

**Faith Lutheran Church ~ LCMC**

Hutchinson, MN


August 24, 2025 ~ 10:10 a.m.

Library Square

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

**IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES**

**DANIEL**

 Faith Lutheran Church

**Summer Preaching Series**

Gathering Music: "I Saw the Light" (CCLI #45064 )

**I wandered so aimless, life filled with sin; I wouldn't ask my dear Savior in.  
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night;  
Praise the Lord, I saw the light!**

***Chorus:* I saw the light, I saw the light. No more darkness;  
no more night. Now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight.  
Praise the Lord, I saw the light!**

**Just like a blind man I wandered alone, worries and fears I claimed for my  
own. Then like the blind man that God gave back his sight; Praise the Lord,  
I saw the light! *Chorus***

**I was a fool to wander astray, for straight is the gate and narrow is the way.  
Now I have traded the wrong for the right; Praise the Lord, I saw the light!  
*Chorus***

Greeting/Announcements

Song "Are You Washed in the Blood of the Lamb" (Public Domain)

**Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power?  
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?  
Are you fully trusting in His grace this hour?  
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?**

***Chorus:* Are you washed, in the blood:  
In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb?  
Are your garments spotless are they white as snow:  
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?**

**Lay aside your garments that are stained with sin  
And be washed in the blood of the Lamb.  
There's a fountain flowing for the soul unclean  
Oh, be washed in the blood of the Lamb. *Chorus***

**Are you walking daily by the Savior's side?  
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?  
Do you rest each moment in the crucified?  
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? *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

**Almighty God, at many times and in many ways, you spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days you have spoken to us by your Son, whom you appointed the heir of all things. Let his message of grace and love create faith in our hearts and light for our lives. In his name we pray, Amen.**

Song "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder"

**When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound, and time shall be no more, and the morning breaks, eternal, bright and fair; When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore, and the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.**

***Chorus:* When the roll, is called up yonder,  
When the roll, is called up yonder, When the roll is  
called up yonder, When the roll is called up yonder  
I'll be there.**

**On that bright and cloudless morning when the dead in Christ shall rise, and the glory of His resurrection share;  
When His chosen ones shall gather to their home beyond the skies, and the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.**

*Chorus*

**Let us labor for the Master from the dawn till setting sun,  
Let us talk of all His wondrous love and care;  
Then when all of life is over, and our work on earth is done,  
And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there. *Chorus x2***

## First Reading: Daniel 5

King Belshazzar made a great festival for a thousand of his lords, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand. Under the influence of the wine, Belshazzar commanded that they bring in the vessels of gold and silver that his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. So they brought in the vessels of gold and silver that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone. Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand. The king was watching the hand as it wrote. Then the king's face turned pale, and his thoughts terrified him. His limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together. The king cried aloud to bring in the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the diviners; and the king said to the wise men of Babylon, "Whoever can read this writing and tell me its interpretation shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around his neck, and rank third in the kingdom." Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the writing or tell the king the interpretation. Then King Belshazzar became greatly terrified and his face turned pale, and his lords were perplexed. The queen, when she heard the discussion of the king and his lords, came into the banqueting hall. The queen said, "O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts terrify you or your face grow pale. There is a man in your kingdom who is endowed with a spirit of the holy gods. In the days of your father he was found to have enlightenment, understanding, and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods. Your father, King Nebuchadnezzar, made him chief of the magicians, enchanters, Chaldeans, and diviners, because an excellent spirit, knowledge, and understanding to interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation." Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king said to Daniel, "So you are Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah? I have heard of you that a spirit of the gods is in you, and that enlightenment, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you. Now the wise men, the enchanters, have been brought in before me to read this writing and tell me its interpretation, but they were not able to give the interpretation of the matter. But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you are able to read the writing and tell me its interpretation, you shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around your neck, and rank third in the kingdom." Then Daniel answered in the presence of the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, or give your rewards to someone else! Nevertheless I will read the writing to the king and let him know the interpretation. O king, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar kingship, greatness, glory, and majesty. And because of the greatness that he gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. He killed those he wanted to kill, kept alive those he wanted to keep alive, honored those he wanted to honor, and degraded those he wanted to degrade. But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit was hardened so that he acted proudly, he was deposed from his

kingly throne, and his glory was stripped from him. He was driven from human society, and his mind was made like that of an animal. His dwelling was with the wild asses, he was fed grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals, and sets over it whomever he will. And you, Belshazzar his son, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this! You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven! The vessels of his temple have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them. You have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know; but the God in whose power is your very breath, and to whom belong all your ways, you have not honored. "So from his presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed. And this is the writing that was inscribed: mene, mene, tekel, and parsin. This is the interpretation of the matter: mene, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; tekel, you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting; peres, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians." Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed in purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made concerning him that he should rank third in the kingdom. That very night Belshazzar, the Chaldean king, was killed. And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Faith Seeds: Laura Stowman

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: John 8:2-11

Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, sir."

And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon ..... "God's Graffiti" ..... Pastor Dave Wollan

Amazing Grace (Peaceful Easy Feeling)

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.**

***Refrain:* I've got a peaceful, easy feeling. I know you won't let me  
down, Because I'm already standing on solid ground.**

**Tw'as grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed! *Refrain***

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
*Refrain***

**The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. *Refrain***

Service of Holy Baptism: **Rhett Lee Gauger**

son of Brian and Jenna Gauger

Sponsors: Kasey Marquardt and Brandon & Tanya Gauger



**Archer James Cameron**

son of Aaron and Stephanie Cameron

Sponsors: Riley and Kate Steenhoek

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.**

Welcome for the Newly Baptized

**Pastor:** God has made these new brothers members of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus. We receive them with love and rejoice with them at their entrance into our fellowship.

**Congregation:** We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.

Offering Song "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" (Public Domain)

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry, all our sins to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer!  
Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged. Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness. Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge. Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.**

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 Songs: "I'll Fly Away" (CCLI #26399)

**Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away;  
To a home on God's Celestial shore, I'll fly away.**

***Refrain:*** I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away;  
When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

When the shadows of this life have gone, I'll fly away;  
like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away. *Refrain*

Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away;  
To a land where joys shall never end, I'll fly away. *Refrain*

Postlude "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" (Public Domain)

***Chorus:*** Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.  
Swing low, sweet chariot coming for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see coming for to carry me home?  
A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home. *Chorus*

If you get there before I do, coming for to carry me home.  
Tell all my friends I'm coming too, coming for to carry me home. *Chorus*

I'm sometimes up and sometimes down coming for to carry me home.  
But still my soul feels heavenly bound coming for to carry me home. *Chorus*

## ***"What Does This Mean?"***

Questions about today's worship theme

1. If a floating hand were to appear right now and write out a message for you, what would it say?
2. This story is a terrifying account of God's judgment. Is God still a God of judgment?
3. What message has God sent to you through Jesus?

### **A special *Thank You* to our musicians today**

Lara Liepold, Carl Horton, Paul Jossart,  
Kaylee Scheevel, Justin Beck, and Austin Willhite.

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