

“Be kind and compassionate
to one another, forgiving
each other, just as in Christ
God forgave you.”

— Ephesians 4:32

**17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026**

**SERVICE THEME:
Forgive as God Forgave You**



17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026 – St. Andrew Lutheran Church

SERVICE THEME: Forgive as God Forgave You

WELCOME — We're so glad that you've joined us for this worship service! Please let us know if you need any assistance while you're here.

OUR MISSION — The mission of St. Andrew Lutheran Church is to guide people **to know** Jesus as their Savior, **to grow** in their faith, and **to show** Jesus to others.

OUR BELIEF — We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the only source of all Christian doctrine and teaching. We believe that the only true God is the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that we are saved not by anything we do, but only through faith in Jesus Christ, who gave his life for our sins. We will be happy to tell you more about what we believe!

OUR HISTORY — St. Andrew Lutheran Church was established in 1888 and is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a confessional Lutheran church body with over 1,200 congregations in North America and with more than 30 sister church bodies worldwide.

Church Office: 3650 S. Honore St., Chicago, IL 60609 (next door to church)

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Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/standrewchicago/

Pastor: Adam Gawel, cell: 773-217-8132, pastor@standrewchicago.org

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Anytime we try to imitate God, we quickly realize our inadequacy. Yet today God tells us to model our forgiveness on his: a boundless, free, and loving forgiveness based on the sacrifice of Christ. How could our sinful hearts ever forgive like that? The Prayer of the Day asks that the mercy and grace of God precede us and follow after us, that we might love God with undivided hearts—hearts always ready to forgive as God does: sins are forgiven, forgotten, forever.

Communicant members are encouraged to prepare for the Lord's Supper using the "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" on p. 156 in the front part of the hymnal (the red book in the pew rack).

WORSHIP AND PRAISE

238

Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul



1 Oh, bless the Lord, my soul! Let
 2 Oh, bless the Lord, my soul, Nor
 3 'Tis he for - gives my sins; 'Tis
 4 He fills the poor with good; He
 5 His won - drous works and ways He



all with - in me join And aid my tongue to
 let his mer - cies lie For - got - ten in un -
 he re - lieves my pain; 'Tis he that heals my
 gives the suf - f'ers rest; The Lord has judg - ments
 made by Mo - ses known, But sent the world his



bless his name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
 thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die.
 sick - ness - es And makes me young a - gain.
 for the proud And jus - tice for th' op - pressed.
 truth and grace By his be - lov - ed Son.

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

Tune: ST. THOMAS (SM) Aaron Williams, 1731–76.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION 召唤，认罪及赦罪

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

C: Amen.

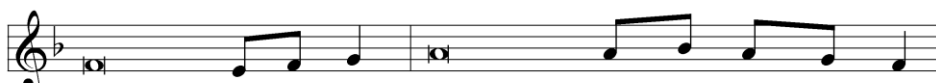
M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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



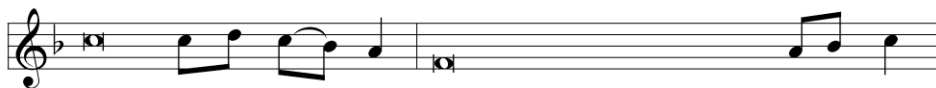
C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



PRAYER OF THE DAY 本日共祷文

M: Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING – Genesis 50:15-21 (EHV) – 创世记 50:15-21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and will pay us back in full for all of the evil that we did to him."

¹⁶They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, ¹⁷'You are to tell Joseph, "Please forgive the offense of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you." ' Now, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants."

¹⁹Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring

this to pass and to keep many people alive, as it is this day. ²¹Now therefore, do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones.” He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.

PSALM OF THE DAY – Psalm 103 – CW93 p. 105 (NIV84) – 诗篇 103

Refrain



I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.

Psalm tone



Refrain

Praise the LORD, O my soul;*
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

He forgives all your sins*
and heals all your diseases;

he redeems your life from the grave*
and crowns you with love and compassion.

Refrain

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,*
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve*
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,*
so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,*
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Refrain

As a father has compassion on his children,*
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

for he knows how we are formed,*
he remembers that we are dust.

Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;*
the wind blows over it and it is gone.

But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him*
from everlasting to everlasting.

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.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: From *The Psalmsody for the Day, Series C*. © 1976 Fortress Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

SECOND READING – Ephesians 4:29 – 5:2 (NIV84) – 以弗所书 4:29 – 5:2

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

5 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY 备福音词及哈利路亚

M: Alleluia. Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Alleluia. (*Romans 15:4*)



GOSPEL – Matthew 18:21-35 (EHV) – 马太福音 18:21-35

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

²¹Then Peter came up and asked Jesus, “Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? As many as seven times?”

²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times.”^g ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents^a was brought to him. ²⁵Because the man was not able to pay the debt, his master ordered that he be sold, along with his wife, children, and all that he owned to repay the debt.

²⁶“Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, ‘Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!’” ²⁷The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.

²⁸“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii.^b He grabbed him and began choking him, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’”

²⁹“So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!’” ³⁰But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.

³¹“When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place.

³²“Then his master called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to.’” ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?’” ³⁴His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.

^g Or *seventy times seven*

^a *Ten thousand talents* was an enormous amount equal to sixty million days’ wages. Each *talent* was worth six thousand *denarii*. A *denarius* was one day’s wage.

^b This was one hundred days’ wages, since one *denarius* was equal to one day’s wage.

³⁵“This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart.”

After the reading of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED 尼西亚信经

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 fully 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY – *Blessed Are They, Forever Blest* – CW93 #383 –
printed on the following page – 圣诗 — 在下一页

383

Blessed Are They, Forever Blest



1 Bless - ed are they, for - ev - er blest,
 2 Bless - ed are they to whom the Lord
 3 From guile their hearts and lips are free;
 4 How glo - rious is that right - eous - ness



Whose guilt is par - doned by their God,
 Im - putes not their in - iq - ui - ty.
 Their hum - ble joy, their ho - ly fear
 That hides and can - cels all their sins,



Whose sins with sor - row are con - fessed
 They plead no mer - it or re - ward
 With deep re - pent - ance well a - gree
 While bright the ev - i - dence of grace



And cov - ered with their Sav - ior's blood.
 And not on works but grace re - ly.
 And join to prove their faith sin - cere.
 Through all their lives ap - pears and shines!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT (LM) *Andächtige Haus-Kirche*, Nürnberg, 1676, alt.

SERMON – Ephesians 4:29 – 5:2 – Forgive as God Forgave You – 讲道:
 基于 以弗所书 4:29 – 5:2

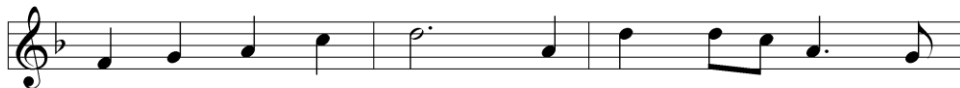
HYMN – *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive* – CW93 #493 – printed on the
 following page – 圣诗 — 在下一页

493

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," You
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless The
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals The
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls And



taught us, Lord, to pray, But you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
 bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in



grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owed to us; How great our debt to you!
 bonds of love Our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–87, alt. © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: DETROIT (CM) *A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony*, Harrisonburg, 1820.

OFFERING 奉献

Members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church use this time to respond to God's goodness with gifts of thanks and love. Our giving is guided by God's Word: "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits from your entire harvest" (Proverbs 3:9); "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:7-8, EHV).

Feel free also to make use of online giving options: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/>, then click on the "Giving" tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address (links to the app & more info on p. 24).



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH 教会公祷

M: Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.

C: Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.

M: Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

C: Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.

M: Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and Sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

C: Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer.

M: Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

C: Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow, including the following special prayer:

for new missionaries:

Dear Jesus, you have given your church the great mission of making disciples of all nations through baptism and by the teaching of your Word. Bless that shared mission in our own congregation and among all congregations in our synod, and enable us to extend that common mission to places we cannot go. We give thanks that this summer our national church body was able to commission 11 new home and world missionaries to serve on our behalf at home and abroad. As they go to their places of service, pour out your Holy Spirit on them and those touched by their ministry. Be their strength, hope, and courage during difficult times. Help us to encourage them in any way we can and to continue to remember them in our prayers. Amen.

Additional special prayers may be included.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

C: Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER 主祷文

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.

THE SACRAMENT 圣餐礼

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy Supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this Supper, we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

Following the teaching of the Bible (1 Corinthians 10:17; 11:27-29; etc.), our church practices closed communion. We ask that only those who are current communicant members of this church or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) partake of the sacrament today. If you are not a current member of this church or one of our sister churches, our pastor would be happy to speak with you about receiving the Lord's Supper with us in the future. Please mention it to him after the service.

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 good and right so to do.**

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 till 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:

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION 耶稣设立圣餐的话

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.

C: 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.

DISTRIBUTION 分发圣餐 – 只邀请已经受坚信礼的本会成员来领受
At the direction of the usher, current communicant members of St. Andrew and our sister churches in the WELS and ELS may come forward down the center aisle, then wait until directed by an usher to go to the communion rail. Communicants may kneel or stay standing. Please hold out your hand to receive the bread. If you wish to partake of the common cup, do not take an individual cup when the assistant comes by with the tray. If you take an individual cup, you may wait to drink it until the minister comes by and speaks the words of distribution. Those who need to receive grape juice instead of wine may take the purple individual cups in the center of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak with the pastor or an usher to receive one.

After the distribution, the congregation sings: – 分发圣餐后，会众齐唱：

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER and BLESSING 祷告及祝福

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

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you 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.**

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

C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN – May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill – CW93 #458 –
printed on the following page – 圣诗 — 在下一页

458

May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill



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.

ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY THIS WEEK
September 20-27, 2026

Today	9:30 AM	Worship Service w. Lord's Supper
	11:00 AM	Adult Bible study & Sunday School
Thursday	6:30-8:00 PM	Youth Confirmation Class
Saturday	7:45 PM	中文聚会 (Chinese Ministry)
Sunday (9/27)	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	11:00 AM	Adult Bible study & Sunday School

The paraments are green for the Sundays after Pentecost. Green represents growth. The Sundays after Pentecost emphasize the growth in faith and godly living that the Holy Spirit works in us through the Word of God.

WELCOME, GUESTS! – We're glad to have you worship with us today! Please sign the guest book in the center church entryway so that we have a record of your visit. Our pastor, Adam Gawel, would be happy to speak with you if you would like; please contact him (773-217-8132 / pastor@standrewchicago.org). Please join us again soon!

MEMORIAL— In loving memory of Mr. Frank Thompson Sr. whose birthday falls on Sept. 19 & Mrs. Anna Siemund whose birthday falls on Sept. 21, by Frank & Sandy Thompson.

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY: "Prayer" – Sundays 11:00-11:45

Please join us on Sundays after worship (about 11:00-11:45) for this new Bible study on prayer! We'll cover the following topics: Prayer begins with what God has done for us; Prayer is a vital part of a Christian's worship life; Elements of a well-rounded prayer life; In prayer we seek God's blessings for ourselves and others; Pray sincerely; Pray persistently and expect results; Regular and systematic prayer; God's promises give prayer its power. ... All are welcome!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS ON THURSDAYS

Youth confirmation class has resumed on Thursdays, 6:30-8:00pm.

Youth confirmation class is open to youth starting from grade 5 or 6 (depending on individual readiness) and above. (Teens nearing the end of high school and beyond who have not yet been confirmed in the WELS or ELS can arrange for adult confirmation class with Pastor Gawel.) If you have a potential student in mind who would be ready to start class, please speak with Pastor Gawel. All are welcome!

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 11:00 / after worship on Sundays

Sunday school is held after the worship service, either in the church basement or in the ministry center (next-door to church). Sunday school is open to children from age 3 through 8th grade. (High-schoolers are welcome to join adult Bible study in church during the same time.) All are welcome!

“An Evening with Martin Luther” – today (9/20), 4:00pm, Zion, Crete

You're invited to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1610 S. Main St., Crete, IL, on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2026, at 4p.m., to watch Dr. Dwight Johnson play Martin Luther. God, through this 16th-century reformer, effected dramatic change around the world, sparking a completely new category of Christianity, Protestantism, and changing the politics and policies of countries that still impact us today. A light reception will follow the performance. If you have any questions about the event, contact Sandy Parker by email at events@parkerlings.com.

WELS ONLINE TEEN BIBLE STUDY – Sept. 27 (Sun.), 6:00pm

The WELS National Online Teen Bible Study is an opportunity for teens across the country to digitally connect with each other around the Word. For the 2026–2027 school year, the National Online Teen Bible Study will focus on four different topics: my self-worth, accepting change, resisting temptation, and finding peace. Jon Enter, campus pastor at Saint Croix Lutheran Academy in West Saint Paul, Minnesota, will be leading the four online interactive Bible studies via Zoom. ... “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.” That sentence is a lie. Words hurt. Their wounds sometimes take decades to heal. And the deepest pain is found in words spoken against yourself. “I’m worthless. I’m a failure. I’m not good enough.” Mephibosheth knows your pain. His short yet powerfully personal Bible story will guide you to see yourself differently, to see yourself as God sees you: beloved, worthy, and his. ...

More info and register here: <https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/discipleship/national-teen-bible-study/>

RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS – WELS Campus Ministry app; weekly online Bible study

Stay connected to God’s Word, your church, and fellow WELS college students, wherever life takes you. The **free WELS Campus Ministry app** gives you access to Bible studies, devotions, ministry resources, connections to other WELS students, and more, all in one place.

Available now on iOS and Android, it’s designed to support you throughout your college years. ... This fall, WELS Campus Ministry Online is offering a **weekly online Bible study**. Additional information will be shared through the app. Search for “WELS Campus Ministry” wherever you get your apps and download today!

LWMS Fall Circuit Rally – Oct. 3 (Sat.) – Glory to God, Tinley Park

The Chicago Area Circuit of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society (LWMS) will be holding its Fall Rally on Saturday, October 3, 2026, at Glory to God Lutheran Church, 18401 66th Ave., Tinley Park.

Registration starts at 9:00am, and opening devotion is at 9:30am. Join us to learn from speaker Ruth Westphal about New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers.

Lutheran Pioneers 75th Anniversary Celebration – Oct. 10

For 75 years, Lutheran Pioneers has helped boys grow in faith, develop leadership skills, build friendships, and enjoy Christian fellowship. Join us on Saturday, October 10, 2026, at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Burlington, WI (198 Westridge Ave.), the birthplace of Lutheran Pioneers, for a special 75th Anniversary Celebration. The day includes a 3:00pm worship service, historical displays, fellowship, a 5:00pm meal, and an anniversary program. Whether you were a Pioneer, leader, parent, grandparent, or supporter of the ministry, we invite you to celebrate God’s blessings with us. Please [RSVP](#) to help us plan for the event and share this invitation with others connected to Lutheran Pioneers, at this link:

<https://form.jotform.com/221233377594156> or QR code.



WELS WOMEN’S MINISTRY ONLINE BIBLE STUDY STARTING OCT. 17&19

The book of Acts is often known as “The Acts of the Apostles,” but a better title might be “The Acts of the Holy Spirit.” Through this work of

the Holy Spirit, the early Christians were empowered to proclaim the gospel message, and the Word of God spread. This work of the Holy Spirit continues today—work that also empowers modern-day Christians (us!) to proclaim the gospel message. By considering the accounts in the book of Acts in light of their own circumstances, relationships, and opportunities, participants will consider how they might rejoice in the joy of the resurrection and then reflect this gospel joy to those around them. ... The Bible study is offered twice each week: Saturday mornings at 8:00 a.m. and Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. (Central), starting on October 17 and 19. More info and register here: <https://wels.net/new-online-bible-study-the-book-of-acts/>

Men of His Word conference – Oct. 17 (Sat.), Milwaukee

The 3rd annual Milwaukee Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel on **Saturday, Oct. 17th, 2026**. Registration is open now: <https://mohwmke.zohobackstage.com/2026> .

Bus tour to Ark Encounter & Creation Museum – sign up by Nov. 14

Zion Crete OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) has organized a 5-day, 4-night bus tour, from April 12-16, 2027, to see the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter and other attractions in northern Kentucky and Cincinnati. A \$100 deposit per person is required by Sun., Nov. 14, 2026. For more info, contact Sandy Parker (708) 672-8096, or by email at events@parkerlings.com .

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

This class is open to anyone who is interested in learning more about what the Bible teaches and what our church believes – and for those who would like a review. At the conclusion of the class, those who are in agreement in faith are invited to join our church, though this is not a requirement for taking the class. Pastor Gawel is able to teach the class in English and Mandarin Chinese, and we have class materials in Spanish available as well. If you or someone you know are interested in starting Bible information class, please contact Pastor Gawel, and we can schedule the class at a time and place that's convenient for you.

PASTORAL COUNSELING; PRIVATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor Gawel is available for confidential pastoral counseling on the basis of God's Word, and for private confession and absolution. Please

feel free to make an appointment to see him. (You may call or text Pastor Gawel on his cell phone: 773-217-8132.)

SATURDAY EVENING CHINESE MINISTRY 周六晚上7:45中文圣经学习 Chinese ministry is held on Saturday evenings at 7:45pm in our ministry center (the house next-door to church), which includes elements of a worship service, Bible study, and prayer, all in Mandarin Chinese. New friends are always welcome to join! Please invite any Chinese friends or neighbors. You may share with them the following invitation.

每周六晚上 7:45, 圣安得烈基督教路德宗教会有成人中文圣经学习。欢迎您参加! 我们在教会的事工中心(教堂旁边的房子)现场聚会; 地址是 3650 S. Honore St., Chicago。如果你了解更多, 请联系高乐仁牧师: 手机: 773-217-8132。欢迎!

WELS DAILY DEVOTIONS – VIA WELS APP, EMAIL, ONLINE

Read or listen to WELS Daily Devotions on the WELS App (download here: <https://m.wels.net/>), or subscribe to receive them by email: <https://wels.net/daily-devotions-subscription/>, or read them online. These devotions are for a general adult audience. Family devotions, teen devotions, and devotions for military service members are also available, on the app or here: <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/>, to subscribe to receive by email or read online.

WELS Family Devotions

Get your family into God's Word during the week! WELS has developed short devotions for the entire family to use. Each devotion comes complete with a set of questions for different age groups, a prayer, and hymn verses that can be sung or spoken. Downloadable printable versions are also available. Find the family devotions at www.wels.net/family-devotions

Sign up today for Marriage Moments

Every marriage has its "moments." That's why marriages need moments of encouragement and refreshment. *Marriage Moments* are short, weekly videos highlighting one biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question. Watch a video introduction and subscribe to receive the videos directly to your e-mail at www.welscongregationalservices.net/marriagemoments

WELS Together e-newsletter

Check out the WELS *Together* e-newsletter to get updates, information, and resources about the mission and ministry of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Go to www.wels.net/together to read online or subscribe to receive by email.

ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION

There are a number of ways to give to St. Andrew online: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/>, then click on the “Giving” tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our church’s invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address. You can download the Vanco Mobile app from the [Apple App Store](#) for iOS devices or the [Google Play Store](#) for Android devices. Please contact St. Andrew’s elder for stewardship, Sam DeLaurentis delarentis.sam@gmail.com with any questions.



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Budgeted need each month	Total offerings received in August
\$17,500.67	\$6,171.22

Offerings received last week: \$2,300.18

(budgeted need each week: \$4,038.62)

Total offerings received so far this month: \$3,315.83

Ministry Attendance Last Week

Worship attendance last Sunday in church: 29 (22 adults, 7 children)

Live-stream peak concurrent viewing devices: 8

Last weekend’s Saturday Chinese ministry: 18

Adult Bible study attendance: 15 (Sun.: 5; Wed.: 3, 2; Th.: 3, 2)

Sunday school: 6

God bless you this week as you share the love of Jesus with others!