



ON THIS
ROCK
I shall build
MY
CHURCH

Matthew 16:18

Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church

28983 – 181st Avenue | New Prague, MN 56071

Church: (952) 758-2828 | Website: EFriedens.com

Pastor Henry Koch

Welcome to Worship!

Regular Worship Services

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. | Tuesday: *See Church Calendar* | Saturday: Noon

Prayer Before Worship

O God of tenderness and strength, bless our home and our love, our comings and our goings. Keep us from growing weary in doing good, and sustain us in the hour of trouble. Help us deal tenderly with each other, and knit our lives together in love for you and one another.

Amen.

Notes About Your Visit

- **Worship programs are available in large print.** They are located in the basket with the regular programs.
- **Restrooms** are in the north hallway, by the double glass entry doors, as well as in the basement. **The church park has restrooms north of the Pavilion.**



THE SERVICE | Setting One

Saturday, August 29, 2026

Holy Baptism *of* *Isla Maurine Hunt*

(Parents: Keenan & Emily Hunt)

HYMN

646 See This Wonder in the Making

1 See this won - der in the mak - ing: God him -
2 Mir - a - cle each time it hap - pens as the
3 Far more ten - der than a moth - er, far more

self this child is tak - ing as a lamb safe in his
door of heav - en o - pens and the Fa - ther beams, "Be -
car - ing than a fa - ther, God, in - to your arms we

keep - ing, his to be, a - wake or sleep - ing.
lov - ed, heir of gifts a king would cov - et!"
place him/her/them, with your love and peace em - brace him/her/them.

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Remain Seated

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

Amen.

Confession

Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

**Baptism means that the sinful nature in us
should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance,
and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death.
It also means that a new person should daily arise
to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**



As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for Meditation and Reflection

God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

The Rite of Baptism Continues at the Font

The Gospel According to St. Mark:

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.



Isla Maurine Hunt, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Let us pray.

We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received Isla as your own *child* and made *her* a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to *her* and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

646 See This Wonder in the Making



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THE SERVICE RESUMES ON PAGE 9.

THE SERVICE | Setting One

Sunday, August 30, 2026

Welcome and Thank You

To

Our Guest Preacher Rev. Keith Bilitz

HYMN

916 Today Your Mercy Calls Us



- 1 To - day your mer - cy calls us to wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day your gate is o - pen, and all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us, his Ho - ly Spir - it waits;



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, what - ev - er we have been,
shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come and par - don for their sin.
his bless - ed an - gels gath - er a - round the heav'n - ly gates.



how - ev - er long from mer - cy our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, a pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us how of - ten we have come;



your pre - cious blood can wash us and make us clean to - day.
a fu - ture grace be prom - ised, a glo - rious crown in heav'n.
al - though we oft have wan - dered, it is our Fa - ther's home.

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STAND

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

Amen.

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Give Glory to God!

916 Today Your Mercy Calls Us

4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,
what should we do with - out you when heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem a - gainst us, to drive us to de - spair,
we know one gate is o - pen, one ear will hear our prayer.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a '4' indicating the time signature. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the fourth staff.

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THE WORD

(Congregation speaks when words are in bold.)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be Seated

First Reading

Exodus 20:18-24 (Evangelical Heritage Version)

¹⁸All the people saw and heard the thunder and the lightning and the sound of the ram's horn and the mountain smoking. The people saw, and they trembled and stood far away. ¹⁹Then they said to Moses, "Speak with us yourself, and we will listen, but do not let God speak with us, or we will die."

²⁰Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, for God has come to test you, so that you may always fear him, so that you do not sin."

²¹The people stayed at a distance, but Moses approached the thick darkness where God was.

²²Then the LORD told Moses to tell the people of Israel the following things:

You yourselves have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. ²³You shall not make gods of silver or gods of gold and place them beside me. You shall not make them for yourselves.

²⁴You are to make an altar of earth for me and to sacrifice your whole burnt offerings on it, as well as your fellowship offerings, your sheep, and your cattle. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered, I will come to you and I will bless you.

*The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 119c



Oh, how I love your law!*

I meditate on it all day long.

I have more insight than all my teachers,*
for I meditate on your statutes.

I have more understanding than the elders,*
for I obey your precepts.

Refrain

I have kept my feet from every evil path*
so that I might obey your Word.

I have not departed from your laws,*
for you yourself have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste,*
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**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

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Second Reading

James 1:2-12 (EHV)

²Consider it complete joy, my brothers, whenever you fall into various kinds of trials, ³because you know that the testing of your faith produces patient endurance. ⁴And let patient endurance finish its work, so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

⁵If any one of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives it to all without reservation and without finding fault, and it will be given to him. ⁶But let him ask in faith, without doubting, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷In fact, that person should not expect that he will receive anything from the Lord. ⁸He is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Rich and Poor

⁹Let the brother of humble circumstances boast in his high position, ¹⁰and the rich one in his humble position, because he will pass away like a flower of the grass. ¹¹Indeed, the sun rises with burning heat and dries up the grass. Its blossom falls off, and its beauty perishes. In the same way also, the rich person will wither away in his busy pursuits.

Temptation

¹²Blessed is the man who endures a trial patiently, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life, which God promised to those who love him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

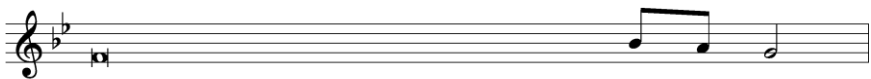
Gospel Acclamation - Setting 1



Refrain

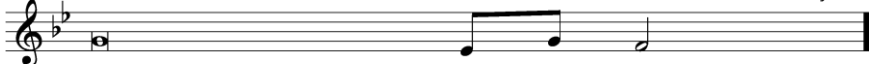


Tone



How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news,

Refrain



who bring salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

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GOSPEL

John 7:25-31 (EHV)

²⁵Some of the people from Jerusalem were saying, “Isn’t this the man they want to kill? ²⁶Yet, look! He’s speaking openly, and they don’t say a thing to him. Certainly the rulers have not concluded that he is the Christ, have they? ²⁷But we know where this man is from. When the Christ comes, no one will know where he is from.”

²⁸Then Jesus called out as he was teaching in the temple courts, “Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. Yet I have not come on my own, but the one who sent me is real. You do not know him. ²⁹I know him because I am from him, and he sent me.”

³⁰So they tried to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come.

³¹But many in the crowd believed in him and asked, “When the Christ comes, he won’t do more miraculous signs than this man, will he?”

*The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!*

Be Seated

CHILDREN’S LESSON

Hymn of the Day

855 The Church's One Foundation



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
3 The Church shall nev - er per - ish. Her dear Lord, to de - fend,
4 Tho' with a scorn - ful won - der the world sees her op - pressed,
5 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end.
by schisms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
Tho' there be those that hate her and strive to see her fail,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up, "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
a - gainst both foe and trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.

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SERMON

Sermon text: Matthew 16:13-20 (EHV)

“On This Rock I Will Build My Church”

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

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

¹⁵He said to them, “**But you, who do you say that I am?**”

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

¹⁷Jesus 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. ¹⁸And 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. ¹⁹I 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.**” ²⁰Then he commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

STAND

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.

BE SEATED

OFFERING (Kindly fill out the red Friendship Registers. Thanks.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH



Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. [Especially bless . . . *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

HYMN

510 In Christ Alone



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my
2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the
4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id
God in help - less babe; this gift of love and right - eous -
world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious
pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.
ness, scorned by the ones he came to save.
day, up from the grave he rose a - gain!
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are
Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of
And as he stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - fort - er, my all in
God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry sin on him was
lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is
pluck me from his hand; till he re - turns or calls me



all; here in the love of Christ I stand.
laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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STAND

PRAYER

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.

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.

BLESSING

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.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

928 May the Grace of Christ Our Savior

May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior and the Fa - ther's
bound - less love with the Ho - ly Spir - it's fa - vor
rest up - on us from a - bove. Thus may we a - bide in
un - ion with each oth - er and the Lord, and pos - sess in
sweet com - mun - ion joys which earth can - not af - ford.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The final note of the fifth staff is a whole note G, followed by a double bar line.

What's Coming Up at Friedens?

Last Week's Attendance
 Saturday (08/22/26): 34
 Sunday (08/23/26): 90
 Total: 124

Sunday, August 30	Worship Bible Study	9:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.
Monday, August 31 <i>Office Closed</i>		
Tuesday, September 1 <i>Office Closed</i>		
Wednesday, September 2 <i>Office Closed</i> Pastor's "Drop-In" Consultation Times: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Bible Study Games 5 & 6 Catechism 7 & 8 Catechism	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 4:15 p.m. 5:40 p.m.
Thursday, September 3 <i>Office Closed</i>		
Friday, September 4		
Saturday, September 5	Men's Bible Study Worship	8:00 a.m. Noon
Sunday, September 6	Worship (Communion) Coffee Time SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER MTG. OUTREACH MEETING	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 10:45 a.m.
Monday, September 7 <i>Office Closed</i>	<i>Happy Labor Day</i>	
Tuesday, September 8	Worship at Mala Strana Worship	11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.

USHER SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2026

DATE	TEENS	ADULTS
August 30, 2026	Mason Storlie Ethan Paler	Duane Jirik Justin Storlie

Thank you for serving as an Usher, as you guide and help worshipers in God's House!



SEPTEMBER IN A NUTSHELL

Catechism Starts: September 2 (Grades 5 & 6 at 4:15 p.m. & Grades 7 & 8 at 5:40 p.m.)



Waterville Youth Bike Trip: September 12, at 1:00 p.m. (See Pastor)

Sunday School Starts: September 13, at 10:10 a.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: September 21, 1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

We still need a Sunday School Teacher (please see Pastor if you are interested), as well as volunteers for the Blood Drive!

Please check the Volunteer 2026 wall
(it has moved next to the bulletin board)
for opportunities to help, haul, serve, clean, etc.

ALSO—We need to plan some Trailblazer events!

Adult Members: Please sign up on the wall above the literature table in the Welcome Area to host an event for our precious children. We are hoping to have at least one event per month (September-May) for the kids to look forward to.

Thank you so much.