

October 4, 2026
LWML Sunday



2026 Worship Service

Confession and Absolution

LSB 697 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences:

P Dearest Lord Jesus, you have told us that you came into this world not to be served but to serve.

C **In your service dear Lord we were granted forgiveness, peace and hope.**

P You dear Lord are the One whom we now serve.

C **We serve you in thought, word and deed.**

P Dear Lord, bless us in our service to you.

C **Lead and guide us dear Lord in all our acts of service.**

P Dear Lord, you tell us whatever we have done unto the least of these your brothers and sisters.

C **we have done unto you.**

P Bless us dear Lord in our doing.

C **that it would be done unto you and your kingdom.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

LSB 168

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
A 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.
C Lord, have mercy.
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C Amen.

This Is the Feast

LSB 171

- A** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
C Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has
begun His reign.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.
Almighty and gracious God, You want all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
Magnify the power of the Gospel in the hearts of Your faithful people that Your Church may spread
the good news of salvation. Protect, encourage, and bless all missionaries who proclaim the saving
cross that Christ, being lifted up, may draw all people to Himself, who lives and reigns with You and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 11:10–30

- ¹⁰When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices,
and when the wicked perish there are shouts of gladness.
- ¹¹By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted,
but by the mouth of the wicked it is overthrown.
- ¹²Whoever belittles his neighbor lacks sense,
but a man of understanding remains silent.
- ¹³Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets,
but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered.
- ¹⁴Where there is no guidance, a people falls,
but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.
- ¹⁵Whoever puts up security for a stranger will surely suffer harm,
but he who hates striking hands in pledge is secure.
- ¹⁶A gracious woman gets honor,
and violent men get riches.
- ¹⁷A man who is kind benefits himself,
but a cruel man hurts himself.
- ¹⁸The wicked earns deceptive wages,
but one who sows righteousness gets a sure reward.
- ¹⁹Whoever is steadfast in righteousness will live,
but he who pursues evil will die.
- ²⁰Those of crooked heart are an abomination to the LORD,
but those of blameless ways are his delight.
- ²¹Be assured, an evil person will not go unpunished,
but the offspring of the righteous will be delivered.
- ²²Like a gold ring in a pig's snout
is a beautiful woman without discretion.
- ²³The desire of the righteous ends only in good;
the expectation of the wicked in wrath.
- ²⁴One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;
another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.
- ²⁵Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,
and one who waters will himself be watered.
- ²⁶The people curse him who holds back grain,
but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it.
- ²⁷Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor,
but evil comes to him who searches for it.

- ²⁸Whoever trusts in his riches will fall,
but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.
- ²⁹Whoever troubles his own household will inherit the wind,
and the fool will be servant to the wise of heart.
- ³⁰The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,
and whoever captures souls is wise.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 100

- ¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
²Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
- ³Know that the LORD, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- ⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- ⁵For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Epistle

1 Peter 4:1–12

¹Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ²so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. ³The time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. ⁴With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; ⁵but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:10–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children’s Message

LSB 446 Jesus, Greatest at the Table

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Almighty Father, you delight in righteousness, and in Your mercy You have made us righteous. Grant that His righteousness—bestowed in Baptism—may be seen in our lives, so that Your Church may preserve what is good as salt and shine with the light of Christ before the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord our God, You have made us the sheep of Your pasture and called us to serve You with gladness. By the righteousness of Christ living in us, strengthen Your people to use the gifts You have given as good stewards of Your varied grace – speaking Your Word faithfully and serving with the strength that You supply. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious Lord, bless the Lutheran Women in Mission as they support the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the world. Let the righteousness of Christ—given to them and living through them—move their hearts to joyful generosity, faithful service, and steadfast support of missionaries who bear Christ’s saving Word to the nations. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, because Christ’s righteousness covers us and renews us, teach your people to love one another earnestly, to show hospitality without grumbling, and to seek the good of their neighbors. Let Christ’s mercy shape our deeds, that His grace may be seen in all we do. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Merciful Lord, strengthen all who endure reviling, persecution, and fiery trials for the sake of Christ. Let His righteousness be their comfort, His promises their hope, and His cross their confidence, that they may rejoice even when maligned for his name. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Ruler of all, grant wisdom to those who govern and protect our communities. Restrain evil, uphold justice, and bless all who pursue what is good, that cities may rejoice when righteousness—Christ’s righteousness—prevails and Your blessing exalts the land. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Compassionate Father, look with kindness on the sick, the troubled, the grieving, and the dying. (*We especially lift before you...*) Grant healing according to Your will, peace in Your promises, and steadfast faith in Christ, whose righteousness covers all our sin and whose resurrection gives life to the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord Jesus Christ, as You gather us to Your Table, grant that all who receive Your body and blood may do so in repentance and faith. Let Your righteousness, given and shed for us, strengthen Your people with forgiveness, life, and salvation, that they may glorify You in all things. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory

LSB 176

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the
name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call
on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in
the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's
house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who bestows on His people the righteousness of Christ and teaches them to live as salt and light in the world, serving with the strength that God supplies and joyfully supporting the spread of the Gospel. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Pax Domini

LSB 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

LSB 180

Agnus Dei

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant
us peace.

Sit

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION/THE LORD'S SUPPER

Here at Zion Lutheran, we believe that Christ's true body and blood are received by everyone in the Lord's Supper (Real Presence). All who participate here believe the same Biblical truths and we practice "Closed Communion." (Acts 2:42, 1 Cor 1:10, 10:16-18, 11:26-29)

Visitors, please consult with Pastor Johnson or the Elder before receiving the Lord's Supper.

Only communicant members of Zion or one of our sister LCMS churches are invited to receive the Communion elements. If you do not meet this criterion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing by our pastor. Simply fold your hands across your chest when the bread and the wine are distributed, and our pastor will speak a blessing over you. All children are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Our Communion practices are to have four adults (with children standing in front of the adults) on each side of area in front of the chancel (Altar area) as our Pastor and Elder are serving the elements. The Ushers are instructed to limit the communicants to four. Inform the Usher if you desire NOT to be separated from someone and he'll adjust the groupings.

Distribution

LSB 526 You Are the Way; through You Alone

LSB 706 Love in Christ Is Strong and Living

LSB 696 O God, My Faithful God

LSB 700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 181

- C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear
His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people
forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benediction

LSB 183

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be
gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you
peace.
- C** Amen.

LSB 832 Jesus Shall Reign

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from *Lutheran Service Book*

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by *Lutheran Service Builder* © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

October 4, 2026
LWML Sunday