

WHAT LUTHERANS BELIEVE

THE BIBLE – We believe that EVERY word in the Bible is inspired by God, and therefore the whole Bible is the true, unalterable Word of God, clearly teaching the way of salvation. (2Ti. 3:15-17).

GOD – We believe that God is ONE (Dt. 6:4) and that He has revealed Himself in three distinct Persons (Mt. 3:13-17), the Father, our Creator and Preserver; the Son, Jesus, Who is both God and Man, and our only Saviour; the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts and enables us to live a God-pleasing life.

MAN – We believe that God created man with body and soul, in His image, but man of his own free will lost this image through sin. (Gn. 1:27; 2:7; 3.)

SIN – “Sin is the transgression of the Law.” (1Jn 3:4). There are two kinds of sin: original (inherited) sin (Ps. 51:5) and actual sin (sin in thought, word and deed) (Mt. 15:19). Man is subject to death and eternal damnation by reason of the guilt that attaches to sin.

REDEMPTION – We believe that God out of pure love and mercy redeemed mankind from sin through the all-sufficient sacrifice of His only Son, Jesus, and His resurrection shows that God was satisfied with the work of Christ. (Jn 3:16; 1Jn 2:2; Ro. 4:25).

FAITH – We believe that the sinner must personally receive the merits of Jesus for salvation and trust that, “Jesus died for me.” (Jn 17:3; Ja 1:21; Ps. 31:14).

THE CHURCH – We believe that the church, established by Christ is the whole number of believers in Christ, for only believers are members of the church. Jesus Christ is its one and only foundation (Ep. 2:19-22). The church is found wherever the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached and the Sacraments are administered according to Christ’s institution.

SACRAMENTS – We believe that Christ instituted two sacraments, and when Baptism is administered to infants and adults, according to the command of Christ, God offers His grace and forgiveness of sins (Acts 22:16). In the Lord’s Supper, believing communicants, with the bread and wine, also really receive Christ’s body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (1Co. 11:24-25).

SECOND COMING OF CHRIST – We believe that Christ will return visibly to earth (Acts 1:11) on the Last Day (Mk. 13:32) to judge the world (Acts 10:42). The believers will go to heaven, to be with God forever (1Th. 4:13-18). The unbelievers will go to hell, eternally separated from God (Mt. 25:32, 46).

RESURRECTION – We believe that on the Last Day believers in Christ will rise from the dead, their souls reunited with their earthly bodies and glorified by Christ (Jn 14:19; 17:24).

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25B)

October 24, 2021

INTROIT

Psalm 131; antiphon: Psalm 130:1-2

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high;

I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.

But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother;

like a weaned child is my soul within me.

O Israel, hope in the Lord

from this time forth and forevermore.

**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.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P *O God, the helper of all who call on You, have mercy on us and give us eyes of faith to see Your Son that we may follow Him on the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

G *♪[Amen]♪*

GRADUAL

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

*He will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.*

Bless the LORD, O my soul,

and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

RESPONSE FOR PRAYERS

After each petition:

P ... Lord, in Your mercy

G

hear our prayer.

The prayer concludes:

Pthrough Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G

Amen.

Jeremiah 31:7–9 (ESV)

⁷ Thus says the Lord:

“Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief
of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
‘O Lord, save your people,
the remnant of Israel.’”

⁸ Behold, I will bring them from the
north country
and gather them from the
farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
the pregnant woman and she
who is in labor, together;
a great company, they shall
return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come,
and with pleas for mercy I
will lead them back,
I will make them walk by brooks of
water,

in a straight path in which
they shall not stumble,
for I am a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.”

Hebrews 7:23-28 (ESV)

²³ The former priests were many in
number, because they were prevented
by death from continuing in office,
²⁴ but he holds his priesthood
permanently, because he continues
forever. ²⁵ Consequently, he is able to
save to the uttermost those who draw
near to God through him, since he
always lives to make intercession for
them.

²⁶ For it was indeed fitting that we
should have such a high priest, holy,
innocent, unstained, separated from
sinners, and exalted above the
heavens. ²⁷ He has no need, like those
high priests, to offer sacrifices daily,
first for his own sins and then for

those of the people, since he did this
once for all when he offered up
himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints men in
their weakness as high priests, but the
word of the oath, which came later
than the law, appoints a Son who has
been made perfect forever.

Mark 10:46-52 (ESV)

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. And as
[Jesus] was leaving Jericho with his
disciples and a great crowd,
Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of
Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside.
⁴⁷ And when he heard that it was Jesus
of Nazareth, he began to cry out and
say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy
on me!” ⁴⁸ And many rebuked him,
telling him to be silent. But he cried
out all the more, “Son of David, have
mercy on me!” ⁴⁹ And Jesus stopped
and said, “Call him.” And they called
the blind man, saying to him, “Take
heart. Get up; he is calling you.”
⁵⁰ And throwing off his cloak, he
sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ And
Jesus said to him, “What do you want
me to do for you?” And the blind man
said to him, “Rabbi, let me recover
my sight.” ⁵² And Jesus said to him,
“Go your way; your faith has made
you well.” And immediately he
recovered his sight and followed him
on the way.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 25B)

(October 24, 2021)

Jeremiah 31:7–9

Hebrews 7:23–28

Mark 10:46–52

The Lord Jesus Christ Opens Our Eyes to God and Brings Us into His Presence

As He did for blind Bartimaeus, so does the Lord, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon you. With His Word of the Gospel, “he is calling you” to Himself, to “take heart,” to rise up and live by faith in His forgiveness. He opens your heart and mind to see and know God rightly in Him and to follow Him “on the way” of the cross and into life everlasting (Mark 10:49–52). “He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him,” because He is the great High Priest, who offered Himself “once for all” as a sacrifice for sins. Since He is risen from the dead and “exalted above the heavens,” He “holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever,” and “he always lives to make intercession” for His people (Heb. 7:24–27). Along with that, He gathers the children of God to Himself by the proclamation of His Gospel, even “from the farthest parts of the earth.” In mercy He calls them, by the waters of Holy Baptism, “in a straight path in which they shall not stumble,” unto life everlasting (Jer. 31:8–9).

Next Week’s Readings from God’s Word:

October 31 Reformation Day:

Revelation 14:6-7, Psalm 46, Romans 3:19-28, John 8:31-36 *or* Matthew 11:12-19