

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MESSAGE SONG “Lord, Whose Love through
Humble Service” LSB 848, sts. 1-4

MESSAGE OF THE DAY
The Rev. Scott Strohkirch

(Please stand)

STATEMENT OF FAITH *Apostles’ Creed*

C. I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P. Together let us pray as our Lord Jesus taught us...

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

BENEDICTION

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ + and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. Amen.

(Please sit)

CLOSING SONG

“They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love” sts. 1-4

1. We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Chorus: And they’ll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love, Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,
And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land.

Chorus:

3. We will work with each other, We will work side by side,
We will work with each other, We will work side by side,
And we’ll guard each man’s dignity and save each man’s pride. Chorus:

4. All praise to the Father, From whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one. Chorus:

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P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God!

* * * **TO GOD BE THE GLORY** * * *

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CONNECTION SERVICE

February 8, 2026
10:30am

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN SING

“Loving My Neighbor” & “This Is the Day”

WORSHIP SONG “Jesus Loves Me” sts. 1-4

1. Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so:
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak but He is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me! Loves me still,
Tho’ I’m very weak and ill;
That I might from sin be free,
Bled and died upon the tree. Refrain:

3. Jesus loves me! He who died,
Heaven’s gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin,
Let His little child come in. Refrain:

4. Jesus loves me! He will stay
Close beside me all the way;
Thou hast bled and died for me,
I will henceforth live for Thee. Refrain:

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(Please stand)

INVOCATION

P. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen

CONFESSION OF SINS AND FORGIVENESS

P. Almighty God, have mercy on us for Christ’s sake.

C. **Almighty God, I am unworthy of You and Your grace and mercy. I have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. And I cannot free myself from this condition. Therefore, I take refuge in Your loving-kindness; and I ask for Your forgiveness. We ask for Your forgiveness.**

P. Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives you. As a called and ordained servant of the Lord, and on His behalf, I say to you, “You are forgiven.” In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

(Please sit)

FIRST READING *Isaiah 58:3-9a*

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?
Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?’
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
and oppress all your workers.
⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to hit with a wicked fist.
Fasting like yours this day
will not make your voice to be heard on high.
⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day for a person to humble himself?
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?
Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD?
⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,

(continued...)

to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

L. Here ends the first reading.

SECOND READING *1 Corinthians 2:1-16*

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom.
²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.
⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,
“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—
¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

(continued...)

¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

L. Here ends the second reading.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 5:13-20*

¹³[Jesus said:] “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. Here ends the reading of the Gospel.

(Please sit)

TITHES & OFFERING “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”
Girls singing group

(While the music is playing, please bring your offerings forward and place them in the plate.)