

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

A WORD FROM PT

There is never a time when we don't need to be wary of the enemy, namely the devil. We can also speak of the enemy being threefold: the devil, the world, and our sinful self (the flesh). St. Peter warns us, "the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1Pe 5:8). This has been true from the first transgression of Adam and Eve, and it has remained true ever since. And it is absolutely true in the times we currently live in!

The Apostle Paul does an excellent job of describing the safeguard for believers to withstand the wiles of the devil in his correspondence to the Church of Ephesus. You can reference this in

Ephesians 6:10-20. In the space permitted, I offer the following points.

The battle of cosmic proportions is with the devil and with his accomplices in the world and in the sinful nature of each human being. But it really isn't so much a battle between God and the devil. The reality is not like the movie Star Wars. The devil is absolutely no match for God! The battle is over human souls. Will we permit the Lord to redeem us along with all his creation, or will we be devoured by eternal damnation.

If we rely on our own strength we are doomed. We, unlike God, are no match for the fallen angels. Instead the believer by faith

is able "to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might!"

And as any soldier is well armored who enters battle, if by baptism and faith we put on Christ we will be fully equipped. For Christ is our truth, our righteousness, our fleet footed proclamation of Good News, our shield and refuge, our salvation, and our sword. To be clothed in Christ is to be fully armored! And prayer, that starts with God first speaking to us, is the way we continued to be clothed in him. Pray that you not fall into temptation!

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, 8/31
11:00am Prayer Gathering

Friday, 9/3
6:30am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 9/5 15th Sunday a Pentecost
9:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship

Tuesday, 9/7
11:00am 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...

We have one more Sunday, September 5, with the use of the **With One Voice** Hymnal for the Divine Service. The following Sunday, September 12 we will back in the **Lutheran Book of Worship** for the liturgy.

Look for **Choir Practice** to begin back up at 8am on Sunday, September 12.

The continued **livestreaming** is for those who cannot otherwise attend in person! It is a good outreach tool and a

way for shut-ins to connect.

The Wisconsin/Upper Michigan Mission District **Annual Convocation** is on Saturday, September 11 in Wausau. If interested in accompanying Pastor Tim, get in touch with him soon.

Don't forget **Food Donations** for the Onalaska Food Basket!

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of Sep-

tember is Lutherans for Life.

Cole and Ann Warner are scheduled to clean the church the week of September 19. Hannah Scholze and Cheryl Ruud are signed up for the week of October 17.

As we need to be gospelled (evangelized) all our lives, start gospeling on a steady basis those already initiated into the Christian Faith. Before you know it, you will be gospeling others as well.

GIFT of GRACE

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

Aug 25..... Pam Benrud
 Aug 29..... Jeremy Schoonover
 Sep 2..... Karri Bjornstad
 Sep 9..... Anne Warner
 Sep 10..... Carol Halderson
 Sep 10..... Hannah Scholze
 Sep 15..... Butch Fisher

Anniversaries

Aug 28..... B&A Fisher
 Sep 8..... J&D Uy
 Sep 18..... J & H Roll

You Know You're A Lutheran when...

- the church is on fire and you run in to save the coffee pot.
- you're watching "Star Wars" in the movie theatre, and when they say, "May the force be with you," you reply, "And also with you."

- you tap a church visitor on the shoulder and say, "Excuse me, you're in my seat."
- you carry silverware in your pocket to church just in case there's a potluck.
- you feel guilty about not feeling guilty.
- it's 110 degrees outside and you still have coffee

after services.

- every time something changes, the old way was better.
- all your casserole dishes have your name on the bottom.
- you and your family of six squeeze into the last pew along with the 140 members already sitting there.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

9/5 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier
Reader: Jeremy Schoonover
Crucifer: Hanson Family
Acolyte: Hanson Family
Ushers: Hannah Scholze
Counters: Hannah S/Nikki H
Comm Asst: Jessica Schoonover
Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: Connie M/Carol P
Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

9/12 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover
Reader: Jarrod Roll
Crucifer: Roll Family

Acolyte: Roll Family

Ushers: Jessica Schoonover

Counters: Jarrod R/tbd

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Cyndi M/the Rolls

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

9/19 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Tom Rislow

Reader: Hannah Scholze

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: Connie M/tbd

Comm Asst: Connie Meunier

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

9/26 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: Mike Meunier

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: Tom R

Comm Asst: Karri Bjornstad

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: tbd

Livestreamer: tbd

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