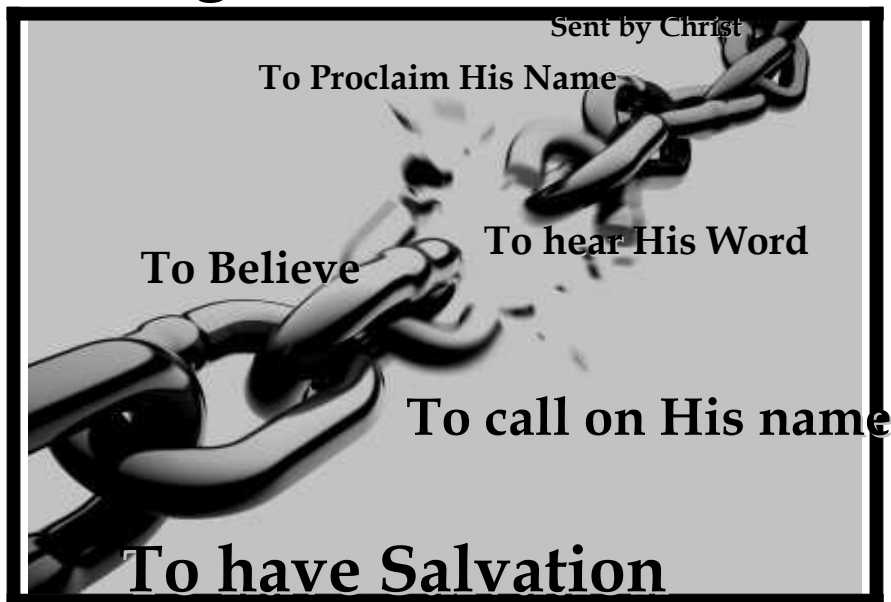


# **“So then faith comes by hearing...”**



**“...and hearing by the word of God.”**

ROMANS 10:17

October 9, 2011

Mission Festival

Welcome to all! Our mission focus:

## **FAITH ONLY COMES BY HEARING**

*Today's order of service and hymns: the Gathering Rite*  
609 ♦ Children's Hymn ♦ 770 ♦ 297 ♦ Children's Hymn

Opening Prayer

**OPENING HYMN: #609 [Red Hymnal]**

### **THE INVOCATION**

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**PASTOR:** We begin our fall mission festival service today in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**CONGREGATION SINGS:** [Red hymnal #496:1]

**Hark! the voice of Jesus crying, "Who will go and work today?  
Fields are white and harvests waiting, who will bear the sheave away?"  
Loud and long the Master calleth, Rich reward He offers thee;  
Who will answer, gladly saying, "Here am I, send me, send me"?"**

**PASTOR:** What is the purpose of a mission festival? What does it mean to you? What is the mission of our church? Today's service is a happy occasion. We are reminded that it is our joy the Savior has called us and has sent us to be His witnesses to ALL...to share His Gospel of love!

**CONGREGATION SINGS:** [*Red hymnal #496:2*]

**If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say He died for all.  
If you cannot rouse the wicked With the Judgement's dread alarms,  
You can lead the little children To the Savior's waiting arms.**

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS**

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*We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

**PASTOR:** Let us therefore confess and pray:

**ALL:** Dear Father in heaven, You are mighty in all You do and say. You have shown Your unfailing love to us even though we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We worship and adore You because You have sacrificed Your only beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, for the full payment and forgiveness of all our sins. As sinful human beings, we often fail to share Your Word and have often been poor examples as your dear children. Forgive us, Lord, for these offenses and give us the courage and strength to boldly confess and glorify Your name and Your truth to all. Let us walk before You as a light to this dark world. All this we confess and pray in the name of Your Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

**PASTOR:** Upon this confession of your sins, by the promise and authority of Christ our Savior, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**CONGREGATION SINGS:** [*Red hymnal #496:4*]

**Let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do,"  
While the souls of men are dying And the Master calls for you.  
Take the task He gives you gladly, Let His work your pleasure be;  
Answer quickly when He calleth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"**

### **1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE LESSON ~ ISAIAH 52:7-12**

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*The Old Testament Lesson reveals God's joy in those who proclaim His Word in the world and promises to be at their side!*

7 How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" 8 Your watchmen shall lift up their voices, With their voices they shall sing together; For they shall see eye to eye When the LORD brings back Zion. 9 Break forth into joy, sing together, You waste places of Jerusalem! For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. 10 The LORD has made bare His holy arm In the eyes of all the nations; And all the ends of the earth shall see The salvation of our God. 11 Depart! Depart! Go out from there, Touch no unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, Be clean, You who bear the vessels of the LORD. 12 For you shall not go out with haste, Nor go by flight; For the LORD will go before you, And the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

### **RESPONSIVE READING ~ PSALM 66 (SELECTED VERSES)**

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P: Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!

**C: Sing out the honor of His name;**

P: Make His praise glorious.

**C: Say to God, "How awesome are Your works!**

P: Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You.

**C: All the earth shall worship You And sing praises to You; They shall sing praises to Your name."**

P: Come and see the works of God;

**C: He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men.**

P: Oh, bless our God, you peoples!

**C: And make the voice of His praise to be heard. Amen!**

### **CHILDREN'S HYMN: "Use Us, Lord"**

### **2<sup>ND</sup> SCRIPTURE LESSON ~ MATTHEW 28:18-20**

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The **Gospel lesson** is Jesus' "Great Commission." It is fitting for us to hear again today Jesus' mission for us and our church to both sow and water the seeds of His Gospel. We rejoice that Christ promises to be with us throughout this work He has "committed" us to do!

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing

them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

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### **OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH ~ LUTHER'S EXPLANATION TO 3<sup>RD</sup> ARTICLE**

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**I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified, and kept me in true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead and give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.**

### **MISSION HYMN: #770 [Worship Supplement]**

**SERMON ~ PREACHING TODAY: PASTOR DAVID PFEIFFER (BATAVIA, IL)**

*Jesus said, "...Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!" ~Luke 11:28*

**Romans 10:13-17** For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." **14** How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? **15** And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" **16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?" **17** So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Theme: **"You are a link in God's chain of evangelism"**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.**

### **SERMON HYMN: #297 [Red Hymnal]**

**OUR OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS TO THE LORD**

*"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7*

**SPECIAL PRAYERS ~ MISSION PRAYER ~ LORD'S PRAYER**

**THE BENEDICTION**

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*The blessing given by the Lord through His Word. (2 Corinthians 13:14).*

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING CHILDREN'S HYMN: *"This Little Light of Mine"***