

Spiritual Warfare

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Phil Krauss for Pastor Davenport –
February 25, 2024



Lift High the Cross

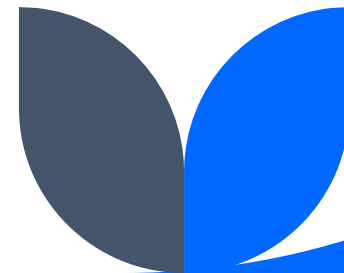
LSB 837 verse 3

Refrain

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

All new-born soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.

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 – The Whole Armor of God

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.



Battling the devil - Review

Ephesians 6:10-20 continued

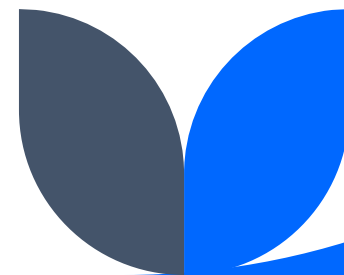
In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.



Battling the devil - Review

So far we have covered:

- **Who is the Enemy?**
- **The Belt of Truth**
- **The Breastplate of Righteousness**
- **The Shoes of the Gospel of Peace**
- **The Shield of Faith**
- **The Helmet of Salvation**
- **The Sword of the Spirit**
(the Word of God)



Battling the devil

The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 18

Pray in the Spirit.

PRAY

What does it mean to pray in the Spirit? Is it any different than you and I, as God's children, calling out to Him?



Battling the devil

The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 18

Pray in the Spirit.

PRAY

No. It is praying, confident in our Spirit given faith, knowing that God hears and answers us. In all situations we are to pray – and while we're at it, we should be praying for the saints.



Battling the devil

The Armor of God - Ephesians 6

Verse 18

PRAY

Pray in the Spirit.

- Satan does not like prayer. He wants you to give up on prayer: be too busy to pray, too tired, worried, overwhelmed. He wants you to drift away from God.
- Prayer is a direct attack on everything the devil desires. Prayer is power!
- Our prayer should be persistent. Luke 18:1-8



Battling the devil

**Do you feel
ready to go
to battle?**

**Do feel
equipped?**

Battling the devil

Do you feel ready to go to battle?

You should.

This is you.



Battling the devil

The Roman army was the most feared and respected force in the Mediterranean world for almost 1000 years.

They lost some battles, but they usually won the wars.

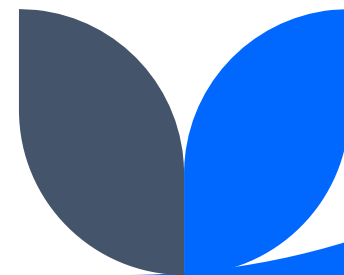


Battling the devil

When the battle becomes too much

Believe these words

- 2 Thessalonians 3:3
- James 4:7
- Isaiah 40:28-31
- Revelation 20:10



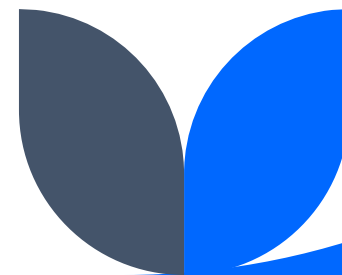
Battling the devil

When the battle becomes too much

We are fighting the world and the devil from the vantage point of victory. Christ has already won.

Romans 8:31

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?



Battling the devil

Spiritual Warfare - Resources

- **Equipped: The armor of God for everyday struggles by Christopher M. Kennedy (2021, Concordia)**
- **Spirit Warriors by Stu Weber (2001, Multnomah)**
- **The Holy Bible, ESV**

