



**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.

February 13 & 16, 2025
6th Sunday after Epiphany



Blessings are Cursed; Curses are Blessed

“This is good. That is bad.” We often think life is that simple. We believe we can assess a situation accurately determine if it is positive or negative. It’s hubris. As Jesus gathered followers, he taught them that his kingdom runs exactly opposite to the principles and priorities of the world. Therefore, much that we think is good is bad, and vice-versa.

If we want to accurately see the world, we need to have this epiphany. That which the world considers a blessing can often be a curse. Things like success and wealth and health can lead us away from our God. We become so enamored with those blessings that we forget about the Blesser. Conversely, there are hidden blessings in what we would normally consider curses. When we fail, when we suffer, and when things don’t go our way, it forces us to put our trust in God and for our souls to be satisfied in him. The reality is that perceived blessings can be cursed and perceived curses can be used for our blessing.

Stand

Opening Hymn

I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus CW 816



1 I am trust - ing you, Lord Je - sus, trust - ing on - ly you;
4 I am trust - ing you to guide me; you a - lone shall lead,



trust - ing you for full sal - va - tion, free and true.
ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing all my need.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877

Text and tune: Public domain

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

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.



2 I am trust - ing you for par - don; at your feet I bow,
 3 I am trust - ing you for cleans - ing in the crim - son flood;



for your grace and ten - der mer - cy trust - ing now.
 trust - ing you to make me ho - ly by your blood.

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 (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



5 I am trust - ing you for pow - er; you can nev - er fail.
 6 I am trust - ing you, Lord Je - sus; nev - er let me fall.



Words which you your - self shall give me must pre - vail.
 I am trust - ing you for - ev - er and for all.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
 Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877
 Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God of power and might, you know that we live in the midst of many great dangers, and in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Give us strength and protection to support us in all peril, and carry us through all temptations; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson

Jeremiah 17:5-8

A blessed life is not connected to outward circumstances like health or wealth. Rather, the one who is blessed is the one who has been given the gift of faith, whose trust is in the LORD.

⁵This is what the Lord says:

“Cursed is the one who trusts in man,
who draws strength from mere flesh
and whose heart turns away from the Lord.

⁶That person will be like a bush in the wastelands;
they will not see prosperity when it comes.

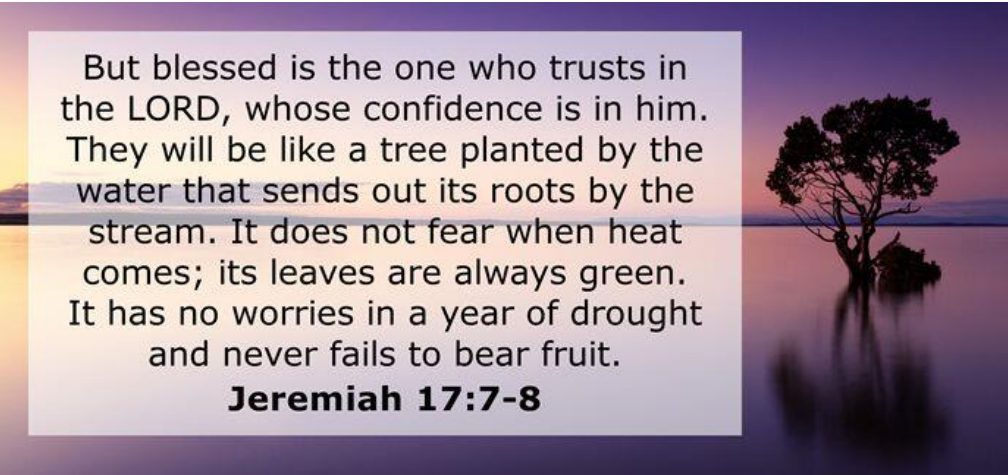
They will dwell in the parched places of the desert,
in a salt land where no one lives.

⁷“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
whose confidence is in him.

⁸They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.

It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.

It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.” (NIV)



But blessed is the one who trusts in
the LORD, whose confidence is in him.
They will be like a tree planted by the
water that sends out its roots by the
stream. It does not fear when heat
comes; its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 1 CW (Red Hymnal)

Refrain



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Psalm tone



Blessed is the man
who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked*
or stand in the way of sinners.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD,*
and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season*
and whose leaf does not wither.
Whatever he does prospers.

Refrain

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment*,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous*,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

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: Robert J. Thompson. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 12:7b–10

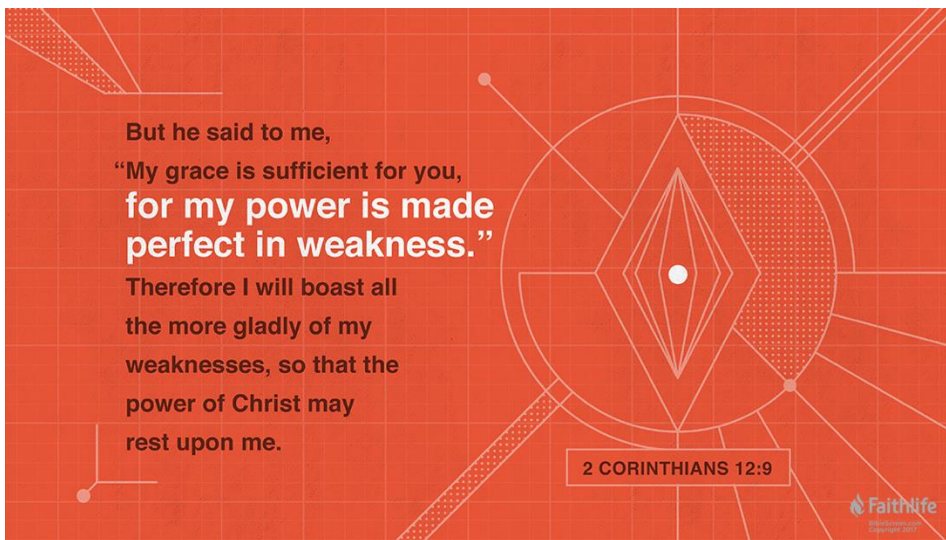
Paul had some infirmity he initially viewed as a weakness. He came to see it as a blessing as it forced him to rely on God's strength.

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Alleluia. (Psalm 121:8 NIV)

Stand



Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

In one of his most famous sermons Jesus teaches that the good things we seek are found in places we would least expect.

¹⁷He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, ¹⁹and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

²⁰Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²²Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

²³“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven.
For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received your comfort.

²⁵Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

The Will of God Is Always Best CW 838



1 The will of God is al - ways best and shall be done for -
2 God is my com - fort and my trust, my hope and life a -
3 Lord, this I ask, O hear my plea, de - ny me not this
4 When life's brief course on earth is run and I this world am



ev - er; and they who trust in him are blest;
bid - ing, and to his coun - sel, wise and just,
fa - vor: when Sa - tan sore - ly trou - bles me,
leav - ing, grant me to say, "Your will be done,"



he will for - sake them nev - er. He helps in - deed in
I yield, in him con - fid - ing. The ver - y hairs, his
then do not let me wa - ver. O guard me well, my
your faith - ful Word be - liev - ing. My heav'n - ly Friend, I



time of need; he chas - tens with fore - bear - ing. They who de -
Word de - clares, up - on my head he num - bers. By night and
fear dis - pel, ful - fill your faith - ful say - ing: all who be -
now com - mend my soul in - to your keep - ing, o'er sin and



pend on God, their friend, shall not be left de - spair - ing.
day God is my stay; he nev - er sleeps nor slum - bers.
lieve by grace re - ceive an an - swer to their pray - ing.
hell and death as well in you the vic - t'ry reap - ing.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Albrecht von Preussen, 1490–1568
Tune: Claudin de Sermisy, c. 1490–1562
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

2 Corinthians 12:7b–10

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

Closing Hymn

Day by Day CW 803



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you
wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will



send me draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.
guide me o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day.
hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.



Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the
I will fear no e - vil of the mor - row, I will trust in
Day by day, no mat - ter what be - tide me, you will hold me



bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior, lead me to the home I
your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior, help me bear life's pain and
ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior, with your pres - ence here to



treasure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Text: tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005; Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903

Tune: Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882

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