

Faith Lutheran Church ~ LCMC

Hutchinson, MN

August 10, 2025 ~ 10:10 a.m.

Library Square

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES

DANIEL



**Faith
Lutheran
Church**

Summer Preaching Series

Gathering Music: "Evidence" (CCLI #7147432)

**All throughout my history Your faithfulness has walked beside me.
The winter storms made way for spring,
In every season from where I'm standing.**

***Chorus:* I see the evidence of Your goodness all over my life,
all over my life. I see Your promises in fulfillment all over my life,
all over my life.**

**Help me remember when I'm weak, fear may come but fear will leave.
You lead my heart to victory, You are my strength and You always will be.**

Chorus

See the cross the empty grave, the evidence is endless.

All my sin rolled away because of You oh Jesus. *Repeat Chorus x2*

Why should I fear? Oh the evidence is here.

Song "Christ Be Magnified" (CCLI #7139866)

**Were creation suddenly articulate with a thousand tongues to lift one cry
Then from north to south and east to west we'd hear Christ be magnified.**

**Were the whole earth echoing His eminence His name would burst from sea
and sky. From rivers to the mountain tops we'd hear Christ be magnified.**

***Chorus:* O Christ be magnified, Let His praise arise.
Christ be magnified in me. O Christ be magnified
from the altar of my life. Christ be magnified in me.**

**When ev'ry creature finds its inmost melody and ev'ry human heart its
native cry, O then in one enraptured hymn of praise we'll sing Christ be
magnified.**

**I won't bow to idols, I'll stand strong and worship You
And if it puts me in the fire I'll rejoice 'cause You're there too
I won't be formed by feelings I hold fast to what is true
If the cross brings transformation Then I'll be crucified with You
You can hang me there with You.**

**'Cause death is just the doorway into resurrection life
If I join You in Your suff'rings then I'll join You when You rise
And when You return in glory with all the angels and the saints
My heart will still be singing, My song will be the same.**

Greeting/Announcements

“Graves Into Gardens” (CCLI Song #7138219)

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me; Man's empty praise and treasures that fade, are never enough. Then You came along and put me back together, and every desire is now satisfied here in Your love.

***Chorus:* Oh there's nothing better than You, there's nothing better than You. Lord there's nothing, Nothing is better than You.**

**I'm not afraid to show You my weakness, my failures and flaws
Lord You've seen them all and You still call me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley
And there's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again. *Chorus***

**You turn mourning to dancing, You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory, You're the only one who can.**

**You turn graves into gardens, You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways, You're the only one who can. *Chorus***

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a fellow member of the priesthood of all believers and by the authority of Jesus Christ I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, you have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses. Encourage us by their bold testimony and steadfast faithfulness to persevere in the course that is set before us, to be living signs of the Gospel and, at the last, to share with all the saints in your eternal joy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song “Thank You Jesus” (CCLI #7227528)

**Thank You Jesus for finding me. Like a good shepherd
Your mercy leads back to Your arms where I’m meant to be.
So I thank You Jesus for finding me.**

**Thank You Jesus for saving me. You took my place on that cursed tree.
Died for sinners but rose as a King, so I thank You Jesus for saving me.**

***Chorus:* Oh it’s only because of all You’ve done that I can be called
a friend of God. Oh beautiful Savior what else can I do but
lift up my voice and say thank You.**

**Thank You Jesus for loving me, shame lost its hold when You set me free.
Every fear has to bow at Your feet, so I thank You Jesus for loving me.**

Chorus

I enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving.

I enter the courts of the Lord with praise.

Repeat

Chorus

Oh thank You. Oh thank You.

First Reading: Daniel 3

King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden statue, sixty cubits high and six cubits wide; he set it up on the plain of Dura in Babylon and sent for the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the statue. So all the officials assembled for the dedication of the statue. When they were standing before it, the herald proclaimed aloud, “You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you are to fall down and worship the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire.” Therefore, as soon as they heard the sound of the whole musical ensemble, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden statue.

Accordingly, at this time certain Chaldeans came forward and denounced the Jews. They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, “O king, live forever! You, O king, have made a decree, that everyone who hears the sound of the entire musical ensemble, shall fall down and worship the golden statue, and whoever does not shall be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire. There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These pay no heed to you, O king. They do not serve your gods and they do not worship the golden statue that you have set up.”

Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in before the king. Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?”

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up.”

Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was customary, and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind them and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire. So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics, trousers, hats, and other garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire. Because the king’s command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, but the three men fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counselors, “Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?” They answered, “True, O king.” He replied, “But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the fourth has the appearance of a god.” Nebuchadnezzar then approached the door of the furnace of blazing fire and said, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!” So they came out from the fire. And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king’s counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men; the hair of their heads was not singed, their tunics were not harmed, and not even the smell of fire came from them. Nebuchadnezzar said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king’s command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God. Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that utters blasphemy against the God of

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins; for there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way.” Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Faith Seeds: Niki Pokornowski

Faith Seeds is a time for children of all ages to come forward for a lesson geared to them.

The Gospel Acclamation: “Alleluia”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia to you alone.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You alone have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, to you alone.

Gospel: Matthew 10:16-22, 26-31

"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “*Ad Inferna*” Pastor Scott Grorud

Song “Another In the Fire” (CCLI #7124907)

There's a grace when the heart is under fire, another way when the walls are closing in, and when I look at the space between where I used to be and this reckoning, I know I will never be alone.

Chorus: There was another in the fire oh, There was another in the fire standing next to me. There was another in the waters, holding back the seas. And should I ever need reminding of how I've been set free there is a cross that bears the burden where another died for me. There is another in the fire.

All my debt left for dead beneath the waters, I'm no longer a slave to my sin anymore. And should I fall in the space between what remains of me and this reckoning, either way I won't bow to the things of this world And I know I will never be alone.

Chorus: There is another in the fire standing, oh, there was another in the fire standing next to me. There is another in the waters, holding back the seas. And should I ever need reminding what power set me free, There is a grave that holds no body And now that power lives in me.

There is another in the fire, oh.

And I can see the light in the darkness, as the darkness bows to Him.

I can hear the roar in the heavens, as the space between wears thin.

I can feel the ground shake beneath us as the prison walls cave in.

Nothing stands between us, nothing stands between us.

There is no other name, but the Name that is Jesus, He who was and still is And will be through it all. So come what may in the space between all the things unseen and this reckoning. I know I will never be alone.

I know I will never be alone.

Chorus: There'll be another in the fire standing next to me. There'll be another in the waters holding back the seas and should I ever need reminding how good You've been to me I'll count the joy come ev'ry battle 'sause I know that's where You'll be.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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: "Trust In God" (CCLI #7206001)

**Blessed assurance Jesus is mine. He's been my fourth man in the fire
Time after time. Born of His Spirit, Washed in His blood
And what He did for me on Calvary is more than enough.**

***Chorus:* I trust in God My Savior the One who will never fail.
He will never fail.**

**Perfect submission all is at rest. I know the author of tomorrow
Has ordered my steps. So this is my story and this is my song
I'm praising my risen King and Savior all the day long. *Chorus***

**I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered *Repeat 3x's*
That's why I trust Him. That's why I trust Him. *Chorus***

Offertory Response: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" © Public Domain

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

Words of Institution

The 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.**

Communion Songs: "Abide" (CCLI #7168160)

**For my waking breath; For my daily bread I depend on You.
I depend on You for the sun to rise. For my sleep at night.
I depend on You. I depend on You.**

***Chorus:* You're the way the truth and the life, You're the well
that never runs dry. I'm the branch and You are the vine
Draw me close and teach me to abide.**

**Where the Spirit leads as I'm following I depend on You. I depend on You.
For the victories still in front of me I depend on You. I depend on You.**

***Chorus:* You're the way the truth and the life, You're the well
that never runs dry. I'm the branch and You are the vine.
Draw me close and teach me to abide. Be my strength my song
in the night. Be my all my treasure my prize. I am Yours forever
You're mine. Draw me close and teach me to abide.**

When I pass through death, as I enter rest I depend on You. I depend on You. For eternal life. To be raised with Christ I depend on You. I depend on You. Oh would you teach me; Would You teach me to abide. I depend on You. I depend on You.

“Behold Him” (CCLI #7133698)

He who was before there was light walked across the pages of time; He who made every living thing, Behold Him. He who heard humanity's cry, Left His throne to wake as a child, He became like the least of us. Behold Him.

***Chorus:* Jesus Son of God Messiah, The Lamb the roaring Lion
Oh be still and behold Him.**

He who dined with sinners and saints, Healed the blind the lost and the lame; Even now He is in our midst. Behold Him.

**He who chose a criminal's end, paid with blood to settle our debt
Buried death as He rose to life. Behold Him. *Chorus***

**Jesus Alpha and Omega, Our God the risen Savior,
Oh be still and behold Him.**

**Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty. Worthy, worthy, worthy,
To receive all praise.**

Benediction

Sending Song “Shout To the North” (CCLI #1562261)

**Men of faith rise up and sing of the great and glorious King
You are strong when you feel weak, in your brokenness complete.**

**Refrain: Shout to the North and the South, Sing to the East and the West
Jesus is Savior to all, Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Rise up women of the truth, stand and sing to broken hearts
Who can know the healing power of our awesome King of love. *Refrain***

**Rise up church with broken wings, fill this place with songs again
Of our God who reigns on high by His grace again we'll fly. *Refrain***

“What Does This Mean?”

Questions about Today’s Worship Theme

1. Why was King Nebuchadnezzar’s boast to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego so foolish?
2. What important admission did the three young men make as they refused to obey the king?
3. Why is God’s deliverance of the three men as troubling as it is encouraging?
4. As Christians, what is the basis of our greater assurance of God’s deliverance?

*"Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from
ONE LICENSE with license #719054-A. All rights reserved."*

*All copyrighted texts printed by permission under CCLI License #15855683
All copyrighted texts used by permission of Augsburg Fortress
under license # SB172131*