



**MORRISON  
ZION  
LUTHERAN**  
Wisconsin Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to  
**Glorify God**  
as we  
**Gather**  
around the Gospel  
to help people  
**Grow**  
in the **Gospel**  
and  
**Go**  
with the **Gospel**

**Welcome!** We thank  
God that you have  
joined us at worship  
today.

Restrooms are  
located in the  
basement. Hearing  
loop headphones and  
Large Print Hymnals  
are available from an  
usher.

If your children need  
to leave worship,  
please take them to  
the basement. A TV  
broadcasts the service  
in the basement.

Today we gather  
together in the  
presence of God. He is  
present among us in a  
special way through  
his Word and  
Sacrament. We  
acknowledge our sin  
and rejoice in the good  
news of forgiveness  
through the life and  
death of Christ. This is  
the focus of our  
worship.

September 12 & 15, 2024  
17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



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## Followers of Christ are Armed for the Battle

What is the worst war in human history? One might point to World War II, which has the highest death toll of at least 90 million people. Or consider the Three Kingdoms War, which not only resulted in over 40 million deaths but also lasted for most of the third century. There is no end to the sad list of nominations: the Thirty Years War, the Taiping Rebellion, the American Civil War, World War I.

None of those is the correct answer. The worst war in human history began when the first shot was fired in Eden. It has been raging since. It is a war against “spiritual forces of evil” (Ephesians 6:12). This is not a war over land or resources. It is a war for souls. The reality is that there are demonic forces that want to do more than kill you; they want to claim you for all eternity. The good news: Christ has already called you his own and equipped you for this war. Followers of Christ are armed for the battle.

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## Opening Hymn

Stand for verse 4

*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* CW 872



- 1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, ye sol - diers of the cross;
- 2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, the trum - pet call o - bey;
- 3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, stand in his strength a - lone;
- 4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, the strife will not be long;



lift high his roy - al ban - ner, it must not suf - fer loss.  
forth to the might - y con - flict in this his glo - rious day.  
the arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own.  
this day the noise of bat - tle, the next, the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry his ar - my shall he lead  
Ye that are brave, now serve him a - gainst un - num - bered foes;  
Put on the gos - pel ar - mor, each piece put on with prayer;  
To him that o - ver - com - eth a crown of life shall be;



till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished and Christ is Lord in - deed.  
let cour - age rise with dan - ger and strength to strength op - pose.  
where du - ty calls or dan - ger, be nev - er want - ing there.  
he with the King of glo - ry shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818–1888, abr., alt.

Tune: George J. Webb, 1803–1887

Text and tune: Public domain

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

**C:** Amen.

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## CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

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**M:** Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

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

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed our own selfish ways and the desires of 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*

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

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 (T) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

*Oh, Taste and See*



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -

ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

### Prayer of the Day

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Be Seated*

### Junior Choir *(Sunday 8:00 am)*

In heavenly armor we'll enter the land;  
 The battle belongs to the Lord.  
 No weapon that's fashioned against us will stand;  
 The battle belongs to the Lord.

*refrain*

*And we sing glory, honor, power,  
 and strength to the Lord:  
 We sing glory, honor, power,  
 and strength to the Lord!*

### *The Battle Belongs to the Lord*

When the power of darkness comes in like a flood,  
 The battle belongs to the Lord.  
 He'll raise up a standard, the pow'r of his blood;  
 The battle belongs to the Lord.

*refrain*

When your enemy presses in hard, do not fear;  
 The battle belongs to the Lord.  
 Take courage, my friend, your redemption is near;  
 The battle belongs to the Lord.

*refrain*

By Jamie Owens-Collins  
 setting 1984 and this arrangement 1990  
 Fairhill Music

## First Lesson

## 1 Kings 18:21-39

In a showdown between Elijah and the prophets of the idol Baal, the LORD makes it clear that all the combined forces of hell are nothing compared to the almighty power of God.

<sup>21</sup>Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.”

But the people said nothing.

<sup>22</sup>Then Elijah said to them, “I am the only one of the Lord’s prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. <sup>23</sup>Get two bulls for us. Let Baal’s prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. <sup>24</sup>Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire—he is God.”

Then all the people said, “What you say is good.”

<sup>25</sup>Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire.” <sup>26</sup>So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. “Baal, answer us!” they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

<sup>27</sup>At noon Elijah began to taunt them. “Shout louder!” he said. “Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.” <sup>28</sup>So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. <sup>29</sup>Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

<sup>30</sup>Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come here to me.” They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. <sup>31</sup>Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, “Your name shall be Israel.” <sup>32</sup>With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. <sup>33</sup>He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, “Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood.”

<sup>34</sup>“Do it again,” he said, and they did it again.

“Do it a third time,” he ordered, and they did it the third time. <sup>35</sup>The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

<sup>36</sup>At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: “Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. <sup>37</sup>Answer

me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

<sup>38</sup>Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

<sup>39</sup>When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, “The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!” (NIV)

## Psalm of the Day

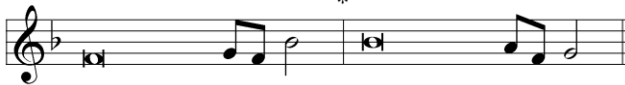
Psalm 46 CW<sup>93</sup>

### Refrain



The might-y Lord is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our for-tress.

### Psalm tone



God is our refuge and strength,\*  
an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way\*  
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam\*  
and the mountains quake with their surging.

### Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,\*  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall;\*  
God will help her at break of day.

“Be still, and know that I am God;\*  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth.”

**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

Refrain Tune: Dale Wood. From *Seasonal Psalms*. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

## Second Lesson

## Ephesians 6:10-18

So that they might be ready for the battle, followers of Christ put on the full armor of God.

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can stand against the schemes of the Devil. <sup>12</sup> For our<sup>[d]</sup> struggle is not against flesh and blood,<sup>[e]</sup> but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> For this reason, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to take a stand on the evil day and, after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand, then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness fastened in place, <sup>15</sup> and with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace tied to your feet like sandals. <sup>16</sup> At all times hold up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One. <sup>17</sup> Also take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> At every opportunity, pray in the Spirit with every kind of prayer and petition. Stay alert for the same reason, always persevering in your intercession for all the saints. (EHV)

### **Verse of the Day** (*Thursday and 10:30 am*)

**M:** Alleluia. In you, Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Alleluia. (Psalm 31:1 NIV)

*Stand*

## Gospel

## Mark 9:14-27

As we fight spiritual battles, Jesus assures us that “Everything is possible for the one who believes,” that is, the one who relies on Christ, who has already won the war.

<sup>14</sup>When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. <sup>15</sup>As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him.

<sup>16</sup>“What are you arguing with them about?” he asked.

<sup>17</sup>A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. <sup>18</sup>Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.”

<sup>19</sup>“You unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.”

<sup>20</sup>So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has he been like this?”

“From childhood,” he answered. <sup>22</sup>“It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.”

<sup>23</sup>“If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.”

<sup>24</sup>Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”

<sup>25</sup>When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.”

<sup>26</sup>The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” <sup>27</sup>But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be Seated*



## Hymn of the Day

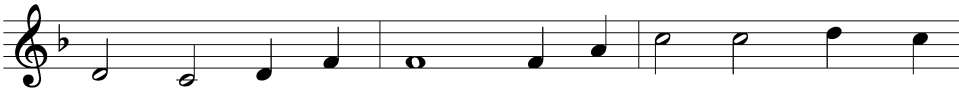
*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* CW 517



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness with a lib - er -  
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren with a strong, yet  
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; praise the one who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing  
gen - tle, word; praise the one who drove out de - mons with the  
in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious that we



blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the one who preached the  
pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool  
may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, calm - ing  
wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand; from this  
glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done; let us



storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the Fa - ther's word of peace.  
well comes liv - ing wa - ter, quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

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Tune: Public domain

## Sermon

**Ephesians 6:10-18**  
Pastor David Ruddat

*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

*Stand*

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

## Prayer of the Church

### 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.

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.

C: **Amen**

## **Benediction**

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.**

*Be Seated*

## **Acknowledgments**

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# Closing Hymn

*Onward, Christian Soldiers* CW 869



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 our 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.

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, abr., alt.  
 Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900  
 Text and tune: Public domain