

RESURRECTION NEWS



JUNE 2017



Pastor's Letter

June, 2017

"Everlasting Heaven and Hell"

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the Apostle's Creed we say, "I believe in Jesus Christ, who died, was buried, descended into hell and rose again from the dead..." As we speak these words, our attention is being directed to what lies beyond the here and now which is typically where our attention is focused. Just as we have been united to Christ's death in our baptism, so also have we been united to His resurrection from the dead. (*Romans 6:3-4*) As we confess that we believe in Jesus Christ, our attention is being directed not only to His resurrection from the dead, but also to ours.

Sadly, there are many people who believe that the life ends with death. We're born, we live, we die – and that's that. An English journalist named Steve Turner has summarized the prevailing belief of our day in a poem he calls, "Creed." Just one line of that poem is worth reciting here. He says, "We believe that after death comes the Nothing because when you ask the dead what happens, they say nothing."

But the Christian Church has always said, "life is not a dead end." Life goes on forever after death – for both the believer and the unbeliever. And in fact, the distance between the two points of birth and death are relatively very close together when compared with the life that continues forever after death.

The essential mission of the Christian Church, and of this congregation, is to teach and tell people that there is more to life than the here and now. When we talk about life after death, we much prefer talking about the promise of 'eternal life' with God in heaven through faith in Jesus Christ. But when the Church speaks the 'whole truth and nothing but the truth' about life after death, sadly, we must also talk about "hell."

A biblical faith that confesses, "I believe in Jesus Christ..." also confess that there is a hell because Jesus descended into hell immediately after his death. **"He descended into hell."** Jesus makes it very clear in his preaching and teaching that there is a hell which He repeatedly calls **"a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth,"** an **"outer darkness,"** **"a fiery furnace."**

The message that life begins at conception, moves through birth to death and then lives forever – is not good news or bad news – it's simply the facts of life. The GOOD NEWS is that God has opened heaven to us through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus and His resurrection from the dead.

The Holy Spirit works to create saving faith in the heart through His Word and Sacraments so that all might believe and live forever with Him in His kingdom, as Luther puts it, 'in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.'

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Nielsen

Notes from your Deaconess

June, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

Each Sunday, the **readings** bring us the words set down for us in the scriptures as God's own communication to us as his people. The Holy Spirit works through the proclaimed word to create faith—and so Christ, who really is present in the Word (as well as the Lord's Supper), feeds our souls and minds during the **Service of the Word**.

Our church uses a three-year lectionary for the Sunday readings. Some congregations of the Lutheran Church use a one-year lectionary. There are some good reasons for each choice, but two benefits of the three-year series include: first, that we hear more from the entire scriptures over the course of the three years; and second, that a great number of church bodies and traditions (including Catholic, Anglican, Orthodox, Presbyterian, Methodist) follow this series and so the same texts are proclaimed in many places every Sunday. Our Lutheran Service Book (LSB) includes both lectionaries on pages xiv through xxi—and also shows the readings for particular feasts and festivals on the following couple of pages. We currently are moving through Series A.

The readings generally include an Old Testament reading (but sometimes we hear from the book of Acts at this point), a portion of an Epistle, and a Gospel text. As was the historic practice of the church, a Psalm, or verses from Psalms—the Gradual—come in between the first two readings, and the Gospel is preceded by a spoken or sung Alleluia to set it apart. We see all the scriptures as pointing toward Christ and our life in him.

As for our daily lectionary, our worship at home, you can find that list in the LSB as well, on pages 299 through 304. Incidentally, if you do not have a copy of the hymnal, speak to Pastor or me. We'll be glad to get you one for your home.

This coming month the daily readings bring us to the end of the gospel of Luke on Holy Trinity Sunday (June 11), at which time we will also finish our time of reading from the books of Moses. At that point we'll move into "The Time of the Church" and go to the readings for specific days of the year until next Ash Wednesday. We will read through the last third of John's gospel starting on June 12, and then begin to read the book of Acts. The Old Testament readings come from the book of Proverbs while we read from John. As we read about the church beginning to move *out* of Jerusalem into the world in Acts, we will follow Joshua as he brings the people of Israel *into* the Promised Land.

I do not yet have a date for a retreat, but I will lead *one* Saturday morning women's Bible study this month on June 17. We meet at 8:30 or so in a downstairs classroom and finish within a couple of hours. We plan to study Esther this next meeting (we may end up continuing to another time as well). Please feel free to join us whether or not you read through the book ahead of time.

As we approach Pentecost this first Sunday in June celebrating the outpouring of the Holy Spirit who we have all received in our baptism, I leave you with St. Paul's words: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." (Galatians 5:22-23)

Under his mercy,

Sharon M. Conover

SPECIAL SUMMER POTLUCK BRUNCH AND BIBLE STUDY - SUNDAY, JUNE 18TH.

Plan to join us after worship on the 18th for a special time of fellowship and bible study. The topic for our consideration will be "ANGELS." What are they? What do they do? What does the bible say about them? Deaconess Conover will also lead study on Angels for all the children. Bring a favorite dish to share. Future 'Summer Potluck Brunch and Bible Studies' are planned for Sunday, July 9th and August 6th.

GOSPEL SYMPOSIUM 2017 - SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH.

As part of their celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, Redeemer Lutheran Church in Gorham is holding a one day conference on the "Reformation as response to the Gospel and its application for today." The guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. Timothy Quill - Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions and Director of International Studies at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne. The conference will begin at 10:00am. and conclude at 3:00pm. I am planning to attend this conference. If you would like to attend, please let me know. Pastor Nielsen.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS TO THE CONGREGATION.

We welcome Rev. Robert and Vary Fischer into the membership of the congregation.

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SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP HEADED TO "5/16 MISSION TRIP" - JUNE 25TH-29TH

Six youth and two adults will be headed to a week of mission work in Boston. Staying at 1st Lutheran Church in Boston, we'll work at area homeless shelters, food banks, and some other places. Youth attending are: Nathanael Batson, Sarah Kohl, Jacob Huesers, Cianan Morris, Elizabeth Larsen and Emily Larsen. Adults are Julie Kohl and pastor Nielsen. The Sr. Youth Group wishes to thank the congregation for its generous support.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE - NOW THROUGH SEPTEMBER 3rd:

Worship begins at 9:00am. Sunday School is in recess. Regular worship schedule begins on Sunday, September 10th.

MANY THANKS TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS!

Another season of Sunday School as concluded and we want to extend our deepest thanks to the Sunday School teachers for their outstanding work in bringing Jesus to the children every Sunday through the lessons they carefully prepared and taught. Thank you to Sasha Fitzpatrick and Sienna Fitzpatrick for their work with the preschool class. Thank you to Darryll Zahner for her work with the upper grades. And thank you to Deaconess Conover for her work with the Sr. High class. Thank you also to those who substituted when needed: Amanda Goldsmith, Kari Farr and Lee Anne Larsen. *(Sasha will be stepping down after several years of teaching. If you would be interested in leading the pre-school class for the 2017-2018 season, please see Deaconess Conover).*



Monthly Worship

June 4, 2017

The Day of Pentecost

Psalm: 25:1-15

First Reading: Numbers 11:24-30

Epistle: Acts 2:1-21

Holy Gospel: John 7:37-39

June 11, 2017

The Holy Trinity

Psalm: 8

First Reading: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Epistle: Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Holy Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

June 18, 2017

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 100

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8

Epistle: Romans 5:6-15

Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:35—10:8 (9-20)

June 25, 2017

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 91:1-10 (11-16)

First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

Epistle: Romans 6:12-23

Holy Gospel: Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

PLEASE NOTE:

As usual, the next (Summer) issue of the Newsletter will cover both July and August. So please get any information that needs to be included in the NL by June 26 (either by e-mail or in my mail box). Also, please don't forget to sign up for Fellowship refreshments for these two months!!!!

Thanks, Sharon

BIBLE QUIZ

1. Where was Moses buried?

A) on Mount Nebo under a pile of rocks B) on Mount Sinai in the ground C) he was carried into the Promised Land and buried there D) nobody knows because God buried him

2. David was one of how many sons of Jesse?

A) 4 B) 8 C) 12 D) 16

3. What law of physics did Peter defy with Jesus' help?

A) he walked on water B) he rose five feet in the air C) he shot electric sparks from his fingers D) he stepped into the midst of a raging fire

4. Who was brave enough to stay with Jesus after He was arrested?

A) all twelve disciples B) only eleven disciples, because Judas has already committed suicide C) about half of them (Peter, James, John, Matthew and Thomas) D) none of them

5. What common item did God use to allow Joshua and the Israelites to flatten Jericho's indestructible city walls?

A) shepherd's staff B) an animal's jaw bone C) a ram's horn trumpet D) a smooth pebble

6. Who said this: "We ought to obey God rather than men"?

A) Peter B) Paul C) James D) John



6/1 Peter Gaug
 6/2 Angie Carlson
 Sharon Klipp
 6/7 Moe Cote
 6/12 Robert Fischer
 6/14 Callum Goldsmith
 6/16 Sharon Callahan
 6/26 Tiana Thomas
 6/28 David Gideon



BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

6/3 Emily-Lynn Carlson
 6/7 Moe Cote
 6/8 Ted Evertsen
 6/11 Arthur Conover
 6/26 Bonnie Mathieu



6/5 Natalie Crowley



6/3 Steve & Kari Farr
 6/10 Ted & Dottie Evertsen
 6/11 Anna & Ed Rowe
 6/15 Brian & Andrea Watson
 6/19 Mike & Michelle Hein

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Church Humor

-----While walking up the front lane to his house, Pastor Norris of First Church heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly wilted his collar. His five-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead bird and were giving it a Christian funeral. The burial spot was dug, and the minister's son was selected to say the appropriate prayer. So, with dignity he intoned his version of what he thought his father always said, "Glory be to the Faaaather, and to the Sonnnn... and into the hole you go."

-----Bobby and his grandmother were looking at vacation pictures. "It looks like an artist painted this scenery," Grandma said. "Did you know God painted it all for you, Bobby?" "Yes," Bobby said. "God did it with His left hand." This confused his grandmother a bit, "What makes you say God did this with His left hand?" "Well said Bobby, "we learned at Sunday school last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand."

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Bible Quiz Answers

1. D (Deuteronomy 34:5-6)
2. B (1 Samuel 16:10-11,13)
3. A (Matthew 14:29)
4. D (Mark 14:50)
5. C (Joshua 6:5)
6. A (Acts 5:29)

The Daily Lectionary

June, 2017

June

- 6/1 Numbers 16:41-17:13 / Luke 20:19-44
6/2 Numbers 20:1-21 / Luke 20:19-44
6/3 Numbers 20:22-21:9 / Luke 20:45-21:19
- 6/4 Numbers 21:10-35 / Luke 21:20-38
6/5 Numbers 22:1-20 / Luke 22:1-23
6/6 Numbers 22:21-23:3 / Luke 22:24-46
6/7 Numbers 23:4-28 / Luke 22:47-71
6/8 Numbers 24:1-25 / Luke 23:1-25
6/9 Numbers 27:12-23 / Luke 23:26-56
6/10 Numbers 32:1-27 / Luke 24:1-27
- 6/11 Proverbs 9:1-18 / John 13:21-38
6/12 Proverbs 10:1-23 / John 14:1-17
6/13 Proverbs 13:1-25 / John 14:18-31
6/14 Proverbs 14:1-27 / John 15:1-11
6/15 Proverbs 15:1-29 / John 15:12-27
6/16 Proverbs 16:1-24 / John 16:1-16
6/17 Proverbs 17:1-28 / John 16:17-33
- 6/18 Proverbs 20:5-25 / John 17:1-26
6/19 Proverbs 22:1-21 / John 18:1-14
6/20 Proverbs 22:22-23:12 / John 18:15-40
6/21 Proverbs 24:1-22 / John 19:1-22
6/22 Proverbs 25:1-22 / John 19:23-42
6/23 Proverbs 27:1-24 / John 20:1-18
6/24 Proverbs 30:1-9,18-33 / John 20:19-31
- 6/25 Proverbs 31:10-31 / John 21:1-25
6/26 Joshua 1:1-18 / Acts 8:1-25
6/27 Joshua 2:1-24 / Acts 8:26-40
6/28 Joshua 3:1-17 / Acts 9:1-22
6/29 Joshua 4:1-24 / Acts 9:23-43
6/30 Joshua 5:1-6:5 / Acts 10:1-17
7/1 Joshua 6:6-27 / Acts 10:18-33

Read your bible every day

(Daily lectionary readings taken from LSB #299-304)

Some helpful habits for home devotions:

- *Keep a journal or make a mental note of one thought that you would like to remember from this reading.*
- *Read and discuss the daily reading with a family member or friend.*
- *Choose one verse to commit to memory, reciting it through the day.*
- *Speak to God in prayer about something from the reading that impressed or confused you.*

June Stewardship

	<u>June 4</u>	<u>June 11</u>	<u>June 18</u>	<u>June 25</u>
Acolyte	Allison Farr	Caden Fitzpatrick	Callum Goldsmith	Andrew Farr
Comm. Assistant	Chris Batson	Brad Fitzpatrick	Mike Hein	Steve Love
Ushers	Moe Cote & Brian Watson	Bill Jahnke & Steve Love	John Gould & John Ayotte	Tom Huesers & Mark Larsen
Greeters	Tom & Katie Huesers	Peter & Lois Doran	Jim & Darryll Zahner	Julie & Sarah Kohl
Altar Care	Avis Grant	Deb Nielsen	Sharon Conover	Amanda Goldsmith
Flowers	Avis Grant	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp	Julie & Sarah Kohl
Fellowship	Katie Huesers	Rev. Robert & Vary Fischer	John & Esther Gould	Becky Cote & Kari Farr