



P H I L E M O N

**"I AM
SENDING
HIM BACK
TO YOU,
SENDING
MY VERY
HEART!"**

TRINITY TWELVE

Living Hope Lutheran September 7, 2025

LIVING HOPE LUTHERAN

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

3100 East Calumet Street • Appleton, Wisconsin

appletonlutheran.com



...welcome him
as you would
welcome me.
PHILEMON 1:7, NRSV

Divine Worship. . . 2pm

Bible Study . . . 3pm

Andrew A. Schaller, Vacancy Pastor

Cell: (605) 880-7886

TRINITY TWELVE

September 7, 2025

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

PSALM: 119:89-96 (LSB);

PRAYERS: Before Communing (Inside Cover, LSB);

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament (Insider Cover, LSB).

HYMNS: 904 816 780 400

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN: 904 - *"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"*

A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT (Setting 2, WS Pg. 12)

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: 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.

Congregation: 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.

P: 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.

- C: ♪ Lord, have mercy on us.
 Christ, have mercy on us.
 Lord, have mercy on us.
- C: ♪ Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.
 We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.
- ♪ Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,
 Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.
- ♪ Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
 At God's right hand in majesty most high:
 Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
 With all the heav'n-ly host we glorify.

Pastor: Let us pray...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever." **C: Amen.**

OT LESSON

DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.
¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.
¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

EPISTLE LESSON:**PHILEMON 1:7-21**

⁷For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—

¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self.

²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. *

GOSPEL LESSON:**LUKE 14:25-35**

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴ "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵ It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear." *

THE ALLELUIA:

Pastor: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Congregation:

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CONFESSION OF FAITH:

THE 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.

HYMN: 816 - *"From All that Dwell Below the Skies"*

THE SERMON:

PHILEMON 8-16

⁸Therefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to command you what is fitting, ⁹yet for love's sake I rather appeal *to you*—being such a one as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ—¹⁰I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten *while* in my chains, ¹¹who once was unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and to me.

¹²I am sending him back. You therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, ¹³whom I wished to keep with me, that on your behalf he might minister to me in my chains for the gospel. ¹⁴But without your consent I wanted to do nothing, that your good deed might not be by compulsion, as it were, but voluntary.

¹⁵For perhaps he departed for a while for this *purpose*, that you might receive him forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave—a beloved brother, especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. **

THE DESTINY OF A RUNAWAY SLAVE

THE OFFERTORY

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

THE OFFERINGS OF THANKFUL HEARTS

We express our thanksgiving for what the Savior Jesus has done for us by supporting His Work with our time, talents and gifts. Should you wish to leave a gift, there are offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary.

THE OFFERING HYMN

(LSB 496:1,3,5)

♪ Holy Ghost, light divine, Shine upon this heart of mine; Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day.

♪ Holy Ghost, pow'r divine Cleanse this guilty heart of mine; In Thy mercy pity me, From sin's bondage set me free.

♪ Holy Spirit, all divine, Dwell within this heart of mine; Cast down ev'ry idol throne, Reign supreme, and reign alone.

PRAYER(S)

THE 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.

HYMN: WS 780 - *"Dear Lord, to Your True Servants Give"*

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God. Who with Your only-begotten Son and the Holy Ghost are one God, one Lord. In the confession of the only true God we worship the Trinity in Person and the Unity in Substance, of Majesty coequal; Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sa-ba-oth, adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

LAMB OF GOD

♪ O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose blood, once shed, true life restored, Impart Your joy, our faith increase. Sustain with Your mercy and grant us Your peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT:



In the early church, Communion was thought of so highly that no one except confirmed members of the church were allowed even to watch it. This practice was more strict than necessary, of course. But the early church did understand something that many today do not: that Communion was never intended for indiscriminate use by everyone, but was restricted to those who are properly prepared. If you have never communed with us before, and desire the benefits of the Lord's Supper, please set up an appointment with the pastor to discuss how you can prepare properly. **The Lord's Supper will be received standing or seated in the pews. You are asked to dispose of the empties in one of the disposals near the front of the sanctuary.**

O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT

♪ O Lord, now let your servant Depart in heav'n-ly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

♪ All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three-in-One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

THANKSGIVING

♪ My heart has now become Your dwelling,
O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, Your praises telling,
Shall live in joy eternally.
Lord, may Your body and Your blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

THE BENEDICTION: (Pastor) **CONGREGATION:** "Amen."

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 783 - *"Take My Life and Let it Be"*

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in Jesus' name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us and hope that you will return again. If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please either speak with the pastor or with an usher on the way out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 7, 2025

THIS AFTERNOON AFTER WORSHIP:

✓ Bible Study (Harmony of the Gospels)

THIS WEEK

Tuesday: Living Hope Council Meeting

Sunday: Worship 2pm, Bible Study/Sunday School 3pm.

WOMEN'S RETREAT WEST

The Women's Retreat West will be September 19-21 in Sioux Falls, SD. Theme is Pieces of Jesus' Peace. Registration fee is \$125 and does not include lodging. Please go to the website to register: womensretreat.clclutheran.net.

PACIFIC COAST WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Pacific Coast Women's Retreat will be September 26-28 in Spokane, WA. Cost will be \$165.00 for the entire weekend, including 2 nights lodging, 5 meals. Theme is Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

SOUTHEAST WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Southeast Women's Retreat will be February 13-15, 2026 at Camp Dogwood on Lake Norman in Sherrills Ford in North Carolina. Theme is Ephesians 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

MIDWEST WOMEN'S RETREAT

Immanuel Mankato invites women of area congregations to a one-day retreat on Saturday, October 25th from 9am-4pm. The theme for the retreat is "Finding our True Identity as a Reflection of Christ's Image." Presentations will include



our Identity in Christ, our Identity Reflected to the world, and Confidence in our Identity. Childcare will be available. To register go to <https://tinyurl.com/3jp5ax8y>. The cost is \$20 if you register before September 24 and is free for young girls under 19. Contact Jen Theneman (507-340-1640 / jtheneman@live.com) with any questions.

USED SMARTPHONES FOR AFRICA

Missionary Bruce Naumann is requesting donations of a certain kind of Android smartphone, for use by pastors and pastoral students in East Africa. If you have a used phone that was once on a Verizon plan and would like to donate it, please bring it to the church office. Verizon is preferred because it will work with African cell carriers, but most others will not. These phones are much appreciated by students and pastors in our sister African churches - thank you!

Note: *The phones don't need a sim card, since the user there has to purchase one. It's best if the phone is also factory-reset (wiped of user information). Please don't buy a new phone to donate, the folks overseas might be tempted to simply re-sell it.*

ABERDEEN CHURCH BUILDING DEDICATION

Zion Lutheran Church (formerly of Ipswich, SD) welcomes you to a dedication of their new church building: 1223 4th Ave SW, Aberdeen, SD. Join us 5 pm Sun. Oct. 26 for a Reformation-themed dedication service followed by a German-themed dinner. You are welcome to bring any side dish to share. Reach out to Pastor Daub at pastor_daub@hotmail.com or (406) 240-0980 with any questions.

As a merger with Prince of Peace (Hecla) and Redeemer (Bowdle) members residing in the Aberdeen area, Zion has called Pastor Daub to serve the congregation and is currently in the process of relocating their legal incorporation status from Ipswich to Aberdeen.

FOOTBALL “GAME” AFTERNOON

The Luther Memorial Mission Committee is planning a get together on Sunday October 12th beginning at 2pm with food and including the (Pastor Schaller: “Groan”) Packers Game vs. the Bengals projected on the wall of the fellowship hall with other games being played at the same time! Put it on your calendar and join us!

MISSION BREAKFAST

The Luther Memorial Mission Committee has also planned another Mission Breakfast for Saturday November 8th at 9am. Bring a breakfast item and stay for a Mission Presentation!

LUTHER MEMORIAL FALL MISSION FESTIVAL

A Fall Mission Festival is planned for Sunday September 21st (in two weeks) at Luther Memorial with Pastor Paul Agenten from Calvary (Marquette) and St. Peter’s (Stambaugh) doing the preaching.

GOLF SCRAMBLE IN DURAND

On October 4 at 1:00, there will be a 9-hole golf scramble held at Rolling Greens in Durand, WI. The cost will be determined based on the number of groups that we have, but it will be less than \$30 including cart. If there are over 30 players, there will be a shotgun start. It will be foursomes. If you do not have four people for a team, you may still submit an entry, and we will combine those individuals with others to make a team. For more information or to enter, contact Mike Schierenbeck at mike.schierenbeck@gmail.com or 920-344-9580. Deadline for entry is September 26.

CLC CALL NEWS

Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, Wisconsin has called Pastor Drew Naumann who currently serves Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Spokane, Washington. Messiah has also called Pastor Em. James Albrecht to serve as Vacancy Pastor • Living Hope Lutheran in Appleton, WI, has called Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer Lutheran in Cheyenne, WY to serve as their next pastor. Pastor David Ude will be installed as Pastor of St. Stephen Lutheran in Mountain View, CA, on Sunday September 14th. • Mount Zion Lutheran Church (Detroit, MI) will dedicate their new church property on Sunday September 14th at 4pm. • Pastor Paul Tiefel Jr has announced his retirement as of September 6-7, 2025.

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READINGS FOR DEVOTIONS – SEPTEMBER 8-13, 2025

Monday – John 5:37-47 The Father who sent Jesus has testified about Him, and His testimony is found in the Scriptures. “If you believed Moses, you would believe me, because he wrote about me” (v46).

Tuesday – Acts 8:26-38 The Ethiopian was reading Isaiah 53:7-8, and starting with that very passage of Scripture, Philip told him the good news about Jesus (v35). The fruit of his testimony? Baptism! (v38)

Wednesday - 2 Samuel 7:17-29 David’s response to God’s promises: a humble prayer, praising the greatness of God and imploring Him to fulfill His gracious words to His people. Amen. “Your words are truth” (v28).

Thursday Proverbs 9:1-6 True Wisdom is pictured as a lady building a house and preparing a banquet. It is complete and there for all who realize that they are simple or naive and need the road to understanding (v6).

Friday - Proverbs 9:7-12 Those who think that they already have great wisdom in themselves may scoff or mock at Lady Wisdom’s banquet, but a wise person will hear the Lord’s word and become even wiser (v10).

Saturday – Proverbs 9:13-18 Lady Folly’s banquet leads away from God’s wisdom, and teaches that “Stolen waters are sweet” (v17). Her guests do not cling to the life which comes from God by His Word.



These devotions are produced by Pastor/Professor Emeritus Paul Schaller and sent out on a weekly basis.

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