

**So do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.**

*Matthew 10:28-30*



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**Sunday, June 25, 2023**

4<sup>TH</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

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Service Theme

**THE HOLY MINISTRY PREACHES CHRIST DESPITE PERSECUTION**

From its birth, the New Testament Church has been persecuted. The religious leaders in Jerusalem tried to stamp it out, but they only succeeded in spreading Christianity throughout Judea and Samaria. The Roman Empire persecuted Christians with stakes and lions, yet God's Church exploded with growth in those early centuries. In Martin Luther's day, both the pope and emperor sought to stop the gospel movement that was spreading from Germany. But God was a mighty fortress for the Church. Still today the Church is persecuted. Every day 13 Christians worldwide are killed because of their faith. Another 12 are arrested or imprisoned simply because they profess faith in Christ Jesus. We have freedom of religion in North America, but that is no guarantee for a life free of persecution. Until judgment day, some will attempt to shout down the truth of Christ. We will be persecuted. That won't stop us. The holy ministry preaches Christ despite persecution. Christ never promised his Church that ministry would operate unopposed. But he did promise to give courage to his witnesses.

## I Know My Faith Is Founded



1 I know my faith is found - ed On Je - sus  
 2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, For Sa - tan  
 3 In faith, Lord, let me serve you; Though per - se -



Christ, my God and Lord; And this my faith con -  
 seeks by night and day To rob me of this  
 cu - tion, grief, and pain Should seek to o - ver -



fess - ing, Un - moved I stand up - on his Word. Man's  
 trea - sure And take my hope of bliss a - way. But,  
 whelm me, Let me a stead - fast trust re - tain. And



rea - son can - not fath - om The truth of God pro -  
 Lord, with you be - side me I shall be un - dis -  
 then at my de - par - ture, Lord, take me home to



found; Who trusts in world - ly wis - dom Re - lies on  
 mayed; And led by your good Spir - it, I shall be  
 you, And let me there in - her - it All you have



shift - ing ground. God's Word is all - suf - fi - cient,  
 un - a - fraid. A - bide with me, O Sav - ior,  
 prom - ised me. In life and death, Lord, keep me



It makes di - vine - ly sure, And, trust - ing  
 A firm - er faith be - stow. Then I shall  
 Un - til your heav'n I gain, Where I by



in its wis - dom, My faith shall rest se - cure.  
 bid de - fi - ance To ev - 'ry e - vil foe.  
 your great mer - cy The end of faith at - tain.

## Order of Service: Divine Service 1

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy  
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the prayer, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

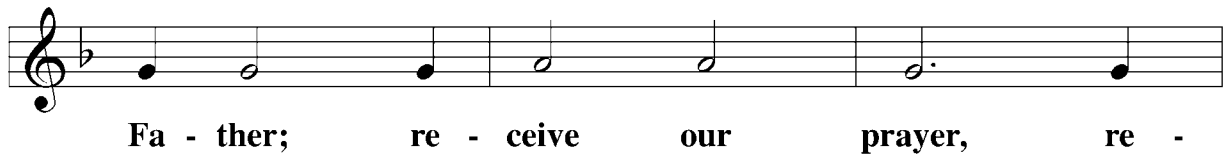
### PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

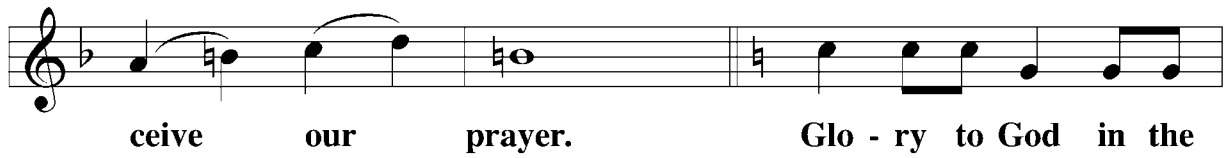




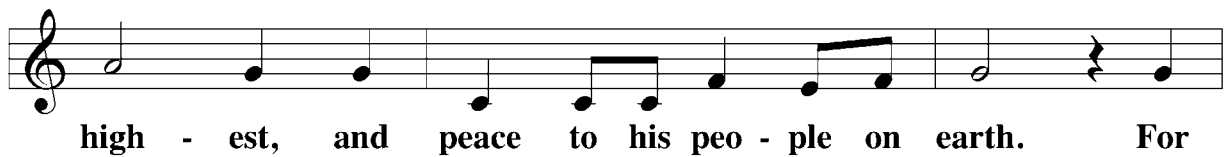
You are seated at the right hand of the



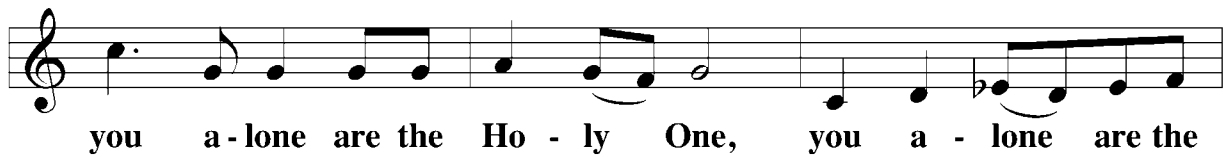
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -



ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



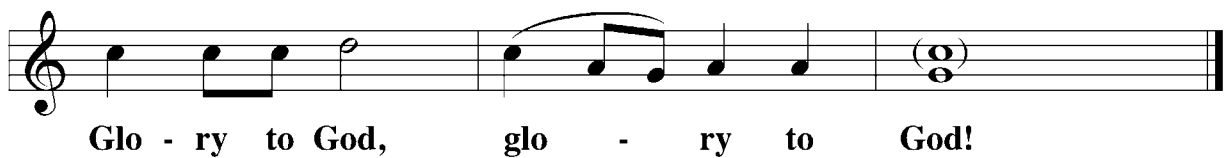
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

O God, because your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in your eternal love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

### First Lesson

Jeremiah 20 :7-13 (EHV)

*For prophesying God's truth Jeremiah had been beaten and put in stocks. Yet Jeremiah refused to remain silent.*

<sup>7</sup>You persuaded me, Lord, and I  
agreed to it.  
You are stronger than I am, and you  
won out.  
I have become a laughingstock all day  
long,  
and everyone is mocking me.  
<sup>8</sup>Whenever I speak, I cry out.  
I cry out, "Violence and destruction!"  
But the word of the Lord has brought  
scorn on me.  
I am mocked all day long.  
<sup>9</sup>If I say, "I will not mention him  
or speak in his name anymore,"  
then there is a burning fire in my heart,  
shut up in my bones,  
and I am weary of holding it in.  
I cannot!  
<sup>10</sup>I hear many whispering,  
"Terror on every side!"  
All my close friends,  
those who are watching for my fall,  
say,  
"Denounce him! Let's denounce him.

Perhaps he can be pressured into  
making a mistake.  
Then we will have the upper hand  
against him,  
and we will take our revenge on him."  
<sup>11</sup>But the Lord is with me like a  
terrifying warrior.  
So my persecutors will stumble,  
and they will not gain the upper hand.  
They will be put to shame completely,  
because they have not been  
successful.  
Their eternal disgrace will never be  
forgotten.  
<sup>12</sup>Lord of Armies, you test the  
righteous.  
You see the heart and the mind.  
Let me see your vengeance on them,  
for I have laid out my case before you.  
<sup>13</sup>Sing to the Lord!  
Praise the Lord,  
for he has delivered the life of the  
needy  
from the hand of the wicked.

**Psalm**  
91 (p. 100)

*Refrain*



Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.



Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

*Psalm tone*



He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High\*  
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the LORD,\*  
“He is my refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust.”

**Refrain**

You will not fear the terror of the night,\*  
nor the arrow that flies by day.

If you make the Most High your  
dwelling,\*  
then no harm will befall you,  
no disaster will come near your tent.

For he will command his angels  
concerning you\*  
to guard you in all your ways;

they will lift you up in their hands,\*  
so that you will not strike your foot  
against a stone.

**Glory be to the Father and to the  
Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Refrain**

## Second Lesson

2 Timothy 4:1-8 (EHV)

*Paul taught that many people in this world cannot bear sound doctrine. Instead, they persecute it.*

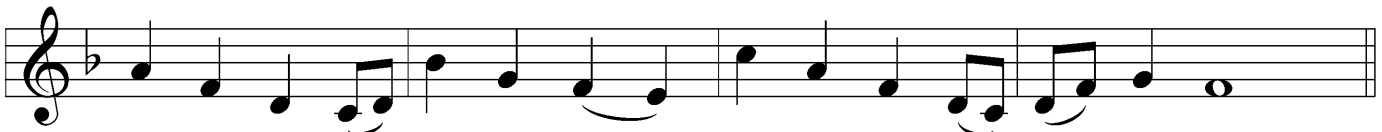
I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who is going to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom: <sup>2</sup>Preach the word. Be ready whether it is convenient or not. Correct, rebuke, and encourage, with all patience and teaching. <sup>3</sup>For there will come a time when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, because they have itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in line with their own desires. <sup>4</sup>They will also turn their ears away from the truth and will turn aside to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, keep a clear head in every situation. Bear hardship. Do the work of an evangelist. Fulfill your ministry. <sup>6</sup>You see, I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>From now on, there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness. The Lord, the righteous Judge, will give it to me on that day, and not only to me but also to everyone who loved his appearing.

## Verse of the Day

Alleluia. Alleluia. My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia. (2 Corinthians 12:9)

## Gospel Lesson

Matthew 10:24-33 (EHV)



**Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!**

*Jesus guaranteed that when we carry out gospel ministry in his name, there will be many that hate us for it.*

<sup>24</sup>“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor is a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup> It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher and the servant like his master. If the master of the house was called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

<sup>26</sup>“So do not be afraid of them, because there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, and nothing hidden that will not be made known. <sup>27</sup> What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup> Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear the one who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.



<sup>29</sup> “Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground without the knowledge and consent of your Father. <sup>30</sup> And even the hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> So do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup> “Everyone who confesses me before others, I will also confess before my Father who is in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever denies me before others, I will also deny before my Father who is in heaven.



Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

### Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



1 Je - sus, price - less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est  
 2 In thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo -  
 3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de -  
 4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my  
 5 Hence, all fear and sad - ness! For the Lord of



plea - sure, Tru - est friend to me. Ah, how long  
 lest me Can - not reach me here. Though the earth  
 cry thee; Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt  
 plea - sure; Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp -  
 glad - ness, Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love



in an - guish Shall my spir - it lan - guish,  
 be shak - ing, Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing,  
 not harm me Nor thy threats a - larm me  
 thy glo - ry! Naught to me thy sto - ry  
 the Fa - ther, Though the storms may ga - ther,



Yearn - ing, Lord, for thee? Thou art mine, O  
 Je - sus calms my fear. Light - nings flash And  
 While I sing of peace. God's great pow'r Guards  
 Told with tempt - ing voice. Pain or loss Or  
 Still have peace with - in. Yea, whate - 'er I



Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer naught to  
 thun - ders crash; Yet, tho' sin and hell as -  
 ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its depths a -  
 shame or cross Shall not from my Sav - ior  
 here must bear, Thou art still my pur - est

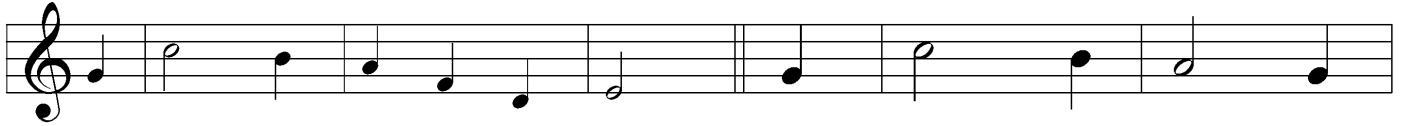


hide thee, Naught I ask be - side thee.  
 sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.  
 dore him, Si - lent bow be - fore him.  
 move me Since he deigns to love me.  
 plea - sure, Je - sus, price - less trea - sure!

## Sermon Text & Theme

### **Matthew 10:24-33 ... Confidently Confess Christ**

- 1) Understand your relationship with Christ.
- 2) Keep nothing hidden.
- 3) Remember God's powerful providence.
- 4) Consider the pleasure Christ has when you confess him.



Cre - ate in me a



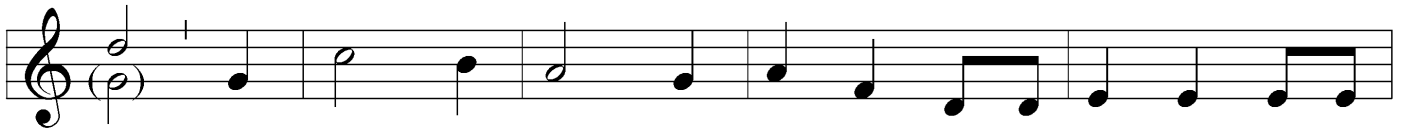
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -



in me. Do not cast me a - way from your



pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from



me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -



hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## Offertory Prayer

## Prayer of the Church

M: Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

**C: We confess that without your love we are lost.**

M: Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

**C: Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

M: Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

**C: By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

M: Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

**C: Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

M: Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

**C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen**

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord *who on this day kept his promise and poured out the Holy Spirit to empower his Church to proclaim the gospel in all the world.* Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

*Sanctus*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,



God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -



ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -



ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## Word of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

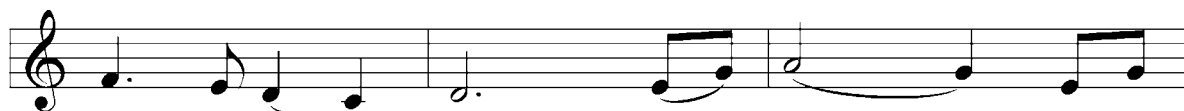
C: Amen.



O Christ, Lamb of



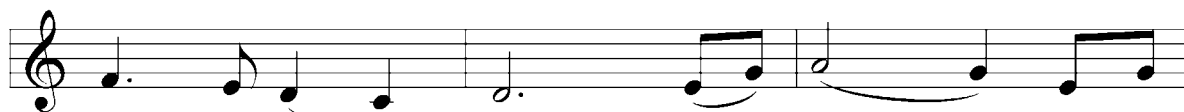
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.

## Distribution

### SONG OF SIMEON

*Nunc Dimittis*

In peace, Lord, you let your  
ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my  
eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for  
ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the  
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C: And his mercy endures forever.**

### Final Prayer

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

## 203 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word; Curb those who  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, For you are  
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would seek to o - ver - throw your  
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend your Chris - ten - dom that  
u - ni - ty on earth. Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And to de - stroy what he has done.  
we May sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
strife, And lead us out of death to life.



## Announcements

### **Church Cleaners:**

July 2 – Barnabas // July 9 – Luke

### DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

<b>Su (25)</b>	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:45 am</b> 11:45 am 12:00 pm	<b>Worship with Communion</b> <b>Bible Class</b> Coffee Hour Voter's Meeting and Evangelism Seminar
Fr (30)	10:30 am 4:30 pm	Bible Information Class Confirmation (D)
<b>Su (2)</b>	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>10:45 am</b> 11:45 am <b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Worship with Communion</b> <b>Bible Class</b> Coffee Hour <b>Worship &amp; Communion in Poltimore</b>
Th (6)	10:30 am	Longfield Manor Devotion
Fr (7)	10:30 am 4:30 pm 6:00 pm	Bible Information Class Confirmation (D) Friday Fellowship and Bible Class
<b>Su (11)</b>	<b>9:30 am</b> 11:45 am <b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Worship with Communion</b> Coffee Hour <b>Bible Class</b>



## **Divine Word**

### **Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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