

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 10, 2024

A WORD FROM PT

I sense the need to address you this week on a neglected Biblical teaching known theologically as “Original Sin”. Before moving to a definition, I will start with some relevant Scripture Passages.

Genesis 3 describes how our first parents were beguiled by the devil and failed to trust in the goodness of God and the trustworthiness of His Word. They wanted to determine good and evil for themselves. By their disobedience they lost their state of innocence. Death became a new reality, just as they had been warned. Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden. This is called the “Fall”. That is, man fell from the lofty

heights of life, innocence, and glory.

King David, the great psalmist of Israel, composed the lyrics describing the fallen human condition this way: “Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me” (Ps 51:5). The Apostle Paul understood this predicament as well. In chapter 5, verse 12 of his letter to the Romans he echoed the Psalmist’s verse:

“Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.” In verse 19 Paul writes, “For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be

made righteous.”

Original Sin is described this way in the Augsburg Confession: “It is taught among us that since the fall of Adam, all human beings who are born in the natural way are conceived and born in sin. This means that from birth they are full of evil lust and inclination and cannot by nature possess true fear of God and true faith in God.”

Suffice it to say, our conversations would be markedly different when it comes to sexual morality if we acknowledged and believed this doctrine! We would recognize that we still struggle to trust in the goodness of God and the trustworthiness of His Word...

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is the meaning of the Incarnation? The word *incarnation* is taken from Latin term *incarnatio*. It literally means “taking flesh” and in the Christian Faith it refers to God becoming human. In John 1:14 we learn of God the Son becoming flesh with the birth of Jesus

of Nazareth. Indeed the child born to Mary was a man, but it is the insistence of the Christian Faith that Jesus was also fully God. He is sometimes called the *God-Man*. Without ceasing to be fully divine, inseparable and equal to God the Father and God the Holy Spirit; God the Son

also fully assumed our humanity in the womb of the Virgin Mary. In this way Jesus mediates God to man and then also represents man to God. The mystery of the Incarnation becomes a necessary means by which Jesus’ death and resurrection accomplishes our salvation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, 7/11

12pm Funeral for Merl Wangen
6pm Church Council Meeting

Friday, 7/12

7am Men’s Breakfast at McDonald’s

Saturday, 7/13

4pm PT to Emmanuel Lutheran

Sunday, 7/14 8th Sun after Pentecost

Worship at West Shelter, Halfway Creek Park
10am Divine Service w Communion
11:30am Potluck Picnic



Making Disciples for Life

LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) (LCMS.org)

THIS AND THAT...

Our congregation's annual Sunday at the **Halfway Creek Park, West Shelter** in Holmen is this Sunday, July 14. The Divine Service there will be at 10:00am and a Potluck/Picnic lunch will follow.

The **Ladies Night Out** in July is for Tuesday, July 16, 5:30pm at Su Casa's in Holmen. Please RSVP to Mary Bartos so enough seats can be reserved (608) 385-5660.

Don't forget the list in the kitchen for helping out twice a month with the **Holmen Area Community Center's Senior Meal**.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry! Peanut Butter and canned beans are especially requested.

Heide Traver and Lee Fehr will be cleaning the church the week of July 21. At present we have no one signed

up for the week of August 18.

The July **Designated Benevolence** is for **St. Clare's Health Mission** in La Crosse.

If we truly trust in our Lord we would also trust in His Word. If we believe the Lord to be fully good, then whatever he commanded and promised would necessarily be good for us as well. But do we trust Him and His Word? Lord, have mercy. Help us to have faith.

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

July 15..... Tim Betlach
 Aug 10..... Carrie Cunningham
 Aug 12..... Dawson Staff
 Aug 13..... Jessica Schoonover

Anniversaries

July 3..... M&J Repaal
 Aug 12..... R&B Kuehn

Kids & Church

After a little boy attended his first wedding his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?" "Sixteen," came the response. The cousin was amazed that he could answer so quickly. "How do you figure that?" "Easy," the first boy explained, "all you have to do is add it up. Like the Bishop said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4

richer, and 4 poorer."

The six-year-old girl came close... She was overheard reciting the Lord's Prayer at a church service. And here is what she said: "And forgive us our trash passes, as we forgive those who passed trash against us."

A little girl became restless as

the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

7/14 8th Su a Pent - Outdoor Worsh

Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow
Reader: Connie Meunier
Crucifer: Elliott Cunningham
Acolyte: Regan Cunningham
Ushers: Mary Bartos
Counters: Connie M/Dave B
Comm Asst: Mike Meunier
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: potluck
Livestreamer: N/A

7/21 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier
Reader: Heather Roll
Crucifer: Regan Cunningham

Acolyte: Elliott Cunningham

Ushers: Cole Warner
Counters: Jarrod R/Tom R
Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: Connie M/Leslie D
Livestreamer: Jed Roll

7/28 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad
Reader: Mike Meunier
Crucifer: Dawson Staff
Acolyte: Chase Repaal
Ushers: Tim Betlach
Counters: Jeremy S/David B
Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: Paula Betlach
Livestreamer: Tim Betlach

8/4 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover
Reader: Brad Benrud
Crucifer: Benjamin Roll
Acolyte: Jed Roll
Ushers: David Bjornstad
Counters: Dan M/Tim B
Comm Asst: Mike Meunier
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: tbd
Livestreamer: Jed Roll

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