

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 27, 2021

A WORD FROM PT

In our consideration of Confession and Absolution, last week I emphasized our ongoing need for confession and knowing where we can find the gift of forgiveness. I want to pick up this week why it is so important to know where we can receive forgiveness.

Someone will ask, Can't we receive the Lord's forgiveness anywhere? And in one sense, if you are merely referring to physical location, the answer is affirmative. But if in addition to physical location you are also wondering under what conditions you might be assured of receiving the Lord's forgiveness, the answer changes.

First, we might consider how we even come to know

of the Lord's forgiveness. And the answer is that surely we know of it through His Word! That is, the Lord Himself reveals this wonderful promise to us. We don't just dream up a god who is forgiving and wants to forgive us. For all we know, the creator and underlying reality of all that exists might not be well disposed to us at all! How do we know otherwise? We know through His Word!

Then this being the case, we also know the circumstance and occasion for receiving forgiveness. It involves His Word! And in the Scripture we learn this Word is not only meant to be read, but spoken and heard. And we know that the Lord appoints leaders in His assemblage to

minister His word. He promises His Holy Spirit to empower such service. And He even deigns to call such servants His ambassadors.

We should not be quick to dismiss physical locality. When believers assemble they gather in some particular location. When they do so they gather to receive the service of God's Word. And the chief thing God serves us with pertains to our greatest need, namely forgiveness. And furthermore, His Word is empowered and is embodied in His Sacraments. And an appointed ambassador speaks, on God's authority, for He is appointed an ambassador, to speak the promise of forgiveness on God's behalf.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 1/26
1:00pm Prayer Gathering

Friday, 1/29
6:30am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 1/31 4th Sunday a Epiphany
9:00am Divine Service (also
livestreamed)
10:30am Confirmation Class

Tuesday, 2/2
1:00pm 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)

SINCE YOU ASKED...

Why Is the Pastor Using cruets to both fill the Communion Chalice and then to cleanse it afterward?

You may have noticed the Pastor using a little water from a cruet poured into the chalice, swirled around

to mix with the remaining drops of wine, and consumed by the Pastor at the conclusion of administering Holy Communion. This is one way to reverently handle the remaining communion element of the cup. And there is a practical benefit. The longer wine sits in pre-

cious metal vessels, the more it begins pitting the surface. By adding wine when needed to the chalice, and then consuming soon after the slight remains with a little water, the metal is preserved.

THIS AND THAT...

There is light at the end of the tunnel. I am being giving permission to enter and visit apartments at **Spring Brook Assisting Living!** And with great care, I am beginning to deliver Holy Communion to Shut Ins!

Tune in FM 87.9 from the parking lot for the service.

For those able to worship in person, there remains the need to **notify Pastor Tim by email** no later than 4pm

on Friday

The Season of **Lent** is just around the corner as **Ash Wednesday** is February 17.

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** meets every Friday, at 6:30am

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of January is the Onalaska/Holmen Food Bank.

The Roll family is scheduled

to clean the church the week of February 21. Cole and Anne Warner are scheduled for the week of March 21

If you would like to commune but are not ready to do so in person at the Divine Service, contact Pastor Tim to discuss ways in which **the meal consecrated at Altar** can be extended to you.

Especially during this pandemic, utilize your computer to share the faith and promote our congregation's ministries.

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**

Jan 21 Elyse Schoonover
Jan 26 Marge Wangen
Jan 27 Ann Fisher
Feb 24 Jed Roll

Anniversaries

Jan 11 E & P Christensen
May 3 J & J Schoonover
May 6 T & L Duesenberg
May 7 T & N Rislow

One Liners

- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

- Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.

- If I worked as much as others, I would do as little as they.

- Many people quit looking

for work when they find a job.

- When I'm not in my right mind, my left mind gets pretty crowded.

- Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.

- Boycott shampoo! Demand the REAL poo!

- If you choke a smurf, what

color does it turn?

- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

- Energizer Bunny arrested, charged with battery.

- I poured Spot remover on my dog. Now he's gone.

- I used to have an open mind but my brains kept falling out.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

1/31 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier

Reader: Hannah Scholze

Crucifer: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: Cheryl R/Connie M

Comm Asst: Jessica Schoonover

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: Hannah S/David B

Comm Asst: Karri Bjornstad

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

Accompanist: Tom Rislow

Fellowship: not needed at this time

2/17 Ash Wednesday

Asst Minister: tba

Reader: tba

Crucifer: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: tba

Comm Asst: tba

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: not needed at this time

2/27 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Asst Minister: tba

Reader: Karri Bjornstad

Crucifer: not needed at this time

2/14 Transfiguration of Our Lord

Asst Minister: Leslie Duesenberg

Reader: tba

Crucifer: not needed at this time

Acolyte: not needed at this time

Ushers: not needed at this time

Counters: tba

Comm Asst: tba

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