

*The Christian lives as wheat among the
weeds as he waits for the harvest*



SHINING MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Bozeman, MT

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 9th, 2020

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Lutherans believe that the gospel is not only the good news that Jesus has saved sinners, but also a powerful God who uses to create and strengthen faith in Jesus.

OPENING HYMN #221

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word We are gath - ered
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, Praise to you and



all to hear you. Let our hearts and souls be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed Till your Spir - it breaks our night
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we your Word may trust,



Now to seek and love and fear you, By your teach - ings,
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to
Help us by your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry your
Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -



sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.
peo - ple rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.
low must wan - der, Till we sing your prais - es yon - der.

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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 you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

HYMN OF PRAISE

Oh, Taste and See

**C: 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:

Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Joel 3:12-16

¹²Let the nations be roused. Let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the nations. ¹³Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow, because their wickedness is so great! ¹⁴Multitudes, multitudes in the Valley of Decision! For the Day of the LORD is near in the Valley of Decision. ¹⁵The sun and

²⁶In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Galatians 4:6

M: Alleluia. Because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Alleluia.

C: 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 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴He presented another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while people were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶When the plants sprouted and produced heads of grain, the weeds also appeared. ²⁷The servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy did this.' The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and gather up the weeds?' ²⁹'No,' he answered, 'because when you gather up the weeds, you might pull up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "First, gather up the weeds, bind them in bundles, and burn them. Then, gather the wheat into my barn."'"

³⁶Then Jesus sent the people away and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." ³⁷He answered them, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the Evil One. ³⁹The enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so it will be at the end

of the world. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will pull out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law. ⁴²The angels will throw them into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

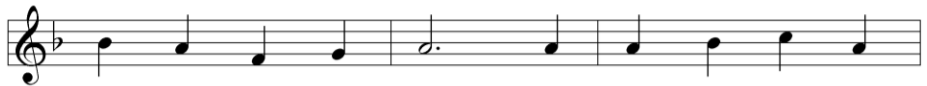
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN #412

Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright



1 Lord, teach us how to pray a - right, With
 2 We suf - fer if we cease from prayer; Oh,
 3 Give deep hu - mil - i - ty; the sense Of
 4 Faith in the on - ly sac - ri - fice That
 5 Give these, and then your will be done; Thus



rev - 'rence and with fear. Though dust and ash - es
 grant us pow'r to pray. And when to meet you
 god - ly sor - row give; A strong de - sire, with
 can for sin a - tone, To cast our hopes, to
 strength-ened with your might We, through your Spir - it



in your sight, We may, we must draw near.
 we pre - pare, Lord, meet us on the way.
 con - fi - dence, To hear your voice and live;
 fix our eyes On Christ, on Christ a - lone.
 and your Son, Shall pray, and pray a - right.

SERMON

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.

OFFERING

Our offerings are an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church's work.

You can place your offering in the plate in the entryway, send it to 1710 Vaquero Parkway - Bozeman, MT 59718

Or give electronically by scanning this code that will take you to our [secure giving site](#).



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: We praise you for every grace and blessing.

M: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.

M: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.

M: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.

M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.

M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: Amen.

THE 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.

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: Amen.



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through your
 2 We praise you for the means of grace As home - ward

grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious seed
 now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who wor -

take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit.
 shiped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.

Announcements

Serving Us This Week (August 9th - 15th)

Cleaners: Blackstad, Holte, Parks

Serving Us Next Week (August 16th - 22nd)

Cleaners: Bakers, Hunziker, Beal, Claunch

Worship Next Sunday

At our July Voter's Meeting, it was decided to try moving our **10:30 AM Worship Service** for **NEXT SUNDAY, August 16th outside** (weather permitting). Bring your favorite lawn chair or blanket or use one of ours. We plan on having a large tent set up to provide some shade.

After the outdoor service, we will have a socially-distanced church picnic for anyone who wants to attend. The grill will be hot and ready. We will then evaluate if we want to continue offering our 10:30 service outdoors. We will also still have the **normal 8:30 service which we will livestream**, if you prefer that.

Pastor Sonntag

Pastor will be back from a family wedding at the end of the week. If you need anything, please call, text or email. Thanks.

News from Around the Synod

New Chinese ministry in Coquitlam, British Columbia (BC), Canada: Qiang Wang is a member of home mission congregation Saviour of the Nations in Vancouver, BC, Canada, and a recent Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) graduate. With funding from WELS Joint Missions, WELSCanada, and Saviour of the Nations, Qiang was assigned as missionary to the Chinese population in Coquitlam and was installed on January 18, 2020. A family of three have already been baptized, weekly English as a Second Language classes are averaging 10 people per week, and special events like potlucks and holiday celebrations are often attended by upwards of 30 prospects! Please continue to pray for this growing mission opportunity.

Find Christian community on campus

Connect with fellow believers during your college journey. For 100 years, WELS Campus Ministry, a ministry of WELS Home Missions, has provided the resources college students need to find spiritual encouragement and community as they navigate the challenges of young adulthood. The WELS Campus Ministry Committee financially supports about 30 campus ministries and assists hundreds of other congregations. If you're in college, sign up for WELS Campus Ministry at wels.net/campus-ministry.

Follow *Forward in Christ* on Facebook

Get more from *Forward in Christ*, the synod's official magazine, by following it on Facebook at facebook.com/ForwardinChristMagazine. Join the community and join the conversation.

WELS Together e-newsletter

Stay in the loop! Subscribe to the WELS Together e-newsletter to stay connected with the people of your synod and the ministry they serve. Also, don't miss the twice-monthly videos that cover important and exciting synod news. Go to wels.net/together to read more and subscribe today.

Special Instructions for Worship

- Wash hands / Use hand sanitizer stations often
- Sit with your family and sit at least 6 feet from another family unit
- Please do not sit in pews that have been “roped off” or places that have been “taped off”
- Congregate Outside or spread out in the entryway
- Try to fill church from front to back and outside to inside to keep people from having to walk past others
- Please take home your worship folder or throw it away at the end of the service
- Have each person grab bulletin from pile, print off at home or download and use personal device (phone/tablet)
- If you are going to follow along on phone, please make sure the ringer is off
- Unless your age, activity or health doesn't allow it, we ask that you wear a face-covering, especially in the entryway. If you don't have your own, grab one from the front table.
- Offerings plates will not be passed but you can donate online or place in offering basket on way in/out
- Pastor will not shake your hands but will greet you in a place where we can be at least 6 feet away.
- Clorox wipe down all pews and high use surfaces after each service
- We will have the **Lord's Supper NEXT weekend**. We will follow the new procedures to minimize contact and adhere to social distancing.
- Please dismiss (leave the church) from the back to front so people don't have to walk past each other.
- **We will continue offering both 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM worship services until further notice.**