

# TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

# Followers of Christ Know How to Love Their Families

October 6, 2024





4651 Kernan Blvd S, Jacksonville, FL 32224 (904) 642-8900

8:00am Worship

9:15am Bible Class and

Sunday School

10:30am Worship with

Livestream

victorylutheran.org



Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube!



Victory is affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

### Welcome to Victory!

- Thank you for choosing to worship the Triune God with us! May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as we join together in worship.
- We prepare for worship by quietly meditating on the theme for the day and respectfully listening to the music chosen and prepared by our musicians.
- If you are looking for a church home, we would be thrilled to serve your spiritual needs. Our name comes from 1 Corinthians 15:57: "Thanks be to God! He gives us the VICTORY through our Lord Jesus Christ!"
- Our mission as a Christian congregation is to: "Win souls for Christ and coach Christians for life."
- Please sign the Connection Card inside the worship folder to give us a record of your visit, and so we can properly thank you for joining us!
- Restrooms are located in the hallway to the right as you enter the front doors. Changing tables are available in both the women's and men's restrooms.
- A Quiet Room for children who need a quiet moment with a caretaker is located on the right before entering the sanctuary.

#### Today's Worship: Followers of Christ Know How to Love Their Families

Love can cause harm. Consider the wife whose husband wants little to do with church. She loves him and does not want to upset him. So, when her husband wants her and the children to stay home Sunday morning, she complies without protest. That wife's love for her husband hurts him, her children, and herself. Or consider the father who loves his child so much that he gives the child everything that child asks for. That father's love is toxic. It is shaping that child to be a selfish, entitled adult.

In our families, it is not enough that there is love. We need to rightly love, to love in a way that leads to blessings for those we claim to love. This illustrates the need for followership. In Jesus we see perfect, self-sacrificial love. Jesus loves us as we are. He also loved us too much to leave us as we are. So, in love he gave his life up so that we might be holy and blameless. His love for us shapes the way we love our spouse, our children, our parents. Today we see that followers of Christ know how to love their family.

#### Current Sermon Series: The Need for Followership

"We need better leadership!" Have you ever said that? Perhaps you were frustrated with the direction being taken by some elected official or by management at your workplace or by the coach of your favorite team. You were frustrated because you know that no matter how many resources an organization has, it will flounder if leaders do not lead well: providing direction, training, motivation, coordination, encouragement, and even grace. Leadership is extremely important. And so, there are times we lament, "We need better leadership!" Jesus Christ is the leader of our congregation, our home, our lives. And his leadership is perfect in every way. Therefore, when things are amiss in any of those arenas, what is needed is not better leadership, but better followership. In this series, we ask Christ to empower us with his Spirit so that we might better follow his lead. May we better reflect the beauty of his life, better make his priorities our own, and better serve our God and neighbor.



Oct. 6	Followers of Christ Know How to Love Their Families
Oct. 13	Followers of Christ Maintain Proper Priorities
Oct. 20	Followers of Christ Make Selfless Sacrifices

## The Service: Setting Three

#### Opening Hymn

CW761 | Our Father, by Whose Name



#### Invocation

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

C: Amen.

#### Confession

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

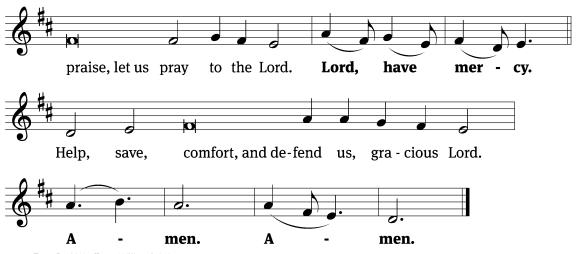
Silence for meditation and reflection

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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The congregation sings the parts in bold





Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman
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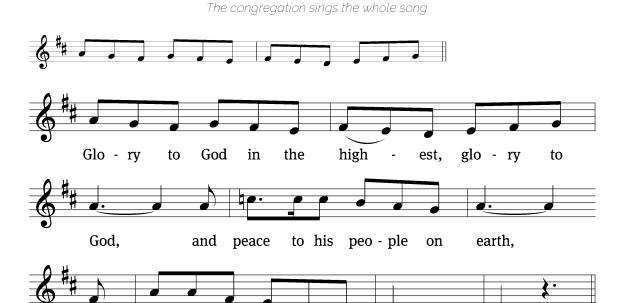
#### Glory to God in the Highest

and

peace to

his

Gloria in Excelsis



on

earth.

peo - ple





Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716703

#### The Word

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

#### Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Loving God and Father, the blessings of marriage and family come from your gracious pleasure and careful design. Lead all who value these gifts to follow your path of wisdom so that they may enjoy the fullness of your love; 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 2:18-25

God created marriage, the foundation of family, which in turn is the foundation of society

<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

<sup>19</sup>Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

<sup>23</sup>The man said.

"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

<sup>24</sup>That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

<sup>25</sup>Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### God's roles for people in a family enable them to show love for each other and for God

<sup>21</sup>Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

<sup>22</sup>Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. <sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

<sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her <sup>26</sup>to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, <sup>27</sup>and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. <sup>28</sup>In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup>After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— <sup>30</sup>for we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup>"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." <sup>32</sup>This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

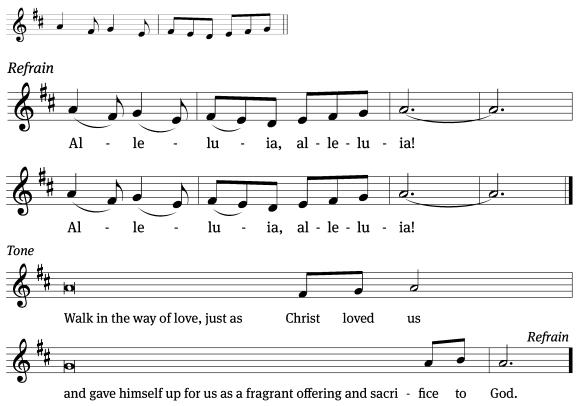
<sup>1</sup>Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup>"Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— <sup>3</sup>"so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

<sup>4</sup>Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.





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#### Gospel Reading

Mark 10:2-16

#### God craves loving relationships between husbands and wives, and also with children

<sup>2</sup>Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

<sup>3</sup>"What did Moses command you?" he replied.

<sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

<sup>5</sup>"It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied.

<sup>6</sup>"But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup>'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, <sup>8</sup> and the two will become

one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

<sup>10</sup>When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. <sup>11</sup>He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. <sup>12</sup>And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup>When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup>And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

#### Children's Message

All children are invited to join Pastor Phil at the front of the sanctuary for a message based on today's sermon, specifically designed for them! If children would feel more comfortable, an adult is welcome to come up with them.

#### Children's Church (10:30am Service)

Children ages 3–5 can be dismissed to the kitchen classroom for Children's Church. Children will return from Children's Church to the sanctuary after the conclusion of the sermon



Hymn of the Day

CW760 | Oh, Blest the House

**Sermon** Pastor Phil Hoyer

Ephesians 5:21-6:4

#### **BUILDING A FAITH-LEGACY OF SERVICE**

- 1. Through Christ's unconditional love
- 2. For the stability of family and community

#### Nicene Creed

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 truly 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.

#### Prayer of the Church

- M: Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.
- C: Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.
- M: Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.
- C: Take away our love of sinning and restore us each day by your grace.
- M: The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.
- C: Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.
- M: Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.
- C: Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.
- M: Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. [Especially bless...] Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.
- C: Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.
- M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

- M: Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.
- C: Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

#### Offering

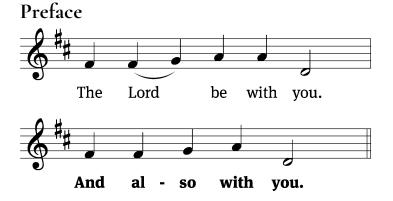
Guests: This is the moment in our worship when members and friends of Victory Lutheran respond to God's good news with gifts to support his saving work in Jacksonville, St. Johns County, and beyond. If you are our guest today, you are welcome to participate in this offering, but don't feel forced to! You can also give an online thank offering by using the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR code.

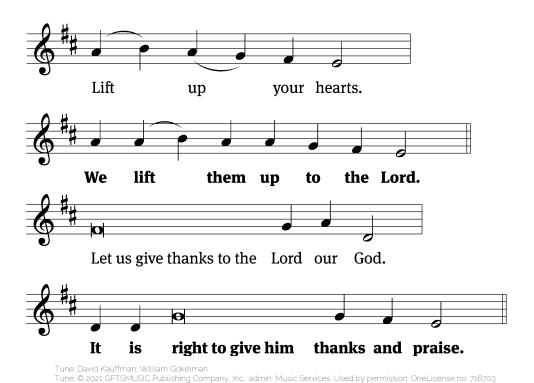




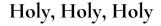
Please also fill out the Connection Card found inside your worship folder and drop it in the basket on the back (blue) table. You can also scan the QR code on the left to fill out an online Connection Card.

#### The Sacrament

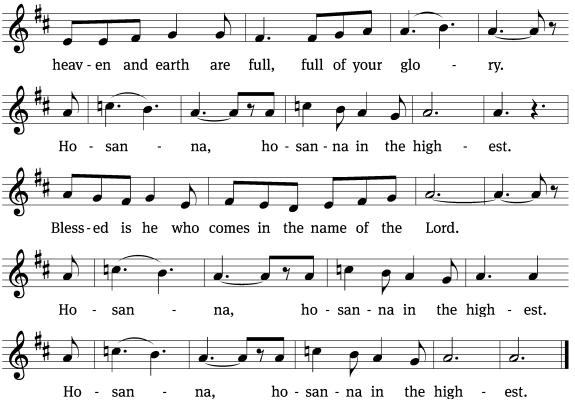




M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:







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#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day

when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### 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.

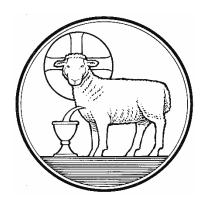
#### Words of Institution

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

#### C: Amen.



Lamb of God Agnus Dei



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#### Distribution

Guests: Scripture teaches that when Christians partake of the Lord's Supper together, they are expressing their unity of faith. Through this act they are confessing that they agree on all the teachings of Scripture. We do not wish to put our guests in the position of making such a confession without knowing our teachings. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of this or another WELS or ELS congregation come to receive communion at this time. If you desire communion fellowship with us, please speak to our pastor. We are eager to help anyone take this step.

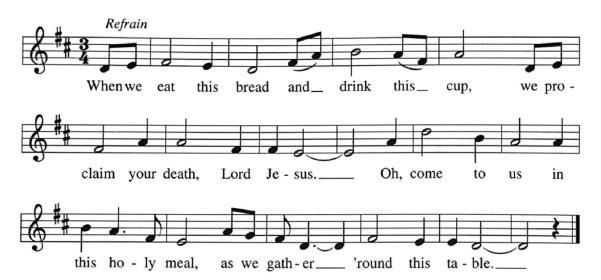
#### Distribution Hymns (8:00am Service)

CW759 | When Training Up a Child CW728 | This Is My Will

#### Choir Anthem (10:30am Service)

When We Eat This Bread by Thomas Keesecker

The choir sings the first refrain and verses. The congregation is invited to join subsequent refrains



#### Verses

Fruit from the vine and grain from the field:

God, fill us with your blessing and grant us your grace.

You have sent your Son to free us all from sin.

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. *Refrain* 

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good, and happy are the people who delight in God's love.
Oh, bless the Lord, let your mouth be full of praise.
God has blessed us and saved us and called us by name. *Refrain* 

Reveal yourself in this breaking of break.

Raise us up! Make us the body of Christ for the world.

Into us breathe life! Send us forth with hearts aflame.

Let justice and mercy find the freedom to reign.

\*\*Refrain\*\*

Text: Liturgical texts adapt. Thomas Keesecker When We Eat This Bread, Thomas Keesecker, ISBN 978-0-8006-2158-2 Copyright © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved

#### Thanksgiving

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### **Blessing**

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 peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn (8:00am Service)

CW731 | Oh, How Good It Is

Choir Anthem (10:30am Service)

In This Feast of Love by Jarkko Maukonen

In this feast of love, in this feast of love, Lord, you share your blood and your body, Jesus, Lamb of God.

In this bread and wine, in this bread and wine, you have promised, Lord, to be with us,

Lamb of God divine.

Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us peace, O Lord; fill us with the joy of your Spirit, ever-living Word.

Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954 Text: © 2017, 2020 Jarkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress. OneLicense no. 716703



Organist

Mrs. Anne Grotefend

**Choir Instrumentalists** 

Piano | Mrs. Rachel Cochran Violin | Mrs. Leah Mielke

#### Acknowledgments

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#### Hurricane Helene Update

Dear friends in Christ,

First, I want to thank you for all your care and concern expressed for our brothers and sisters who have been impacted by the fury of Hurricane Helene. They hear you and are encouraged by your compassion. I am also grateful for your offers of help and your financial gifts that allow us to help those in need. Currently, financial support is the best way to help. To offer a gift in support of our efforts please go to wels.net/CARgift or send a check to the following address:

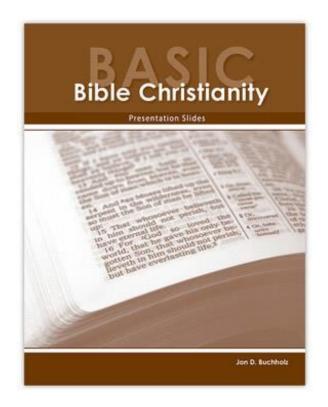
WELS Christian Aid and Relief N1623377 Stone Ridge Drive Waukesha, WI 53188-1108 Second, I want to update you on our disaster relief efforts. This weekend and early next week our Assessment Team plans to visit some of the hardest hit areas to assess damage and opportunities to help in preparation for a potential deployment of volunteers. We will be visiting congregations in North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia. You may wonder why we are waiting so long to make this trip. As you know, we are not first responders but early responders. Before we can make an assessment, we need to make sure it's safe to do so. Power, communication, and road access are all just beginning to be restored in the hardest hit areas. As to a deployment, we won't do that until we have a clear picture of the work to be done and resources to support our volunteers (water, electricity, accommodations, etc.). We will keep you informed of our plans.

I am also in touch with our pastors and congregations in other hard-hit areas such as Florida to ascertain what assistance we can provide for them. Mostly this will take the form of financial assistance for those who experienced loss or damage to their homes and property.

A word of encouragement: When a disaster strikes many want to run to the disaster zone to help. While that desire comes from a good place, unexpected and uninvited volunteers often bring the opposite of help as they stress an already overtaxed infrastructure in the disaster zone. We encourage you to limit your disaster relief efforts to financial gifts or legitimate volunteer deployments organized by local emergency management or other disaster relief organizations (American Red Cross, FEMA, etc.).

We are a small church body and, therefore, a small disaster relief organization. I want to assure that we are doing all we can to assist those who are hurting. Thank you again for your prayers, encouragement, generosity, support, and patience. Clearly, God's people in the WELS care deeply about those who are suffering. I thank God for you all!

In Christ, our compassionate Savior, Pastor Dan Sims Director, WELS Christian Aid and Relief



Basic Bible Christianity is a 15lesson Bible information course that features a clear, clean attractive layout covering all doctrines needed for adult confirmation. Each lesson includes a study of key doctrinal passages of Scripture, opportunity to search the Scriptures, true/false statements, discussion questions, and suggestions for future study at home. The course also includes texts from Luther's Catechism, exposing adults to this important resource. Ten appendices are included.

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING THE VICTORY FAMILY OF BELIEVERS?

Beginning Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, from 9–11AM, Pastor Phil will be starting this membership class which takes you through the basic teaching of Scripture. We will do two lessons per session and plan to meet on Saturdays and finish by the end of the year. Please sign up on the table by the bulletins.

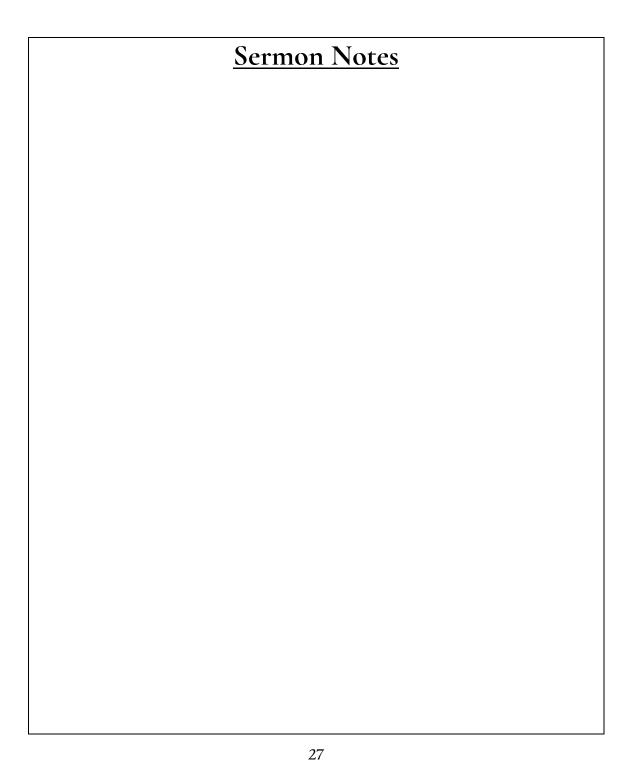


#### My Worship Notes



For children to use during worship.

NAME:	DATE:
What is the name of the church sea What is the color of the church tod Blue White Purple Re	
This is in the:   Old Testame	ent
	Ty favorite song today was:
Baptism?  Yes  No  No  No  No	Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:
What did you learn about God toda	ay?





#### **Contact Information**

Brad Smith, Office Manager — (904) 642–8900 office@victorylutheran.org

Phil Hoyer, Vacancy Pastor — (904) 307-6717 philhoyer@gmail.com

Anne Grotefend, Preschool Director — (904) 955–1926 director@victorypreschool.org

Jarrett Mielke, Staff Minister — (941) 735-6962 jmielke@victorylutheran.org

Victory is a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), headquartered in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

