

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 26, 2020

A WORD FROM PT

Up to this point I have been discussing such things as the grand narrative of all Scripture, of all Scripture pointing to and culminating in Jesus as the Christ and Incarnate Son of God, and finally, how the voice of God in the Bible either speaks to us as demand or as promise – the law/gospel distinction.

This week I will begin to share some practical advice in going about reading, meditating, and praying Scripture with the long term effect that we begin to be shaped by God's Written Word.

As I have intimated already, reading the Bible from cover to cover isn't necessarily the best way to read, study, and meditate on it. For

starters, the Bible is not so much a single book as it is a collection of sixty-six shorter books. And each book is unique in its style or form. For example, one book may contain historical narrative. Another might primarily be poetry or hymns. A number of books are actually letters written to churches. And some books involve prophecy and read like sermons. And there are yet other styles. The literary term for style is "genre" (pronounced 'zhän-rə).

You will also notice in short order that the books and the contents are not always in chronological order. For example, Malachi is the last, and thirty-ninth, book of the Old Testament, and it contains prophecies directed to people spoken of

in the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah, which are the fifteenth and sixteenth books.

The new reader may initially be surprised to discover that the Old Testament is nearly two-thirds of the Bible, consisting of thirty-nine of the sixty-six books. In general the Old Testament documents the history and experience of God's people before Jesus' birth. It points forward to the Messiah and Savior God promised to send. With the spotlight on the Savior, the New Testament documents the life of Jesus and the history of the church in the decades following Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven.

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

Tuesday, 8/25
4:00pm Prayer Gathering

Friday, 8/28
6:30am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 8/30 13th Sunday a Pentecost
9:00am Divine Service

Tuesday, 9/1
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...

We are offering two ways to participate in **the Divine Service at 9am on Sundays**. First, for those who are venturing out, we have "space-limited" seating. Face coverings are required for this service. Please email PT by 4pm on Fridays if you plan to attend this service. Otherwise, you can participate in the **livestream** made available on our Face Book Page.

Although **the livestream of the 9am Divine Service** remains as a recorded video that can be accessed later, we

highly recommend, whenever possible, to participate in it as a livestream at 9am. It is a good habit, and gratifying that we are participating at the same time.

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** meets 6:30am on Fridays. You are expected to wear a mask to and from this gathering and whenever we are not eating. We are serving coffee, donuts, orange juice, and breakfast biscuits.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of August will be directed to Mercy House Global.

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

The Harwoods are signed up to clean the week of September 20. Karri Bjornstad and Connie Meunier have the week of October 18.

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 20..... Eric Eade
 Aug 24..... Mary Devine
 Aug 25..... Pam Benrud
 Aug 29..... Jeremy Schoonover
 Sept 2..... Karri Bjornstad
 Sept 3..... Tom Stelpflug
 Sept 6..... Anne Warner

Anniversaries

Aug 19..... M & C Meunier
 Aug 28..... B & A Fisher
 Sept 8..... J & D Uy

Paraprosdokian

(figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence is unexpected)

- If I had a dollar for every girl that found me unattractive, they'd eventually find me attractive.

- Isn't it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom, until they're flashing behind you.

- Today a man knocked on

my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool, so I gave him a glass of water.

- Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

- I'm great at multi-tasking - I can waste time, be unproductive, and procrastinate all at once.

- If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone

in mind to blame.

- Take my advice - I'm not using it.

- My wife and I were happy for twenty years; then we met.

- Hospitality is the art of making guests feel like they're home when you wish they were.

- Behind every great man is a woman rolling her eyes.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined, positions filled late in the week)

8/30 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: tbd

Fellowship: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: tbd

Fellowship: tbd

Accompanist: tbd

Fellowship: tbd

9/20 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

Accompanist: tbd

Fellowship: tbd

9/13 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

Acolyte: tbd

Ushers: tbd

Counters: tbd

Comm Asst: tbd

9/6 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Asst Minister: tbd

Reader: tbd

Crucifer: tbd

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