



“HAVE SALT IN
yourselves,
AND BE AT
PEACE WITH
one another.”

MARK 9:50, ESV

Ascension Lutheran Church and School

“A Church for Families and a Family for Everyone”

September 26, 2021

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 26, 2021

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lord's Table with us today: The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23-30). Thus, attendance at the Lord's Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians, (2) accept the real presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine, (3) confess and repent of one's sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament, and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins.

(Grape juice is available for those who not drink alcohol and gluten free wafers are available upon request.)

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11: 23-30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos, (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino, (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento, y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgan con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio.

(El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol y hostias libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición).

(P) = Pastor, (C) = Congregation, (A) = Reader/Assisting)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Theme: “Worth Your Salt”

AS WE GATHER: In biblical times, salt was treasured almost as much as gold. Among its many uses was preserving food and other perishables. In today’s Gospel, Jesus calls us salt, by which He reveals how much God values us. Sometimes people outside the Church also see our worth and offer their support. It is nothing new! Moses valued two men who received the Spirit even though they were missing from gathering with the seventy elders. Jesus valued a man healing in His name, though he was not one of the Twelve. We are worth our salt, our relationship to Christ, so much that a person receiving us receives Christ. And within the Church, our saltiness supports, prays for, cheers up, confesses, and forgives our fellow members. We are worth so much that God does not want anything to cause us to stumble. “Have salt in yourselves,” He says, “and be at peace with one another.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN “From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator’s praise arise:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer’s name be sung
Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Eternal are Your mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Your Word;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee;
Alleluia, Alleluia.
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 104:33–34*

- P** I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
- C** I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
- P** May my meditation be pleasing to Him,
- C** for I rejoice in the LORD.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *James 5:7, 9, 12, 14, 16; Mark 9:50; Psalm 104:31, 35b*

- P** We enjoy singing praises to God, but we truly need Him to look down on us in mercy. So often we fail to follow His the instructions, which we read about in today's Epistle. James urges, "Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." Let us ask God for grace and mercy.

Silence for reflection.

- P** James writes, "Be patient until the coming of the Lord. Do not grumble against one another, brothers. Let your 'yes' be yes and your 'no' be no. Is anyone among you sick? Pray over him."

C We confess our impatience, our lack of love for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and our words that do not always reflect the love You have for us. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. Heavenly Father, our only hope is in Your grace and mercy. Forgive us for Jesus' sake.

P God has cured our sickness of sin by sending His Son to die in our place. He values us and calms our fears, saying, "Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

C may the LORD rejoice in His works.
Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all who trust in You, strengthen our faith and give us courage to believe that in Your love You will rescue us from all adversities; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

✠ THE WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 11:24–29 (ESV)

(The Holy Spirit even comes upon two men in the camp.)

²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it. ²⁶ Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸ And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, “My lord Moses, stop them.” ²⁹ But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, that the LORD would put His Spirit on them!”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

James 5:13–18 (ESV)

(James outlines what Christians ought to do for one another.)

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:38–50 (ESV)

(Jesus teaches how much God values all who have a relationship with His Son.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁸ John said to Him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹ But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in My name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of Me.” ⁴⁰ For the one who is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward. ⁴² “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ ‘where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’ ⁴⁹ For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN

“Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”

(tune: Beach Spring)

Lord, whose love in humble service
Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
Offered mercy's perfect deed:

We, your servants, bring the worship
Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose
Ev'ry gift that You impart.

As we worship, grant us vision,
Till Your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving
Your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to Your service,
Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged,
Love in living deeds to show.
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,
Counsel, aid, and peace we give
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom,
May Your mercy know, and live.

SERMON

“WORTH YOUR SALT”

Mark 9:38–50

Pastor Jim Sprenkle

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole Christian Church and for all people in their various needs.

For the Church here and around the world, witnessing to the good news in Christ, that we see the worth within one another and the value our heavenly Father places on us, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who struggle to put bread on the table and a roof over their families, those who face injustice and discrimination, and all who are denied human rights, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all near and dear to us who call out to God in their distress, *especially...*let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gifts God bestows on us and on those who are celebrating this week...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant us, heavenly Father, that what we ask for in faith we may obtain through Your unfailing mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** As our Lord Jesus has taught us in scripture, we pray with boldness in His name:
- C** **Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

(8:30 service, please turn to page 14 for the Benediction)

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

We believe in the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion. Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Jesus instituted, or established the Lord's Supper for us; 1Cor 11:23-26; Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20)

PAX DOMINI

(Latin for "Peace of the Lord" - the response is, "Amen!", or "So be it!")

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

(tune: How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds)

Where charity and love prevail,
There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love,
By love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear
His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
Now love Him in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults
As we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well
In Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown,
Let all contention cease;
Be God's the glory that we seek,
Be ours His holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined,
We are in Him made one.

The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

The gifts Christ freely gives,
He gives to you and me
To be His Church, His bride,
His chosen, saved and free!
Saints blest with these rich gifts
Aare children who proclaim
That they were won by Christ
And cling to His strong name.

The gifts flow from the font
Where He calls us His own;
New life He gives that makes
Us His and His alone.
Here He forgives our sins
With water and His Word;
The triune God Himself
Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.

The gifts of grace and peace
From absolution flow;
The pastor's words are Christ's
For us to trust and know.
Forgiveness that we need
Is granted to us there;
The Lord of mercy sends
Us forth in His blest care.

The gifts are there each day
The holy Word is read;
God's children listen, hear,
Receive, and they are fed.
Christ fills them with Himself,
Blest words that give them life,
Restoring and refreshing
Them for this world's strife.

The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.

The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.

All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please read the FYI in your bulletin for additional announcements and information.)

HYMN

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your power;
Crown Your ancient Church’s story;
Bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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*Thank you to the Laxton Family for the wonderful altar flowers
in honor of Ordena’s memory.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

VOTER'S ASSEMBLY TODAY

The meeting will follow the late service. We ask all to attend.

† LWML SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 10

Get ready for LWML Sunday and see what we've been up to! We would appreciate your help in both baking and/or making something to donate to our "Bake and Craft Christmas-Corner Fundraiser" that will take place between services on Sunday, Oct. 10. (Please drop off your pre-priced, non-perishable baked items between 10:00am and noon on Saturday, Oct. 9, or bring your baked goods on Sunday morning before service.) Proceeds will benefit missions. Look for the large Mite Box setup on our display table where you may donate directly to LWML Mites. If you have questions, please contact Mae Smith at 503-912-3373. Thank you for your support!

† CONGRATULATIONS PASTOR BRANDT

This summer marks the 30th anniversary of ordination for our pastor, Rev. Phillip L. Brandt. St. Michaels Lutheran Church will celebrate his 30 years of ministry at on Sunday, September 26th during the worship service and at a celebratory event after the service.

† CONCERT OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Trinity Lutheran Church, 16000 South Henrici Road, Oregon City, is hosting "A Concert of Praise and Thanksgiving" featuring instrumentalists, praise band, soloists and congregational participation on Saturday, October 16th beginning at 3:00pm. Please join us for an afternoon of Praise and Thanksgiving.

† THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS

The Bryant and Laxton families would like to thank everyone involved in supporting the family with prayer, kindness, and assisting with the memorial service for their mother, Ordena Laxton. We feel blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring family in Christ at Ascension.

† THANK YOU FROM MAE SMITH

For your prayers for my recovery since a recent surgery. You and your prayers have been a blessing to me. All the cards and greetings have brightened my days. I look forward to seeing you again soon.
Mae Smith

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests at 503-665-8821 or e-mail: office@alcportland.org

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

The family of Lewis Eilers, Mae Smith, Brad Hall and Family, Miki Natonick, Ray Brown, Mike Hatley, Karon Keup, Bonnie Webber, Carolyn Erdmann, Carlyn Staudt, Lorraine Haggard, Larry Hart, Bill Ritchie, Colleen Ek Yah, Esperanza Gutierrez, Brian Laxton, Virginia Hunt, Marty Blankenburg, Richard Robertson, Rich Zahursky, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), *Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath.
*Home Bound.

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);
Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);
Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);
Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);
Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);
Clayton Wright, Air Force — Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Colton Wright, Navy — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Norma Dillon 9/26

BIRTHDAYS

Luke Arronson 9/28 Carol Reiniger 9/29
Bonnie Webber 9/30

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES - None

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Elder:	Randy Schroeder	John Hazen
Acolytes:	Josie Latter	
Ushers:	Bob Rekdahl	Matthias McInaney
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis	Michele Sprengle (sound)
PowerPoint:	Jenny Schuldheisz	Michele Sprengle
Greeters:	Karla Deal	Rebecca Williamson
Readers:	Sheryl Maier	Carol Hoefler
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Margo Bachhuber
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald
Flowers:	Both Services	Laxton Family

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Elder:	Herb Hoefler (WA)	Bob Ritchie (WA)
Acolytes:	Josie Latter	
Ushers:	Jim Eckart Randy Schroeder Marcus Young	Marcus Young John Knoke
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis	Michele Sprengle (sound)
PowerPoint:	Rebecca Williamson	Michele Sprengle
Greeters:	Elizabeth Alvarado Margo Bachhuber	Riki Neagle
Readers:	Jim Eckart	Virginia Jacobs
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Karen Zahursky
Counters:	Both Services	Bonnie W. and Rebecca W.
Flowers:	Both Services	

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASCENSION

THIS WEEK – SEPTEMBER 26-OCTOBER 2

Sunday, Sept. 26	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Adult Education
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	12:15pm	Voters Assembly
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, Sept. 28	Pastor and Michele out of town until 9/30	
Wednesday, Sept. 29	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Sept. 30	7:00pm	NO Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Oct. 1	6:30pm	Noche Familiar

NEXT WEEK –OCTOBER 3-9

Sunday, Oct. 3	8:30am	Worship with Communion
	9:45am	Adult Education
	11:00am	Worship
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
	Tuesday, Oct. 5	6:00pm
Wednesday, Oct. 6	7:00pm	Online Bible Study Posted
Thursday, Oct. 7	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Oct. 8	6:30pm	Noche Familiar

EVENTS TO REMEMBER

Sunday, Oct. 10	LWML Sunday-Worship centered around the Mission of LWML. Special fundraising Bake and Craft sale throughout the morning!	
Tuesday, Oct. 5	6:00pm	Elder Meeting

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233

Church: 503-665-8821 · Childcare Center: 503-667-6750

Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God’s witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God— the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God’s Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

STAFF

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