



Sunday, August 23, 2026
8:00 am

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**
Let us bring every burden to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all mercy,
we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of + Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit's power strengthen you in doing what is good. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"O Holy Spirit, Enter In"

No. 786

Vs. 1-3

GREETING

GLORY TO GOD

P. 204

PRAYER OF THE DAY

PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Word

READING

A reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah 51:1-6

The scripture is read.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Cultivating God's Kin-dom:
Building on the Rock*



PSALM

Psalm 138

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

**You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

READING

A reading from Romans.

Romans 12:1-8

The scripture is read.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P. 205

GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Matthew 16:13-20

The scripture is read.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

CHANCEL CHOIR

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

BLESSING OF JONATHAN SMITH FOR CANDIDACY AND SEMINARY

We now give thanks . . . through Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary.

We give thanks, O Lord, for Your guidance and the discernment of those who have listened to Your voice in this decision.

With joy, we recognize . . . throughout their journey.

We rejoice in their obedience, and we ask for Your continued strength and wisdom to guide them.

Today, we affirm that Jonathan . . . already at work in and through them.

Lord, we thank You for the affirmation of this call and the opportunity to see Your Spirit at work.

May this decision be a source of joy . . . and walk alongside them in this journey.
Lord, fill our hearts with love and support, and guide us as we stand with Jonathan in this calling.

We pray for Jonathan . . . serves Your people.
Empower Jonathan with the gifts and talents he needs, and continue to guide his steps as he prepares for ministry.

We also lift up the whole church, . . . now and in the future.
May Your church be a place of encouragement and faith, where all are equipped to serve Your will.

We offer this prayer . . . be Your hands and feet in the world.
Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The response is: Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Meal

OFFERING HYMN *"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"* **No. 596**

Vs. 1-4

OFFERING PRAYER

COMMUNION

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY **P. 207**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING & SENDING OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD **P. 208**

COMMUNION HYMNS **No. 462**

"Now We Join in Celebration"

Vs. 1-3

"United at the Table"

No. 498
Vs. 1-3

"Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"

No. 548
Vs. 1-4

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN *"We All Are One in Mission"* **No. 576**
Vs. 1-3

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship

Pastor and Children's Message - Rev. Jack Busche
Director of Worship & Music - Jonathan Smith
Pianist & Chancel Choir Director - Joel Freiberg
Chancel Choir Accompanist - Stephanie Pacey

Technical Support

Bob Wiederhoeft
Pam Czerwinski

Offerings

We are grateful for a gift of any amount to further support the ministry of Saint Andrew. For the many ways you give, thank you. Offerings will be received during worship or you may give via text by sending a **text message** to 715-800-2369 with the amount you would like to contribute **OR** you may give using the QR code here.



Altar Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Paul and Janice Nelson.

T-Coil Hearing Loop

The Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop system. Those with hearing devices with a t-coil are encouraged to turn them on.



Worship Bags

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex for kids to use in worship. Each bag contains ribbons to match to the liturgical color of the day, communion ware, stickers to share during the passing of the peace, and a cross to hold while praying along with the congregation.

Busy Bags

Busy Bags including crayons, coloring books, and quiet toys can be found in the Narthex. Feel free to take a bag into worship and hang it back up when you are done.

Nursery

The nursery is located off the Narthex near the Fellowship Hall doors and is available for all families as needed with books, toys, a rocking chair and changing table.

Prayground

A prayground is located at the front of the Sanctuary for families with small children. There is extra floor space for children that may need to stand or move around and soft and quiet toys for busy hands.

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Announcements

Sunday, August 23

Pet Blessing Sunday Outdoor Worship

Sunday, August 30; 8:00 am - Traditional and 10:00 am - Modern

Worship will be on the Celebration Patio on the north side of the building. Any animals that can safely travel and be around strangers are invited to this worship service to receive a blessing. If it rains, both services will be held in the Sanctuary without the pet blessing.

Lights, Camera... Ministry!

Saint Andrew is looking for creative volunteers to join our Communications Ministry. If you enjoy making videos, designing graphics, taking photos, writing for social media, or simply want to learn something new, we'd love to have you on the team. Volunteers of all ages are welcome. Interested? Contact Bob at bwiederh@gmail.com to learn more.

LWR School Kits and Personal Care Kits

Wednesday, August 12 through Sunday, September 20

It's that time of year when we collect donations for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) School Kits and Personal Care Kits. Lists of needed items can be found in the Network newsletter and are also available in the Giving Corner.



OWLS Are Rockin!

Wednesday, September 2; 10:30 am

The presentation will be "The Rocks Cry Out" (Luke 19:40): Discovering God's Handiwork in Wisconsin's Geology. Retired earth science teacher Paul Nelson will be the presenter. All are welcome to attend and a potluck lunch will follow the presentation.

Lay School of Ministry Registration Now Open

Registration is due Friday, September 4, 2026

The East Central Synod of Wisconsin's Lay School of Ministry invites you to register for the 2026–2027 school year. Learn more in the Network newsletter and register at layschool.ecsw.org.

SALC Annual Church Picnic

Sunday, September 13; Following 9:00 am Worship

All are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall and on the Celebration Patio. Burgers, brats, hot dogs, and potluck dishes will be served. If you would like to bring a dish to pass or cupcakes/small cakes for bingo, please check out the display in the Narthex with pull-tags for needed items and to volunteer.

After the Storm: Sharing Your Love and Support with the Menasha Area

Below are ways to help that have been communicated to us:

1. Financial generosity is best. Give online through the ECSW (East Central Synod of WI) through www.ecsw.org, click the GIVE button and select "Local Disaster Relief" from the choose fund menu.

2. www.getconnected.volunteerfoxcities.org to volunteer

3. United Way Fox Cities is a place where people can report damage, volunteer, or donate, go to unitedwayforxcities.org or you can call them at 211.

4. Resources for mental health are available through NEW Network of Care at mentalhealth.networkofcare.org/foxcities-wi

GriefShare

Monday, September 14-December 7; 6:30 pm; St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Wausau

GriefShare is a 13-week video, national program. You can register by contacting Shirley Ostrem by email sjostrem2113@outlook.com or go to griefshare.org

Confirmation 2026-2027

Orientation: Wednesday, September 16; 6:30 pm - Fellowship Hall.

Confirmation letters were sent to new 6th grade students and returning confirmation students at the beginning of July. If your family did not receive a letter with registration information, please contact jenna@salc-wausau.org.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday September 17; 10:00 am-3:00 pm

The American Red Cross and Hello Kitty® are releasing exclusive NEW merch! Check the Network newsletter for more information and call 1 800 RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment.

A Fond Farewell to Waypost

September 18-20

As we prepare to close this chapter of Waypost's ministry, we hope you'll join us for a meaningful weekend of celebration, gratitude, and remembering. Please refer to the Network newsletter for more details and how to register. The main event on Saturday, September 19 is free and open to all.

An Invitation To Join the 2027 Civil Rights Tour

June 9–15, 2027

The ECSW (Synod) is excited to invite you to join them for a transformative journey as they along with the Northern Great Lakes Synod partner together for a Civil Rights Tour. Registration is now open. You can view more details in the Network newsletter and also by going to ecsw.org/news/civil-rights-tour-2027.



"One In Spirit" Yoga

NO yoga practices held August 11 - September 9

Looking forward to seeing you on your mats in the fall!

Mat-based Practices: Tuesdays at 8:30 am & 4:30 pm

Chair-based Practices: Wednesdays at 8:30 am

All are welcome, bring a friend! Practices meet in the Chapel, are drop in and free-will donation.

Name Game

People who help with worship have names that tell what they do. Draw a line from the picture of each worship helper to the name and description that matches.

The acolyte lights candles and helps the pastor.
The crucifer brings the cross into the worship space.
The lector reads from the Bible.



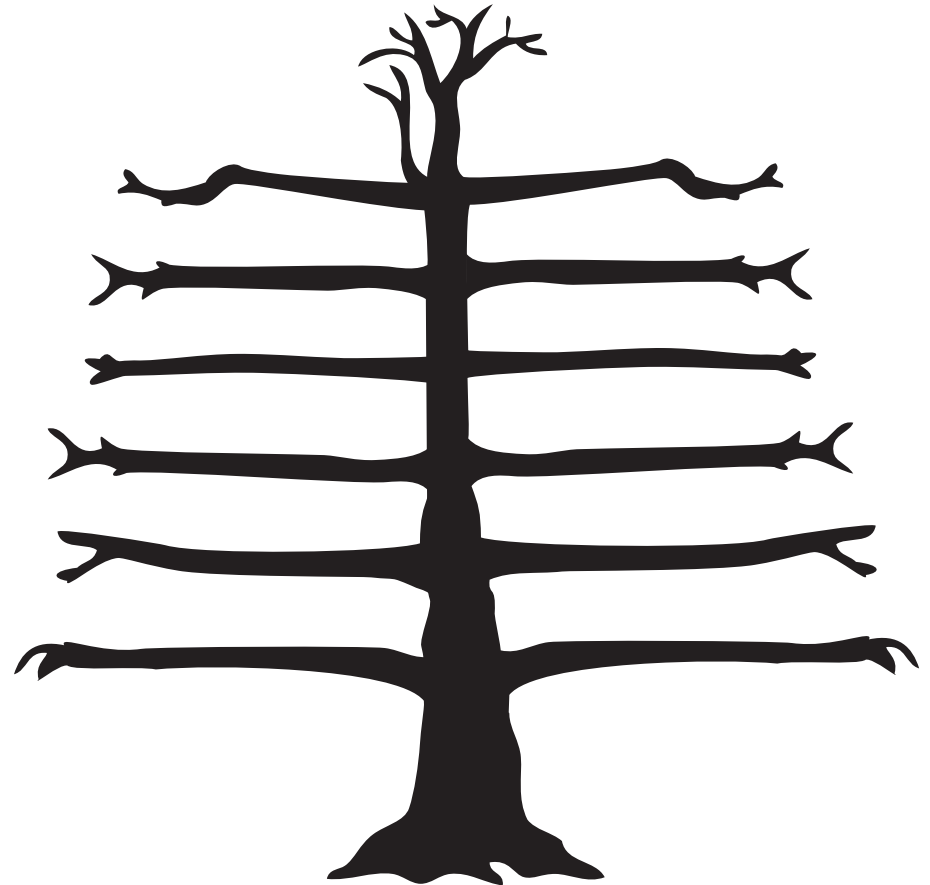
READER

Pentecost 13

- Today is the **13th** Sunday after Pentecost.
- This season is a **celebration** of the church as a **community**.
- Jesus' followers come together to be **part of the church**.

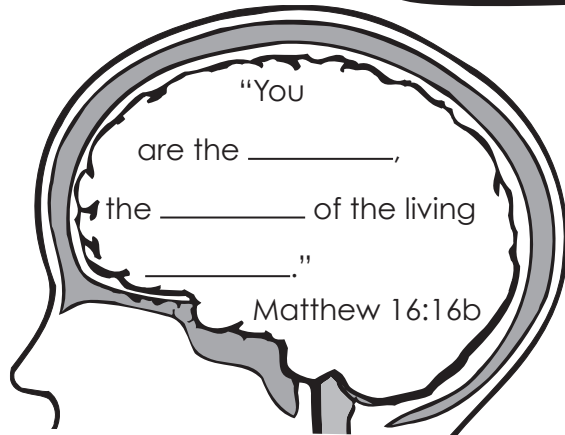
Church Community

Who is a part of your church community? Write their names in the branches of this tree. Remember that we are all connected!



Fill in the blanks to complete this week's memory verse.

Memory Verse



Christ Crossword

In the Gospel today, Jesus asks "Who do you say that I am?" There are many names for Jesus. Look up the Bible verses to solve the crossword puzzle. Each one contains a name for Jesus!

ACROSS

3. John 1:29: here is the _____ who takes away the sin of the world!

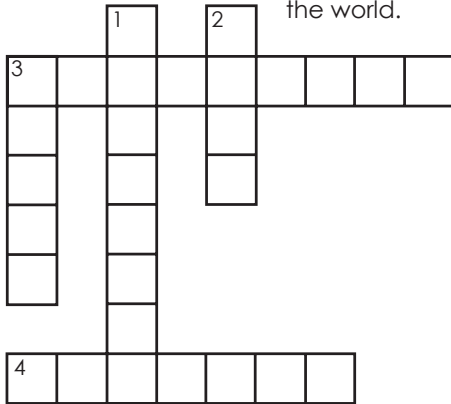
4. Matthew 3:17: This is my Son the _____.

DOWN

1. Matthew 1:23: and they shall name him _____.

2. John 1:1: In the beginning was the _____.

3. John 8:12: I am the _____ of the world.

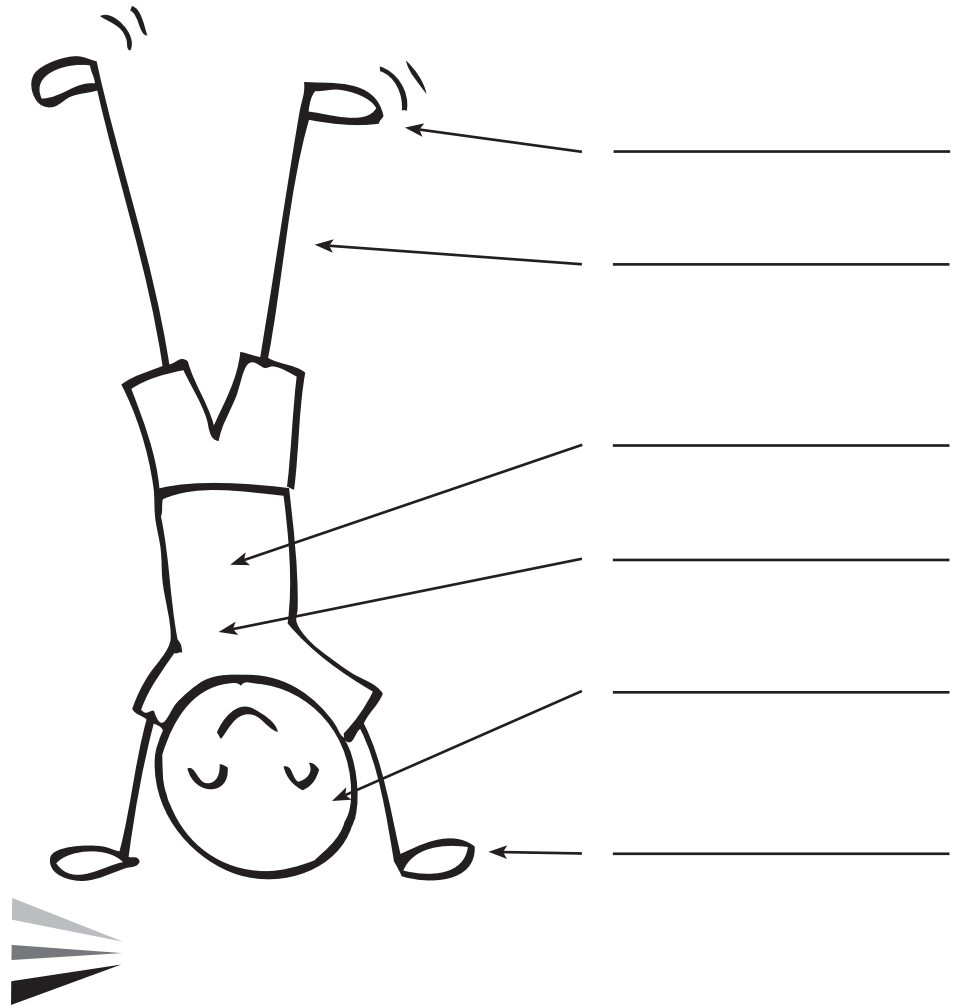


Look It Up!

The Gospel today is about Jesus' identity. Look up Isaiah 9:6 to read some other names for Jesus.

Body Builder

In Romans, Paul tells us to work together with each other like the parts of the body. What does each of these body parts do?

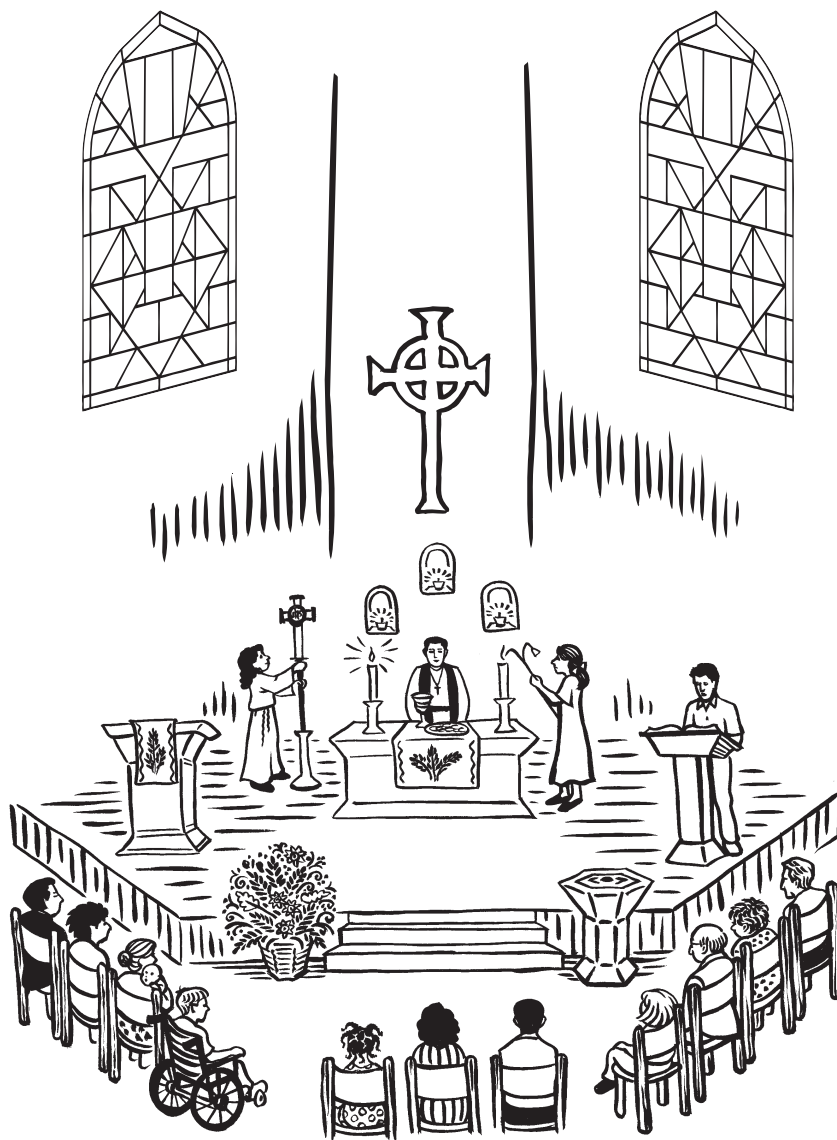


Bible Tip!

How can you find a certain book in your Bible? Look at the Table of Contents in the front of your Bible. You'll find the page number where the book starts.

There are many people who help during worship.

Color this picture of all the people who help during worship!

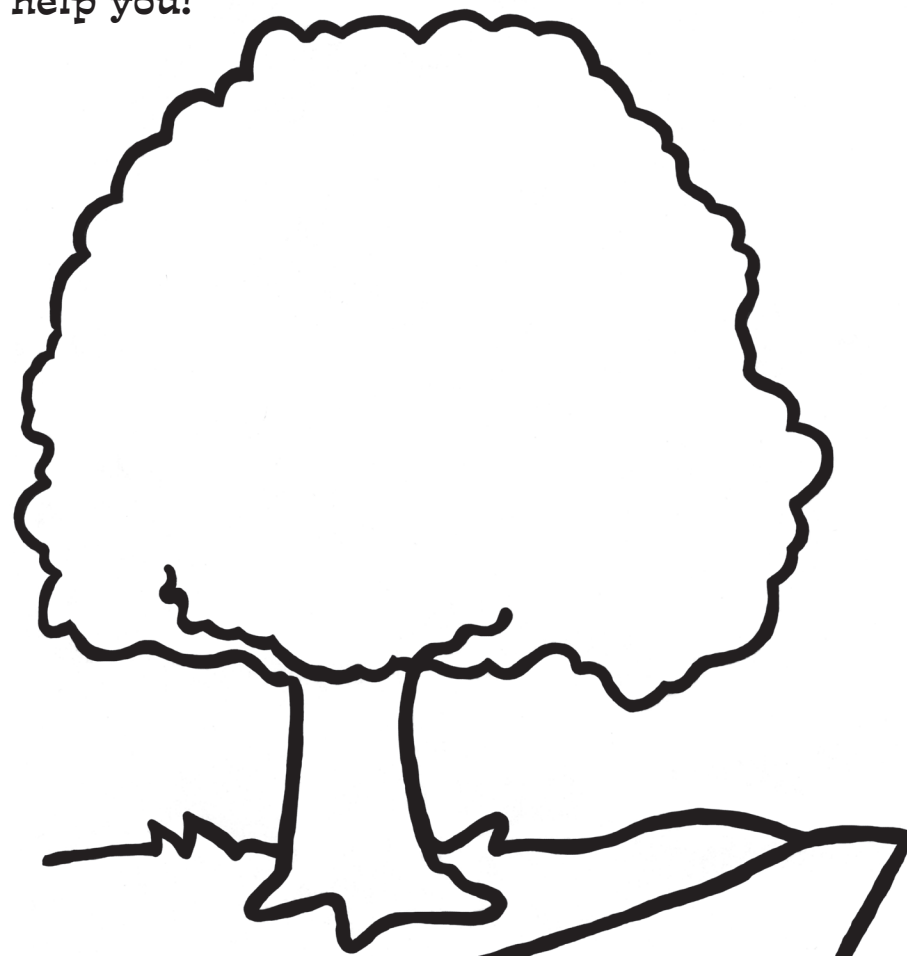


PRE-READER

Pentecost 13

- Today is the **13th Sunday** after Pentecost.
- This season celebrates the **church**.
- The church is a **community** of people who **help each other**.

Inside this tree, draw the people who help you!





“You’re the one God sent to save the world!”

God wants us to work together with each other, just like parts of a body!

Complete this body maze to help the body work together.

