

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 15, 2025

A WORD FROM PT

You may or may not realize it, but many churches do not recite a creed at their weekly worship services. We join other liturgical churches in usually confessing either the Apostles' or the Nicene Creed. Once a year, on Holy Trinity Sunday, we recite the third of the great three Ecumenical Creeds which is the Athanasian Creed. The length of this creed is why it is confessed sparingly.

So, is it a good thing to recite one of the three Ecumenical Creeds when we come together? I'll bet you are going to guess that I think it is a good thing. And you would be right. But my advocacy for its inclusion is not because I believe it nec-

essary to receive God's grace, especially the forgiveness of sins that we so desperately need on a constant basis.

There are things that are not necessary, but they are beneficial.

The three Ecumenical Creeds are brief statements of agreed-upon Biblical truths held by a vast swath of Christian Communions, including the Lutheran Churches. They provide an excellent summary of important Christian teaching. They have a teaching and formational role. They help us lend our voices together in what we believe, teach, and confess, hence having a unifying function. And they hold a plumbline, so to

speak, to everything else that goes on in the worship service.

When you go to hang a picture in your home some people are pretty good at eyeballing it so that it is level. But it never hurts to use a level. And when your Pastor endeavors to preach the Gospel, rightly dividing law and gospel, it can be helpful to compare it to the creed we confess. That is perhaps one of the reasons that we confess the creed prior to, or just after, the sermon.

It can also be a source of strength to know that we are joining our lips to what "the communion of the saints" has been confessing for centuries before us.

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is meant by the term "catholic" as when we confess, "I believe in the holy catholic Church?"

The term "catholic" means whole and refers to a church which receives the Christian faith intact without altera-

tion or selection of matters of the faith. The opposite of catholic is heretic, one who picks and chooses which parts of the faith to accept. Thus "catholic" is more specific than "Christian" and is not a synonym for "ecumenical" or "worldwide". (from "Manual on the

Liturgy" companion to the LBW, from Augsburg Pub.)

- often when the "C" is capitalized "Catholic" is referring to the Roman Catholic Church, and when the "c" is lower case "catholic" is referring to the Church receiving the whole of the faith.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, 10/15
6:30pm Christian Teaching Study

Friday, 10/17
7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Saturday, 10/18
10:30am Main Street Taping

Sunday, 10/19 19th Sunday after Pent.
8am Choir Practice
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
10:45am Bible Study

Wednesday, 10/22
6:30pm Christian Teaching Study

Friday, 10/24
7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study



**Making
Disciples
for Life**

LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) (LCMS.org)

THIS AND THAT...

The next **Elders Meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, 6pm at the church.

Pastor Tim will be attending the **SWD Fall Theological Conference** for Pastors in Madison, Wisconsin, October 20-22.

Pastor Tim will be at First Lutheran Church in La Crosse for the **Main Street Taping** of the Fourth Sunday in Lent which will air on Sunday, March 15, 2026. Talk about

working ahead on a sermon!

The Friday Morning **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** is meeting at the McDonald's Restaurant off of County OT at 7am.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry!

The Rolls will clean the church the week of October 19. We currently do not have anyone signed up for the

week of November 16 or December 21.

The October **Designated Benevolence** is for the **LCMS Disaster Relief**.

Luther's explanation to the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed provides an excellent guide summarizing what you might share with someone else if you were to explain the Gospel message of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. The Creed itself is an excellent teaching tool.

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8

HUMOR DEPARTMENT

Celebrations

Birthdays

Oct 26 Naomi Rislow

Anniversaries

Oct 6 B & P Benrud

Oct 7 D & K Bjornstad

Oct 12 C & A Warner

Play On Words

When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

When the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A.

The batteries were given free of charge.

A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.

A will is a dead giveaway.

With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

A boiled egg is hard to beat.

When you've seen one shopping center you've seen a mall.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

10/19 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Jarrod Roll

Crucifer: Jarrod Roll

Acolyte: Dawson Staff

Ushers: David Bjornstad

Counters: Jarrod R/David B

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Connie Meunier

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

10/26 Reformation Sunday

Asst Minister: Tom Rislow

Reader: Dan Molstad

Crucifer: Dawson Staff

Acolyte: Chase Repaal

Ushers: Jeremy Schoonover

Counters: Jeremy S/Naomi S

Comm Asst: Tom Rislow

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

11/2 All Saints' Sunday

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: Cole Warner

Crucifer: Asher Roll

Acolyte: Benjamin Roll

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Dan M/Jackie R

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

11/9 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow

Reader: Craig Bartos

Crucifer: Dawson Staff

Acolyte: Chase Repaal

Ushers: Mary Bartos

Counters: Connie M/Tom R

Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
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Services held at 9am at:
642 Western Avenue
A block north and then
a block west of King Furniture