

Faith Lutheran Church

August 31, 2025

10:10 a.m. at Library Square

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES

DANIEL



Faith
Lutheran
Church

Summer Preaching Series

Gathering Music “Canvas and Clay” (CCLI #7133880)

**In my mother's womb You formed me with Your hands
Known and loved by You before I took a breath
When I doubt it Lord remind me I'm wonderfully made
You're an artist and a potter, I'm the canvas and the clay.**

**Chorus: And You make all things work together.
For my future and for my good. You make all things
work together for Your glory and for Your name.**

**There's a healing light just beyond the clouds
Though I've walked through fire I see clearly now
I know nothing has been wasted, No failure or mistake
You're an artist and a potter, I'm the canvas and the clay.**

**When I doubt it Lord remind me I'm wonderfully made
You're an artist and a potter I'm the canvas and the clay
I know nothing has been wasted No failure or mistake
You're an artist and a potter I'm the canvas and the clay.**

You're not finished with me. You're not finished with me yet.

“Holy Forever” (CCLI #7201044)

**A thousand generations falling down in worship; To sing the song of
ages to the Lamb, and all who've gone before us and all who will believe
will sing the song of ages to the Lamb.**

**Chorus: Jesus Your name is the highest. Your name is the greatest.
Your name stands above them all. All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions. Your name stands above them all.
And the angels cry, Holy. All creation cries, Holy.
You are lifted high, Holy, Holy forever.**

**If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed, sing the song
forever to the Lamb. If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb, we'll sing the song forever and amen.**

**Chorus: Hear Your people sing Holy to the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy, Holy forever.
You will always be Holy, Holy forever.**

Greeting/Announcements

Song “Who You Say I Am” (CCLI #7102401)

**Who am I that the highest King would welcome me?
I was lost but he brought me in. Oh, his love for me; Oh, his love for me.**

**Chorus 1: Who the Son sets free Oh is free indeed.
I'm a child of God, Yes, I am.**

**Free at last He has ransomed me; His grace runs deep. While I was
a slave to sin Jesus died for me. Yes, he died for me. *Chorus 1 & 2***

***Chorus 2: In my Father's house there's a place for me.
I'm a child of God, Yes, I am.***

I am chosen not forsaken, I am who you say I am.

You are for me not against me

I am who you say I am. *Repeat Chorus 1 & Chorus 2*

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 and ever-faithful God, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds,
fill our imaginations, control our will, so that we may be wholly yours.
Protect us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, that no clouds in this
mortal life may hide from us the light of your eternal love shown to us in
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Song “King of My Heart” (CCLI #7046145)

**Let the King of my heart be the mountain where I run,
The fountain I drink from. Oh, He is my song. Let the King of my heart
be the shadow where I hide, the ransom for my life. Oh, He is my song.**

Chorus: You are good, good, oh. (repeat 4x)

**Let the King of my heart be the wind inside my sails, the anchor in the
waves. Oh, He is my song. Let the King of my heart be the fire inside my
veins, the echo of my days. Oh, He is my song. *Chorus***

You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down. (repeat 4x) *Chorus*

When the night is holding on to me God is holding on. (repeat)

“Reckless Love” (CCLI #7089641)

**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***

**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. *Repeat x3 ~ Chorus***

Scripture Reading: Daniel 6

It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred twenty satraps, stationed throughout the whole kingdom, and over them three presidents, including Daniel; to these the satraps gave account, so that the king might suffer no loss. Soon Daniel distinguished himself above all the other presidents and satraps because an excellent spirit was in him, and the king planned to appoint him over the whole kingdom. So the presidents and the satraps tried to find grounds for complaint against Daniel, but they could find none nor any corruption, because he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption could be found in him. The men said, “We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God.” So they conspired and came to the king and said to him, “O King Darius, live forever! All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be

changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.” Therefore King Darius signed the interdict. Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. The conspirators found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. Then they approached the king and said, “O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?” He answered, “The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.” Then they responded, “Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.” When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. Then the conspirators came to the king and said, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.” Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. When he came near where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” Daniel said, “O king, live forever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So he was taken up, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces. Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: “May you have abundant prosperity! I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring forever. His kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.” So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Faith Seeds:..... Pastor Dave Wollan

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 19:4-11

Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God." Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “The End of Faithfulness” Pastor Scott Grorud

Song “How He Loves” (CCLI Song #5032549)

He is jealous for me loves like a hurricane. I am a tree bending beneath the weight of His wind and mercy. When all of a sudden I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory. I realize just how beautiful You are and how great Your affections are for me.

***Chorus:* (Yeah) He loves us, oh how He loves us.**

Oh how He loves us. Oh how He loves. *(repeat)*

We are His portion and He is our prize drawn to redemption by the grace in His eyes. If grace is an ocean we're all sinking. So heaven meets earth like an unforeseen kiss and my heart turns violently inside of my chest. I don't have time to maintain these regrets when I think about the way that *Chorus*

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 "Trust In God" (CCLI Song #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" (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 “The Lord’s Prayer (It’s Yours)” (CCLI #7200544)

**Verse: Father let your kingdom come. Father let your will be done
on Earth as in Heaven right here in my heart.** *Repeat*

**Chorus: Give us this day our daily bread, Forgive us, forgive us.
As we forgive the ones who sinned against us forgive them.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one
Let Your kingdom come.** *Verse*

**It's Yours it's Yours; All Yours all Yours
The kingdom the power the glory are Yours.**

It's Yours it's Yours; All Yours all Yours.

Forever and ever the kingdom is Yours. *Repeat* *Verse*

On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart.

“What Does This Mean?”

Questions about today’s worship theme

1. Although beloved by children, why is *Daniel* 6 far from just a children’s story?
2. What two main theological dynamics flow through Daniel’s ordeal in the lion’s den?
3. How does this chapter of *Daniel* foreshadow the suffering and death of Jesus?
4. How does King Darius’ testimony at the end of Daniel 6 directly address us today?

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