

Faith Lutheran Church

August 17, 2025

10:10 a.m. at Library Square

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Immediately the sentence was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven away from human society, ate grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until his hair grew as long as eagles' feathers and his nails became like birds' claws. Daniel 4:33



Gathering Music “Night Vision” (CCLI #7243320)

**Be my light be my night vision. It's been so dark where I've been living
Don't let me fall apart. Be my eyes be my night vision
I see You when all the signs are hidden. Let love eclipse my heart.**

***Chorus:* The day is Yours but the night is too
O Creator of the darkness the dark is light to You.**

**Be my guide be my night vision, Lead me to the place of Your provision
Away from ev'ry harm. Be my guard be my night vision. When silence
falls keep watch while I'm dreaming resting in Your arms. *Chorus x2***

**You are not surprised, You are the keeper of the night.
You will not grow tired, You are the everlasting light.
You are not afraid, You are the fire burning bright.
You are my night vision.**

Chorus x2

You are my night vision. The dark is light to You. The dark is light to You.

“Free Amen” (CCLI #7138600)

Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

Hope falling down like rain, Love that I can't explain.

Peace that stills my soul, Light in the darkest place.

Life even in the pain, it feels like coming home.

***Chorus:* Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom. I am free, amen.**

Here I'm alive again. Gone is the weight of sin. Oh sweet liberty.

Praise God Who saved my life. I'm bought with the blood of Christ.

I have been redeemed.

Chorus x2

Free at last. Free at last. Thank God almighty I am free at last.

All my chains are in the past. Thank God Almighty, I am free at last.

Chorus

Greeting/Announcements

Song “You Are My Vision” (CCLI #6054533)

**You are my vision O King of my heart, nothing else satisfies, only You
Lord. You are my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping,
Your presence my light.**

**You are my wisdom, You are my true word. I ever with You and
You with me Lord. You're my great Father and I'm Your true son,
You dwell inside me, together we're one.**

**You are my battle-shield, sword for the fight. You are my dignity,
You're my delight. You're my soul's shelter and You're my high tower.
Come raise me heavenward O Power of my power.**

**I don't want riches or man's empty praise, You're my inheritance now
and always. You and You only the first in my heart.**

High King of heaven, my treasure You are.

High King of heaven when victory's won. May I reach heaven's joy

O bright heaven's Son. Heart of my own heart whatever befall.

Still be my vision O Ruler of all.

Heart of my own heart whatever befall. Still be my vision O Ruler of all.

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

Almighty God, help us never to forget that you are sovereign, and rule over the nations. And yet, you rule with grace and mercy. Help us to extend that same grace and mercy to those around us, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Song “Brokenness Aside” (CCLI #5881109)

Will your grace run out if I let you down?

‘Cause all I know is how to run.

**Chorus: ‘Cause I am a sinner, if it’s not one thing it’s another
Caught up in words, tangled in lies. You are the Savior
And you take brokenness aside and make it beautiful, beautiful.**

Will you call me child when I tell you lies?

Cause all I know is how to cry.

**I am a sinner if its not one thing its another
Caught up in words, tangled in lies. You are the Savior
And you take brokenness aside and you make it beautiful. Beautiful.**

You make it beautiful. You make it beautiful. *Chorus x2*

“Rising Sun” (CCLI #6364759)

Praise Him all you sinners, sing, oh sing, you weary.

Oh praise Him all you children of God.

**We lift high His glory shown throughout our stories.
We praise Him as the children of God.**

***Chorus:* Our great Redeemer, glorious Savior,
Your Name is higher than the rising sun. Light of the morning,
You shine forever. Your Name is higher than the rising sun.
Your Name is higher than the rising sun.**

**Praise His Name forever, speak it loud and clear now.
Oh praise Him all you children of God. *Chorus***

**Hallelujah name above all, Simply to speak Your Name is praise.
Hallelujah now and always, forever we lift Your Name in praise.
Hallelujah our God You reign, Simply to speak Your Name is praise.**

Chorus

Scripture Reading: Daniel 4

King Nebuchadnezzar to all peoples, nations, and languages that live throughout the earth: May you have abundant prosperity! The signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked for me I am pleased to recount. How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his sovereignty is from generation to generation. I, Nebuchadnezzar, was living at ease in my home and prospering in my palace. I saw a dream that frightened me; my fantasies in bed and the visions of my head terrified me. So I made a decree that all the wise men of Babylon should be brought before me, in order that they might tell me the interpretation of the dream. Then the magicians, the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the diviners came in, and I told them the dream, but they could not tell me its interpretation. At last Daniel came in before me—he who was named Belteshazzar after the name of my god, and who is endowed with a spirit of the holy gods—and I told him the dream: "O Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that no mystery is too difficult for you. Hear the dream that I saw; tell me its interpretation. Upon my bed this is what I saw; there was a tree at the center of the earth, and its height was great. The tree grew great and strong, its top reached to heaven, and it was visible to the ends of the whole earth. Its foliage was beautiful, its fruit abundant, and it provided food for all. The animals of the field found shade under it, the birds of the air nested in its branches, and from it all living beings were fed. "I continued looking, in the visions of my head as I lay in bed, and there was a holy watcher, coming down from heaven. He cried aloud and said: "Cut down the tree and chop off its branches, strip off its foliage and scatter its fruit. Let the animals flee from beneath it and the birds from its branches. But leave its stump and roots in the ground, with a band of iron and bronze, in the tender grass of the field. Let him be bathed with the dew of heaven, and let his lot be with the animals of the field in the grass of the earth. Let his mind be changed from that of a human, and let the mind of an animal be given to him. And let seven times pass over him. The sentence is rendered by decree of the watchers, the decision is given by order of the holy ones, in order that all who live may know that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdom of mortals; he gives it to whom he will and sets⁴ over it the lowliest of human beings.'

"This is the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezzar, saw. Then Daniel was severely distressed for a while. His thoughts terrified him. The king said, "Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or the interpretation terrify you." Belteshazzar answered, "My lord, may the dream be for those who hate you, and its interpretation for your enemies! The tree that you saw, which grew great and strong—it is you, O king! You have grown great and strong. Your greatness has increased and reaches to heaven, and your sovereignty to the ends of the earth. And whereas the king saw a holy watcher coming down from heaven and saying, "Cut down the tree and destroy it—this is the interpretation, O king, and it is a decree of the Most High that has come upon my lord the king: You shall be driven away from human society, and your dwelling shall be with the wild animals. You shall be made to eat grass like oxen, you shall be bathed with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, until you have learned that the Most High has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals, and gives it to whom he will. As it was commanded to leave the stump and roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be re-established for you from the time that you learn that Heaven is sovereign. Therefore, O king, may my counsel be acceptable to you: atone for your sins with righteousness, and your iniquities with mercy to the oppressed, so that your prosperity may be prolonged." All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, and the king said, "Is this not magnificent Babylon, which I have built as a royal capital by my mighty power and for my glorious majesty?" While the words were still in the king's mouth, a voice came from heaven: "O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: The kingdom has departed from you! You shall be driven away from human society, and your dwelling shall be with the animals of the field. You shall be made to eat grass like oxen, and seven times shall pass over you, until you have learned that the Most High has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals and gives it to whom he will." Immediately the sentence was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven away from human society, ate grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until his hair grew as long as eagles' feathers and his nails became like birds' claws. When that period was over, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me. I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored the one who lives forever. For his sovereignty is an everlasting sovereignty, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does what he wills with the host of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth. There is no one who can stay his hand or say to him, "What are you doing?" At that time my reason returned to me; and my majesty and splendor were restored to me for the glory of my kingdom. My counselors and my lords sought me out, I was re-established over my kingdom, and still more greatness was added to me. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are truth, and his ways are justice; and he is able to bring low those who walk in pride.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Faith Seeds:..... Shelly Kirchoff

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: Luke 14:7-11

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "The Wonder of the World" Pastor Dave Wollan

Song "God So Loved" (CCLI Song #7169675)

Come all you weary, come all you thirsty, come to the well that never runs dry. Drink of the water. Come and thirst no more.

**Come all you sinners; Come find His mercy; Come to the table
He will satisfy, Taste of His goodness. Find what you're looking for.**

***Chorus 1:* For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only
Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever.**

**Bring all your failures, bring your addictions, Come lay them
down at the foot of the cross. Jesus is waiting there with open arms.**

***Chorus 2:* For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only
Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever.
The power of hell forever defeated. Now it is well I'm walking in
freedom For God so loved, God so loved the world.**

Praise God, praise God From whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him praise Him for the wonders of His love. *Repeat*

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save.

Chorus 2

**Bring all your failures, bring your addictions, Come lay them down at the
foot of the cross. Jesus is waiting. God so loved the world.**

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 Song "Christ Be Magnified" (CCLI Song #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. *Chorus***

**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. *Chorus***

Offertory Response: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (CCLI #56204)

**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

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.

Benediction

Sending Song "Yes and Amen" (CCLI #7048885)

**Father of kindness, You have poured out grace
You brought me out of darkness, You have filled me with peace
Giver of mercy You're my help in time of need, Lord I can't help but sing.**

**Chorus: Faithful You are, faithful forever You will be. Faithful You are
All Your promises are Yes and Amen. All Your promises are
Yes and Amen.**

**Beautiful Savior, You have brought me near. You pulled me from the ashes
You have broken ev'ry curse. Blessed Redeemer, You have set this captive
free. Lord, I can't help but sing.**

Chorus

I will rest in Your promises; My confidence is Your faithfulness. *Repeat*

Faithful You are, Faithful forever You will be.

Faithful You are yes You are. All Your promises are Yes and Amen.

All Your promises are Yes and Amen.

All Your promises are Yes and Amen.

"What Does This Mean?"

Questions about today's worship theme

1. Why and how was Nebuchadnezzar brought low?
2. What is the proper posture we should have towards our accomplishments?
3. Why and how was Jesus brought low?

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