

How Can Creation Be True?

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”



Special worship service featuring Chris Driesbach

St. John's

Pastor David Brandt and Pastor Paul Schupmann

August 15,17,18

Song Service on Creation

Welcome one and all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If you are visiting with us today, we are glad you are here. We want to get to know you and share with you what we have in Jesus. Please introduce yourself to our pastor after the service. He will be glad to answer any questions you may have. “The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore” (*Psalms 121:8*).

Personal prayer

Almighty and merciful God, I thank you for your creation. The sun that provides me light belongs to you. The air I breathe belongs to you. The night belongs to you. The day belongs to you. The earth whose fruit generously nourishes me belongs to you. How generous you are to the whole human race. Without you, the true Sun, I would vanish like a shadow. To you alone I owe my being, my living, and my moving. Therefore, I will live only for you who gave up your Son for me. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.



🎵 **Opening song**

“I Love My Church”

(Please stand)

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;
All: **our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Amen.**

Responsive Reading

Pastor: Praise the Lord. Praise the LORD from the heavens,
All: **praise him in the heights above.**
Pastor: Praise him, all his angels,
Men: **praise him, all his heavenly hosts.**
Pastor: Praise him, sun and moon,
All: **praise him, all you shining stars.**
Pastor: Praise him, you highest heavens
Women: **and you waters above the skies.**
Pastor: Let them praise the name of the LORD
Men: **for he commanded and they were created.**
Pastor: He set them in place for ever and ever;
Women: **he gave a decree that will never pass away.**
Pastor: Praise the LORD from the earth,

All: you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding, you mountains and hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds, kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, young men and maidens, old men and children.

Pastor: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted;

All: his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

Pastor: He has raised up for his people a horn,

All: the praise of all his saints, of Israel, the people close to his heart.

Praise the Lord!

Confession of Sins

Pastor: O Holy God and just Judge, if we look to the heavens, we remember that we've offended you in many ways.

All: I've sinned against heaven and against You. I'm not worthy to be called Your child.

Pastor: If we look to the earth, we realize that through our sin we have disgracefully wasted creation. We've often wasted not only the darkness of night, but also the light of day.

All: I've loved and worshipped created things and have not loved and worshipped You, the Creator of all things. My body is your creation, to be used in Your service; but I have used my body in the service of sin. My heart is your creation but my heart is full of evil. My life is to shine with the light of Your love but the stars put me to shame. With sorrow I confess my sin to You, my Creator.

Pronouncement of Forgiveness

Pastor: With joy, we flee to Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Through Christ, I believe without any doubt that Your grace and the forgiveness of sins are mine - all mine. All creation accuses me. My conscience accuses me. Both tables of the divine Law accuse me. Day and night Satan accuses me.

Pastor: But you, O kindest Jesus, take up our defense. You desire that we forsake comfort in any created thing. A refuge has been prepared for us in the satisfaction You made for our sins.

All: I have a refuge in Your intercession for me at the right hand of the Father. I take refuge in Your wounds, O Jesus. I hide in You, My Rock. In You, I have protection. In You, I am acquitted of all my sin.

(Be seated)

♪ Hymn

“Prodigal Son” *(sung by Chris)*

(Congregation may sing the refrain)

**Father, forgive me, I know what I’ve done
Please open your arms to this prodigal son**

We continue with the Word of God and with hymns and songs that speak of Creation.

1. THE CREATOR

Pastor: For this is what the LORD says—

All: **he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it.**

Pastor: “I am the LORD, and there is no other.” *(Isaiah 45:15)*

All: **In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.** *(Genesis 1:1)*

Hymn 256 vv 1, 3-4

“How Great Thou Art”

2. THE CREATION—HUMAN BEINGS

Pastor: God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. *(Genesis 1:27)*

All: **For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.** *(Psalm 139:13,14)*

♪ Hymn

“God Made It All”

(Congregation may sing the refrain) **In six days God made it all, he made it all** *(repeat twice)*
And on the seventh day – he rested

3. THE ANGELS

Pastor: Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

All: **For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.** *(Colossians 1:15,16)*

Pastor: No harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. *(Psalm 91:10,11)*

All: **Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?** *(Hebrews 1:14)*

♪ Hymn 593 vv 1, 4-5

(Chris will play and sing with the congregation)

“Now the Light Has Gone Away”

4. VEGETATION

Pastor: Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation; seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.”

All: And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. (*Genesis 1:11*)

♪ Hymn 612 vv. 1-2

“Praise to God, Immortal Praise”

5. THE HEAVENLY BODIES

Pastor: And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.”

All: And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from darkness.

Men: And God saw that it was good. (*Genesis 1:14-18*)

Women: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him? (*Psalms 8:3,4*)

♪ Hymn
(*Song by Chris*)

“Modern Evangelist”

6. THE RUIN OF GOD’S CREATION

Pastor: So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

All: After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life. (*Genesis 3:23-24*)

Men: Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin. (*Romans 5:12*)

All: We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. (*Romans 8:22*)

♪ Hymn 112 “There is a Fountain Filled With Blood”

7: THE CREATOR DIES TO REDEEM HIS CREATION

Pastor: God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. (*2 Corinthians 5:19*)

Men: “For your Maker is your husband—the LORD Almighty is his name—the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; he is called the God of all the earth.

Women: The LORD will call you back as if you were a wife deserted and distressed in spirit—a wife who married young, only to be rejected,” says your God.

All: “For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back. In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you,” says the LORD your Redeemer. (*Isaiah 54:5-8*)

Pastor: For God so loved the world

All: That he gave his one and only Son

Pastor: that whoever believes in him

All: shall not perish but have eternal life.

♪ Hymn “Carry the Cross” (*sung by Chris*)
(*Congregation may sing the refrain*)

Carry the cross, be not ashamed

Children of Christ, shout out his name

Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross

Lift it up high, to the sky, carry the cross

♪ Creedal Song “Because My Father Loves Me”
(*sung by Chris and congregation*)

Refrain: God three in one -- Father, Spirit, Son

All one God and He loves me, He loves me

Offering “Good Morning, Father”

(*Please stand*)

Prayers & Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

Pastor: As you go on your way, the Lord go with you; before you to show you the way; behind you to encourage you; beside you to befriend you; above you to watch over you; and within you to give you peace; in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

♪ Hymn 334

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!**



Chris Driesbach’s short biography

I’m a member of Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Madison, Alabama and during the last twelve years I’ve been on many musical tours, playing for worship and concerts at over 775 WELS and ELS churches in 41 states from Fairbanks, Alaska to Cape Coral, Florida. My songs are all original Christian music and I love to tell the story of the Spirit’s powerful work in my stubborn and unbelieving heart.

I played music professionally for 30 years on the west coast. I was an atheist until age 33, and after that sort of a new-age spiritualist. 9 years later I became a Lutheran and a Christian at the same time in 1995. Faith Lutheran Church and Pastor James Oldfield in Anchorage, Alaska were my first church and pastor. We went through a 22-week Bible study course together. Pastor Oldfield read to me out of the Bible when I asked him all of the hardest questions I could think of and after 6 weeks of his class I was given the gift of faith by the Spirit working through God’s Word. My life completely changed, of course!

I’ve been writing Christian songs for the last 14 years, including a song about my personal experience with hurricane Katrina. I have recorded 8 Christian CDs: **“Lifted”** in 2006 and 2007, **“Feed Your Faith”** in 2008, **“Let Christ Be Known”** 2009, a collection of hymns also in 2009, **“Jesus Is the Man!”** finished in October 2010, **“One Cross, Three Nails”** done in July 2012, **“Jesus Wins!”** December 2016 and my new one **“Hymns With Friends”** finished September 2018.

I have a deep desire to go sing my songs and tell the happy story about Jesus and meet and worship with my brothers and sisters around the USA. This thing God is letting me do is a dream come true for me!

*My contact information: 504-352-2044 hichrisd@gmail.com www.chrisdriesbach.com
Snail mail: Chris Driesbach – 304 S Jones Blvd #4195, Las Vegas NV 89107*

Welcome to St. John's

Pastors

David Brandt 608-343-2206
Paul Schupmann 920-344-9839

Principal

Richard Cody

Worship Services

(same service at all locations)

Thursday

6:30pm Juneau Campus

Saturday

5:00pm Horicon Campus

Sunday

8:30am Juneau Campus

10:00am Salem-Lowell

Bible Class

Old Testament ~ Tuesdays 7:00pm @ Juneau Campus (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

WELCOME

We are so glad you joined us to worship our Lord Jesus today! Our St. John's three campuses are members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are happy to answer your questions about our service, our beliefs, or communicant membership in either of our congregations. Please join us again soon!

PERSONAL PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

Good Shepherd, I was glad to be here, gathered with your flock to worship you. Cause the Word I have heard to take root in my heart and bear fruit in my life. Guide me in paths of righteousness, that my words and actions might lead others to glorify you. Amen.

Our Locations

St. John's Juneau Campus

920-386-3313

400 S. Main St.

Juneau, Wisconsin

St. John's Horicon Campus

920-386-3313

716 Clinton St.

Horicon, Wisconsin

St. John's Salem-Lowell

920-927-5353

105 Juneau Rd.

Lowell, Wisconsin

St. John's School Office

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Juneau, Wisconsin

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