

*Live Like You'll Live
Forever[†]*

*Live a Life of
Startling
Generosity*



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Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*Live Like You'll Live Forever—Live a Life of
Startling Generosity*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Savior Jesus, thank you for bringing me once again to this house of peace and rest. Bless me through your word and fill my heart with joyful praise at the good news of forgiveness. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Perhaps you have heard the axiom, "Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die." In other words, while you still can, use what you have in order to enjoy life to the fullest. If this life was all there is, perhaps that would be good wisdom. But it isn't. Jesus will raise us from the dead and take us to live in his home, a place of perfect light and beauty. Knowing our life in eternity allows us to be generous in our life here, using the wealth that God has given us to serve both him and others. This week we welcome guest pastor James Buske, who leads a ministry in which people generously use their time and gifts to serve kids in need in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

WORSHIP SERIES: "Live each day like it's your last." You have probably heard that advice. It sounds wise—an encouragement to take advantage of the time you have. However, that advice is completely backwards. Because the reality is, thanks to Jesus, we have an unending amount of time. Let that sink in. Jesus has given you the gift of eternal life. You are going to live forever. If you really thought it was your last day, that belief would shape how you lived that day. In this series, let us consider how the gift of eternal life shapes how we live each day. Live like you'll live forever!

A WORD ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION: Our church observes the biblical practice of member communion (also called close communion). In Holy Communion we not only receive forgiveness from God, but we also express the unique relationship our members have with each other. If you are not a member of our congregation, we kindly ask that you not take communion today, but speak with our pastor after the service. We would love to share the sacrament with you in the future.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor Jim Buske

Piano: Paige Reiners

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Four



Hymn: O God from God, O Light from Light

CW 629 sts. 1, 3-4



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, that death of
4 Then sing to Christ a might - y song; ex - tol his



Peace and King of kings, to you in heav - en's
pain mid hate and scorn— these all are past, and
name, his mer - cies tell! Sing, heav'n - ly hosts, your



glo - ry bright the song of praise for - ev - er rings.
now a - bove he reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
praise pro - long, and all on earth, your an - them swell!



To him who sits up - on the throne, the Lamb once
Lift up your heads, you heav'n - ly gates! So sang his
All hail, O Lamb for sin - ners slain! For - ev - er



slain but raised a - gain, be all the glo - ry
hosts, un - heard by men. Lift up your heads, for
let the song as - cend! To Christ the King, en -



he has won, all thanks and praise! A - men, a - men.
you he waits. We lift them up. A - men, a - men.
throned to reign, all glo - ry, pow'r! A - men, a - men.

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

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.

HYMN: Renew Me, O Eternal Light

CW 689



1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, and let my
2 De - stroy in me the lust of sin, from all im -
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, that glad - ly
4 Grant that I on - ly you may love and seek those



heart and soul be bright, il - lu - mined with the
pure - ness make me clean. O grant me pow'r and
I o - bey your Word. O let your will be
things which are a - bove till I be - hold you



light of grace that is - sues from your ho - ly face.
strength, my God, to strive a - gainst my flesh and blood.
my de - sire and with new life my soul in - spire.
face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through your grace.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in you. Grant us so firmly to believe in your Son Jesus that our faith may never be found wanting; 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.

First Reading

1 Kings 17:8-16

A widow generously offers her last bit of food to the prophet Elijah, but God provides for her with a lasting supply.

⁸Then the word of the LORD came to him: ⁹“Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.” ¹⁰So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” ¹¹As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

¹²“As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

¹³Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.’ ”

¹⁵She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

The believers in Macedonia demonstrate startling generosity in collecting an offering to help fellow Christians in need.

¹And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ²In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving. ⁸I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus calls us to bring light to this world while we wait for our heavenly home.

¹³"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.


(10:30 am) Sunday JAM Anthem

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
And now let the weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks.

Children's Devotion


Hymn: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* CW 713 sts. 1, Ref, 2



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of Right - eous - ness,




light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.


Refrain



In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Sermon

Based on Matthew 5:13-16

"You Are"

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Be seated.

Offering



 Connect Card

Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



 Give Online

Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. The meal also bears witness to the unity and fellowship we share with each other. Therefore, we invite to communion all those who share in our confession by virtue of their membership here or in a sister WELS or ELS congregation. We ask visitors to speak to the pastor before communing.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

The musical score is written in a single system with six staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

The musical score is written in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It consists of eight lines of music. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men. A - men." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some notes beamed together. There are several slurs over groups of notes, and a double bar line at the end of the final line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.
A - men. A - men.

Be seated.

Communion Distribution

For those who cannot have any alcohol for personal or medical reasons we offer white grape juice. You will find cups of white grape juice in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by request for those medically unable to tolerate gluten.

Communicants may choose to receive the wine by individual or common cup. If you choose the common cup, please allow the individual tray to pass and then assist the minister by helping to tip the common cup.

Hymn: Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

CW 663 sts. 1-3, 7-8



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness; leave be -
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, and with
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure nei - ther
 7 Je - sus, sun of life, my splen - dor, Je - sus,
 8 Je - sus, Lord of life in heav - en, help me



hind all gloom and sad - ness. Come in - to the day-light's
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet him, for with words of life im -
 cost nor pain will mea - sure, but the price - less gifts of
 friend of friends most ten - der, Je - sus, joy of my de -
 when this meal is giv - en to re - ceive it for my



splen - dor; there with joy your prais - es ren - der
 mor - tal he is knock - ing at your por - tal.
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
 sir - ing, fount of life, my soul in - spir - ing:
 bless - ing as I come, my sins con - fess - ing.



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed has this won - drous
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore him, say - ing, as you
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, naught would buy the
 at your feet I cry, my mak - er, let me be a
 In this sup - per let me mea - sure, Lord, how deep is



sup - per found - ed. He, though reign - ing high and
 there a - dore him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 fit par - tak - er of this bless - ed food from
 your love's trea - sure, that, as I on earth have



ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive you, that I nev - er - more will leave you.
 riv - en, and his blood, for you once giv - en.
 heav - en for our good, your glo - ry, giv - en.
 eat - en, I may be your guest in heav - en.

Please stand at the pastor's direction.

Response of Thanksgiving

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

Closing Prayer & Blessing

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: 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.

Please find the closing hymn on the next page.

Hymn: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* CW 713 sts. Ref, 3

3 I'm look - ing for ___ the com - ing of Christ. I want to
be with Je - sus. When we have run ___ with
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy ___ of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the
day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the
cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:15am in the school kindergarten room. Our guest preacher will share a presentation on the Lighthouse Youth Center in the fellowship hall downstairs.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Live Like You'll Live forever: Live Free from the Fear of Judgment

Bible Readings: Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 9:24-28; John 5:25-29

Hymns: 680, 495, 546, 819

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Also printed in the hymnal)

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

Welcome to worship!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help. Please take note of a few helpful things:

- † **Restrooms** are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Both men's and women's restrooms are equipped with **diaper changing tables** for your convenience.
- † Our sanctuary is equipped with an amplified "loop" system for **hearing assistance**. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position.
- † You will find a **connection card** in your pew. We ask members and guests to share their names and contact info, and invite you to share requests for contact or prayers.
- † Salem members give an **offering** to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing and pray and grow with us in our services. Please note these special worship aids and helps for families:

- † Children's bulletins & "*quiet bags*" for your child's use in worship are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- † If your child needs to be nursed or quieted for a few moments you can use our "*cry room*" down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is shown live on a TV in the room.
- † Sunday mornings, before the hymn of the day and sermon, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for a short devotion on God's Word. Parents may accompany their children as they wish.

Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.

