

**We Grow ... We Go ... We Gather**



**St. James Lutheran Church  
2040 Oakwood Ave NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505**

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**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer  
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# The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 25, 2022

## Lutheran Bible Translator (LBT) Sunday

### The Opening Hymn: 908 “Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear”

1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, And through Your  
2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; Your Word grants  
△ 3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the  
Word to me draw near; Let me Your Word e'er pure re -  
heal - ing from my sin; Your Word has pow'r to guide and  
Spir - it, Three in One, Shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or  
tain; Let me Your child and heir re - main.  
bless; Your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.  
be Now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Mark A. Jeske, 1952  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553  
Text (sts. 1, 3) and tune: Public domain

### The Opening Versicles

LSB 285

- P** O Lord, open my lips,  
**C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.  
**P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.  
**Glory 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.**

## A Hymn of Praise: 935, "Tell Out My Soul"



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!  
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His name!  
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His might!  
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of His Word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings, give my spir - it voice;  
 Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;  
 Pow'rs and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.  
 Firm is His prom - ise, and His mer - cy sure.



Ten - der to me the prom - ise of His Word;  
 His mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;  
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,  
 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord



In God my Sav - ior shall my heart re - joice.  
 His ho - ly name, the Lord, the Might - y One.  
 The hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
 To chil - dren's chil - dren and for - ev - er - more!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

Tune: Walter Greatorex, 1877-1949

Text: © 1962, renewed 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002553

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## Luther's Prayer to Receive the Word

**P** Let us pray. Eternal God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, grant us Your Holy Spirit who writes the preached word into our hearts so that we may receive and believe it and be gladdened and comforted by it in eternity. Glorify Your Word in our hearts. Make it so bright and warm that we may find pleasure in it, and through Your inspiration think what is right. By Your power fulfill the Word, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

**C** Amen.

## **The First Reading:** Revelation 21:22-25

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

## **A Hymn:** "Thy Word" (Amy Grant)

### ***Chorus***

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path

### **Verse 1**

When I feel afraid  
And I think I've lost my way  
Still You're there right beside me  
Nothing will I fear  
As long as You are near  
Please be near me to the end (***Chorus***)

### **Verse 2**

I will not forget  
Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide  
And hold me to Your side  
I will love You to the end (***Chorus***)

CCLI Song # 14301  
Amy Grant | Michael W. Smith  
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**The Second Reading:** Ephesians 1:15-21 (To learn more about the LBT Living Water project go to: <https://lbt.org/livingwater/>)

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

**A Hymn:** "Ancient Words" Lynn DeShazo

**Verse 1**

Holy words long preserved  
For our walk in this world  
They resound with God's own heart  
O let the ancient words impart

**Verse 2**

Words of life words of hope  
Give us strength help us cope  
In this world where'er we roam  
Ancient words will guide us home

**Chorus**

*Ancient words ever true  
Changing me changing you  
We have come with open hearts  
O let the ancient words impart*

### **Verse 3**

Holy words of our faith  
Handed down to this age  
Came to us through sacrifice  
O heed the faithful words of Christ (**Chorus**)

### **Verse 4**

Martyr's blood stains each page  
They have died for this faith  
Hear them cry through the years  
Heed these words and hold them dear (**Chorus**)

### **Ending**

We have come with open hearts  
O let the ancient words impart  
O let the ancient words impart

CCLI Song # 2986399

Lynn DeShazo

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**The Gospel Reading:** John 1:1-9 (To learn more about the LBT Living Water project go to: <https://lbt.org/livingwater/>)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

## The Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty.

From thence 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.

## The Sermon Hymn: "Speak O Lord" (Getty)

### Verse 1

Speak O Lord as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your holy word  
Take Your truth plant it deep in us  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith  
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes for Your glory

## Verse 2

Teach us Lord full obedience  
Holy reverence true humility  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity  
Cause our faith to rise  
Cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority  
Words of power that can never fail  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

## Verse 3

Speak O Lord and renew our minds  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us  
Speak O Lord till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory

CCLI Song # 4615235

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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## The Sermon

## The Offering

## A Hymn: 587 "I Know My Faith is Founded"



1 I know my faith is found - ed On Je - sus Christ, my  
2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, For Sa - tan seeks by  
3 In faith, Lord, let me serve You; Though per - se - cu - tion,



God and Lord; And this my faith con - fess - ing, Un -  
 night and day To rob me of this trea - sure And  
 grief, and pain Should seek to o - ver - whelm me, Let  
 moved I stand on His sure Word. Our rea - son can - not  
 take my hope of bliss a - way. But, Lord, with You be -  
 me a stead - fast trust re - tain; And then at my de -  
 fath - om The truth of God pro - found; Who trusts in hu - man  
 side me, I shall be un - dis - mayed; And led by Your good  
 par - ture, Lord, take me home to You, Your rich - es to in -  
 wis - dom Re - lies on shift - ing ground. God's Word is  
 Spir - it, I shall be un - a - fraid. A - bide with  
 her - it As all You said holds true. In life and  
 all - suf - fi - cient, It makes di - vine - ly sure; And  
 me, O Sav - ior, A firm - er faith be - stow; Then  
 death, Lord, keep me Un - til Your heav'n I gain, Where  
 trust - ing in its wis - dom, My faith shall rest se - cure.  
 I shall bid de - fi - ance To ev - 'ry e - vil foe.  
 I by Your great mer - cy The end of faith at - tain.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
 Tune: Consensus novi, 1540, Augsburg  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## The Versicles

LSB 286

- P** Hear my prayer, O Lord;
- C** let my cry come to You.
- P** In the day of my trouble I call upon You,
- C** for You answer me.
- P** Hide Your face from my sins,
- C** and blot out all my iniquities.
- P** Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- C** and renew a right spirit within me.
- P** Cast me not away from Your presence,
- C** and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

- P** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,  
**C** and uphold me with a willing spirit.  
**P** Because Your steadfast love is better than life,  
**C** my lips will praise You.  
**P** For You have been my help,  
**C** and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.  
**P** Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;  
**C** unite my heart to fear Your name.  
**P** I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,  
**C** and I will glorify Your name forever.  
**P** May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.  
**C** May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"  
**P** Save Your people and bless Your heritage!  
**C** Be their shepherd and carry them forever.  
**P** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;  
**C** listen to my plea for grace.

### A Hymn: 835 "On Galilee's High Mountain"



1 On Gal - i - lee's high moun-tain Christ gave the great com - mand  
 2 The Lord who, born of Mar - y, Came down as man and died,  
 3 His strength with - in my weak-ness Will make me bold to say  
 4 And not a - lone to na - tions In far - a - way re - treats,



In words of strength and prom - ise Which all can un - der-stand:  
 Who preached to all who lis-tened, For us was cru - ci - fied—  
 How His re - deem - ing pow - er Trans-forms my stub-born clay;  
 But ev - 'ry-where I broad-cast His love through crowd-ed streets:



"All pow'r to Me is giv - en To do what I shall choose;  
 This Lord, our liv - ing broth - er, In pow'r at God's right hand,  
 His touch of fire ig - nites me, With cour-age I am sent,  
 The lives that my life touch - es, How - ev - er great or small—



There - fore I send My chil-dren, Their wit - ness I will use."  
Has cho - sen us to car - ry His truth to ev - 'ry land.  
My tongue - tied si - lence bro - ken, With grace made el - o - quent.  
Let them through me see Je - sus, Who served and saved us all.

- 5 That ev'ryone He chooses,  
For reasons of His own,  
Will find in Christ his calling  
To live His love alone.  
His presence always leads us  
Till time no more shall be;  
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort  
Give us His victory.
- 6 Lord, gather all Your children,  
Wherever they may be,  
And lead them on to heaven  
To live eternally  
With You, our loving Father,  
And Christ, our brother dear,  
Whose Spirit guards and gives us  
The joy to persevere.

Text: Henry L. Lettermann, 1932–96  
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872  
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Tune: Public domain

## The General Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

### The Benedicamus

LSB 287

- P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

### The Blessing

LSB 287

- P** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**C** Amen.

### The Closing Hymn: 923 "Almighty Father, Bless the Word"



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your  
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward  
△ 3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all  
grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious  
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!  
 wor - shipped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.  
 heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text (sts. 1–2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637–1711  
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Acknowledgments**

Responsive Prayer 2 from Lutheran Service Book  
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**Events of the Week: September 25-October 2, 2022**

- Today** 11:00 a.m. Bible study  
2:00 p.m. GR Northeast Circuit Forum (Messiah)
- Monday** 6:30 p.m. Communion service
- Wednesday** 10:00 a.m. Bible study (Darrell)  
7:00 p.m. Deacon’s meeting
- Thursday** 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir  
7:15 p.m. Adult Choir
- Friday** Pastor’s Day off
- Sunday:** 8:00 a.m. Gizmo devo on FB  
9:30 a.m. Worship service  
11:00 a.m. Bible study

**FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: September 18/19, 2022**

General Fund	2575.00
St James Mission Fund	<u>300.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2875.00</b>

**Announcements**

**Nursery Available:** Parents, we have a nursery room that you can use during the service. There is a tablet with speakers located in the nursery that livestreams our worship service. If it is not operational, ask one of the ushers to help you turn it on.

**Last Call for diapers!!** Please bring them next Sunday as they will be delivered to the Pregnancy Resource Center. Thank you!

**The Four Ps of Christian Discipleship, a four week, Bible study** begins the week of October 16<sup>th</sup>. There are several Bible study groups to join:

- **Tuesday: 2:00 p.m.** Facilitators are Mary Ward and Dr. Rachel Palmer
- **Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.** Facilitators are John and Marjie Weiss
- **Sunday morning** (after worship): Carol Bifulco and Kim Urbanski

We will provide a Zoom Bible study group if there are several people who request it.

We may add a second Sunday morning group.

We are also planning to provide childcare if it is needed on Sunday mornings so that parents can participate in a study group.

We encourage every member to participate in a group and to be blessed by your participation! Sign up sheets are located on a table in the foyer. Please sign-up ASAP so that we can make proper arrangements.

**Take a Stand for the Life of the Unborn Child.** The Life Chain will be Sunday, October 2 from 2:00-2:30 p.m. Participants will stand along 44<sup>th</sup> Street between Breton Road and Ivanrest Ave. More information about the Life Chain can be found on the information sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.

**Attention Ladies! St. James' LWML invites you** to join them for fellowship and encouragement from God's Word.

- **October 2 meeting** - Join your sisters in Christ for Bible Study at 6:00 pm. Cherie Hood will lead us in Part 1 of the study: **Lord, Teach Us to Pray**. We will also have opportunity to learn more about our Michigan District Mission Grants, which are funded through "Mite" giving.
- **The Grand Rapids' Zone Rally – My Sheep Hear My Voice!** - will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church on **Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>** from 8:45-12:00. Pastor Berg from Good Shepherd, Middleville will lead a Bible study exploring the relationship of the Good Shepherd and His flock and what it means to follow the voice of the Good Shepherd. The ingathering will be items for Allendale's Positive Options, a service of Lakeshore Pregnancy Center. Suggested donations: size 4,5,6 diapers, wipes, and quality new teething rings. Sign up to attend by October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**SECOND BEST SALE** -- Friends in Faith is having a DROP-OFF date of Saturday October 1 at church from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All large items are to be brought that day due our inability to store them. No mattresses, box springs, analog (tube type TVs), nursery furniture, medical items or any items that are not usable and saleable are accepted. Members of Friends in Faith will be here to unload your car and take everything into church for you! How great is that!?! We ask that clothing be clean and gently used. Smaller items can be brought to the church any time the church is open. Please call the church office to ensure that someone is at the church. If items need to be brought sooner or if you have any questions, please contact Walt at 970-7407 or Dale Rosema 262-1390. Volunteers are needed on Sunday, October 2 after worship to set up tables and to sort the items

for the sale. Volunteers are needed Monday and Tuesday for sorting and pricing. They are also needed for Thursday through Saturday to assist customers and clean-up on Saturday. It's a great time to get to know each other and help support our Youth and Church functions. Work for an hour or enjoy the 9-4 day with everyone. A sign-up sheet will be at the entrance by the office. If you have any questions, please see Walt Kryzanowski or Dale Rosema

**October 6th -8th is the sale**

Thursday ,9:00am-4:00pm

Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm

Saturday, 9:00am-12:00pm

**Please Attend the Lifetime Plan for Giving Workshop:  
Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at St. James.**

*What is the Lifetime Plan for Giving?* Many people want to provide for the people and ministries they care about but don't know how to get started. Lifetime Plan for Giving is a process offered by the LCMS Foundation to assist you in transferring the blessings God has given you to your family and favorite ministries in the most efficient manner.

*How does the process work?*

Julie Burgess, gift planning counselor in Michigan, will be at St. James Lutheran Church on **Sunday, October 9.**

**Starting at 1:00 pm (to around 2:30 p.m.),** Julie will share information about planned giving for your estate plan. Going through the Lifetime Plan for Giving is a four-step process that will assist you in either reviewing your current plan or starting your estate planning. Julie will walk you through these steps and there is no charge for her services. Adults of all ages are encouraged to attend this informational presentation. Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to schedule a private and confidential meeting with Julie to review your current plan.



A pizza lunch will be served from noon to 12:45 p.m. Please sign up for the lunch. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Gathering Room along with an information sheet about the “Lifetime Plan for Giving.”

### **Vote NO on Proposal 3**

**The following information is from the Grand Rapids Right to Life website. To read the particulars, please visit: <https://www.grrtl.org/2022-vote/>.**

The Reproductive Freedom for All coalition has placed a proposal on the November ballot that will change the Michigan Constitution to make abortion a right and legal during all nine months of pregnancy.

This proposal is a deceptive attempt to smuggle a radical amendment into the state constitution that would repeal or drastically alter dozens of state laws. The amendment would fundamentally change the relationships between parents and children, as well as between women and their doctors.

### **Proposal 3**

This ballot proposal, which will add an amendment to the Michigan Constitution, will have serious consequences to any issue related to pregnancy.

- The abortion amendment will **usurp your parental rights.**
- The abortion amendment will lead to the **repeal of laws protecting viable babies.**
- The abortion amendment will likely **require taxpayer funding of abortion.**
- The abortion amendment will **invalidate laws protecting women.**

- The abortion amendment will **invalidate licensing, health, and safety regulations** regarding anything related to pregnancy.
- The abortion amendment will **allow anyone to perform an abortion.**

### **Proposal 3 Will Affect or Repeal Current Laws**

The following laws are currently on the books in Michigan but would be significantly altered or completely repealed if Proposal 3 is passed in November.

- Parental consent for a child's pregnancy treatment
- Ban on school employees helping children have abortions
- Parental consent for children seeking abortions
- Statutory rape and incest laws
- Screening for women being coerced to have abortions
- Partial-Birth Abortion Ban
- Born-Alive Infant Protection Act
- Penalties for abortions after viability
- Requirement that only doctors perform abortions
- Health and safety requirements for abortion facilities
- Ban on tax-funded abortions
- Preventing health insurance from covering abortions
- Informed consent for women seeking abortions
- 24-hour waiting period for abortion
- Ultrasound Viewing law
- Conscience protections for doctors and nurses
- Reporting requirements on abortion statistics and complications
- Michigan's original abortion bans from 1846 and 1931
- Michigan Surrogate Parenting Act
- Ban on commercialized surrogacy
- Ban on human cloning

**Copies have been printed that provide an in-depth analysis of each section of the amendment.** These copies are available on the table in the church foyer.

If you can care about the life of the unborn child and the well-being of a woman seeking an abortion, please **VOTE NO** on Proposal 3.



**Those who serve Today:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Glenn Schaeffer

**Organist:** Beth McKay

**Deacons:** Bryan Ensing

**Ushers:** Caleb Butler and Craig Popma

**Video/Sound/Recording:** John and Margie Weiss and Nathan Urbanski

**September Altar Guild:** Marjie Weiss and Melissa Ensing

