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**Sunday, August 27, 2023**  
**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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Service Theme

**A CHURCH THAT REALLY KNOWS JESUS**

Jesus asked, "Who do you say that I am?" Make no mistake. That is the most important question in the world. And it is a question every human must answer. A complimentary answer can still be dead wrong. Some in Jesus' day thought he was John the Baptist or the prophet Elijah come back from the dead. Complimentary, but dead wrong. Today plenty of people believe Jesus existed. They believe he was a wise teacher or a role model for love. Complimentary, but dead wrong if missing the main point. Jesus is both Lord and Savior, the Messiah, the Son of the living God. This truth is the core of saving faith. It is the central message God has called our church to proclaim. What does God want in a church? He wants a church that really knows Jesus.

## The Church's One Foundation



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er  
 3 The Church shall nev - er per - ish. Her dear Lord,  
 4 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees  
 5 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult



Christ, her Lord; She is his new cre - a - tion By  
 all the earth; Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One  
 to de - fend, To guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, Is  
 her op - pressed, By schisms rent a - sun - der, By  
 of her war She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of



wa - ter and the Word. From heav'n he came and  
 Lord, one faith, one birth. One ho - ly name she  
 with her to the end. Though there be those that  
 her - e - sies dis - tressed, Yet saints their watch are  
 peace for - ev - er - more Till with the vi - sion



sought her To be his ho - ly bride; With his own  
 bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food, And to one  
 hate her And strive to see her fail, A - gainst both  
 keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the  
 glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest And the great



blood he bought her, And for her life he died.  
 hope she press - es, With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 foe and trai - tor She ev - er shall pre - vail.  
 night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.  
 Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

**Order of Service:**  
Service of the Word (p.38)

**M:** The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**Confession of Sins**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give us strength to live according to his will.

**C:** **Amen.**

**Prayer and Praise**

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

**C:** *(Sing)* **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessed are they who take refuge in him.  
Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.  
Your faithfulness continues forever.  
Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** *(sing)* **Amen.**

## First Lesson

Exodus 34:5–9 EHV

*God proclaimed to Moses what he was like. Likewise, the Church's job is to proclaim to the world who Christ is and what he is like.*

<sup>5</sup>The LORD came down in the cloud. He took his stand there with Moses and proclaimed the name of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>The LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed: "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, and overflowing with mercy and truth, <sup>7</sup>maintaining mercy for thousands, forgiving guilt and rebellion and sin. He will by no means clear the guilty. He calls their children and their children's children to account for the guilt of the fathers, even to the third and the fourth generation."

<sup>8</sup>Moses quickly bowed to the ground and worshipped. <sup>9</sup>He said, "If I have now found favor in your sight, Lord, please let the Lord go along with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people, pardon our guilt and our sin, and accept us as your possession."

## Psalm 34

(p.80)

### *Refrain*



Hap-py the peo-ple the Lord has cho-sen to be his own.

### *Psalm tone*



Taste and see that the LORD is good;\*  
blessed are they who take refuge in  
him.

The eyes of the LORD are on the  
righteous\*  
and his ears are attentive to their cry.

The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him,\*  
and he delivers them.

### **Refrain**

The righteous cry out, and the LORD  
hears them;\*  
he delivers them from all their  
troubles.

The LORD is close to the  
brokenhearted\*  
and saves those who are crushed in  
spirit.

The LORD redeems his servants;\*  
no one who takes refuge in him will  
be condemned.

**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

Romans 10:5-13 EHV

*St. Paul teaches that those who know in their heart that Jesus is both Lord and Savior will be saved. They really know Jesus.*

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, Moses writes this about the righteousness that comes by the law: “The one who does these things will live by them.” <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes by faith speaks like this: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the word of faith that we are proclaiming. <sup>9</sup>Certainly, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For it is with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and it is with the mouth that a person confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup>For Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>12</sup>So there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives generously to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>Yes, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

## Verse of the Day

Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia. (John 6:68)

**C:** *(sing)* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Gospel

Matthew 16:13–20 EHV

*The truth upon which God builds his Church is this: Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.*

<sup>13</sup>When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

<sup>14</sup>They said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

<sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But you, who do you say that I am?”

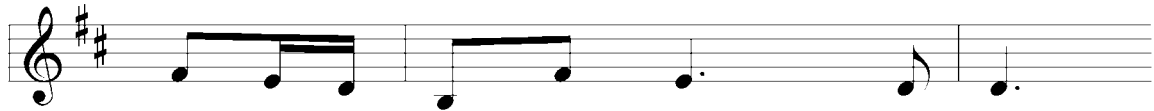
<sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

<sup>17</sup>Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then he commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

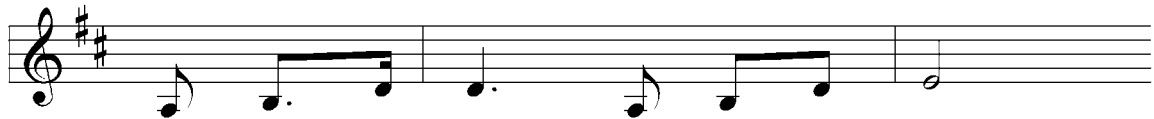
**C:** *(sing)* Praise be to you, O Christ!



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found.  
 2 In Christ a - lone— who took on flesh,  
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay,  
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,



He is my light, my strength, my song;  
 Full - ness of God in help - less babe.  
 Light of the world by dark - ness slain;  
 This is the pow'r of Christ in me;



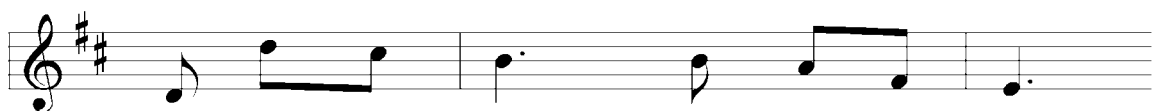
This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground,  
 This gift of love and right - eous - ness,  
 Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day  
 From life's first cry to fi - nal breath,



Firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.  
 Scorned by the ones he came to save.  
 Up from the grave he rose a - gain!  
 Je - sus com - mands my des - tin - y.



What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
 Till on that cross, as Je - sus died,  
 And as he stands in vic - tor - y,  
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man



When fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!  
 The wrath of God was sat - is - fied;  
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
 Can ev - er pluck me from his hand;

My Com - for - ter, my all in all,  
 For ev - 'ry sin on him was laid.  
 For I am his and he is mine—  
 Till he re - turns or calls me home,

*(Fine)*

Here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 Here in the death of Christ I live.  
 Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

### Sermon Text & Theme

**Matthew 16:13-20 ... Jesus is the Christ,**

- 1) Whom we are blessed to know.
- 2) Whom we are blessed to share.

### Apostles Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.  
 The third day he rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven  
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
 From there he will come 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.**

### Offertory Prayer

## Prayer of the Church

(Page 42)

M: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

**C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

**C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

**C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

**C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

**C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**



**M:** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**or**

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** *(sing)* **Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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:** *(sing)* **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

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## Onward, Christian Soldiers



1 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, March - ing as to war,  
 2 Like a might - y ar - my Moves the Church of God;  
 3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, King - doms rise and wane,  
 4 On - ward, then, ye faith - ful; Join the hap - py throng,



With the cross of Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore.  
 Broth - ers, we are tread - ing Where the saints have trod.  
 But the Church of Je - sus Con - stant will re - main.  
 Blend with ours your voic - es In the tri - umph song:



Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, Leads a - gainst the foe;  
 We are not di - vid - ed, All one bod - y we,  
 Gates of hell can nev - er 'Gainst that Church pre - vail;  
 Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or Un - to Christ the King;



For - ward in - to bat - tle See his ban - ners go!  
 One in hope and doc - trine, One in char - i - ty.  
 We have Christ's own prom - ise, And that can - not fail.  
 This through count - less a - ges Saints and an - gels sing.

*Refrain*

On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, March - ing as to war,



With the cross of Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore.

## Announcements

### **Church Cleaners:**

August 20 – Simon // September 3 – Andrew

### **Return to Regular Worship Schedule:**

Please note that our regular schedule begins September 10. Bible Study and Sunday School will begin at 9:00 and Worship at 10:30. We also hope to resume our Sunday snack fellowship following worship.

### DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

<b>Su (27)</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	10:45 am	Coffee Hour
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Bible Class</b>
	12:00 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Worship in Poltimore</b>

*Pastor will be at a Pastoral Circuit Gathering in Gananoque from August 29-30*

Fr (1)	6:00 pm	Friday Fellowship and Bible Class
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<b>Su (3)</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Worship with Communion</b>
	10:45 am	Coffee Hour
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Bible Class</b>
	<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Worship in Poltimore</b>

Th (7)	10:30 am	Longfield Devotion
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Fr (8)	6:00 pm	Friday Fellowship and Bible Class
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<b>Su (10)</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Sunday School and Bible Class</b>
	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour



## **Divine Word**

### **Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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