ‘til I’m found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn’t earn it, I don’t deserve it, still You give Yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God!***

When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me!
When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me! **(Chorus)**

Bridge

There’s no shadow You won’t light up
Mountain You won’t climb up coming after me
There’s no wall You won’t kick down
Lie You won’t tear down coming after me! **(BridgeX4) (Chorus)**

CCLI# 118383

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION OF FAITH

P By choosing to come together and worship God here today, you have chosen a good thing! He is about to bless us with His gifts that we may

know Him and His love more deeply. What do you hope to receive here today?

C I know that I will receive God's gifts of love, mercy and grace. In response I want to offer Him my worship and praise; I join God's family here in praying before His throne.

P So we're here, then, to worship God. What is it you believe about God?

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 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.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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.

(We quietly confess our sins to God...)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, I confess that I am in my flesh sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

FORGIVENESS

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His

sake forgives you all your sins. Upon your heartfelt and sincere confession 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.

OFFERING “JESUS PAID IT ALL”

I hear the Savior say, “Thy strength indeed is small
Child of weakness watch and pray; find in Me thine all in all”

Chorus

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe!

Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow!

Lord now indeed I find, Thy power and Thine alone
Can change the lepers spots and melt the heart of stone **(Chorus)**

And when before the throne, I stand in Him complete
Jesus died my soul to save, my lips shall still repeat **(Chorus)**

Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow!
He washed it white as snow! He washed it white as snow!

Bridge

O praise the one who paid my debt
and raised this life up from the dead! **(Repeat 6X)**

CCLI# 1183834

PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

"IN CHRIST ALONE"

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
firm through the fiercest drought and storm

What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in all
here in the love of Christ I stand

Bridge

Oh oh oh... oh oh oh... oh oh oh... oh oh oh

There in the ground, His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!

And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost it's grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ! ***(Repeat Bridge)***

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the pow'r of Christ in me!
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny!

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand! ***(Repeat Bridge)***

I find my strength, I find my home, I find my help, in Christ alone
When fear assails, when darkness falls, I find my peace, in Christ alone
I give my life, I give my all, I sing my song, to Christ alone
The King of Kings, the Lord of All, all heaven sings, to Christ alone
To Christ alone, In Christ alone

'Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand
Here in the pow'r of Christ we stand

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FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

SECOND READING

Romans 13:1-10

¹Let 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. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For 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, ⁴for 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. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay 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. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this

word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:1-20

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

MESSAGE

BLESSING

- 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.
- C** Amen.

“YOUR GRACE IS ENOUGH”

Great is Your faithfulness, oh God!
You wrestle with the sinner’s heart.
You lead us by still waters, into mercy.
And nothing can keep us apart.
So remember Your people, remember Your children.
Remember Your promise, oh God!

Chorus

Your grace is enough! Your grace is enough!
Your grace is enough, for me!

Great is Your love and justice, God!
You use the weak to lead the strong.
You lead us in the song of Your salvation.
And all Your people sing along.
So remember Your people, remember Your children.
Remember Your promise, oh God. **(Chorus 2X)**

So remember Your people, remember Your children,
Remember Your promise, oh God!

Your grace is enough! Your grace is enough!
Your grace is enough for me!
Your grace is enough! Heaven reaching down to us!
Your grace is enough for me!
God I sing: Your grace is enough! I’m covered in Your love!
Your grace is enough for me! For me!



"Truly I tell you,
unless you change
and become
like little
children,
you will
never enter
the Kingdom
of Heaven."

Matthew 18:3