

3) *The city of God is our “city of refuge” PARADISE.*

²⁷ A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. ²⁸ Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children.” ²⁹ For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ ³⁰ Then “they will say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us!’” ³¹ For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?” ³² Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. ³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁵ The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.” ³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷ and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.” ³⁸ There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. ³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³ Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Luke 23:27-43

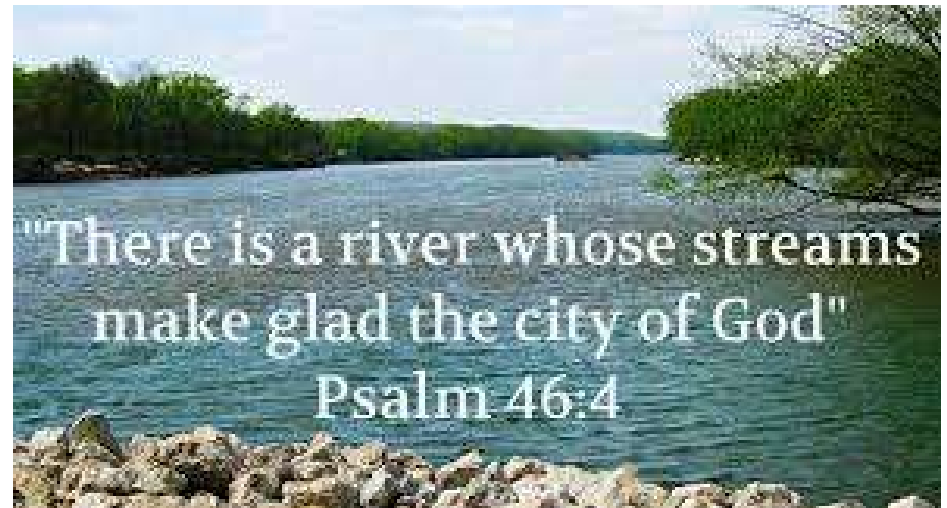


Living in the Word...that the Word may live in others.

‘Come grow with us!’

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Living Word



Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 23rd, 2025

10:00 am Service

WELCOME TO LIVING WORD!

Blue church information card is in seat pocket

WE REJOICE IN GOD'S LOVE & FORGIVENESS...

Opening Prayer

Praise Songs

*"Christ Above Me"
"Ancient of Days"*

Invocation

Confession & Forgiveness

Affirmation of Faith:

Apostles' Creed

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD...

Today's Psalm

Psalm 46

Scripture Readings

Facing page

Message Song

"Bring Forth the Kingdom"

Message

"The City of God"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL...

Prayers of God's People

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Closing Song

"God Loved the World So That He Gave"

Please place offerings in basket at sanctuary entrance

"The City of God"

"There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God..."

Psalm 46:4a

1) The city of God is our Father's treasured POSSESSION.

¹³ "You have spoken arrogantly against me," says the LORD. "Yet you ask, 'What have we said against you?' ¹⁴ "You have said, 'It is futile to serve God. What do we gain by carrying out his requirements and going about like mourners before the LORD Almighty?' ¹⁵ But now we call the arrogant blessed. Certainly evildoers prosper, and even when they put God to the test, they get away with it.'" ¹⁶ Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name. ¹⁷ "On the day when I act," says the LORD Almighty, "they will be my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as a father has compassion and spares his son who serves him. ¹⁸ And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not. *Malachi 3:13-18*

2) The city of God is His Son's kingdom of PEACE.

¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. *Colossians 1:13-20*