

Scripture also teaches that we are justified before God through faith in Christ, when we believe that our sins are forgiven for Christ's sake. (AC XXIV)



323 E. 1st St.

Fairmont, MN 56031

Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:45am

www.shepherdofthelakes.net

Pastor Jason Zuehlke

Church Phone: (507) 238-2998

Parsonage Phone: (507) 238-9663

Pastor Zuehlke Cell: (507) 848-8905

PastorZuehlke@outlook.com

Presentation of Augsburg Confession

June 28, 2020

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes

We're here to shepherd Christ's flock and seek the lost sheep by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all. Come, let us worship!

For Your Convenience...

A room for any parents with children in need of a quiet place is located in the back corner of the sanctuary. Restrooms are located on the lower level. Please ask if you have any further questions or concerns.

Prayer before worship

Heavenly Father, as I worship you today, curb my wandering thoughts. Speak to my heart. Encourage me with your Word, that my faith is strengthened, my confidence and hope renewed, and I am recommitted to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' name, amen.



The Presentation of the Augsburg Confession

June 25 marks the day in 1530 when God-fearing leaders took their stand for the gospel and presented their confession of faith before Emperor Charles V in Augsburg, Germany. Even more than October 31 this day marks the birth of the Lutheran Church. Centered in Christ and focused on the free gift of salvation by grace through faith, the Augsburg Confession continues to shape what we believe, teach, and confess today.

Perhaps even more than Luther’s famous seal, the symbol VDMA placed around the cross is considered the symbol of the Lutheran Reformation. The four letters represent the motto VERBUM DEI MANET IN AETERUM: The Word of God endures forever.



DIVINE SERVICE I



OPENING HYMN: CW 536 v.1.....Lord, Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head

*Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s head, you are her one foundation.
In you she trusts, before you bows, and waits for your salvation.
Built on this rock secure, your Church shall endure
Though all the world decay and all things pass away.
Oh, hear, oh, hear us, Jesus!*

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

A CONFESSION OF SIN AND GRACE *from the Augsburg Confession*

M: It is taught among us that since the fall of Adam, all human beings who are born in the natural way are conceived and born in sin. This means that from birth they are full of evil lust and inclination and cannot by nature possess true fear of God and true faith in God.

C: **This original sin is truly sin and condemns to God’s eternal wrath all who are not born anew through baptism and the Holy Spirit.**

M: It is taught that we cannot obtain forgiveness of sin and righteousness before God through our merit, work, or satisfactions, but that we receive forgiveness of sin and become righteous before God out of grace for Christ's sake through faith when we believe that Christ has suffered for us and that for his sake our sin is forgiven and righteousness and eternal life are given to us.

C: For God will regard and reckon this faith as righteousness in his sight.

M: To obtain such faith God instituted the office of preaching, giving the gospel and the sacraments.

C: Through these, as through means, he gives the Holy Spirit who produces faith, where and when he wills, in those who hear the gospel.

SONG OF PRAISE: CW 579 v. 3.....*Lift High the Cross*

REFRAIN: Lift high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore his sacred name.

VERSE: So shall our song of triumph ever be:

Praise to the Crucified for victory.

REFRAIN: Lift high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore his sacred name.

The Word

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O Lord, favorably receive the prayers of your Church, that being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, we may always make a pure confession of your saving truth; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 55:6-11 *The Lord's Word will achieve its purpose*

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.

⁷ Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

⁸ "For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,"
declares the LORD.

⁹ "As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰ As the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it
without watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,

¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 119:41-48 NOT SUNG

Psalm 119:41-48 has been chosen since it includes the psalm quoted on the title page of the Augsburg Confession, "I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame." We will speak the psalm responsively as indicated below.

M: May your unfailing love come to me, Lord,
C: your salvation, according to your promise;

M: then I can answer anyone who taunts me,

C: for I trust in your word.

M: Never take your word of truth from my mouth,

C: for I have put my hope in your laws.

M: I will always obey your law,

C: For ever and ever.

M: I will walk about in freedom,

C: for I have sought out your precepts.

M: I will speak of your statutes before kings

C: And will not be put to shame,

M: for I delight in your commands

C: because I love them.

M: I reach out for your commands, which I love,

C: that I may meditate on your decrees.

**ALL: 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.**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 10:5-17 *With your mouth you confess and are saved*

⁵ Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: “The person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that is by faith says: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: ⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. ¹¹ As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who

call on him, ¹³ for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

¹⁶ But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” ¹⁷ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY:

Alleluia. I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame. Alleluia.
(Psalm 119:46, NIV 2011)

PLEASE STAND

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 10:32-39 *Whoever acknowledges Christ is acknowledged before his Father*

³² “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to turn

“a man against his father,
a daughter against her mother,
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

³⁶ a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

³⁷ “Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 541 v 3.....*Lord, Jesus Christ, with Us Abide*

*In these last days Of sore distress
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness
That pure we keep, Till life is spent,
Your holy Word and sacrament.*

SERMON

PLEASE 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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

OFFERING

Offerings can be mailed to our church office at 517 Tilden Street, Fairmont, MN 56031 or made on our website under the "Donate" tab at the top of the homepage or taken to Profinium Bank in Fairmont

***To our visitors:** Our offering is not a debt we owe God, but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation, but love for God. The members of Shepherd of the Lakes have joined together to spread God's message both in this community and around the world. As our guest, please do not feel obligated to contribute. We're happy that you're with us to hear about God's love for you.*

PLEASE STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Almighty and eternal God, when the time had fully come, you sent your Son to take our place under the demands of the law and to endure the just punishment for our sins. For our sakes you accepted his sacrifice on the cross and raised him from death to glorious splendor.

C: Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

M: When the time had fully come, you bestowed your Spirit on your people as a testimony that you had called them to proclaim the gospel to every creature. Equipped and encouraged, they carried the Word of salvation into all the world.

C: The Lord reigns. Let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice.

M: When the time had fully come, you raised up your servants, the Lutheran reformers, to restore the pure and right teaching of the Scriptures to a troubled Church. You renewed your people with the light of your love, and your holy church grew and prospered throughout the world.

C: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

M: When the time had fully come, you made our forefathers bold to take their stand on the truth of your Word. You have blessed their sons and daughters and have enabled us to preserve and proclaim the saving gospel.

C: Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

M: Let this be a time, O Lord, when you renew us again by Word and sacrament, when you reform our hearts and minds, and when you restore to us the joy of fellowship and service. Grant to us in this age and in this place the courage of the apostles, the steadfastness of the reformers, and the dedication of those who have gone before us.

C: May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us.

M: Let this be a time, O Lord, when we recommit and re-consecrate ourselves to the ministry of the gospel. Let us find joy in our unity, zeal for our work, and success in our labor.

C: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us, that his ways may be known on earth, his salvation among all nations. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN: CW 541 v 5.....Lord, Jesus Christ, with Us Abide

Oh, keep us in Your Word, we pray;

The guile and rage of Satan stay!

Oh, may your mercy Never cease!

Give concord, patience, courage, peace.

PLEASE STAND

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE 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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: CW 289..... *Preserve Your Word, O Savior*

**1. *Preserve your Word, O Savior,
To us this latter day,
And let your kingdom flourish;
Enlarge your Church, we pray.
Oh, keep our faith from failing;
Keep hope's bright star aglow.
Let nothing turn us from you
While wand'ring here below.***

**2. *Preserve your Word and preaching
The truth that makes us whole,
The mirror of your glory,
The pow'r that saves the soul.
Oh, may this living water,
This spring of heav'nly grace,
Sustain us while here living
Until we see your face.***



Notes and News for August 19, 2018

Prayer Requests—As we love each other as the body of Christ, we want to "rejoice with those who rejoice [and] mourn with those who mourn" (Romans 12:15). If you have any prayer requests, please pass them on to Pastor that we may take them to the Lord with you!

Dinner with Pastor and His Wife—We would love to be able to visit you at your home and get to know you better! If dinner doesn't work or going out or just visiting for a bit in the afternoon works better, just let us know!

Men's and Women's Bible Classes—There has been interest in the Men's Saturday Morning Bible Class beginning up again at the Ranch now that they are open. Pastor is planning on starting up with class again on the first Saturday morning of August (July 4th is a holiday and Pastor is planning on helping with the Opera House block party that day at our VBS booth).

If any of the ladies are interested in starting Wine, Women, and the Word again, please let Pastor know so he can get the announcement out if there is interest.

The Augsburg Confession

Happy birthday! Did you know that June 25 is considered the birthday of the Lutheran church? It was on this day in 1530 that the "evangelical party" (as the Lutheran protesters were called at that time) formally presented the confession of their faith at the official meeting of the rulers of the Holy Roman Empire (called a Diet) that was taking place in Augsburg, Germany. When the Lutherans' Augsburg Confession was rejected by Charles V, the Holy Roman Emperor, and papal representatives, the evangelical churches became known as a separate denomination to the Roman Catholic Church.

Despite the grand-sounding name, the Holy Roman Empire was, in reality, a confederation of territories and free cities in areas that include modern-day Germany, Switzerland, and northern Italy. As a member of the Habsburg family (the family that also ruled Spain, the Netherlands, Austria, and Hungary), Charles V had a lot of power, but he still needed the support of the German princes if he wanted to accomplish any of his major goals in the Holy Roman Empire. In 1530, one of those goals was to repel the Ottoman Turk army under Suleiman the Magnificent that was encroaching upon the eastern side of the Habsburg lands. Another was to settle doctrinal controversies that had erupted in the Holy Roman Empire in recent years. Charles V figured that he needed to achieve the second goal so that he could achieve the first. Besides, even though he had political differences with the pope, Charles was still a faithful Roman Catholic and wanted to ensure that all his subjects were faithful Roman Catholics as well.

One of the concerns for Charles V was Martin Luther's protest, which had been gaining support. In 1521, he had summoned Luther to the Diet at Worms and demanded that he retract the doctrines that Luther had been teaching and printing. Luther humbly refused since he had not been shown from the Scriptures where he was wrong, and Luther was declared a heretic. This had not stopped Luther's work. He went on to translate the New Testament into German by 1522 and his Large and Small Catechisms in 1529.

In 1529, Charles V defeated many of his political rivals but still had to deal with the advancing Turks. To get all parties in his empire on the same page, he invited them to Augsburg with

the positive-sounding intention to consider “with love and kindness the opinions and views of everybody, in order to reduce them to one single Christian truth and agreement” (*Concordia Triglotta*, Concordia Publishing House, 1921, p. 15).

The Lutheran party set out for Augsburg on April 4, 1530. Martin Luther was convinced not to accompany them since many feared for his safety, but to remain at Coburg Castle that was in the southern area of the electorate of Saxony, about 160 miles from Augsburg. Elector John the Constant was a Lutheran and used his position to protect the Lutherans under his rule. When the Lutherans arrived at Augsburg, they soon realized that they were going to need to do more than simply defend the reforms that John had carried out in Saxony. A Catholic theologian, John Eck, had arrived in Augsburg before the Lutherans and published a treatise called the 404 Propositions. In this document, Eck misquoted the reformers and accused them of all kinds of heresies that had been rejected and condemned throughout the history of the Christian church. Then, when Charles V arrived in Augsburg on June 15, it became clear his goal was to force the evangelical party to compromise their beliefs. The Lutherans realized they were going to have to make a complete confession of their faith.

Martin Luther’s fellow reformer, Philip Melancthon, wrote the Augsburg Confession. During the process, he was in regular contact with Martin Luther via letter. The result was a masterful work that bore the gentle style of Melancthon and the theology of Luther. It was prepared in both Latin and in German, although one is not a direct translation of the other.

The Augsburg Confession is made up of twenty-eight doctrinal articles. The first twenty-one confess the clear teachings of Scripture while rejecting all errors that go against those doctrines. The last seven articles point out errors in practice that had crept into the Roman Catholic Church which had been corrected in Lutheran territories. Throughout the confession there is a faithful and persistent testimony to the magnificent Scriptural truths that human beings are saved by God’s grace alone, through faith alone, with Scripture alone.

Both theologians and leaders of all evangelical territories chose to adopt the marvelous Augsburg Confession as their own confession before the Holy Roman Emperor and the Papacy. By doing so, they all put their lives on the line to testify to Scriptural truth. Because the Augsburg Confession is a clear witness to God’s truth, it would serve as a foundational confession for the Lutherans in the turbulent years that were to follow the Diet at Augsburg. It remains foundational for all those who call themselves confessional Lutherans to this day!



Find and like us on Facebook at *Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church (WELS) of Fairmont, MN*

