

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

A traditional, liturgical, Biblical congregation in the heart of Cedar Falls ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Christ.

Rev. Michael R. Knox, Pastor
(319) 231-9761

Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Pastor
(319) 389-5526

Joseph Goodroad, Vicar
(816) 645-0188

Church Office: 266-2509

Email: orlc@cfu.net Website: theforgivenessplace.org

The 4th Sunday after Pentecost June 25, 2023

TO OUR VISITORS We rejoice that you have joined us this morning to hear the Word of God, receive His gifts of life and salvation, and to respond to His faithfulness with "Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs" *Ephesians 5:19*

- ✘ *Please take the time to fill out the Communion Registration/Visitors' Cards which are in the small card holders on the pew.*
- ✘ *Please read the announcement below regarding Communion.*
- ✘ *Guests who will not be communing may place the Visitor's card in the Offering plate..*
- ✘ *Guests who intend to commune are asked to announce this intention to the Elder and give the card to the Usher as they come forward to receive communion.*
- ✘ *Following the Service, a member of the Board of Communication and Outreach has a small gift for you.*

OUR REDEEMER PRACTICES CLOSED COMMUNION

The Sacrament of the Altar is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink, instituted by Christ Himself. As we receive this Sacrament, the oneness of fellowship at the Altar (I Corinthians 10:17) presupposes a oneness in doctrine with the Apostles (Acts 2:42). For this reason the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of Closed Communion. If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Our Redeemer or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning. Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Knox, Pastor Saunders, or Vicar Goodroad about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation.



THOSE SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE THIS WEEK

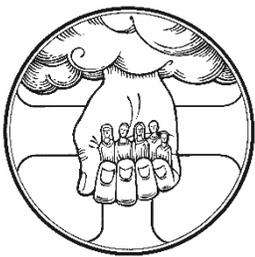
Elder: Alan Czarnetzki **Service Assistant:** Bo Wayson

Organist: Roxann List **Ushers:** Greg Gerjerts, Dave Kmoch

Tellers: Dean Fink, Dean Garms **Shut-Ins:** Becca Barber

Sunday, June 18, 2023

Attendance: 85



TODAY IS THE 4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Jesus says to the twelve, *“Whoever confesses me before men, I will also confess him before my Father in heaven. But whoever denies me before men, I will deny him before my Father in heaven.”* What Jesus says to the apostles, applies to all pastors and even to all Christians.

In the Epistle to the Romans, the Apostle Paul writes, *“For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”* This truth should be clear: Believing and confessing go hand in hand!

Believing is the result of God’s work. *“I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to Him.”* You recognize those words from the Small Catechism’s

explanation of the Third Article of the Creed. But the catechism continues as it explains that, what you are unable to do, God the Holy Spirit has done: *“But the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.”*

Just as believing is the work of God, so is confessing. *“Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, ‘Jesus be cursed,’ and no one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ except by the Holy Spirit.”* (I Cor. 12:3)

Confessing and persecution also go hand in hand. Jesus says to those who make the Spirit enabled confession of His name, *“The student is not above his teacher.”* By these words, Jesus is not only teaching His disciples to be humble. He is preparing them for the life of cross bearing which He and they will share. This life can be scary. Jesus knows the fears and doubts that you have which lead you to remain silent when you should be confessing His name in word and deed. In compassion for your weakness He says, *“Do not be afraid.”* He says this not once, not twice, but three times.

There is only one you need to fear - your gracious God and Lord. You have taken up the cross of Jesus in Holy Baptism where you were marked with the cross and buried with Christ. To daily bear that cross is to live the life of repentance, that is, living in constant and utter dependence upon God for all things temporal and eternal. This is what it means to “fear and love God.”

You confess that dependence today as you come, at the gracious invitation of Him who was killed and on the third day raised to life, to feed on His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. This is the source of the Christian life for *“where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.”*

I. THE PREPARATION

Hymn of Invocation

“Father Most Holy” LSB #504



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our
2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en, Good - ness un -
3 Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea - tures praise Thee; All for Thy
△ 4 Lord God Al - might - y, un - to Thee be glo - ry, One in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,
bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, Light of the an - gels,
wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; Now, as we al - so
per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;
joy of those for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing,
wor - ship Thee de - vout - ly, Hear Thou our voic - es.
praise Thee and a - dore Thee, Now and for - ev - er.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

P/V: In the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

C: Amen.

The Confession of Sin

P/V: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P/V: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

P/V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalms 32:5

P/V: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

P/V: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to be the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: **Amen.**

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

II. THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit



Cantor: For You have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from | falling,*
that I may walk before God in the | light of life.

Cong: **When I | am afraid,***

I put my | trust in You.

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.*

What can flesh | do to me?

In God, whose | word I praise,*

in the Lord, whose | word I praise,

in God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.*

What can man | do to me?

Cantor: For You have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from | falling,*
that I may walk before God in the | light of life.

(Ps. 56:3-4, 10-11: antiphon: Ps. 56:13)

Gloria Patri



☐ Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



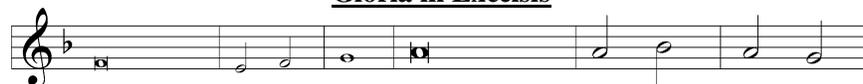
☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



☐ Glory be to God on high: ☐ and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy 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,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

II Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.

The Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray: O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Be seated

The Old Testament

Jeremiah 20:7-13

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

The Gradual

Psalm 91:1-10 (*antiphon: v. 1*)

Cantor: He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

**Cong: He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.**

**I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my | fortress,*
my God, in | whom I trust."**

**For he will deliver you from the snare of the | fowler*
and from the deadly | pestilence.**

**He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you will find | refuge;*
His faithfulness is a shield and | buckler.**

You will not fear the terror | of the night,*

nor the arrow that | flies by day,

nor the pestilence that stalks in | darkness,*

nor the destruction that wastes at | noonday.

**A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your | right hand,*
but it will not come | near you.**

You will only look | with your eyes*

and see the recompense of the | wicked.

Because you have made the Lord your | dwelling place—*

the Most High, who is my | refuge—

no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*

no plague come | near your tent.

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**

and to the Holy | Spirit;

*as it was in the be- | ginning,**

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Cantor: He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

The Epistle

Romans 6:12-23

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

The Alleluia/Verse



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Cantor: Everyone who acknowledges Me | before men,*

I also will acknowledge before My Father who | is in heaven.

(*Matthew 10:32*)



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist Matthew, the 10th chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

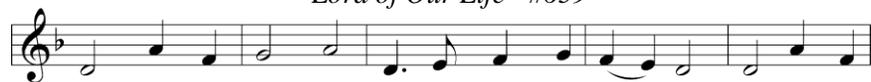
I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life (✕) of the world to come. Amen

The Hymn of The Day

"Lord of Our Life" #659



1 Lord of our life and God of our sal - va - tion, Star of our
2 See round Your ark the hun - gry bil - lows curl - ing; See how Your
3 Lord, be our light when world - ly dark - ness veils us; Lord, be our
4 Peace in our hearts, where sin - ful thoughts are rag - ing, Peace in Your



night and hope of ev - 'ry na - tion: Hear and re - ceive Your
foes their ban - ners are un - furl - ing And with great spite their
shield when earth - ly ar - mor fails us; And in the day when
Church, our trou - bled souls as - suag - ing, Peace when the world its



Church's sup - pli - ca - tion, Lord God Al - might - y.
fi - ery darts are hurl - ing, O Lord, pre - serve us.
hell it - self as - sails us, Grant us Your peace, Lord:
end - less war is wag - ing, Peace in Your heav - en.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon

Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory

The Offertory


Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

The Prayers

Various Petitions are prayed. Each petition will conclude with the response:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: **Hear our prayer.**

The Congregation, gathered for worship in person, will now be receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. This most significant portion of the Divine Service, when our Lord Jesus Christ draws near to His people with His flesh and blood, will not be streamed. Members desiring to receive the Sacrament who are unable to be present in the Church will be visited by one of our pastors to bring them the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Those who have joined us online for the Service of the Word are now encouraged to pray the Lord's prayer.

**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.**

May the Lord bless and keep you.

Please call Pastor Knox (319/231-9761) if you would like to receive a Pastoral visit.

✠ OUR WEEK TOGETHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST ✠

Mon. 6/26	6:30 p.m.	Board of Elders
Wed. 6/28	11:00 a.m.	Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
Sat. 7/1	6:00 p.m.	Bible Class at Peace – Shell Rock
	7:00 p.m.	Divine Service at Peace – Shell Rock
Sun. 7/2	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School & Bible Class

HYMNS/READINGS

Sunday, July 2, 2023 The 5th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 8)

Readings: Jeremiah 28:5–9; Romans 7:1–13; Matthew 10:34–42

Psalmody: Psalm 119:153-160 (*antiphon v. 154*)

Invocation: O God Of God, O Light Of Light810

Hymn of the Day: Lord Of Our Life659

Distribution: From God Can Nothing Move Me713

Distribution: Jesus, Thy Boundless Love To Me683

Distribution: Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide.....585

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. Vicar Goodroad is leading the Sunday morning class in a study of I & II Thessalonians. This will continue until the end of his Vicarage. Later this summer we will complete the study of burial practices and cremation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. The Sunday School will meet throughout the summer.

WEEKLY READINGS/HYMNS STUDY This class meets each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. to study the weekly readings, hymns, and propers for the upcoming Sunday. It is a way to prepare for the coming week's Divine Service. This class will continue to meet throughout the summer.

THE VICAR'S BIBLE STUDY with Vicar Goodroad has ended. This Fall Vicar Baker will begin a study of the use of agricultural images and themes in the Bible.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY During the School Year the Jr. High/Sr. High Youth meet for Bible Study with our Vicar on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. This class will resume in the Fall with Vicar Baker.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

In an effort to keep the members of Our Redeemer aware of our financial condition as a congregation, the following is provided by the Board of Stewardship and the Financial Secretary.

- Giving/income Year to Date (through May): \$119,648.11
- Budget Year to Date: \$103,400.00
- Difference: +\$16,248.11

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given by Tom and Char Strub on the occasion of their wedding anniversary. *“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.” 1 John 4:16*

THERE WILL BE A SURPRISE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION for Pastor and Karen Saunders after Church next Sunday, July 2. Michaela Knox is still seeking volunteers to bake or donate a pie. Karen celebrated her 65th birthday on June 11th, Pastor Saunders celebrates his 65th birthday on July 8th.

THE ORDINATION INTO THE PASTORAL OFFICE OF FORMER VICAR MARK ZIEROTH will take place on Saturday, July 15 at 3:00 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Dubuque, Iowa.

THE REV. DR. MATTHEW C. HARRISON, HAS BEEN RE-ELECTED TO SERVE AS THE PRESIDENT- OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD (LCMS) In online voting, which took place June 17-20, Rev. Harrison was elected to serve his 5th term of Office. The remaining elections for Vice-Presidents and other Synodical Offices will take place at the Synodical Convention which will be held in Milwaukee, July 29–August 3.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN FOR ALTERNATIVES PREGNANCY CENTER

A giant thank you to all Our Redeemer members that generously supported Alternatives Pregnancy Center, either by buying wonderful baked goods, (and donating delicious baked goods), contributing diapers, baby clothing and personal care items and money. With the bake sale funds and the contributions from the baby bottles, we were able to deliver about \$1125. (I did not count the pennies. . . . estimated by wt!.) APC will update us with the exact total.



Thank you for supporting expecting parents and families in the Cedar Valley. Our fund raising is officially over, but there are still some baby bottles out. If you find them rolling around your house, please return them to church any time. (Even if they are empty). We do use the bottles from year to year. And APC accepts donations any time they are given. Thank you!

THE CARPET INSTALLATION is nearly complete. Many thanks to the volunteers who moved furniture and other furnishings out of and back in to the church.

LWML CONVENTION The 40th Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) concludes today. We pray for safe travel for all of the delegates and LWML leaders as they return to their homes. We also pray that God would bless their decisions for the ongoing mission of the Church.

VICAR AND OLIVIA GOODROAD are gone today to attend the Ordination of Vicar's brother Thomas. Thomas received a Call to serve at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. The Ordination is taking place at the Goodroad's home congregation – Trinity Lutheran in Kearney, Missouri. The Ordination service begins at 4:30 p.m.

A FAREWELL RECEPTION is being planned for Vicar, Olivia and Sven Goodroad on Sunday, July 23 following the Divine Service. Plan to attend to thank the Goodroads for their time spent with us this past year. We are planning to give Olivia and Sven a group gift from the congregation and are taking donations for that gift. Any suggestions for a group gift is appreciated. Olivia likes to cook so we are also asking you to share a favorite recipe or two that we will put together in an Our Redeemer Recipe Book to give to her. A recipe card will be provided. See Sarah Staker for the recipe card. Please put your name on the recipe. Volunteers are needed to help with furnishing a salad and helping with the reception. Please contact Cheryl Nissen, Sandy Stone, Sarah Staker, or Judy Fink to help.

A WELCOME RECEPTION FOR VICAR BAKER AND HIS FAMILYS will take place on Sunday, July 30 following the Divine Service. A Gift Card Shower is being planned for Vicar Baker and his family as a Welcome Gift from the Congregation. Suggested Gift Cards are Walmart, Target, grocery stores, restaurants, gas for them to get familiar with the Cedar Falls area. Your Gift Card donations may be given to any of the names listed by Sunday July 23 and will be given as a group gift to the Bakers at the Welcome Reception on Sunday July 30 following the Divine Service. Plan to attend the Reception as we welcome the Baker Family into our congregation. Anyone wishing to help with the Reception may contact Cheryl Nissen, Sandy Stone, Sarah Staker or Judy Fink

PASTOR AND TAMMY KNOX will be gone on an extended vacation starting Friday, June 30. They will return on Friday, July 14. If Pastoral Care is needed, please contact Vicar Goodroad or one of the Elders. Pastor John Wegener from College Hill will be available to cover pastoral emergencies.

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

Most people don't know that today, June 25, is a very important date in the history of the Christian Church and for us Lutherans in particular. On this day in the year 1530, thirteen years after Luther posted the 95 Theses, and 10 years after Luther stood trial in Worms, declaring he would not recant his teachings, the Augsburg Confession was presented to the Emperor Charles V. Unfortunately, for many Lutherans, the response might be, "The Augsburg what?"

To make a comparison to the history of the United States, that reaction would be similar to knowing the date and events of the Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773), or Paul Revere's ride before the Battle at Lexington and Concord (April 18, 1775) yet as you are eating a hot dog and watching fireworks this coming July 4, asking "The Declaration of what?"

I make the comparison to American history because of the great similarity between the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the presentation of the Augsburg Confession. Each event involved great personal risk for those who took part. The Founding Fathers who signed the Declaration of Independence were accused of treason. As John Adams told his fellow delegates: "We must hang together, or we will hang apart."

The confessors at Augsburg faced no less a threat. They were advocating a doctrine that the Roman Church had declared heretical, and the Emperor Charles V was the instrument which the Papacy intended to use to suppress and eliminate the Reformation teaching by force. The princes and leaders who presented the Augsburg Confession were risking their life and property – a fact that became clear just seventeen years later when Charles V attacked and conquered them.

One of the Reformation princes, George, Margrave of Brandenburg, spoke boldly to the emperor that day, saying "Before I let anyone take from me the word of God and ask me to deny my God, I will kneel and let them strike off my head."

The Confessors at Augsburg relied on the promise of God's word, the same word which you heard today when Jesus said, ***"So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven."*** (Matthew 10:32)

After the Augsburg Confession was presented and read publicly, one of the princes who sided with the Papacy, William of Bavaria said: "I've been misinformed about what you Lutherans teach." He then asked Dr. Eck, the leading catholic theologian arguing against the Reformation teaching, if he could discredit the Lutheran position. Eck replied that he could not by using only Scripture. Prince William was stunned: "Do you mean to say that the Lutherans are sitting inside the Scriptures and we outside of them?"

The answer to that question is clear – yes! The summary of Christian doctrine we confess in the Augsburg Confession sits squarely, firmly, and only, in and on the Word of God.

The Augsburg Confession consists of twenty-eight articles of doctrine. The first twenty-one articles outline what the Reformers believed were the most important teachings in Lutheranism, drawn from the Bible, to clearly confess salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone. The last seven articles identify some of the errors and abuses of the Roman Catholic Church and provide arguments for needed reforms.

The Augsburg Confession remains one of the most influential documents to come out of the Reformation. Its articles of faith are as well-defined and biblically sound today as they were nearly 500 years ago. It, along with the rest of the Book of Concord, are the faithful summary which define our doctrine and practice as a congregation.