



LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE

2025

Lutherans For Life National Conference

Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors
to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life

**Fearfully
and
Wonderfully
Made**



September 24-26, 2025

Great Wolf Lodge | Colorado Springs, Colorado

lutheransforlife.org

Lutherans For Life has, since 1979, upheld the value of life affirmed by the resurrected Christ. We educate congregations on life issues with a Gospel perspective, equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. **Lutherans For Life** also offers help, healing, and forgiveness for anyone who bears the burden of overwhelming guilt through our 24-hour **Word of Hope** hotline (888-217-8679). This free service is available to men, women, and youths for information, referrals, and Scripture-based spiritual care to address life issues such as surprise pregnancy, abortion recovery, suicide, doubting salvation, and physician-assisted suicide.

Life Teams and Life Chapters and Life Advocates are developed in congregations and communities—in collaboration with our **Volunteer Relations Team**—to affirm life and participate in motivating others For Life through the Gospel.

Lutherans For Life also serves youth through its **Y4Life** program! Specifically focused on helping high school and college youth become Gospel-motivated voices For Life, **Y4Life** offers a variety of educational resources, service projects, and interactive, in-person opportunities that teach youth how to uphold the lives of others.

Lutherans For Life offers a wide variety of print and online resources—including our quarterly journal, *LifeDate*.

- Your prayers, volunteer involvement, and financial support allow Lutherans For Life to accomplish its Gospel-centered work.
- During the conference, participants will be given an additional opportunity to support LFL.
- Thank you for prayerfully considering how you, your family, and your congregation can help.



LUTHERANS
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A Word from LFL President Diane Albers

Welcome to the Lutherans For Life National Conference!

I am so glad that you are here because there is no one just like you here—or anywhere—else in this world! Our conference theme (and the theme of Life Sunday, January 18, 2026) is **“Fearfully and Wonderfully Made.”**

“For you formed my inward parts, you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well” (Psalm 139:13-14).

You were fearfully and wonderfully made by God, and that is why you are unique, one-of-a-kind, special, and amazing. In our world today, no one is called by those superlative titles. In God’s world, however, because He is your intimate creator and He loves you as His wonderful creation, He sees you as no one else on earth sees you.

All your parts were formed as He knitted you together inside your mother’s womb. You are perfect in God’s eyes because He created you and loves you so much that He sent Jesus to redeem you.

We have an exciting conference planned for you by our talented staff. There are topics for every age, from *in utero* to natural death—and everything in between. You will hear each plenary and breakout speaker tell you that every person, despite various circumstances, has been fearfully and wonderfully made by God. You will hear some of the trials and tribulations that happen when some of God’s fearfully and wonderfully made people are not treated by our society as if they are fearfully and wonderfully made. I am looking forward to each plenary speaker, and I am going to have to carefully choose my breakout speakers. I want to go to each session, but I cannot!

Then there are the banquets and the lazy river (I hope you brought your suits!) and hiking and visits to Garden of the Gods and Focus on the Family, etc. You may need to take a day off when you get home!

I hope that you will reconnect with friends, make a few new friends, and stop and talk to me. (I’d love it!) Mix it up and sit with new people sometimes and find out what they are doing For Life. Take it all home and share it all with your family, church, Life Team, and Life Chapter.

May God bless your conference experience!



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**September 24-26, 2025
Great Wolf Lodge
Colorado Springs, Colorado**

Conference Schedule

Tuesday, September 23 | Conference Registration & Hospitality

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Conference Registration in Conference Center Lobby
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Dessert Reception and Fellowship in White Pine Ballroom

Wednesday, September 24 | Conference Day 1

All general sessions and meals will be in the White Pine Ballroom (WPB).

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Registration & Breakfast Buffet	WPB
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	General Session Opening Devotion President's Greeting Keynote Speaker – Jim Daly, Focus on the Family	WPB
10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Breakout Session 1 Teri Skoog – There Are Gifts in Dementia Kim Laube – Bringing Christian Discernment into IVF Rev Scott Licht – Practical Considerations at End of Life Dcns Chrissie Gillet – Word of Hope: Bringing Spiritual Care to Life through the LFL Ministry	WPB Red Oak 1 Red Oak 2 Red Oak 3
11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Breakout Session 2 Teri Skoog – There Are Gifts in Dementia (repeat) Dr. Donna Harrison – DIY Abortion, Where Are We Now? Michelle Bauman – Preparing for Conversations about Gender Michele Hartshorn – Become a Congregational House of Refuge	WPB Red Oak 1 Red Oak 2 Red Oak 3
12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own Afternoon to explore Colorado Springs	

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7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Awards Banquet** WPB
Teaching 4 Life Awards, 6-8th Grade Essay Contest Winner
Keynote – Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske, LFL
Evening Devotion

Thursday, September 25 | Conference Day 2

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet WPB

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. **General Session** WPB
Opening Prayer
High School Essay Winner
Keynote Speaker – Jack Phillips, Masterpiece Cakes with
ADF Attorney Jake Warner

9:45 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. Lutherans For Life Updates – Directors Panel WPB

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Breakout Session 3**
Dr. Donna Harrison – DIY abortion:
Where Are We Now? (repeat) WPB
Kim Laube – Bringing Christian Discernment
into IVF (repeat) Red Oak 1
Rev Scott Licht – Practical Considerations at
End of Life (repeat) Red Oak 2
Michele Hartshorn – Become a Congregational
House of Refuge (repeat) Red Oak 3

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Breakout Session 4**
Marlene Strege – Embryo Adoption WPB
Dcns Rose Adle – What Do We Say to Grief in
Matters of Life or Death? Red Oak 1
Michelle Bauman – Preparing for Conversations
about Gender (repeat) Red Oak 2
Dcns Chrissie Gillet – Suicide Postvention:
Grief, Grace, and the Hope of Healing Red Oak 3

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12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own Afternoon to explore Colorado Springs	
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Awards Banquet Special Greeting Dominus Vitae Awards Keynote – Judge Ruth Neely, retired, Pinedale, Wyoming Evening Devotion	WPB

Friday, September 26 | Conference Day 3

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet	WPB
8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	General Session Opening Prayer & Special Greeting	WPB
9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Breakout Session 5 Dcns Rose Adle – What Do We Say to Grief in Matters of Life or Death? (repeat) Marlene Strege – Embryo Adoption (repeat) Rev Scott Licht – The Lutheran Landscape Dcns Chrissie Gillet – Word of Hope: Bringing Spiritual Care to Life through the LFL Ministry (repeat)	WPB Red Oak 1 Red Oak 2 Red Oak 3
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Keynote Speaker – Joy Pullman, The Federalist	WPB
11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Event closing and survey	WPB

Breakout Sessions

Deaconess Rose Adle – What Do We Say to Grief in Matters of Life or Death? – Have you ever wondered what to say to grief? It is a challenging time, both for the grieving and for those wanting to provide faithful comfort. Being a Gospel-motivated voice for life means saying true things that point us to the life we have in Christ our Lord. This presentation aims to bring lasting words of the hope we have within us, even and especially in the face of loss in this world.

Michelle Bauman – Preparing for Conversations about Gender – You don't have to interact with youth for very long before life issues enter the conversation, and one of those issues is gender. What gifts did God intend to give through sexuality and gender, and how can we as Christian adults confess these truths and uphold the lives of those struggling with gender identity in a Gospel-motivated way? Join Michelle Bauman, Y4Life Director, for an open and honest discussion about God's gifts of gender and sexuality, how to teach these truths, and how to uphold the lives of those who are struggling with their own identities.

Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, PsyD – Word of Hope: Bringing Spiritual Care to Life through the LFL Ministry – This presentation offers an in-depth look at the Word of Hope ministry, a vital outreach of Lutherans For Life dedicated to offering crisis and information referral, training and education, and direct spiritual care. Participants will gain a clear understanding of how spiritual care differs from mental health counseling, why it is essential, and how it is transforming lives. Real-life testimonies from individuals impacted by Word of Hope's ministry will be shared, illustrating the power of Christ-centered compassion. Additionally, we will unveil exciting new projects and provide updates on our growing impact and vision for the future.

Dr. Donna Harrison – DIY Abortion: Where Are We Now? – The current battle over mifepristone abortion epitomizes the struggle to save human beings in the womb. But abortion pill reversal breathes hope into despair. Where are we now and what may lie ahead?

Michele Hartshorn – Become a Congregational House of Refuge – The Congregational House of Refuge represents a Gospel-motivated witness and service For Life. A congregation commits publicly and lovingly to support its members and neighbors experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. This formal designation makes churches a refuge for those experiencing an unplanned pregnancy, where they feel safe to receive the delights that come with carrying and caring for a child. This session will provide you with an overview of the program and the resources and tools for your congregation to become a designated Congregational House of Refuge.

Kim Laube – Bringing Christian Discernment to *In Vitro* Fertilization – *In vitro* fertilization is considered to be pro-life by many. No doubt many of our brothers and sisters have been conceived in this way, and they are of infinite value, handmade by God. It is also true that the process of IVF in the United States is the cause of more death annually than abortion. During this discussion we will unveil the destruction of life in the process of IVF and use God's Word to uncover His best plans for children and family.

Breakout Sessions

Rev. Scott Licht – Practical Considerations at End of Life – Unless Jesus returns first, we are all going to die. Since we know this fact, what can we do to prepare? What are some things that we should discuss and decide in advance? In this session we will talk about some of the differences between documents (“Living Wills” vs. “Medical Durable Power of Attorney”), palliative care, hospice, considerations for caregivers, and many other topics related to end of life.

Rev. Scott Licht – The Lutheran Landscape – Lutherans For Life is a pan-Lutheran organization. But what does this mean? I’ve never met anyone who belongs to the NALC—or the LCMC—or the CLBA—or In this session we will try to “demystify” the Lutheran landscape so that we might better understand each other and, therefore, work together to proclaim the sanctity of life.

Ruth Neely – A resident of Pinedale, Wyoming, Ruth Neely has worked in the Wyoming judicial system for over 38 years, serving as a municipal court judge for 29 of those years. In addition to her work in municipal courts, she was appointed as a circuit court magistrate in 2007, one of the duties of which was to officiate numerous weddings. In October 2014, eight months prior to its national legalization, the state of Wyoming legalized same-sex marriages, and Judge Neely knew that as a Christian, she would be unable to officiate such marriages. A pointed question from a local reporter, followed by her simple one-word answer, began what became a three-year battle between her strong Christian faith and a legal system that required duty to the law above duty to God.

Joy Pullman – How Respecting Women’s Biology Fosters a Culture of Life – The Federalist Executive Editor Joy Pullmann discusses her personal and professional experiences managing a big career while mothering six children, all of whom were unplanned. She outlines practical changes families, churches, and governments can make to support women’s natural lifegiving capacity within a marriage and child-friendly culture.

Teri Skoog – Gifts in Dementia – This presentation will share how a strength-based approach brings hope and grace to the life of those experiencing dementia. It will identify which cognitive skills are lost and which are kept—and why it matters. We will explore how we can support life, purpose, and peace to make the journey more comfortable for everyone. Participants will understand that dementia takes away some cognitive skills, not all, and learn the basics to recognize the pattern, understand that from the pattern of skills kept and lost emerge strengths and abilities otherwise obscured in usual human experiences, recognize that “dementia behavior” reflects human emotional needs, not a disease or medical symptom, and develop an awareness that dementia can be worked with to enhance quality of life for both the person experiencing it and their companions.

Marlene Strege – Embryo Adoption – Ever wonder how embryo adoption got started? Come hear Marlene Strege tell her story, including when she posed the following to an adoption agency: “We want to adopt frozen embryos.” Marlene is the first mother to adopt and give birth to a frozen embryo—her daughter, Hannah. Marlene and her husband John adopted 20 frozen embryos that remained from another couple’s IVF treatments. Marlene is passionate about embryo adoption and has been an advocate for embryo adoption for the past 28 years.

Conference Speakers and Breakout Presenters



Deaconess Rose Adle serves remotely as Associate Director of Deaconess Formation and teaches distance deaconess classes for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. She graduated from Valparaiso University in 2003 with a BA in Spanish. She earned an MA in Deaconess Studies and Systematic Theology from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 2006. She and her husband, Pastor Scott Adle of Zion Lutheran in Imperial, Nebraska, have six children.



Michelle Bauman joined the Lutherans For Life team on June 1, 2019. She earned her Lutheran Teaching Degree in secondary education from Concordia Nebraska (1998) and a master's degree in English from the University of Indianapolis (2011). Before joining Lutherans For Life, Michelle taught middle school English at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, (1998-2002) and English, Drama, and Speech at Trinity Lutheran High School in Seymour, Indiana (2002-2019). Michelle also served as Trinity's Recruitment Director (2004-2017). She lives in Columbus, Indiana, with her husband, Doug, who serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Together they have two sons and one daughter-in-love.



Jim Daly is a husband, father, author, and broadcaster. He is the president of Focus on the Family and host of its daily radio broadcast, which is heard by more than six million listeners a week on nearly 2,000 radio stations across the U.S. The show has been honored as Program of the Year by the National Religious Broadcasters. Daly is also the host of a new podcast, ReFOCUS with Jim Daly, in which he interviews respected thinkers and influencers of our day. In each episode, listeners will be challenged, inspired, and equipped to engage the culture by sharing God's truth with others in a loving and graceful way. Under his leadership, the ministry has reinvigorated its traditional focus on helping couples build strong marriages and raise healthy, resilient kids. Daly and his wife, Jean, have two sons and live in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Conference Speakers and Breakout Presenters



Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske is a 2011 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Since that time, he has served as the pastor of two dual parishes in the North Wisconsin District—LCMS, where he has been active in several different pro-life organizations. Dr. Fenske earned his Doctor of Ministry in 2019, again from Concordia Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Marie, have four daughters—Madison, Alexis, Hailee, and Marta—along with two grandsons, James and Rustyn. Dr. Fenske assumed his duties as Executive Director of Lutherans For Life on May 1, 2025.



Deaconess Dr. Chrissie Gillet joined Lutherans For Life in April 2017 to serve as the Director of the Word of Hope ministry. An Air Force Veteran, Chrissie served as a staff psychologist during her military career. She is also a certified deaconess in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, offering a profound understanding of both the secular worldview and a Christ-centered identity. Her vocations as a pastor's wife and mother of a large family fuel her deep compassion for life. Chrissie leads the Word of Hope ministry with dedication, overseeing marketing, training, media production, public speaking (accompanied by her service dog, Phoebe), and spiritual support. She is known for listening without personal judgment while responding with Christian truth and love, creating a safe, grace-filled space for those in need. Her commitment extends beyond direct care—she actively connects people with pastors, local services, and natural support systems. Of all her responsibilities

at Word of Hope, Chrissie's two most valued roles are building relationships with other life-affirming organizations and offering spiritual care to those brokenhearted by life issues.



Dr. Donna Harrison is an OBGYN, board certified for 30 years. She is immediate past CEO of AAPLOG and current Director of Research for AAPLOG (American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists). She has lectured for the past three decades nationally and internationally on beginning of life issues and has numerous publications. She is an LCMS member, has been married 43 years, has five children here and four in heaven, and has 14 grandchildren.

Conference Speakers and Breakout Presenters



Michele Hartshorn joined the Lutherans For Life Volunteer Relations Team on November 8, 2023. Before joining LFL, Michele was the center administrator at Amnion Pregnancy Center in Burnsville, Minnesota, for eight years. Prior to that, she served as communication coordinator at Messiah Lutheran Church in Lakeville, Minnesota, where she is a member. Throughout Michele's career, she has served in ministry and non-profit organizations overseeing administration, communications, fundraising, special events, and volunteer management. Michele grew up in Mosinee in central Wisconsin. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Emphasis in Public Relations) and a minor in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. After college graduation, she moved to Minnesota. Michele lives in Lakeville with her

husband, Jim, and their Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Dakota Marie. They have two adult sons, Patrick and Nicholas. Michele enjoys spending time outdoors, traveling, and relaxing on Lake Dubay in Wisconsin. She is a prayer warrior. She feels blessed to be called by God to be a part of the Volunteer Relations Team to work nationwide to help equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be "Gospel-motivated voices For Life."



Kim Laube – Deputy Director and Director of Life Ministries, Lutheran Family Service – Kim has been an influential advocate for life for over 25 years. Lutherans For Life gave her the 2022 Dominus Vitae Award (meaning Champion for Life). In addition, Laube has nearly 20 years of experience directing and doing work in the Christian adoption arena. Laube is a registered lobbyist for the Iowa legislature to impact various life bills in Iowa regarding abortion, adoption, and physician-assisted suicide. Laube also speaks about critical life matters to congregations and communities and oversees unplanned pregnancy counseling and adoption work throughout Iowa,

Illinois, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Her work impacts thousands of women, children, and adoptive families each year.



Rev. Scott Licht grew up in New Ulm, Minnesota, and was raised in the Wisconsin Synod. He graduated from Martin Luther Preparatory School, Northwestern College (the WELS pastor-training college), and attended Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary for a short time. In 2005, he earned an MBA and a Master of Science in Information Systems from Iowa State University. Scott worked in the corporate world for 30 years before combining his business and theological education and experience at Lutherans For Life beginning in 2012. Scott satisfied the requirements and was ordained in the Lutheran Congregations in Mission to

Christ (LCMC) in 2014. In addition to his service at Lutherans For Life, he serves as pastor of

Conference Speakers and Breakout Presenters

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church in Huxley, Iowa—a congregation rostered with the LCMC and the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). Scott has an adult daughter in the Des Moines area and a daughter, son-in-law, and two grandsons near Colfax, Iowa. He and his wife, Sue, live near Huxley, Iowa, with three horses. Sue also has three adult daughters. Scott says, “There is never a lack of things to do, and I give thanks for how richly God has blessed me. I enjoy serving Him through the mission of Lutherans For Life, and I would ask for your prayers as we continue to ‘equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.’”



Ruth Neely is a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. She and Gary, her husband of 48 years, live in Pinedale, Wyoming, and are the proud parents of writer/editor Kate Meadows and her husband, Bryan, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Rapid City, South Dakota, and the grandparents of two incredible teen-aged boys. Now retired, she and her husband enjoy family, gardening, and innumerable outdoor adventures.



Jack Phillips is the Colorado cake artist who was at the center of one of 2018’s most talked-about U.S. Supreme Court decisions. Jack was shocked when his business, his faith, and even his family became the subject of repeated threats and punishment for simply wanting to create in accordance with his deeply held beliefs. But through it all, Jack has continued to trust in God’s plan for his life and for the future of his business, and after three lawsuits and over a decade of litigation, Jack was vindicated at the Colorado Supreme Court last fall.



Joy Pullmann is executive editor of *The Federalist*. Her latest book with Regnery is *False Flag: Why Queer Politics Mean the End of America*. A happy wife and the mother of six children, her ebooks include the *NEW 300 Classic Books for Ages 9 to Adult*, the bestselling *Classic Books For Young Children*, and *101 Strategies For Living Well Amid Inflation*. An 18-year education and politics reporter, Joy has testified before nearly two dozen legislatures on education policy and appeared on major media outlets including Tucker Carlson, CNN, Fox News, OANN, NewsMax, Ben Shapiro, and Dennis Prager. Joy is a grateful graduate of the Hillsdale College honors and journalism programs who identifies as native American and gender natural. Joy is also the cofounder of a high-performing Christian classical school and the author and coauthor of classical curricula. Her traditionally

Conference Speakers and Breakout Presenters

published books also include *The Education Invasion: How Common Core Fights Parents for Control of American Kids* from Encounter Books.



Teri Skoog is founder and owner of Skoog Dementia Support LLC. She has over 35 years of experience providing education, support, and care to individuals experiencing dementia, caregivers, and communities. Teri received her BA in Social Work and Aging Studies from the University of Iowa. She is a DAWN Dementia Care Coach/Trainer. In addition to her professional credentials, Teri personally experienced the role of caregiver for her mother who lived and died with diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, and vascular dementia. Teri's goal is to inspire a new way to think about dementia inclusivity and support through dignity, purpose, and hope.



Marlene Strege, a native of California, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of Southern California. She worked as an occupational therapist in both the medical and educational settings for 30 years. She is the first Snowflake mother. Marlene and her husband, John, adopted frozen embryos that remained from another family's infertility treatments and their daughter, Hannah, was born. Marlene is both the birth mother and the adoptive mother of Hannah. Marlene is passionate about promoting embryo adoption. She and her family now reside in Colorado.



Jake Warner serves as senior counsel for Alliance Defending Freedom's Appellate Team, focusing mainly on protecting the freedom of all Americans to express what they believe without fear of government punishment. He was lead counsel in *Masterpiece Cakeshop Inc. v. Scardina*, securing victory at the Colorado Supreme Court for Jack Phillips. Beyond protecting free speech, Jake has worked to advance religious freedom, protect human life, and curb administrative overreach.

A Special Thank You to ...

Our conference exhibitors who have invested time and money to share their For Life work.

- **Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School, Denver**
bethlehembdenver.com
- **Fort Wayne Seminary**
ctsfw.edu
- **Institute of Lutheran Theology**
ilt.edu
- **LCMS Life Ministries**
www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/life-ministry
- **Lightwell**
lightwell.com
- **Lutheran Family Service**
lutheranfamilyservice.org
- **Lutherans For Life**
lutheransforlife.org
- **Word of Hope**
word-of-hope.org
- **Y4Life**
y4life.org

A Special Thank You to ...

- The LFL Board of Directors for their faithful leadership.
- The LFL National Staff for their dedicated service For Life.
- The LFL Council of Federation Presidents, who keeps LFL active and moving forward in our State Federations and the Frontline.
- Our Life Teams, Life Chapters, and Life Advocates, who work so diligently every day to affirm life in so many God-pleasing ways.
- All the conference presenters for providing enlightening presentations on various life topics, equipping us to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.
- All the conference attendees for helping to continue life-affirming work in their churches and communities.
- All donors, who support LFL with their financial gifts in order to sustain our work throughout the year.

2025 LFL National Essay Contest

The annual Lutherans For Life Essay Contest, sponsored by the Council of Federation Presidents (COFP), continues to offer our Lutheran students the opportunity to affirm and express their belief in the sanctity of life. The theme this year was **“Fearfully and Wonderfully Made,”** based on the Bible verse **“For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well”** (Psalm 139:13-14).

The national essay contest is offered to students in two categories: grades 6-8 and grades 9-12. Students in both Federation states and Non-Federation states are eligible to participate. After each state has submitted their first-place winner, a national committee selects a national first-place and second-place winner in each category. Any student in a Lutheran school or Lutheran congregation (e.g., confirmation class, youth group, or Lutheran home school) is eligible to participate when validated by their teacher or pastor, along with parental consent. All state winners should be commended on winning at their state level as the number of submitted essays increases every year. The national first-place award in both categories is \$500, a framed certificate, free LFL conference registration for both the student and parents, a one-night hotel stay for the conference, and \$200 for travel expenses. The second-place award for both categories is \$250 and a framed certificate. Information about the 2025 Essay Contest can be found on the Lutherans For Life website.

2025 LFL Grades 9-12 National Essay Contest Winners

First Place: Casey Joy Steiner, Mayer, Minnesota, won first place in the grades 9-12 division of the National Essay contest. She is fifteen years old and was a freshman at Mayer Lutheran High School, Mayer, Minnesota, when she won the award. Her father, Matt, is a teacher at Mayer Lutheran High School, and her mom, Bethany, teaches third grade at Trinity Lutheran School in Waconia, Minnesota, where the family also attends. Casey has one sister, Relin, who is twelve. Casey enjoys volleyball, golf, reading, traveling with her family, and spending time with friends from school and her youth group. Her favorite Bible verse is 1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV), which reads, **“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”** Casey strives to live out the words of this verse and to share God’s love with others. Her future plan is to attend Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska. You may read Casey’s essay on the LFL website at lutheransforlife.org/article/2025-lfl-national-essay-contest-winners.



Thank you, Casey, for shining a light on the need for people to adopt these tiny embryonic humans who are waiting to be knit inside their mom's womb and to join their forever home.

Second Place: Sadie Silcox, Sterling Heights, Michigan, won second place in the grades 9-12 division of the National Essay contest. She was a senior at Lutheran High North of Macomb, Michigan, when she won the award. Her essay titled "Foster Care: A Life Worth Living" demonstrates her understanding of the value of fostering children. Sadie is one of four children, two of whom were adopted from the foster care system in Michigan. Writing this essay came easily for Sadie as this is a topic that has changed her whole family in a wonderful way. Sadie even hopes to one day adopt a child herself. Sadie has a deep passion for animals and plans to attend the University of Findlay for undergraduate coursework and then pursue her dream of becoming a veterinarian. She enjoys drawing and watching movies in her spare time.



Thank you, Sadie, for sharing the joy that comes from adopting foster children into your family.

2025 LFL Grades 6-8 National Essay Contest Winners

First Place: Alexa Ulanoski, Chanhassen, Minnesota, won first place in the grades 6-8 division of the National Essay Contest. Alexa was thirteen years of age and an eighth grader at St. John's Lutheran School in Chaska, Minnesota, when she won this award. She is the daughter of Tracy and Stephen Ulanoski and has one older sister, Hannah. Alexa enjoys a wide range of activities including baking, traveling, spending time with friends, and most notably, diving. As a competitive club diver for North Star Diving Club, Alexa has already achieved remarkable success at a young age. Some of her standout accomplishments include placing twelfth in the nation on platform at the 2023 USA Diving Junior Nationals and earning a bronze medal at the 2024 AAU Diving Nationals. This achievement qualified her to represent Team USA and AAU in Aachen, Germany! This fall, Alexa will begin her high school journey at Minnetonka High School. She's especially excited to join the high school diving team, attend school dances and sporting events, and explore Minnetonka's unique course offerings. One program that particularly caught her eye is the school's highly regarded aviation program. Inspired by her love of travel and exploration, Alexa is considering a future in aviation and is also interested in exploring the U.S. Air Force Academy. With big dreams and a bright future ahead, Alexa is honored and grateful to have been selected as both the Minnesota state and National grades 6-8 first-place winner. She looks forward to



the adventures and opportunities that lie ahead! Alexa shared this with us: “I’ve learned that when you work hard, stay passionate, and trust God’s plan, incredible things can happen. This is just the beginning, and I’m so grateful for the people and experiences that have shaped me. I want to see the world, meet people from all walks of life, and leave a lasting impact wherever I go—knowing that God’s purpose for me is greater than I can imagine.” You may read Alexa’s essay on the LFL website at lutheransforlife.org/article/2025-lfl-national-essay-contest-winners.

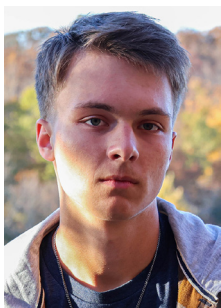
Thank you for sharing the story of your adoption, Alexa. You are so right in saying that God has always had a plan for you. He gave you loving parents, and He gave you eternal life in Christ. These are indeed the greatest gifts anyone could ever receive!

Second Place: Eden Anderson, Moorhead, Minnesota, won second place in the grades 6-8 division of the National Essay Contest. She was in seventh grade homeschool at the time. She, her parents, and her older sister are members of St. Paul’s Free Lutheran Church in Fargo, North Dakota, where Eden especially enjoys youth group and helping with VBS. Having a love for writing and a concern for God’s truth, Eden eagerly entered this year’s Lutherans For Life essay contest. Not surprisingly, English ranks as one of her favorite subjects, and joining a Shakespearean theater group highlighted her seventh-grade year. Eden can often be found listening to audiobooks on her headphones while enjoying her fairy garden outside or doing hobbies inside. Her favorite hobby is crocheting, and the keychain creatures she creates are sold at a local store. After high school, Eden hopes to attend the Free Lutheran Bible College. She dreams of someday living on a hobby farm where she will own a horse and find inspiration for writing books. Eden’s essay titled “Fearfully and Wonderfully Made” depicts her understanding that life is a gift from God that should be preserved, and abortion cannot be morally right.



Thank you, Eden, for proclaiming this truth in your essay and believing it in your heart.

Additional 2025 State Essay Contest Winners Grades 9-12



Nate Navurskis
First Place Iowa
King of Kings Lutheran
Cedar Rapids, Iowa



Caleb Filipek
First Place Kansas
Concordia Academy
Wichita, Kansas



William Townzen
First Place Missouri
St. Paul's Lutheran High
Des Peres, Missouri



Asher Boggs
First Place Nebraska
Boggs Academy
Tilden, Nebraska



Jack Arnold
First Place Texas
Lutheran South Academy
Houston, Texas

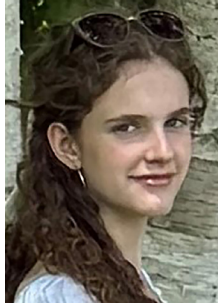


Olivia Brown
First Place South Dakota
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Spearfish, South Dakota



Rose MacPherson
First Place Non-Federation States
Mount Hope Lutheran
Casper, Wyoming

Additional 2025 State Essay Contest Winners Grades 6-8



Elise Terracina
First Place Illinois
Good Shepherd
Lutheran School
Collinsville, Illinois



Claire Navurskis
First Place Iowa
King of Kings
Lutheran Church
Cedar Rapids, Iowa



Jamie Schkade
First Place Kansas
Hope Lutheran School
Shawnee, Kansas



Christiana Klamer
First Place Michigan
St. Paul
Lutheran Church
Fowler, Michigan



Rory Acton
First Place Missouri
St. John's
Lutheran School
Hannibal, Missouri



Piper Nelson
First Place Nebraska
St. Paul's
Lutheran School
Arlington, Nebraska



Aubrey Schuldt
First Place South Dakota
St. Paul
Lutheran Church
Spearfish, South Dakota



Pierce Dodson
First Place Texas
Westlake Lutheran Academy
Richmond, Texas



Maria Lombardero
First Place Non-Federation States
Trinity Delray Lutheran School
Delray Beach, Florida

THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE



For information about the 2026 Lutherans For Life Essay Contest, go to:

lutheransforlife.org/2026-lutherans-for-life-essay-contest

Y4Life

in Washington, D.C.

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made...

...4 Life

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 @ 6:00 PM ET

- Registration and Exhibits
- Opening Devotions
- Introductions and Icebreakers
- Session 1: Dr. Donna Harrison
- Music, Sign Making, Exhibits, and Social Time

... Even If It Hurts

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 @ 9:00 AM ET

- Session 2: Ryan Bomberger
- Pre-March Devotion
- March For Life: Rally and March
- Dinner on Own
- Exhibits and Social Time
- Devotion and Post-March Discussion
- Session 3: Panel Discussion on Mental Health

...To Serve and Be Served

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 @ 9:00 AM ET

- Session 4: Rev. Matthew Harrison
- Session 5: Rev. Todd Peperkorn
- Closing Devotion



Location:

Hilton Arlington National Landing (near Reagan National Airport)
2399 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

Cost:

Conference is FREE to attend for registered participants.
Rooms cost \$133 per night with group rate. Up to 4 people
per room. Breakfast included, limited availability.

Registration: Register at Y4Life.org or by following the QR code.



YA For Life

in Washington, D.C.

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made...

...4 Life

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 @ 6:00 PM ET

- Registration and Exhibits
- Opening Devotions
- Introductions and Icebreakers
- Session 1: Dr. Adam Francisco
- Music, Sign Making, Exhibits, and Social Time

... Even If It Hurts

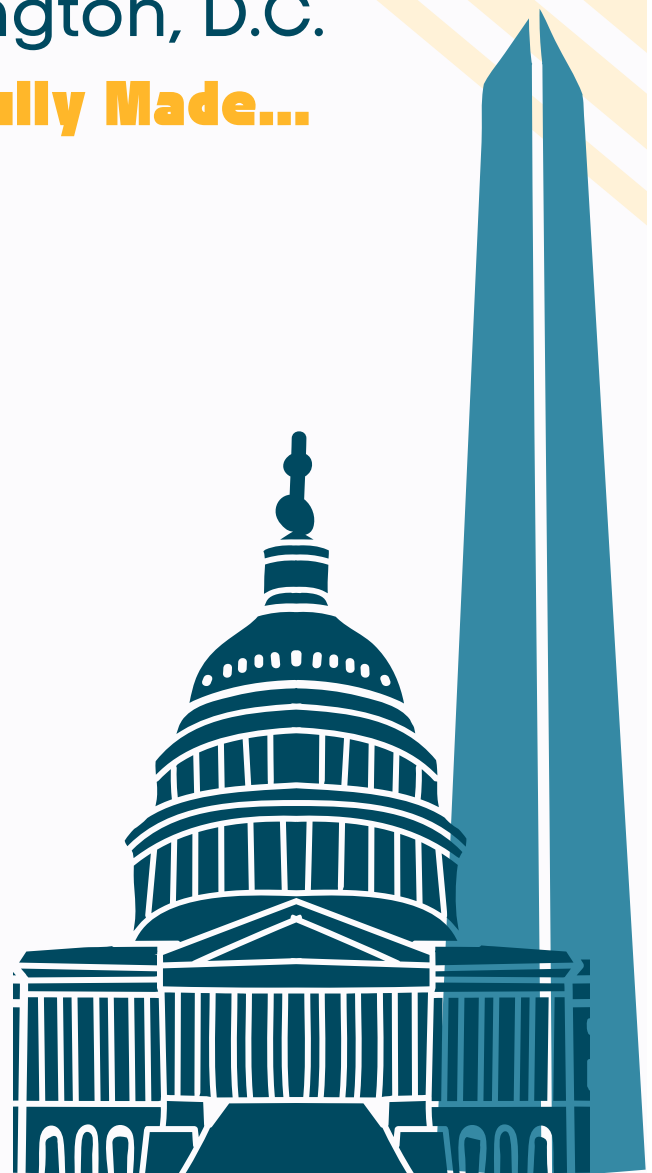
FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 @ 9:00 AM ET

- Session 2: Ryan Bomberger
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- March For Life: Rally and March
- Dinner on Own
- Exhibits and Social Time
- Devotion and Post-March Discussion
- Session 3: Deaconess Chrissie Gillet

...To Serve and Be Served

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 @ 9:00 AM ET

- Session 4: Rev. Matthew Harrison
- Session 5: Rev. Todd Peperkorn
- Closing Devotion



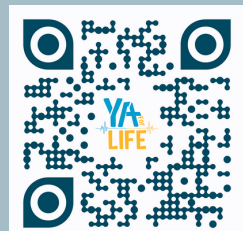
Location:

Hilton Arlington National Landing (near Reagan National Airport)
2399 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

Cost:

Conference is FREE to attend for registered participants.
Rooms cost \$133 per night with group rate. Up to 4 people
per room. Breakfast included, limited availability.

Registration: Register at YAForLife.org or by following the QR code.





YA FOR LIFE IN ST. LOUIS, MO

October 24-26, 2025

Join Us!

Connection Event:

Open to all young adults ages 22 and over! Do you want to learn how to respond to life issues with a Gospel-motivated voice? If so, join us in St. Louis, Missouri for a YA For Life Connection Event. Meet other for-life young adults and learn about contemporary life issues!

Location:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO

Reservation and Cost:

With meals: \$35

With meals and housing: \$125

Contact Michelle Bauman to reserve your spot by October 1, 2025!

Schedule:

Friday

5:00 PM: Registration & dinner

6:00 PM: Ice breakers & opening devotion

7:00 PM: Session 1: For You, For Life

8:00 PM: Group Convo: A Look at Current Life Issues

8:30 PM: Conference agenda & social time

Schedule:

Saturday

7:00 AM: Breakfast (at Hotel or on own)

8:30 AM: Devotion

9:00 AM: Session 2: Physician Assisted Suicide

10:00 AM: Session 3: Abortion Pill

11:00 AM: Service Project

12:00 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM: Sightseeing in St. Louis

4:00 PM: Session 4: Transgenderism

5:00 PM: Session 5: Human Trafficking

6:00 PM: Dinner

7:00 PM: Devotion

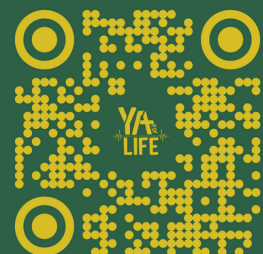
7:45 PM: Social Time

Sunday

7:00 AM: Breakfast (at Hotel or on own)

8:00 AM: Divine Service

To register for the retreat or for more information, contact Michelle Bauman at Michelle@y4life.org by October 1, 2025.



YA_{For}LIFE

YA For Life seeks to equip young adults in their 20s and 30s to be Gospel-motivated voices for LIFE! Through service, celebration, worship, and education, young adults are encouraged to engage in life-affirming activities and become advocates for LIFE in their families, churches, communities, and world. In this way, their life-affirming work ripples into the future - not only changing lives today but also for eternity.



Visit our website
WWW.YAFORLIFE.ORG



Find us on Facebook
LUTHERANS FOR LIFE



Find us on Instagram
@LFLYAFORLIFE



A photograph of a multi-generational family celebrating around a table. An elderly man with white hair and a goatee is the center of attention, laughing joyfully. He is surrounded by his family: a woman to his left, a man behind him, a woman to his right, and two children in the foreground. A birthday cake with lit candles is on the table. The scene is warm and intimate, with soft lighting.

Want to be a voice For Life?

Lutherans For Life can help YOU!

Serve all people in all generations...they are God's children For Life!

THREE WAYS TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

- † **It only takes one!** A Life Advocate works with their pastor to share God's love For Life!
- † **Grab your friends!** A Life Team is a group of life-affirming volunteers at church creating meaningful and fun ways to support life!
- † **Strength in numbers!** A Life Chapter is one or more churches working together to impact their communities.



lutheransforlife.org/volunteer-relations/

...from fertilization to forever

BECOME A CONGREGATIONAL HOUSE OF REFUGE



Shine your light internally and externally, sharing how your congregation is a safe place for pregnant mothers. Your support will give them hope to raise their baby. Walk with them should they decide adoption is their choice. During this special time you and your church are there as their child develops and they prepare for this next stage in life.

How do you do this?

- ✓ The pastor reviews the program carefully recommending it to church leaders.
- ✓ The congregational leaders review and approve the program.
- ✓ The leaders share the program with the congregation for approval.
- ✓ The pastor submits the Congregational House of Refuge agreement.
- ✓ The pastor reads a commitment statement in worship twice a year.
- ✓ The congregation gets involved through mentoring, praying, and providing a representative to handle the program details.
- ✓ The congregation is listed on a locator map of other Lutheran congregations engaged in this program.

If you are interested in knowing more contact Volunteer Relations at
lutheransforlife.org/volunteer-relations/







INTERESTED IN STARTING A LIFE TEAM AT YOUR CHURCH?

It just got easier, making it possible for you to be a trusted, certified Life Team Leader or Life Team Member!

Here are the simple steps:

- Talk with your pastor about starting a Life Team at your church.
- Contact Volunteer Relations about next steps.
- Use the link provided to Volunteers Academy to register for the Life Team Leader Training for only \$25!
- Engage other members at your church to be Life Team Members.
- Life Team Member Training is FREE!

Tool 1 – Why and How to Start a Life Team This course will give you an overview of the Life Team training process. free <input type="button" value="Enroll"/>	Tool 2 – Life Team Leader Training This course will equip you to guide your Life Team in being Gospel-motivated voices For Life. \$25 <input type="button" value="Enroll"/>	Tool 3 – Life Team Member Training This course will equip you to participate with your Life Team in being Gospel-motivated voices For Life. free <input type="button" value="Enroll"/>	Tool 4 – Resources Tool 4 contains resources that supplement Tool 2 & Tool 3. free <input type="button" value="Enroll"/>
 LIFE TEAM Introduction and Roadmap	 LIFE TEAM Leader Training	 LIFE TEAM Member Training	 LIFE TEAM Resources

Register at:

volunteersacademy.lutheransforlife.org

Questions? Contact Volunteer Relations:

lutheransforlife.org/volunteer-relations/



Become a Member of Lutherans For Life ...

Membership in Lutherans For Life will help deepen your commitment to serving the Lord of Life. Membership makes you an active partner in the mission of LFL on a regular basis. Ongoing, regular support is both a way of declaring commitment and developing commitment. Your partnership will help expand our mission of “witnessing to the sanctity of human life, through education, based on the Word of God.”

Members of Lutherans For Life Receive:

- LFL’s quarterly journal, *LifeDate*, at no cost to you—keeping you informed on all the life issues.
- An initial membership packet that will help you grow in your understanding of the mission, message, and manner of LFL.
- An official membership card.
- Semiannual mailings updating you on new materials.
- An annual report to help you see how your gifts are being used.
- Sponsor members, who give monthly gifts, receive a letter from the executive director each month giving some devotional thoughts, comments on pertinent issues, and updates on what is happening at the national office.

These items will help you stay connected. Through this ongoing connection you will:

- Be reminded of how the Gospel of Jesus Christ relates to these issues.
- Grow in your faith as you see how God’s Word changes lives.
- Keep informed about what’s going on at the national office.
- Keep up to date on the latest life issues.
- Become better equipped to do more to make a difference in your congregation and community.
- Receive encouragement as you realize you are partnering with your fellow members all across the country.
- Learn about becoming involved at the local and/or state level of LFL.

lutheransforlife.org/about



National Lutherans For Life Staff

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Rev. Scott Licht – CFO/COO
Lowell J. Highby – Director of Communications
Michelle Bauman – Director of Y4Life
Cori Meier – Y4Life Assistant
Diana Ladislas – Y4Life Media Resource Assistant
Virginia Flo – Director of Volunteer Relations
Michele Hartshorn – Assistant Director of Volunteer Relations
Dr. Barb Geistfeld – Volunteer Relations Associate
Amanda Nicks – Administrative Specialist of Volunteer Relations
Dave Probst – Director of Development
Jerilyn Richard – Donor Relations Director
Jan Nessa – Administrative Assistant
Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, PsyD – Director of Word of Hope
Deaconess Janet Nicol – Phone Counselor
Lorelei Humphrey – Word of Hope Assistant
Erika Peterson – Events Coordinator
Katie Friedrich – Gift Entry Specialist
Julie Kyrola – Data Assistant

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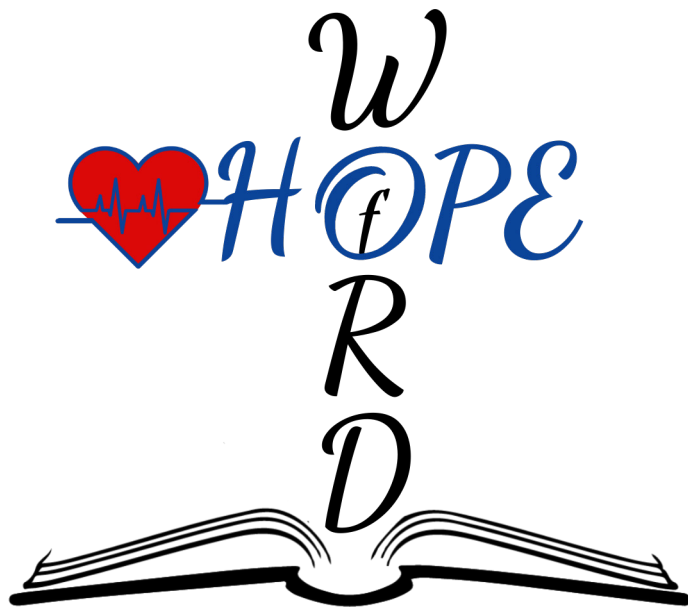
Lutherans For Life
1101 5th Street
Nevada, IA 50201-1816

info@lutheransforlife.org
lutheransforlife.org
888.364.LIFE (5433) or 515.382.2077

LFL Business Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. CT.
Hours subject to staff availability.





For those who have had an abortion—
there is a **Word of Hope** for
broken hearts.

Call 888.217.8679 or go to
www.word-of-hope.org.

Word of Hope is confidential and
caring.

Word of Hope is a ministry of
Lutherans For **Life**.

I'm **4Life** ... Now what?



Become a **Y4Life** Messenger • y4life.org

Opening Devotion | Wednesday, September 24, 2025

- L** This is the day that the LORD has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 139:9-18

- L** If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, (vs. 9)
- C** even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. (vs. 10)
- L** If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," (vs. 11)
- C** even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you. (vs. 12)
- L** For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. (vs. 13)
- C** I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. (vs. 14)
- L** My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. (vs.15)
- C** Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. (vs.16)
- L** How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! (vs.17)
- C** If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you. (vs. 18)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

Hymn: The Lord, My God, Be Praised (*on the next page*)

Meditation

Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayers

Almighty God, merciful Father, You have fearfully and wonderfully made each one of us and yet more wondrously redeemed us by the blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. As we have gathered here to celebrate the gift of life that You have granted to Your people, we ask that You would bless all in attendance, those who instruct and those who learn, that our faith in You would be increased, our love for our neighbors would be strengthened, our service for one another would multiply, and Your holy name would be glorified before the whole world. Through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Lord, My God, Be Praised



1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heav - en;
 2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heav - en,
 3 The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heav - en,
 △ 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ev - er - liv - ing,



My mak - er, who to me Has soul and bod - y giv - en;
 The Fa - ther's own dear Son, Whose life for me was giv - en,
 The Spir - it, whom the Son In love to me has giv - en.
 To whom the heav'n - ly host Their laud and praise are giv - ing.



My Fa - ther, who will shield And keep me day by day
 Who for my sin a - toned With His most pre - cious blood
 His grace re - vives my heart And gives my spir - it pow'r,
 The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,



And make each mo - ment yield New bless - ings on my way.
 And gives to me by faith The high - est heav'n - ly good.
 Help, com - fort, and sup - port In sor - row's gloom - y hour.
 God Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 | Text and tune: Public domain

Morning Devotion | Thursday, September 25, 2025

- L** Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
C that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. (Psalm 90:14)

Reading: John 10:9-16

Hymn: *God Loved the World So That He Gave*



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

- 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 | Text and tune: Public domain

Meditation

Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer

Faithful God, whose mercies are new to us every morning, we humbly pray that You would look upon us in mercy and renew us by Your Holy Spirit. Keep safe our going out and our coming in, and let Your blessing remain with us throughout this day. Preserve us in Your righteousness, and grant us a portion in that eternal life which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord. **Amen.**

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Morning Devotion | Friday, September 26, 2025

L Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust.

C Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. (Psalm 143:8)

Reading: Luke 10:25-37

Hymn: *Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace*



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace
2 Break down the wall that would di - vide
3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred
4 Give me Thy cour - age, Lord, to speak
5 With Thine own love may I be filled

To love all peo - ple, ev - 'ry race;
Thy chil - dren, Lord, on ev - 'ry side.
By love - less act and thought - less word.
When - ev - er strong op - press the weak.
And by Thy Ho - ly Spir - it willed,

And in each per - son may I see
My neigh - bor's good let me pur - sue;
Make me to see the wrong I do
Should I my - self the vic - tim be,
That all I touch, wher - e'er I be,

My kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by Thee.
Let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
Will grieve my wound - ed Lord a - new.
Help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring Thee.
May be di - vine - ly touched by Thee.

Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, 1916–2018, alt. Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005507 Tune: Public domain

Meditation

Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, grant Your mercy and grace to Your people in their many and various callings. Give them patience and strengthen them in their Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to their neighbor in Christ's name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

NOTES

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NOTES

[illegible]

Redeeming Grace *Retreat*

Forgiveness & Peace After Abortion



Nov 13-16, 2025

Wildwood Hills Ranch, St. Charles, IA

LEARN MORE word-of-hope.org/rgr

RETREAT PARTNERS



Have you—or someone you know—experienced abortion and long for peace and forgiveness?

Redeeming Grace Retreat is a confidential, Christ-centered healing retreat for women who have experienced abortion—whether weeks or decades ago. This safe, small-group retreat offers a sacred space to rest, reflect, and receive Christ’s redeeming love. Guided by licensed Christian professionals, participants are invited to release shame, receive grace, and rediscover their identity as cherished daughters of God.

Held November 13–16, 2025, at Wildwood Hills Ranch in St. Charles, Iowa, the retreat includes spiritual reflection, creative expression, fellowship, mindfulness, and time in God’s creation—including time with horses. The total cost to attend is just \$75, with all other expenses generously covered and travel assistance available. If you or someone you know is carrying the hidden hurt of abortion, Redeeming Grace Retreat is a place of hope and healing. **Learn more at word-of-hope.org/rgr**