

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 24, 2020

A WORD FROM PT

Last week I wrote about how sin is the reason for all the separation, alienation, and animosity in the world between fellow human beings. This week I want to write about how sin attacks us in at least three ways.

In his Small Catechism, Dr. Luther sums up the attack against us by describing a threefold enemy. Luther speaks of the devil, the world, and our sinful self. You may have also heard the “sinful self” described with the words “flesh” or “carnal.”

It is important to understand that two of these attacks come from outside of us. Just so, we can appropriately describe ourselves as being victims, for we are

attacked by the devil and by the world. You can say that we have been victimized! We are especially victimized by way of temptation from these two related sources. The voice of the devil is full of lies. They are often half-truths which make their falsehood all the more seductive. The world is also full of voices, the collective voices of individuals that have given in to the lies of the devil. This means that we are constantly bombarded by lies morning, noon, and night – 24/7.

Now the fact that we have been victimized does not then make us innocent. It did not pass muster when Adam and Eve claimed “the devil made me do it.” The

devil surely tempted them. He lied to them. He made false promises. He called God’s goodness into question. But he did not make them sin! It was the doubt from within, the distrust of God’s goodness and the reliability of His word, and the desire to be god that resulted in human disobedience. This is the work of the flesh.

When we repent and come to faith in Christ, we need His assistance against the devil and the world. But we also need to come clean and acknowledge our responsibility for sinning, and our need for forgiveness.

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Why Is the Pastor Using cruets to both fill the Communion Chalice and then to cleanse it afterward?

You may have noticed the Pastor using a little water from a cruet poured into the chalice, swirled around

to mix with the remaining drops of wine, and consumed by the Pastor at the conclusion of administering Holy Communion. This is one way to reverently handle the remaining communion element of the cup. And there is a practical benefit. The longer wine sits in pre-

cious metal vessels, the more it begins pitting the surface. By adding wine when needed to the chalice, and then consuming soon after the slight remains with a little water, the metal is preserved.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 6/23
4:00pm Prayer Gathering

Friday, 6/26
6:30am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 6/28 4th Sunday a Pentecost
8:00am Mask-Required Shortened
Divine Service
9:00am Divine Service

Tuesday, 6/30
4:00pm Prayer Gathering

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

- *Christ-Centered*
- *Mission-Driven*
- *Traditionally-Grounded*
- *Congregationally-Focused*

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

NALC (North American Lutheran Church) (www.thenalc.org)

THIS AND THAT...

In light of the recent decision of the **La Crosse County Health Department** to raise the risk level in our area to "severe" our Council will gather this week to determine how to proceed with our congregational life and ministry. So stay tuned to communications from the congregation.

Until you are informed otherwise, **assume that gatherings inside our church building will be canceled**, with the exception of a few people gathering to continue to live-stream por-

tions of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday mornings at 9am.

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** that just met for the first time in some while last Friday, will once again be put on hold until we determine how to move forward in the light of the growing spread of COVID-19 in our area.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of June will be directed to The Food Basket serving Holmen and

Onalaska.

Don't forget to bring non-perishable food items for **The Food Basket** serving Holmen and Onalaska.

The Roll family is signed up for cleaning the church the week of June 21. Beginning in July we need a new signup list.

Having compassion and showing mercy to our neighbors is always the finest witness that we can do.

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8

HUMOR DEPARTMENT

Celebrations

Birthdays

- June 25 Mary Bartos
- June 26 Tom Rislow
- July 9..... Alex Uly
- July 12 Sophie Schoonover
- July 27..... Emeron Christensen
- July 29..... Buff Peterson

Anniversaries

- June 22 P & N Hanson
- July 4..... E & G Eade
- July 9..... B & C Peterson

Parenting Tips

Shouting to make your children obey is like using the horn to steer your car, and you get about the same result.

To be in your children's memories tomorrow, you have to be in their lives today.

The smartest advice on raising children is to enjoy them while they are still on your side.

Life's golden age is when the kids are too old to need babysitters and too young to borrow the family car.

Cleaning your house while

your kids are at home is like trying to shovel the driveway during a snowstorm.

Grandparents are similar to a piece of string - handy to have around and easily wrapped around the fingers of grandchildren.

Adolescence is the age children try to bring up parents.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined) a little before service

6/28 4th Sunday after Pentecost

- Asst Minister:** tbd
- Reader:** tbd
- Crucifer:** tbd
- Acolyte:** tbd
- Ushers:** tbd
- Counters:** tbd
- Comm Asst:** tbd
- Accompanist:** tbd
- Fellowship:** tbd

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7/5 5th Sunday after Pentecost

- Asst Minister:** tbd
- Reader:** tbd
- Crucifer:** tbd

- 7/12** 6th Sunday after Pentecost
- Asst Minister:** tbd
- Reader:** tbd
- Crucifer:** tbd
- Acolyte:** tbd
- Ushers:** tbd
- Counters:** tbd
- Comm Asst:** tbd

7/19 7th Sunday after Pentecost

- Asst Minister:** tbd
- Reader:** tbd
- Crucifer:** tbd
- Acolyte:** tbd
- Ushers:** tbd
- Counters:** tbd
- Comm Asst:** tbd
- Accompanist:** tbd
- Fellowship:** tbd

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Services held at 9am at:
 642 Western Avenue
 A block north and then
 a block west of King Furniture