

GOD'S WILL IN THE LIFE OF MAN

God loves every person and wants everyone to be saved.
God's love is shown in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ
for the whole world:

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
(The Gospel according to John 3:16)

The greatest commandment in the Bible is:

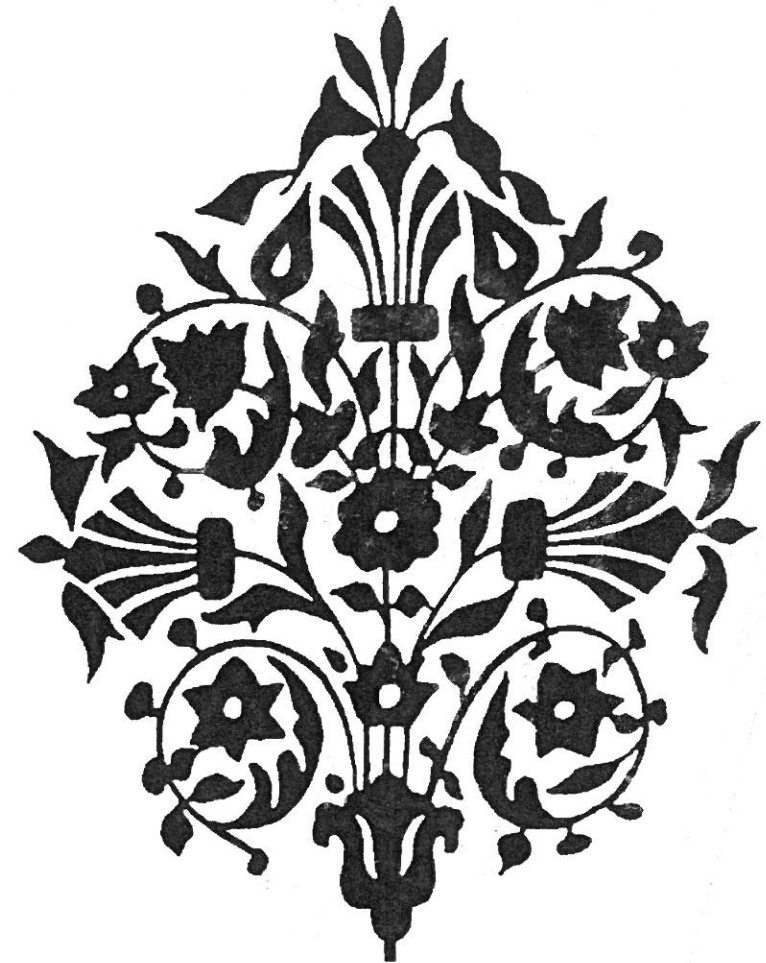
“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and
with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind;
and your neighbour as yourself.” (The Gospel according to Luke 10:27)

God gave to Moses the following ten commandments:

- **I** am the LORD your God. You shall have no other gods before me.
- You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your
God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.
- Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.
- Honour your father and your mother.
- You shall not murder.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not steal.
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
- You shall not covet your neighbour's house.
- You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave,
or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO VISIT
THE LOCAL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH:

We will be glad to answer your questions.



Peace!



Dear Friend,

*Our congregation welcomes you
and invites you to attend our services.
The church is also open for visitors
and for prayer at other times.*

*Every Sunday we meet in church
at 10 a. m. to pray and to worship God,
to hear his Word and to enjoy fellowship.
Everyone is welcome to attend these services.*

SOME BASIC ELEMENTS OF CHRISTIANITY

■ THE CREED

Christian faith in one God is briefly expressed in the creed. This God, who is both one and triune, is known as Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, He descended into Hades; the third day he rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. Thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead,

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and eternal life.

■ PRAYER AND WORSHIP

The church service consists of several parts.
It usually includes also the celebration of holy communion.
The content of the service is principally as follows:

Prayer
Readings from the Bible
The creed
The sermon and prayer

Holy Communion
Thanksgiving and praise
The blessing
5-6 hymns from the hymnbook

Each service contains the prayer taught by Jesus:

Our Father in heaven.
Hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.
Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us.
And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

■ THE SACRAMENTS

Holy communion is one of the sacraments or religious ceremonies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. The other sacrament is holy baptism, which Jesus instituted with the words:

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.”
(The Gospel according to Matthew 28:19-20)

Through baptism one becomes a member of the Church. An adult who wishes to join the Church is taught the basics of Christianity and Christian life before being baptized.

Other important church ceremonies are marriages and funerals.

The annual Christian festivals are associated with events in the life of Jesus. The most important festivals and their themes are:

Christmas - the birth of Jesus

Good Friday - the death of Jesus on the cross

Easter - the resurrection of Jesus

Ascension Day - the ascension of Jesus into heaven

Pentecost - the day of the Holy Spirit, the birth of the Church