



**MORRISON  
ZION  
LUTHERAN**  
Wisconsin Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to  
**Glorify God**  
as we  
**Gather**  
around the Gospel  
to help people  
**Grow**  
in the Gospel  
and  
**Go**  
with the Gospel

**Welcome!** We thank  
God that you have  
joined us at worship  
today.

Restrooms are  
located in the  
basement. Hearing  
loop headphones and  
Large Print Hymnals  
are available from an  
usher.

If your children need  
to leave worship,  
please take them to  
the basement. A TV  
broadcasts the service  
in the basement.

Today we gather  
together in the  
presence of God. He is  
present among us in a  
special way through  
his Word and  
Sacrament. We  
acknowledge our sin  
and rejoice in the good  
news of forgiveness  
through the life and  
death of Christ. This is  
the focus of our  
worship.

August 29 & September 1, 2024  
**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**



## Followers Of Christ Obey His Law from The Heart

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A loving father gives his son and daughter a list of rules and regulations. Chores, curfews, civilities, dress code—the father makes his will clearly known. The son strives to follow the rules for two reasons. 1) He wants to get his allowance. 2) He is afraid that if he breaks the rules, his father will punish him. The daughter strives to follow the rules, also for two reasons. 1) She believes her father established those rules not to control her but for her safety and blessing. 2) She wants to demonstrate how much she loves and trusts her father. Those two children's actions might look almost identical. Their hearts are very different!

Likewise, following Christ is not simply a matter of outward observance of laws. It is a matter of the heart. The Law was given so we could see God's heart and demonstrate how his heart has affected our own. The followership Christ seeks flows from hearts that have been radically transformed by God's law and gospel. Christ wants his followers to be less like the son described above, and more like the daughter. This week we see that followers of Christ obey his law from the heart.

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## Opening Hymn

*May We Your Precepts, Lord Fulfill* CW 458

1 May we your pre-cepts, Lord, ful - fill And do on  
2 So may we join your name to bless, Your grace a -  
3 Spir - it of life, of love, and peace, U - nite our  
earth our Fa - ther's will As an - gels do a - bove,  
dore, your pow'r con - fess, To flee from sin and strife.  
hearts, our joy in - crease, Your gra - cious help sup - ply.  
Still walk in Christ, the liv - ing way, With all your  
One is our call - ing, one our name, The end of  
To each of us the bless - ing give In Chris - tian  
chil - dren, and o - bey The law of Chris - tian love.  
all our hopes the same: A glo - rious crown of life.  
fel - low - ship to live, In joy - ful hope to die.

Text: Edward Osler, 1798–1863, alt.

Tune: MERIBAH (886 886) Lowell Mason, 1792–1872.

*Stand*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

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## CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

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M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Almighty and merciful Father,**  
     we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
**We have followed our own selfish ways and the desires of our hearts.**  
**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**  
**We have done those things that we should not have done,**  
     and we have not done those things that we should have done.  
**Have mercy on us, Lord!**  
     **Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**  
     **according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

**M:** Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (T) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

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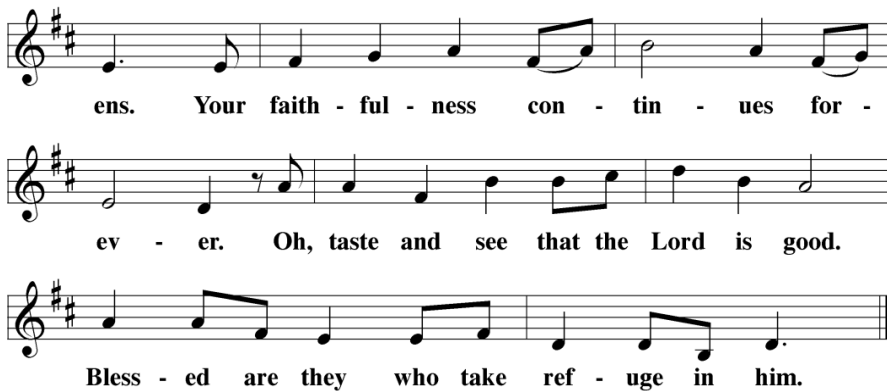
## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### *Oh, Taste and See*

**C:** Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
 they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
 ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



## Prayer of the Day

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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*

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## THE WORD

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### First Lesson

### Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9

God is serious about his law because he knows that when his children follow the law carefully, the result is blessing and honor.

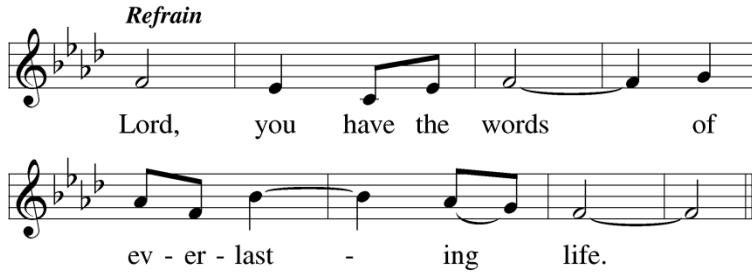
<sup>1</sup>Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you.

<sup>6</sup>Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” <sup>7</sup>What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the Lord our God is near us whenever we pray to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. (NIV)

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 119b CW



then I will keep them to the end.

Give me understanding, and I will keep your law\*  
and obey it with all my heart.

Direct me in the path of your commands,\*  
for there I find delight.

### *Refrain*

Turn my eyes away from worthless things;\*  
preserve my life according to your Word.

Fulfill your promise to your servant,\*  
so that you may be feared.

How I long for your precepts!\*  
Preserve my life in your righteousness.

**Glorify be to the Father and to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy Spirit,**  
**as it was in the beginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### *Refrain*

## Second Lesson

## Romans 9:30–10:4

Followers of Christ obey the law, not to attempt to become righteous, but to show heartfelt love to the God who declares us righteous through faith in Jesus.

<sup>30</sup>What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith; <sup>31</sup>but the people of Israel, who pursued the law as the way of righteousness, have not attained their goal. <sup>32</sup>Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone. <sup>33</sup>As it is written:

“See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes people to stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall,  
and the one who believes in him will never be put to shame.”

<sup>1</sup>Brothers and sisters, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. <sup>2</sup>For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. <sup>3</sup>Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.  
(NIV)

## Verse of the Day

**M:** Alleluia. When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart’s delight. Alleluia. (Jeremiah 15:16 NIV)

*Stand*

## Gospel

## Mark 7:1-8,14,15,21-23

The Pharisees established traditions which they thought safeguarded obedience to God, but they missed God's desire for heartfelt love.

<sup>1</sup>The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus <sup>2</sup>and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup>(The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup>When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

<sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?"

<sup>6</sup>He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

"These people honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.

<sup>7</sup>They worship me in vain;  
their teachings are merely human rules.'

<sup>8</sup>You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions."

<sup>14</sup>Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. <sup>15</sup>Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them."

<sup>21</sup>For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evils come from inside and defile a person." (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be Seated*

# Hymn of the Day

He Will Hold Me Fast CW<sup>21</sup> 813



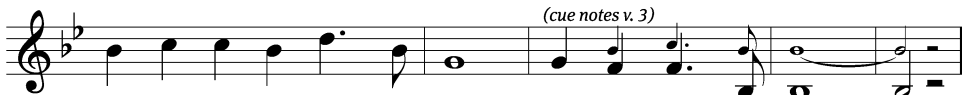
1 When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
 2 Those he saves are his de-light; Christ will hold me fast;  
 3 For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast;



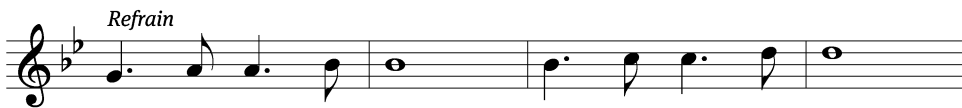
when the tempt-er would pre-vail, he will hold me fast.  
 pre-cious in his ho-ly sight, he will hold me fast.  
 jus-tice has been sat-is-fied; he will hold me fast.



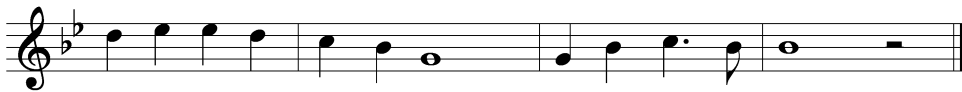
I could nev-er keep my hold thro' life's fear-ful path,  
 He'll not let my soul be lost; his prom-is-es shall last;  
 Raised with him to end-less life, he will hold me fast



for my love is of-ten cold—he must hold me fast.  
 bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.  
 till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last! (Refrain 2X)



He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast;



for my Sav-ior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Text (sts. 1–2): Matt Merker, b. 1984, alt.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2): Ada Habershon, 1861–1918; (st. 3): Matt Merker, b. 1984

Tune: Matt Merker, b. 1984

Text (sts. 1–2): Public domain

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*Stand*

## **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.**

*Be Seated*

## **Offering**

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

*Stand*

## **Prayer of the Church**

## 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.**

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
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*

## Closing Hymn

*Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways* CW 462



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To  
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word, And  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A  
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands— 'Tis



keep his stat - utes still! Oh, that my God would  
make my heart sin - cere; Let sin have no do -  
strict - er watch to keep; And should I e'er for -  
a de - light - ful road— Nor let my head or



grant me grace To know and do his will!  
min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.  
get your way, Re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: EVAN (CM) William H. Havergal, 1793–1870, adapt.

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