

Lift high the cross

Martin Luther believed following Jesus was a way of life.

Follow Luther to the Wittenberg castle and back home again to find an important reminder of Jesus.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5th Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620 www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org + 402-395-2043 Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

October 27, 2024 + Reformation Sunday

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

+ GATHERING +

Prelude

(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

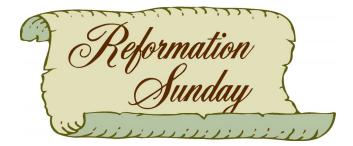
Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.









Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

If we claim to have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Today we ponder again the great mercy and grace of our God. (Let us take a moment of silence for reflection and confession.)

Most merciful God.

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have pretended to keep your Law without actually doing so, and have sought to storm heaven on our own merits. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God has given his Son to die for us, and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. He has written a new covenant on our hearts and minds, given us the gift of faith, and graciously declared us innocent. We are free indeed!

As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Baptism Word Search

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Jack Leo Wolf Alex Wolf Ellie Wolf Brooke Ballou Bobbi Clinch Sam Clinch Jay Wolf Susie

Albio Baby Bible Bless Boy Chris Cross Child Cree Dad Faith Fami Fathe Holy Font Gift God Godn Grace Grandparents Grow Happy Heart

Holy Baptism Home Hope Justice Jesus Loves You

Oil

E C E P Joy Lord Lords Prayer Loved Mom Music

Nebraska New Life Parents Peace Pray Sacrament

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23

Sacred Sing Smile Ten Commandments Water

Word

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May God continue to bless them all with His abundant love and grace.

TODAY we celebrate

the gift of God's grace as

Jack Leo Wolf

is baptized in the name of

the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

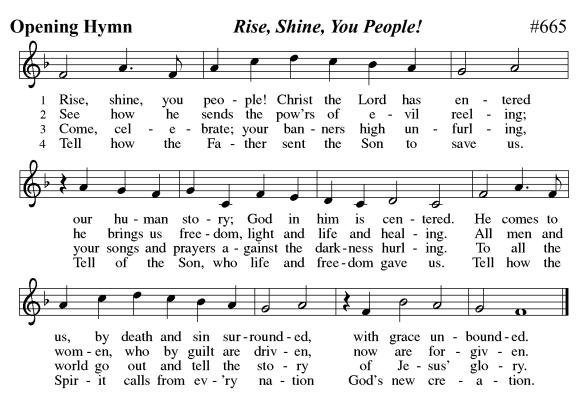
Jack was born on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 1:29am. He weighed 9lbs. 13oz., and was 22" long.

Loving Parents:

Alex & Ellie Wolf

Godmother: **Brooke Ballou**

Grandparents: **Bobbi & Sam Clinch Jay & Susie Wolf**



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Opening Litany

The testimonies of Reformers stimulated people to spread the Good News of Christ's love.

Inspire us, O Lord, to share with others the power of God's grace through our acts of forgiveness and love.

The writings of Reformation leaders revealed parts of God's plan once hidden in mystery.

Inspire us, O Lord, to continue to uncover the power of the Scriptures through prayer and devotion.

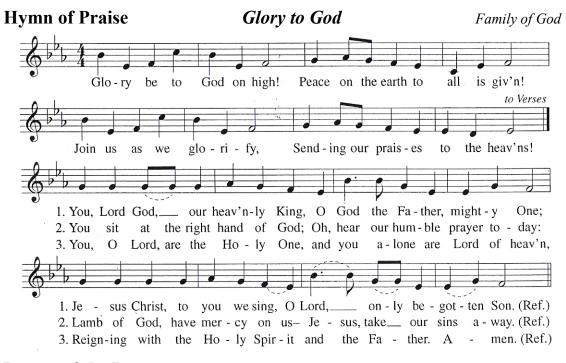
The work of Reformation leaders brought faith into the forefront of everyday life.

Inspire us, O Lord, to acknowledge your powerful presence in our lives at home, at work, and at school.

In you alone lies the power to save, O Lord. In you alone lies the power to live.

Apostolic Greeting

The blessing of the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the glorious love bestowed by the + Son, and the power of the promised Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.)

Almighty God, gracious Lord,

we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people.

Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

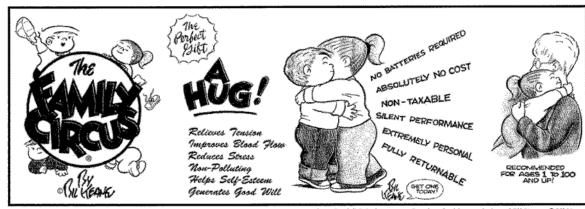
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Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.





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Benediction

May you go as God's people who are blessed to be a blessing. May you go in the name of Jesus to touch and heal the hurt around us. May you go with a strong presence of God's Holy Spirit to be light and love to all the world.

May you go in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ WORD +

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer.22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

Let us read Psalm 46 responsively.

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. ⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

10"Be still, then, and know that I am God;I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

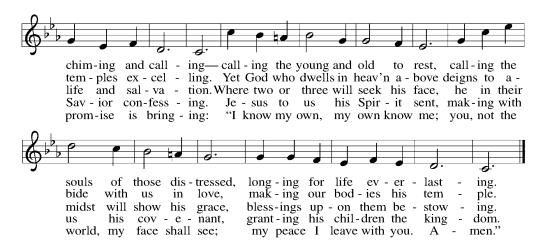
Second Reading Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

A reading from Romans.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.



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Table Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

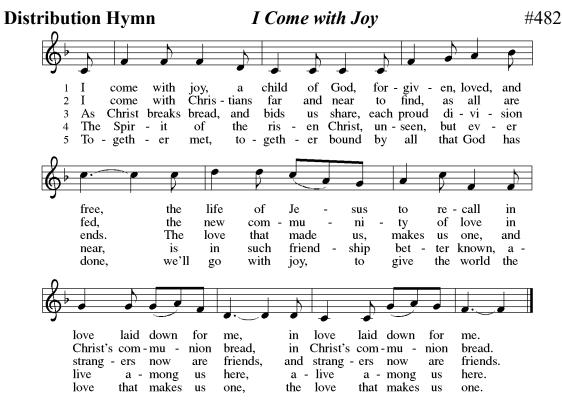
Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.)
Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ SENDING +

Announcements

go In Peace



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Distribution Hymn

Built on a Rock

#652



- on a rock the church shall stand, e ven when stee ples are Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
- Christ builds a house of liv ing stones: we are his own hab i -
- in this house, an earth ly frame, Je sus the chil dren is
- Through all the pass ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum-bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are dwell - inghigh in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us - tion: hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our bless - ing; ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



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Holy Gospel John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 8th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Time Sermon



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old. 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid-dle a ges of your life, not too old, no lon ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold. you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long. I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one, When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."

I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."

I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.

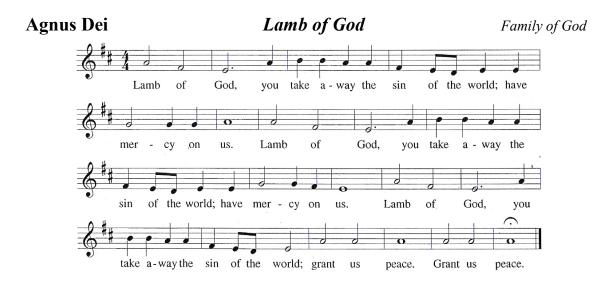
Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us...

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.



Distribution

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.



Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Inscribing God, in Jesus your Word was made flesh.

In your scriptures that flesh was made word.

In your church and your kingdom that word is made flesh again.

By the power of your Holy Spirit

bring your scriptural promises to fulfillment

in your people gathered in your name today.

By that same Spirit, sanctify this bread and this cup, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,

"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Inspiring God, you give us your scriptures

for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, and for building us up in service to you and your world.

Open your children's hearts

each time your church opens your Word of life.

Send your Spirit upon evangelists, teachers, preachers, and healers,

that the wind and fire of Pentecost

may thrill and transform your people today.

Make your Son's disciples feel their hearts burning within them as you speak with them and they find their story in your story; until the day you draw us into your Book of Life, and we are gathered between the covers of your glory,

and we are gathered between the covers of your glory ever one God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

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The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

In Baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are born children of a fallen humanity;

by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ.

Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God.

Parents & Godparents:

We present Jack Leo Wolf for Holy Baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the Holy Supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the Holy Scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life? **Parents:** We do.

Godparents, do you promise to nurture *Jack Leo Wolf* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Godparents: We do.

People of God, do you promise to support *Jack Leo Wolf* and pray for him in his new life in Christ? We do.

Profession of Faith

I ask you all to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Proper Preface

Storytelling God,

you had too much love within your Trinity to keep it to yourself, and so you made a universe in which to bring forth the earth, and an earth in which to raise up a people,

and a people in which to come among us in your Son,

that we may know your purpose

never to be except to be with us in him forever.

Through patriarchs and prophets,

through women of courage and kings,

through the redemption of failure

and the transformation of faithlessness

you embodied your relentless will to abide with us.

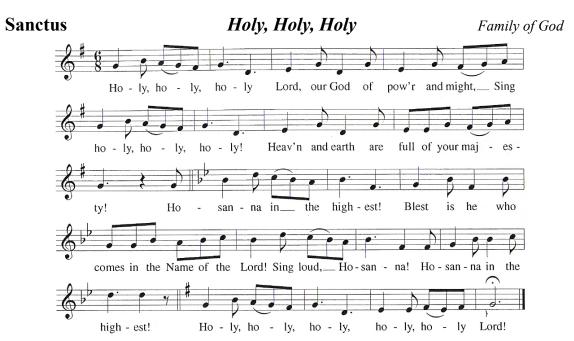
In the death and resurrection of your Son

and the sending of your Spirit

you turned your covenant with your people

into an invitation to all the world.

And so we thank and praise you, with the angels and archangels, singing your song of glory.



+ OFFERING +



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+ MEAL +

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



Prayers of the People

P Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence is kept.

A Lord of all,

we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

- P Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature's cycle of life includes and requires both life and death.

 Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace, hear our prayer.
- A Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace, hear our prayer.
- P Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond, *especially...* Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace, hear our prayer.
- P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence... God of grace, hear our prayer.

A Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. Gracious God, hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood
you delivered Noah and his family,
and through the sea you led your people Israel
from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John

and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Jack Leo Wolf is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. Jack Leo, you belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.)
We give you thanks, O God,
that through water and the Holy Spirit
you give your daughters and sons new birth,
cleanse them from sin and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain *Jack Leo* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Jack Leo, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

Council Rep.: Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ
and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Jesus Loves You #595

Jesus loves YOU this we know for the Bible tells us so. Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves YOU. Yes, Jesus loves You. Yes, Jesus loves YOU, the Bible tells us so.

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**