

RESURRECTION NEWS



NOVEMBER 2017



Pastor's Letter

November, 2017

"Proper Preparation for The Lord's Supper"

"Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." 1 Corinthians 11:27-29.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Who would sit down to a family dinner without first preparing the food, setting the table and washing hands and then praying? St. Paul warns us, that due to the holy nature of the Lord's Supper, we dare not come to this meal unprepared. Here, our Lord invites us to come to a meal that He Himself has prepared, at which He Himself is the host, and the food. To come to this meal is to encounter the living God who sits as ruler and judge over all heaven and earth and who comes in peace to meet us at the railing with gracious gifts to give to us. A meal like this one is never to be taken casually or irreverently. It deserves proper preparation.

Proper preparation for this meal requires examination – self-examination. Here are three questions that are helpful to properly prepare yourself for receiving the Lord's Supper.

Question #1 - Am I sorry for my sins?

This is not an easy question. It assumes that we believe that we have sin that we should be sorry for. Men like Moses and Isaiah and Peter had no trouble with this question because they knew their sinful condition. When Moses encountered God in the burning bush, he tried to bury his face in the dirt because He knew he was a sinner in the presence of a holy God. When Isaiah encountered the Lord in His temple he pronounced the divine curse upon himself. "Woe is me - I am ruined." When Peter realized he was in the presence of the Lord God at the great catch of fish, he too fell to his face and asked Jesus to "depart from me, for I am a sinful man." These men approached God as a guilty person approaches the judge.

But modern man has reversed all of this. He thinks he is the judge and it is God who is on trial. C.S. Lewis says that we may be a kind judge and if God should have a reasonable defense for being the God who permits war, poverty and disease, we will listen. The trial may even end in God's acquittal but the important thing is that it is man who is on the bench and God who is in on trial.

To pass the exam in this way is to fail it altogether. We must hear our Creator's assessment of our condition for He knows us better than we know ourselves. "If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we say we have not sinned we make God out to be a liar and His Word has no place in our lives." (1Jn.1:10,12).

Question #2. Do I believe the words of Jesus about this meal?

Jesus' words about this meal are these, "This is my body, this is my blood, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Our eating and drinking of His body and blood here connects us to His body and blood given and shed for us outside Jerusalem 2,000 years ago. This is not a symbolic body and blood. It is what His word says it is, the body and blood of the Lamb of God who was "slain from the

foundation of the world" according to Revelation. It is not our faith that makes it what it is. It is what Jesus says it is.

Furthermore, we must listen carefully to all that Jesus says here. He says, "given and shed FOR YOU." Listen to Luther here. "What is the use or fruit of this sacrament? Listen to this: "given for you" "shed for you." I go to the sacrament in order to take and use Christ's body and blood given and shed for me. When the minister intones, "This cup is the New Testament in my blood," to whom is it spoken? Not to my dog, but to those who are gathered to take the sacrament. These words must be apprehended by faith. Therefore I use the sacrament for the forgiveness of my sins; I say: I will go and take the body and blood; it is a sure sign that it was instituted for me against my death. "Which is given for you." There is the benefit."

Question #3 - Do I plan, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life?

The "real presence" of Christ's body and blood in this sacrament produces "real repentance" in those who receive it. It is not enough to say, "I am sorry for my sin and I believe that by this gift, Jesus gives me complete forgiveness for all of my sins, but I have no intention of amending my life or changing my mind in the sinful matter that I am currently engaged in." To come to the Lord's Supper without a sincere desire and intention to change the sinful behavior is nothing less than abuse of the body and blood of Jesus.

Listen to Luther once again. "They, however, receive it unworthily who knowingly and intentionally persist in their sins, such as revengeful wrath, murder, fornication, adultery and similar manifest sins and crimes. Christ instituted the Holy Sacrament unto the forgiveness of our sins, that we should forsake them and not continue in them... He declares it to be damnable, if persons deliberately sin, and then go to the Sacrament as though nothing had happened. They who act thus, eat and drink the sacrament unworthily, and God punishes them with sickness and other afflictions... The best thing we could do, under such circumstances, would be to put a stop to such wickedness, to repent, to trust faithfully in the promises and mercy of God, and to unite again with Christians in the participation of the Holy Sacrament."

"Therefore, a man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup."

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Nielsen

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 5TH - We remember your saints, dear Lord.



God's gracious love in Jesus Christ ignites the thankful acclamations of the saints in every time and place. It is God who has blessed us with faith. It is God who sustains and nurtures the lives of His saints through Word and Sacrament. It is God who continually affords grace and mercy to the saints in every age. Those who have died in the faith live forever in the perpetual, unchanging Light of Christ. Christ is the sole source of Light for the New Jerusalem; He is the Dayspring, the bright and glorious Morning Star whose glory enlightens the minds and hearts of His Saints with His glorious Gospel. On "All Saints Sunday," we name those who were members of this congregation when they were called to the Father's House. The congregation is invited to bring cut flowers to lay at the altar in memory of friends and loved ones who have died in the Christian faith. Flowers will also be available in the Narthex.

Notes from your Deaconess

November, 2017

Dear brothers and sisters of LCR,

Every church year we circle back to preparing for the coming of our Lord in the flesh. As we finish the church year and begin the next one with Advent, we anticipate his glorious final return in victory as Christ the King, and just after this we recall his humble incarnation as a baby at Christmas. Every week in our liturgy we also prepare for his coming to us in his body and blood of the sacrament.

Sanctus, the first hymn we sing in the part of the Divine Service when we partake of the Lord's Supper, derives its name from the Latin word for "Holy." This is the most ancient of the liturgical hymns we use in the service, having been used throughout the Christian church's history, and by Jewish communities before and most likely during the time of Jesus' life. Our Lutheran Service Book contains six different musical settings of the Sanctus.

The words we sing are drawn from Isaiah 6:3, when Isaiah has a vision of the Lord in heaven: "Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. The whole earth is full of his glory." You notice, however, that *we* sing to God, and that the heaven *and* earth are full of his glory. In the coming of our Messiah to earth, and his ascension back to glory, heaven and earth have a connection in him.

In the second part of this hymn we sing "Hosanna in the highest, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" This part comes from Psalm 118:19-20. "Hosanna" is Hebrew for "Save us," and it was likely chanted in processions of the Jewish people going to Jerusalem and the temple. We also find these phrases used by the disciples and the crowd in the gospel accounts when Jesus enters Jerusalem riding on a donkey. As we sing this hymn we rejoice at his real presence coming to us in the meal for forgiveness, strength, and communion with each other.

Through much of the month of November, we will continue daily lectionary readings completing the gospel of Matthew. Concluding our Old Testament readings in Deuteronomy on the first of the month, we will then read a great many passages from the prophet Jeremiah. He called the people around him to repentance, and spoke of the coming Messiah, the righteous branch, and how God would make an everlasting covenant with his people. Our Sunday School youth will have learned about Jeremiah the last Sunday of October. As we approach the season of Advent we will move to some readings in Revelation and from the prophet Daniel. Finally, we will begin Advent with readings from Isaiah and the first letter of Peter.

This month will include one Saturday morning Bible study for women on November 4, again addressing one or more New Testament women. Two Saturdays later on November 18, I'll travel to Redeemer Lutheran Church for an introduction and discussion of a book which is a lovely devotional resource written by one of the members of that church. Vary Fischer will be leading that part of the time together, and I will lead a Bible study regarding Biblical women and prayer as well. I hope that several will be able to join us. To learn more about the day, you can talk with Vary or me.

"I will give them a heart to know that I am the LORD, and they shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart" (Jeremiah 24:7).

Under his mercy,
Sharon M. Conover

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS - 2:00AM. - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

Remember to turn your clock BACK an hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER

This month's themes are as follows:

- 11/5 Three Men In The Fiery Furnace - Daniel 3
- 11/12 Daniel in the Lions Den - Daniel 6
- 11/19 God's People Go Home - Ezra 7; Nehemiah 2
- 11/26 Esther - Book of Esther

ADULT BIBLE STUDY FOR NOVEMBER - SUNDAYS - 8:45AM.

- 11/5 "Psalm of the Month" - Psalm 149 - "Sing to the Lord a new song"
- 11/12 "Exploring Genesis with Luther" - Genesis 2 - Creation of man and woman
- 11/19 "New Testament Review: Romans" - St. Paul's treatise on justification
- 11/26 "Hymnody Study" - Mathius Loy - An influential, early-American Lutheran

ACOLYTE RECOGNITION: SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 12TH

On Sunday, November 12th, we will recognize our dedicated group of Acolytes during the worship service. Our current crew of devoted acolytes is: Emily-Lynn Carlson, Andrew Farr, Allison Farr, Caden Fitzpatrick and Mia Fitzpatrick. If anyone would like to serve as acolyte, please speak to Deaconess Conover.

MANY THANKS TO THE REFORMATION 500 COMMITTEE

We thank Dan Callahan for his leadership in putting together and organizing the celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. Those serving on the committee were:

Dan Callahan	Katie Huesers	Tom Huesers	Yvonne Batson	Emily Larsen
Becky Cote	Moe Cote	Rick Dostie	All who made food for the Banquet	

Thank You!

HOW DO YOU READ THE NEWSLETTER - PRINT OR ONLINE?

If you read the Newsletter online and do not need a printed copy, please place yours on the table in the Narthex.

NEW 2018 CHURCH DIRECTORY IN THE WORKS!

Our resident photographer, Don Pryor, has graciously agreed to work on updating our Church Directory. Don will be set up to take individual and family pictures for the directory on Sunday, **November 12th and 19th** after worship.

ANNUAL VOTERS MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

Please plan to be present for this important annual meeting of the congregation. Agenda items include various Board and Committee reports, 2018 budget recommendation, election of Church Council officers and lots more fun. All communicant members of the congregation who have not yet done so, will be asked to sign the Constitution and By-Laws before the voting meeting begins. A free pizza party will precede the meeting.



BIBLE QUIZ

Monthly Worship

November 5, 2017

All Saints Day (Observed)

Psalm: 149

First Reading: Revelation 7 (2-8) 9-17

Epistle: 1 John 3:1-3

Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

November 12, 2017

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 70

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

November 19, 2017

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 90:1-12

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7-16

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

November 26, 2017

Last Sunday of the Church Year

Psalm: 95:1-7a

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-36

1. What did the disciples find Jesus doing in the middle of a raging storm in the middle of the sea?

A) sleeping B) 3 praying C) worrying D) watching

2. Who penned the words to this psalm: "Be still and know that I am God"?

A) David B) Moses C) the sons of Korah D) anonymous

3. What will not be present in the New Jerusalem?

A) a temple, sun and moon B) trees, birds, and animals
C) technology, science and math D) skyscrapers, houses and stores

4. In the first year of the church era, how many people came to know Jesus as their personal savior?

A) about 100 people B) somewhere between 2000 and 5000 people
C) over 8000 people D) too many to accurately record

5. What was the reoccurring sin of the Israelites during the era of the Judges?

A) everyone followed his own conscience instead of obeying God
B) everyone offered blemished lamb sacrifices to God
C) the priests were drunk and unruly most of the time
D) the priests wanted land to inherit like all the other tribes

6. Who said this: "Am I my brother's keeper?"

A) Abel B) Cain C) Esau D) Jacob



11/2 Mia Fitzpatrick
 11/6 Avis Grant
 11/10 Sherman Hill
 11/13 Fernando Gouvea
 11/16 Hayley Farr
 11/23 Peter Doran
 David Leigh



BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

11/27 Corina Wilson
 11/?? Krista Carlson
 Sarah Kohl



11/7 David & Kay Gideon
 11/18 Peter & Lois Doran



Confirmation Anniversaries

11/13 Sharon Conover
 11/14 Mike Hein

For a Few Laughs

Afraid of the Dark

One of Tommy’s favorite games was to ride his mother’s broom around the yard like a horse. When it started to get dark, Tommy went into the house, leaving the broom in the yard. When cleaning up after dinner, Tommy’s mother asked the boy to bring in her broom.

“But I’m scared to go out in the dark, Mama.”

Mother answered, “The Lord is out there, honey. Don’t be afraid.”

So Tommy opened the back door a crack and called out, “Lord, if you’re out there, hand me the broom!”

A.M. vs. P.M.

Seven year old Johnny had been standing in the church narthex examining a large brass plaque for a long time. Seeing his interest, the pastor walked and stood beside Johnny. “So, what do you think of this plaque, young man?”

“What is it?” Johnny asked.

“Well, son, these are people who died in the service,” replied the minister.

Soberly the boy looked up at the pastor, “Which service sir, morning or evening?”

Bible Quiz Answers

1. A (Luke 8:23-24)
2. C (Psalm 46:10 and attribution)
3. A (Revelation 21:22-23)
4. C (Acts 2:41; 4:4)
5. A (Judges 17:6, 21:25)
6. B (Genesis 4:9)

Stewardship for November

	<u>November 5</u>	<u>November 12</u>	<u>November 19</u>	<u>November 26</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	Mia Fitzpatrick	Allison Farr	Andrew Farr	Emily-Lynn Carlson
<u>Comm. Assistant</u>	Brian Watson	Dan Callahan	Steve Love	Tom Huesers
<u>Ushers</u>	Mike Hein & Tom Huesers	Moe Cote & Bill Jahnke	Mark Larsen & Glenn Carlson	Dan Callahan & John Gould
<u>Greeters</u>	Tom & Katie Huesers	Avis Grant & Pat Kablitz	Julie & Sarah Kohl	John & Karen Ayotte
<u>Altar Care</u>	Sharon Conover	Amanda Goldsmith	Amy Ouellette	Kitty Carlson
<u>Flowers</u>	500 Committee	Jim & Darryll Zahner	Jim & Darryll Zahner	Gail Carrano
<u>Fellowship</u>	Dorthy McAllister	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Calendar of Events November, 2017

Week of November 5 - All Saints

Saturday – 11/4	8:30am. - Deaconess' Bible Study
Sunday - 11/5	8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study 10:00am. - Worship - The Festival of All Saints
Thursday - 11/9	10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study

Week of November 12

Sunday - 11/12	8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study 10:00am. - Worship
Wednesday - 11/15	7:00pm. - Church Council Meeting
Thursday - 11/16	10:30am. - Mid-week Bible Study
Saturday - 11/18	9:30am. - Women's Retreat - Redeemer Lutheran - Gorham

Week of November 19

Sunday - 11/19	8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study 10:00am. - Worship
----------------	---

Week of November 26 – Last Sunday of the Church Year

Sunday - 11/26	8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study 10:00am. - Worship
Thursday - 11/30	10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study