

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

MAY 21, 2025

A WORD FROM PT

If someone says of the Christian Faith that it all boils down to love they are not mistaken. But if we think we know what this love is and believe that we are capable of exercising it on our own steam we are sadly mistaken.

Indeed, our Lord Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another" (Jn. 13:34). But the sentence doesn't end there. It goes on, "as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." This provides an important clue as to what kind of love this is. And accordingly, there are no shortcuts in learning who Jesus is, and how He demonstrated His love in what He taught and did.

We learn this from the Scriptures.

What we call love is usually directed at selfish ends. It seldom contains the notion of sacrifice. And it lacks willing the good of the other, rather it is often content with just making the other feel better.

We are taught in God's Word that Christ's love for us renews us. It also empowers us to be able to love like He loves. It is, as taught in the bible, that "We love because He first loved us" (1Jn. 4:19).

The Ten Commandments express God's good will. They are what is expected of us. Jesus taught that the ten could be summarized by

two. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ... [and] You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt. 22:37-38; cf. Dt. 6:4-5; Le 19:18).

And yes, the ten can be summarized by the two, but the two don't replace them. That idea is a neat trick tried by those who try to sidestep them. But that's not the way it works. As we look out for the welfare of other members of Christ's body, we also demonstrate our fear, love and trust of Christ, the head of His body. The Commandments teach us what is in the true best interest of our neighbor.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 5/20

6pm Elders Meeting at church

Thursday, 5/22

9:30am Prayer Team

Friday, 5/23

7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

Sunday, 5/25 6th Sunday of Easter

9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship

Friday, 5/30

7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

Sunday, 6/1 7th Sunday of Easter

9am Divine Service of the Word
10:15am Coffee Fellowship

Friday, 6/6

7am Men's Breakfast at McDonald's

Sunday, 6/8 Day of Pentecost

9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is the significance of The Ascension Day Commemoration? Forty days following Easter the Resurrected Christ ascended to heaven, where as we confess in the Creed, he is seated at the right hand of the Father. The account of the ascension of our Lord occurs in both Luke 24:50-51 and Acts 1:9-11. As described in these passages

Jesus led his disciples up Mount Olivet near Jerusalem where suddenly they witnessed his being elevated up into the sky until a cloud took him away from their sight. This signified his return to heaven where, as we confess in the Creed, he is seated at the right hand of the Father. This enthronement is a description of

the all-inclusive authority he is given by the Father. Christ's going away necessarily preceded his promised sending of the Holy Spirit. Other hints at the significance of his ascension have to do with his promise to go and prepare a place for his followers to be with him, and to serve as a High Priest interceding for his Church.



**Making
Disciples
for Life**

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

THIS AND THAT...

We begin to transition to our summer schedule with Memorial Day Weekend. That means there will be no **Choir Practice** starting on Sunday, May 25

Starting on **Sunday, June 8**, which is the **Day of Pentecost** we will be moving to Setting 4 in the Lutheran Service Book.

Pastor Tim and President Tom Rislow will be attending

a **SWD Convention** held June 9 and 10 at Concordia University Wisconsin in Mequon, WI. We will be elected a President for our District.

Do check the sign up sheets in the kitchen for **Fellowship, Cleaning**, and delivering **Senior Meals**.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry!

The Fehrs will clean the church the week of May 18. The Magnusons are signed up for the week of June 15.

The May **Designated Benevolence** is for **Lutheran Military Veterans**.

The love commanded in the Scriptures is "willing the good of my neighbor" whether there is any immediate benefit to me. It is acting in his best interest understanding that best interest to be taught by God's Word.

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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

May 14..... Stella Roll
June 7..... Ron Kuehn
June 7..... Jim Magnuson
June 13 Paul Hanson
June 15 Susan Wilhelm

Anniversaries

May 18..... J & M Magnuson
May 23..... C & M Bartos
June 19 P & C Cunningham
June 22 P & N Hanson

Guys' Rules for the Ladies' Consideration

- Shopping is not a sport. And no, we are not going to think of it that way.
- Crying is blackmail.
- Ask for what you want. Let's be clear on this one: Subtle hints do not work! Strong hints do not work! Obvious hints do not work! Just say it!
- Yes and No are perfectly acceptable answers to almost every question.
- Come to us with a problem only if you want help solving it. That's what we do. Sympathy is what girlfriends are for.
- Anything we said 6 months ago is inadmissible in an argument. In fact, all comments become null and void after 7 days.
- If something we said can be interpreted two ways and one of the ways makes you sad or angry, we meant the other one.
- You can either ask us to do something or tell us how you want it done. Not both. If you already

know best how to do it, just do it yourself.

- Christopher Columbus did not need directions and neither do we.
- All men see in only 16 colors, like Windows default settings. Peach, for example is a fruit, not a color. Pumpkin is also a fruit. We have no idea what mauve is. Or taupe.
- If we ask what is wrong and you say "nothing," we will act like nothing's wrong. We know you are lying, but it is just not worth the hassle.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

5/25 Sixth Sunday of Easter
Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover
Reader: Dan Molstad
Crucifer: Stella Roll
Acolyte: Asher Roll
Ushers: Dan Molstad
Counters: Dan M/Tom R
Comm Asst: Mike Meunier
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: Cyndi Molstad
Livestreamer: Cole Warner

6/1 Seventh Sunday of Easter
Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow
Reader: Jessica Schoonover
Crucifer: Benjamin Roll

Acolyte: Dawson Staff
Ushers: Mary Bartos
Counters: Tim B/Cole W
Comm Asst: not needed
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: Connie Meunier
Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

6/8 The day of Pentecost
Asst Minister: Tom Rislow
Reader: Craig Bartos
Crucifer: Asher Roll
Acolyte: Regan Benjamin Roll
Ushers: Jarrod Roll
Counters: Naomi R/Cole W
Comm Asst: Mike Meunier

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: Heide Fehr
Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

6/15 Holy Trinity Sunday
Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad
Reader: Jarrod Roll
Crucifer: Chase Repaal
Acolyte: Stella Roll
Ushers: Tim Betlach
Counters: Jarrod R/Jackie Repaal
Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: tbd
Livestreamer: Jarrod 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