

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

A WORD FROM PT

Last week I mentioned elements often missing when good liturgical worship is not employed. The first thing I mentioned was the reading of Scripture Lessons, including the Old Testament. So, why is it important to include such readings?

We can take a hint from the Bible itself! In Exodus 24 Moses reads aloud the "Book of the Covenant" to the Israelites. In Joshua 8, Moses' successor, Joshua, gave the reading of the Law to the assembly who had recently entered the Promised Land. King Josiah read the Law to the people during a revival mentioned in 2 Kings 23. And then there was Ezra's reading of the Law to the people after the Babylonian exile in the Book of Nehemi-

ah.

Our Lord Jesus Himself demonstrates the place of the reading of lessons had in the synagogue. In Luke 4 he participates as a Lector (Reader) and Preacher in the synagogue in Nazareth. There He read aloud from the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah, which was likely the appointed reading for that day.

If you can imagine this, the Apostle Paul instructs congregations to read his letters publicly as they gathered for worship (1 Thess. 5:27; Col. 4:16). The entirety of 1 Corinthians certainly exceeds the length of the readings we select today. And the Apostle writes in 1 Timothy 4:13 to the young Pastor he was mentoring, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public

reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

In our church we follow a three-year cycle of appointed lessons (a lectionary) that covers the major Biblical themes and the important events and teaching in Jesus' ministry. It covers most of the Gospel Accounts, and significant portions of the New Testament letters and writings. It also includes Old Testament readings that largely demonstrate how Jesus and the New Testament are the fulfillment of God's promises made in the Old Testament.

With regular worship attendance, the members receive a good representation of the breadth of the Written Word of God.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 9/23
5:30pm Ladies Night Out at Su Casa

Wednesday, 9/24
6:30pm Christian Teaching Study

Friday, 9/26
7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 9/28 16th Sunday after Pent.
7am Choir Practice
9am Divine Service with Communion
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
10:45am Bible Study

Wednesday, 10/1
6:30pm Christian Teaching Study

Friday, 10/3
7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study
10am Worship at the Care Center

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.



**Making
Disciples
for Life**

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

THIS AND THAT...

The next **Ladies Night Out** will be on Tuesday, September 23, 5:30pm at Su Casa in Holmen.

Pastor Tim and Leslie will be attending the **Touchstone Conference** Thursday through Saturday at Trinity International University in the Chicago area.

Consider participating in one of the three **Bible Studies** available to you at Gift of Grace. This can be of im-

mense benefit to our faith.

The Friday Morning **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** is meeting at the McDonald's Restaurant off of County OT at 7am.

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

The Rolls will clean the church the week of October 19. We currently do not have anyone signed up for the

week of November 16 or December 21.

The September **Designated Benevolence** is for the **Alliance Women's Clinic**.

You will note that the Bible Readings for the upcoming Sunday are available in the Congregation at Prayer Guide sent you each week. Taking a look at those readings is a great way to help prepare for the Divine Service. See if you can pick a common thread between the lessons.

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**

Sept 24..... Noel Peterson
Oct 1..... Wendell Halderson
Oct 26..... Naomi Rislow

Anniversaries

Sept 18..... J & H Roll
Oct 6..... B & P Benrud
Oct 7..... D & K Bjornstad
Oct 12..... C & A Warner

The Prayers of Children

As a little fellow, after a great deal of 'acting up' was picked up by his father and carried down the center aisle to the back of the church, the little one cried loudly to the congregation, "Pray for me! Pray for me!"

The four-year-old prayed "And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

One night Mike's parents overheard this prayer. "Now I lay me down to rest, and hope to pass tomorrow's test. If I should die before I wake, that's one less test I have to take."

A little boy's prayer: "Dear God, please take care of my daddy and my mommy and my sister and my brother and my doggy and me. Oh, please take care of yourself, God. If anything happens to you, we're gonna be in a big mess."

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

9/28 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Karri Bjornstad

Crucifer: Benjamin Roll

Acolyte: Jed Roll

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Jarrod R/David B

Comm Asst: Tim Betlach

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Cyndi Molstad

Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

10/5 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover

Reader: Cole Warner

Crucifer: Stella Roll

Acolyte: Asher Roll

Ushers: David Bjornstad

Counters: Cole W/David B

Comm Asst: Jeremy Schoonover

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Jessica Schoonover

Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

10/12 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Cole Warner

Reader: Karri Bjornstad

Crucifer: Elliott Cunningham

Acolyte: Regan Cunningham

Ushers: Dan Molstad

Counters: Connie M/Tom R

Comm Asst: Mike Meunier

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: Cole and Anne Warner

Livestreamer: Cole Warner

10/19 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: Karri Bjornstad

Reader: Jarrod Roll

Crucifer: Jarrod Roll

Acolyte: Dawson Staff

Ushers: David Bjornstad

Counters: Jarrod R/David B

Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: Connie Meunier

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