

# Spiritual Warfare

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Phil Krauss for Pastor Davenport –  
February 11, 2024



# Lift High the Cross

LSB 837 Verse 1

*Refrain*

Lift high the cross,  
The love of God proclaim  
Till all the world  
Adore His sacred name.

Come Christian follow where our Captain trod,  
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

*Refrain*



# Opening Prayer – ML's Morning Prayer

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 of 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.



# Battling the devil - Review

## Ephesians 6:10-20

- Spiritual warfare
- Paul compares battling sin and the devil to ancient soldiers battling opponents.
- Ancient soldiers needed to be strong, confident, and take a stand when fighting the enemy. Paul tells us to do the same thing.



# Battling the devil - Review

## Stand Firm

- “Community” – church (our congregation) and Church (Christians everywhere). We are stronger together, just as soldiers are stronger when they are part of an army. – verse 18
- “Community Leadership” – just as an army needs officers to lead, so the Church needs leaders too. – verses 19-20



# Battling the devil - Review

**What are some ways we can support our leaders in the Church?**



# Battling the devil - Review

## The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 14



### The belt of truth

We have a just cause on our side – **truth**. As was discussed last week, the belt holds everything in place, just as God’s truth holds everything a believer needs together.



# Battling the devil - Review

## The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 14



**The breastplate of righteousness.**

When in battle, protecting your vital organs was second only to protecting your head. A strong breastplate protected your body from damage. Last week we talked about how a moral life, a life filled with service to others (both signs of righteousness) protects you from evil attacks.





# Battling the devil - Review

## The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 14



**The breastplate of righteousness.**

- Matthew 5:16 – what do the good works do?



# Battling the devil

## The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 15



**Feet fitted with readiness from the gospel of peace.** This readiness comes from the peace of knowing that you have been made right with God. This peace can make you ready not only to stand firm in the Lord but also to share that peace with those around you. You have been given readiness to persevere in pursuing Christ. And even though you are in a battle, you are a minister of a gospel of peace.

1Peter 2:9

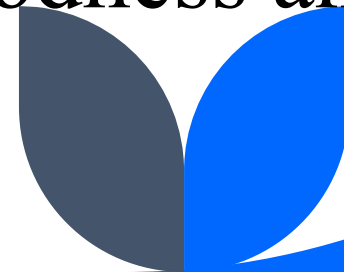
# Battling the devil

## The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 16



**The shield of faith.** Every attack Satan launches at you can be blocked by faith. By simply trusting in the Lord — and acting on that trust — you create a barrier that the enemy cannot penetrate. This doesn't necessarily mean that you'll never suffer difficulty or harm, but in the midst of these trials, don't let the enemy shake your confidence in God's goodness and plan.



# Battling the devil

## The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 17



**The helmet of salvation.** The head is the other vital area that a soldier needs to protect. What's interesting here is that you protect your head with what's inside of it: the knowledge of your salvation. If you are a follower of Christ, the Lord has already delivered, redeemed and liberated you. Satan's armies can never do anything to take that away from you. This means that while he may attack you, his plans are ultimately futile.

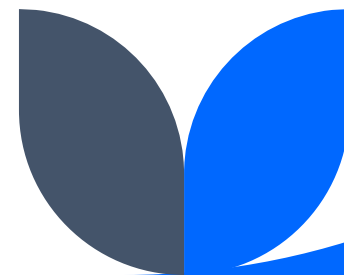
# Battling the devil

## The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 17



**The sword of the Spirit.** The one offensive element of God's armor is the sword. Paul tells you that the sword of the Spirit is the Word of truth. He's not telling you that you should attack people with God's Word. Rather, as Jesus demonstrated during His temptation, you counter the enemy's attack by relying on scriptural truths. And as you proclaim God's truth, the Spirit goes before you.



# Battling the devil

## The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

### The sword of the Spirit.

Verse 17



- Hebrews 4:12 – a powerful weapon.
- Matthew 4:1-11 – notice how Satan tries to use the sword.
- 1 Peter 3:15 – notice how we are to use the sword.

