

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 25, 2020

A WORD FROM PT

The greatest Prayer Book is found in the Bible. The greatest Hymn Book is also found there. It is the Psalter, otherwise known as the Book of Psalms. The Psalter is comprised of 150 Chapters. And of the 39 Books of the Old Testament, it is from the Psalms that we find most often on the lips of our Lord Jesus in the Gospel Accounts.

I am choosing to say something of the Psalter at this time for obvious reasons. As the current pandemic has us sequestered at greater lengths in our homes, we are hopefully turning to “our present help in times of danger” (Ps 46:1). And the Psalms can beautifully help us to form our prayers,

and to make melody in our hearts as we join in worship together.

The Apostle Paul writes, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God” (Col 3:16).

It has rightly been said that the finest prayer is the one Jesus taught us to pray. And The Lord’s Prayer can be prayed many times a day. Our beloved Dr. Martin Luther recommends the heartfelt recitation at morning when rising, before each meal, and at evening before retiring. And interestingly, of the seven petitions laid

out in succinct fashion, all seven petitions are found in expanded and beautiful hymn form in the Psalter. For example, consider the 4th petition of the Lord’s Prayer, “Give us this day our daily bread.” Then consider “The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open wide your hand, and satisfy the needs of every living creature” (Ps. 145:15-16).

What a joy to come to prayers and hymns in the Psalter that correspond to the 6th and 7th petitions that cry out for our deliverance and protection from evil. Utilize the Psalter in your homes and individual lives!

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is meant by the term “liturgy”?

(from the Greek, “work of the people” or “public service”): more than a set form of service or one particular service, the liturgy is the whole body of texts and music used for the worship

of God. The Lutheran Book of Worship is the liturgy of many Lutheran churches in North America. (from “Manual on the Liturgy” companion to the LBW, from Augsburg Pub.)

Our Lutheran liturgy involves the participation of all who are gathered: clergy, worship assistants, and

laity. Worship is not a spectator sport. We have been gathered by God to receive from Him. And so in reverence, we give thanks by offering praise and thanksgiving to our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Liturgical worship helps us all share in this.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, 3/25

6:30pm Lenten-Midweek-Service

Friday, 3/27

6:30am Men’s Breakfast at church

Sunday, 3/29 5th Sunday In Lent

8:00am Choir-Practice

9:00am Divine-Service

10:45am Adult-Class

Wednesday, 4/1

6:30pm Lenten-Midweek-Service

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...

Our Wednesday, **Lenten Midweek Services** are under way. We gather for soup at 6:30pm and then at 7 we pray the Holden Evening Prayer Service. The theme for the meditations is "Baptized By Water And God's Word: Our Baptismal Journey."

The Biblical narratives for our Lenten Midweek Services will be as follows: **3/4** The Spirit hovering over the waters at Creation; **3/11** The Flood, Noah and the Ark; **3/18** The Crossing of the Red Sea;

3/25 Naaman's leprosy cleansed at the Jordan; **4/1** Jesus walks on Sea of Galilee while after a few steps, Peter almost drowns.

With the concern over the **COVID-19** virus, we are being asked to keep gathering sizes under 10, so we are canceling gathering for Worship Services and Bible Studies at this time.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of March will be directed to the

North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS).

Don't forget to bring non-perishable food items for the **Holmen/Onalaska Food Pantry.**

The Duesenbergs are signed up to clean the church the week of March 15. Heidi Traver is listed for week of April 19.

Having compassion and showing mercy to our neighbors is always the finest witness that we can do.

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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

Mar 18..... Nikki Hanson
 Mar 18..... Aimee Stutzman
 Mar 26..... Asher Roll
 Mar 26..... Benjamin Roll
 Mar 29..... Phyllis Christensen
 Apr 1..... Jarrod Roll
 Apr 7..... Williwam Lu
 Apr 7..... Janie Uy

Anniversaries

May 3..... J & J Schoonover
 May 6..... T & L Duesenberg
 May 7..... T & N Rislow

Parking Ticket

I went to the store the other day, and I was in there for only about 5 minutes. When I came out there was a motorcycle cop writing a parking ticket.

So I went up to him and said, "Come on, buddy, how about giving a guy a break?"

He ignored me and continued writing the ticket.

So I called him a pencil-necked Nazi. He glared at me and started writing another ticket for worn tires!

So I told him he was lower than dirt.

He finished the second ticket and put it on the windshield with the first. Then he started writing a third ticket!

This went on for about 20 minutes ... the more I abused

him, the more tickets he wrote.

I didn't care. My car was parked around the corner. I try to have a little fun each day. It's important.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

3/29 Fifth Sunday in Lent
Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg
Reader: Mike Meunier
Crucifer: Alex Uy
Acolyte: tba
Ushers: Jon Uy
Counters: Cheryl R/Mary B
Comm Asst: Connie Meunier
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: Connie M/tba

Acolyte: tba
Ushers: tba
Counters: tba
Comm Asst: tba
Accompanist: tba
Fellowship: tba

Accompanist: tba
Fellowship: tba

4/5 Sunday of the Passion/Palm Su
Asst Minister: tba
Reader: tba
Crucifer: tba

4/12 Resurrection of Our Lord
Asst Minister: tba
Reader: tba
Crucifer: tba
Acolyte: tba
Ushers: tba
Counters: tba
Comm Asst: tba

4/19 Second Sunday of Easter
Asst Minister: tba
Reader: tba
Crucifer: tba
Acolyte: tba
Ushers: tba
Counters: tba
Comm Asst: tba
Accompanist: tba
Fellowship: tba

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