PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"A Disciple Making Community"
"KNOW, GROW, and GO"

West Salem, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 13th, 2026

Welcome! We are glad you are here today!

Our mission here at Prince of Peace is to exist to be a disciple making community for the Lord Jesus Christ. Our message is that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. If you have questions about the Christian faith or Prince of Peace, our pastor or one of our elders would be happy to talk with you.

Pastor: Rev. Peter Adelsen

Cell: 765-860-5204 Email: Pastor@WSPOP.org

Elder: Dan Kolander, 608-697-5458 Email: dkolander5458@gmail.com

Elder: Joe Scholze, 608-780-6771 Email: josephscholze@gmail.com

Church Office: 608-786-3938 Email: Office@WSPOP.org

(staffed voluntarily – office hours vary widely)

Accompanist: Deb Dunnum Choral Director: Sarah Kolander

Our Communion Practice: Prince of Peace is a member congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). The LCMS practices the Biblical and historical practice known as Close or Closed Communion (1 Corinthians 11:18-22). In this Supper of Our Lord, we receive the real presence of Jesus Christ's true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25). Since this is also a sign of our communion, or common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we welcome to the Lord's Supper all those who are catechized members in good standing of the congregations of the LCMS or those in fellowship with the LCMS, such as The American Association of Lutheran Churches (TAALC).

It is indeed a consequence of the division in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to receive the Lord's Supper. Reception of the Sacrament of the Altar by those who are not fully united with us would confess a oneness that does not yet exist and for which we must all pray. New member classes are offered regularly, so that those who are not in fellowship with us can be welcomed to the Lord's Table in the future! We thank you for your respect for our Biblical and historical practice. Guests, please ask an elder or Pastor Adelsen before the service if you have any further questions about the Sacrament of the Altar, including the desire to become a member so we can all join together at the Lord's Table.

Please let us know you were here. Please fill out a Connection Card. You may leave it on the table at the back of the sanctuary or place it in the offering plate. Or leave it at the end of your row. *Thank you!*

Theme for Today's Service: In adversity and blessing, we belong to the Lord. Joseph became an emissary of God's mercy despite his brothers' evil intent. As we navigate and process quarrels, judgments, and opinions, human adversity distorts our life with Christ. We belong to Him as we strive to live. We belong to Him as we strive to live. We belong to Him as we prepare to die. Christ resolves adversity from His heart, resolving disputes with wisdom, love, and forgiveness.

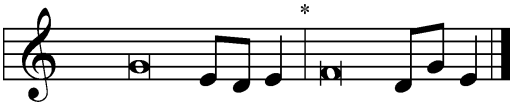
Order of Service: Divine Service 3, pp. 184 ff.

Welcome

Hymn of Invocation: 790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Confession and Absolution of Sins *LSB 184, 185*

Service of the Word

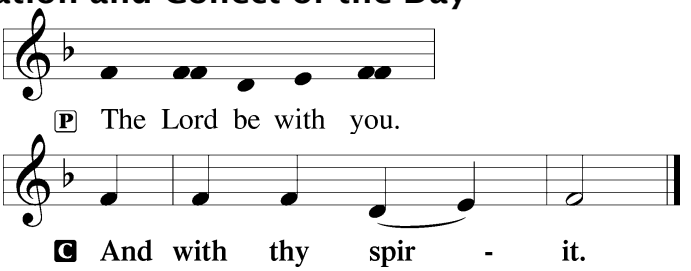
Psalm 103:1-12; antiphon: v. 13

As a father shows compassion to his | children,*
so the LORD shows compassion to those who | fear him.
Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me,
bless his | holy name!
Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and forget not all his | benefits,
who forgives all your in- | iquity,*
who heals all your dis- | eases,
who redeems your life | from the pit,*
who crowns you with steadfast love and | mercy,
who satisfies | you with good*
so that your youth is renewed like the | eagle's.
The LORD works | righteousness*
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
He made known his ways to | Moses,*
his acts to the people of | Israel.

The LORD is merciful and | gracious,*
  slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
He will not | always chide,*
  nor will he keep his anger for- | ever.
He does not deal with us according | to our sins,*
  nor repay us according to our in- | iquities.
For as high as the heavens are a- | bove the earth,*
  so great is his steadfast love toward those who | fear him;
as far as the east is | from the west,*
  so far does he remove our transgres- | sions from us.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
  and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
  is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
As a father shows compassion to his | children,*
  so the LORD shows compassion to those who | fear him.

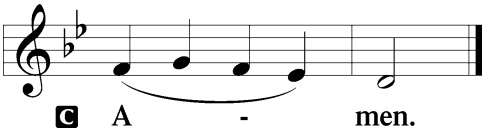
Kyrie *LSB 186*

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray. O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading *Genesis 50:15–21*

15When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they
said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil
that we did to him." 16So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your
father gave this command before he died, 17'Say to Joseph, Please
forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they
did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the
servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to
him. 18His brothers also came and fell down before him and said,
"Behold, we are your servants." 19But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear,
for am I in the place of God? 20As for you, you meant evil against me,
but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should
be kept alive, as they are today. 21So do not fear; I will provide for you
and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to
them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle *Romans 14:1–12*

1As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to
quarrel over opinions. 2One person believes he may eat anything, while
the weak person eats only vegetables. 3Let not the one who eats
despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass
judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. 4Who are
you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own
master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is
able to make him stand. 5One person esteems one day as better than
another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully
convinced in his own mind. 6The one who observes the day, observes it
in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since
he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor

of the Lord and gives thanks to God. [7]For none of us lives to himself,
and none of us dies to himself. [8]If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we
die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we
are the Lord's. [9]For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he
might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. [10]Why do you pass
judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother?
For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; [11]for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God."

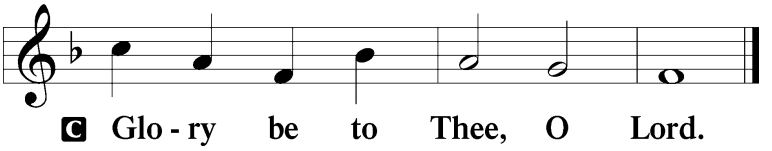
[12]So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia & Verse *LSB 190*

Holy Gospel *Matthew 18:21–35*

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

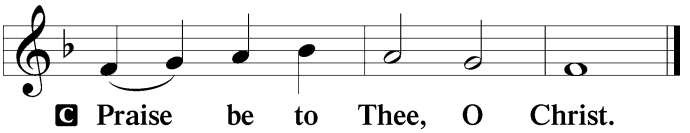


[21]Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my
brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?"
[22]Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times
seven.

[23]"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his servants. [24]When he began to
settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.
[25]And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with
his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. [26]So
the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me,
and I will pay you everything.' [27]And out of pity for him, the master of
that servant released him and forgave him the debt. [28]But when that

same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ [29]So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ [30]He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. [31]When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. [32]Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. [33]And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ [34]And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. [35]So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day: 851Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

Sermon: “The Necessity of Forgiving One Another” *Matthew 18:21-35*

Prayer of the Church
Following each prayer read aloud ending "Lord in Your Mercy," the congregation may respond, "Hear our prayer."

Offering and Offertory *LSB 192*

Service of the Sacrament *LSB 194-202*

Distribution Hymn: 818 In Thee Is Gladness
Distribution Hymn: 708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart
Distribution Hymn: 814 O Bless the Lord, My Soul

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

Salutation and Benedicamus *LSB 201*

Benediction *LSB 202*

Hymn to Depart: Ten Thousand Reasons *One and All Rejoice #301*

Refrain: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. *Refrain*

2 You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing—
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Refrain*

3 And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending—
Ten thousand years and then forevermore! *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name.
Worship Your holy name,
Worship Your holy name.

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Announcements

Go in peace, Service the Lord! Thanks be to God!

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SERVING OUR LORD AND ONE ANOTHER

	Today	Next Week	Sept. 27th
Song Leader	Brooklynn S.	Holly F.	Kolander
Ushers	Brunk	Otto	Dosland
Counters	D. Dunnum C. Leis	B. Hinds O. Childs	E. Schmidt C. Leis
Acolyte	Kolander	Sheffer	Greydanus
Altar Guild for September: Barb Hinds & Ginny Emmons			

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GIFTS

Last Week's Sun. & Mon. Attendance: 44
Weekly Need 2026 Budget: $3,172.46
Week of Sep. 6th Offering: $2,491.00
(Full Financials are posted on the kiosk in the lobby.)

THIS WEEK AT PRINCE OF PEACE

Today	**9:00 am**	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**
	after	*Fellowship time*
	10:30 am	Adult Bible Study
	11:30 am	Council Meeting
	Noon	Youth Catechesis Class
Mon. Sep. 14	**7:00 pm**	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**
Tues. Sep. 15	5:00 pm	Men's Bible Study at Features
Wed. Sep. 16	9:30 am	Adult Bible Study
	7:30 pm	POP Choir
Sat. Sep. 19	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study (meets online)
Sun. Sep 20	**9:00 am**	**Divine Service with Holy Communion**

Prince of Peace News and Notes for September 13th, 2026

Small Group Bible Studies at Prince of Peace

Sunday Mornings after Fellowship: Augsburg Confession - The Augsburg Confession remains the basic confession not just for Lutherans, but for every Christian. Join us!

Wednesday Mornings (9:30 a.m.) The Book of Isaiah: In the pages of Isaiah, the prophet brings comfort and hope in the coming of the Savior.

Selected Tuesday Evenings, at Features (5:00pm), Men's Bible Study **Scheduled to meet again Sept. 15th** Focusing on: Nahum, Habakkuk and Zephania The people of Assyria were notoriously brutal. They believed that their kingdom would last forever. Those who feared this cruel nation needed to do so no longer for the Lord would protect and deliver His people.

Saturday's – Online, Women's Bible Study (9:00am) Ruth: More Than A Love Story. Embedded in the historical narrative of this short Old Testament book are connections to God's fulfilled promise of a Messiah and how God loves us and cares for us in Christ. See the wonderful picture of how God watches carefully over every little detail so His grace may come to fruition and fully abound. See Carrie Horstman about how to join online.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Catechesis at Prince of Peace, Early Communion & Youth Confirmation resumes today at Noon. See Pastor for follow up.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Adult **Information/New Member Class** for any adults interested in learning more about the Lutheran Church or would like to seek membership to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, please contact Pastor Adelsen. (There are no obligations on membership.)

PRINCE OF PEACE PRAYER CHAIN: We have received the gift of prayer from God to receive gifts from God in prayer. We pray in order to receive the gifts that God has for us and others. And best of all, prayer itself is a gift! If you have prayer requests for the email prayer chain, send them to Pastor Adelsen at Pastor@WSPOP.org If you would like to be a prayer warrior, email Pastor at Pastor@WSPOP.org

Everyone is invited to attend this year's
Prayer Service at Prince of Peace on Saturday, October 3
Hosted by our LWML, this year's theme is
"Praise, Remember, Ask, Yield, Excitement, Rejoice" = PRAYER"
Refreshments will be served at 9:30am then program at 10.
Pastor Adelsen and Pastor Weber will be leading the service.
No one is asked to pray in front of the group.
It's a time for learning and renewal.

LWML is hosting this year's **Zone Fall Rally** on October 17th with the theme *"Harvest of Blessings"*. All women are invited to attend. Registration begins at 8:30am, and the program will be at 9:00am. Our guest speaker is from Alliance Family Services and we're collecting baby items such as diapers and wipes. All donations will be appreciated. If you would like to donate, but aren't able to attend, bring your items to the church. Pastor Adelsen will be leading a Bible study on gratitude, and lunch will be served.

A sign-up sheet is located in the kitchen if you would like bring food items for that morning. We will need breakfast items: muffins, breads and fresh fruit. We will also need items for lunch such as salads and desserts.

This is a big regional event hosted by the Prince of Peace women of the LWML anticipating an attendance of about 40-50 people. Any donations from the congregation would be greatly appreciated. See Deb D. or Sharie B. for follow-up questions.

MUSIC BRINGS JOY TO THE PERFORMER AND JOY TO THE HEARER!

Prince of Peace is blessed with many with musical talent, even those who say they aren't talented, certainly are talented! And if you think, however wrongly, that singing is not your talent, there are other ways to musically praise the Lord! One other way to praise the Lord is in the use of handbells! So, if you are musically inclined, or you may think you are not, please take some time in completing this short survey by scanning this QR code. There may also be a paper survey, if needed. If you have any questions or concerns, please see Pastor Adelsen.

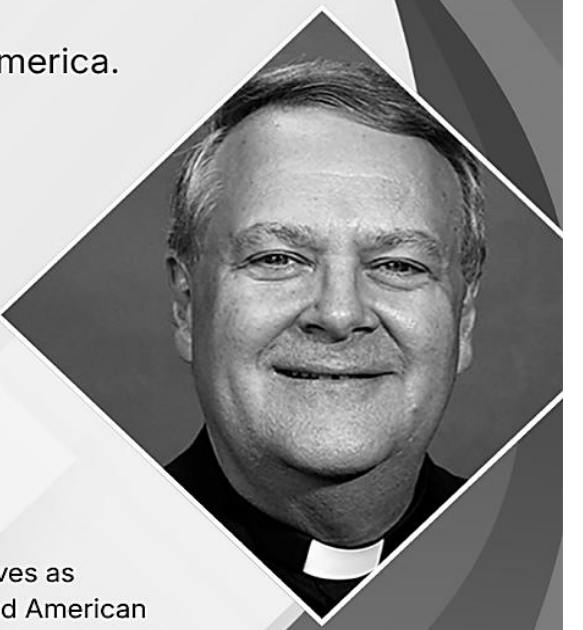
This Week's Life Thought from Lutherans for Life: *Joseph was a man wronged, repeatedly. However, as we find him in Genesis 50, those wrongs against him did not lead him to live with bitterness or a desire for revenge. Instead, we find that God provided him with patience and compassion even against those who had so terribly sinned against him. We are often quick to anger and slow to forgive. May He work patience and wisdom in our hearts when we hear about the numerous ways God's gifts are twisted. Thanks be to God that He is "slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love". (Psalm 103:8).*

This Week:

Faith On Main (LCMS-U) presents:

DID GOD CHOOSE YOU?

A debate about the doctrine of predestination in 19th century America.



DATE
18 SEPTEMBER, 2026

START
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

UWL STUDENT UNION
521 EAST AVE. N
ROOM 2310

SPEAKER:
REV. DR. LAWRENCE RAST

The Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. serves as Professor of American Christianity and American Lutheranism at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. From 2011–2024 he served as the sixteenth president of CTSFW

questions? Email lcmsu@faithonmain.com

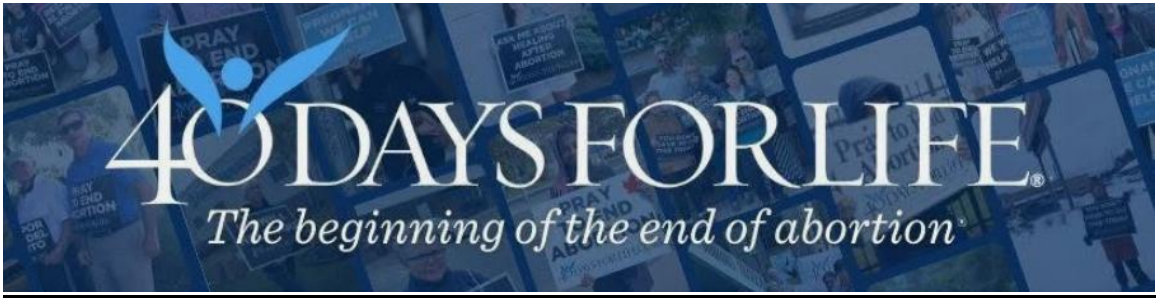
This Week:

LCMS in the Time of Seminex

In the 1970s, a theological controversy rocked the LCMS. A party of theologians who denied the historicity of the Bible took root in one of our own seminaries (schools to train pastors). These theologians denied such things as that Adam and Eve existed and that we could trust the Bible. The leadership of our church body worked to censure their teachings, but not without them taking many others with them. A walkout staged at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis on February 19th, 1974 birthed a rogue seminary called Concordia Seminary in Exile, or Seminex. Learn more about how this has impacted our church body and how we can prevent future issues from happening again.

Saturday, September 19th
9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.
Faith Lutheran Church
1407 Main Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast
Professor, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN
Former President of CTSFW



40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses.

40 Days for Life – La Crosse Area Opening Rally!

Sunday, September 27 at 1:00 p.m.
Location: Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall
130 Losey Blvd. S., La Crosse (use the Losey Blvd. doors)

Come hear Tallulah Caulfield from the Pro-Life Wisconsin Speakers Bureau share her personal experience. Connect with others who share your passion for life and learn how you can make a difference during this campaign. Whether you've participated before or are joining for the first time, your presence matters! Let's stand together for life, faith, and compassion. Followed by a free soup lunch. For more information, go to https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/lacrosse

PRAYER & FASTING: Prayer keeps us rooted in the fact that it is our desire to carry out God's will. Fasting is a sacrifice that helps us reach beyond our own limitations with God's help. Each day during 40 Days for Life, individuals, churches, families, and groups will be asked to join together in prayer for a specific request so the entire Body of Christ can unite around a common focus. People of faith are also invited to fast throughout 40 Days for Life.

CONSTANT VIGIL: The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a focused, 40-day, non-stop, round-the-clock prayer vigil outside a single Planned Parenthood center or other abortion business in your community. It is a peaceful and educational presence.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: During 40 Days for Life, the message is taken proactively to every corner of your community. Media outreach is conducted through carefully targeted news stories, talk shows, and editorials. Church involvement begins by meeting with local pastors, other church leaders, and members of different congregations.

One Thing's Needful

In Luke 10:42, Jesus says, "one thing is needful," referring to the importance of prioritizing time with God and listening to his word, as exemplified by Mary, over being consumed by worldly tasks like Martha's serving. It emphasizes that nurturing one's spiritual life through intimacy with God is more essential than getting caught up in external activities, even those done with good intentions.

INVOCATION In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PSALM Page 3

MEDITATION Psalm 103 Martin Luther called Psalm 103 a "proper master and doctor of Scripture" because it purely encapsulates the gospel and the praise of God. Luther also designated Psalm 103 as a specific prayer useful "for thanking God for all his goodness." See how the opening line ("Bless the Lord, O my soul") reflects how believers must actively remind and urge their own hearts to remember God's grace rather than forgetting His benefits. Keeping in mind too the emphasis that God's mercy, starting with the forgiveness of sins, towers over human weakness and our temporary nature.

THIS WEEK'S DAILY READINGS

13 Sept	2 Chr 32:1–22	Col 1:1–23	Jonah 1:1—4:11
14 Sept	2 Chr 33:1–25	Col 1:24—2:7	
15 Sept	2 Chr 34:1–4, 8–11, 14–33	Col 2:8–23	Nahum 1:1—3:19
16 Sept	2 Chr 35:1–7, 16–25	Col 3:1–25	Zeph 1:1—3:20
17 Sept	2 Chr 36:1–23	Col 4:1–18	Philemon 1–25
18 Sept	Neh 1:1—2:10	1 Tim 1:1–20	Haggai 1:1—2:23
19 Sept	Neh 2:11–20; 4:1–6	1 Tim 2:1–15s	

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

- The Leyh family, Josh and Faith, and their pre-school age son Peter currently attending Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- Shepherd of the Hills, in calling a faithful Pastor
- Faith Lutheran Church, in calling a faithful pastor
- Pray for: Gary & Marietta Adelsen, Barb Alsobrooks, Travis Glick, Bill & Sal Stichman, Tom Schran, Jeff Schmidt, Jeramy Schaub, Anna Wachholz (niece of the Kolanders); Deb Dunnum

LEARN BY HEART Matthew 6:14 – "If you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." Alleluia.

COLLECT Page 4

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION *The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace*. (Numbers 6:24-26)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30; Matthew 20:1-16