

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Feb. 14-19, '22

Mon Jeremiah 17:5-8 Do you and I put our trust in men in high places or rely on our own skills rather than on the Lord? That's as scary as Death Valley or Australia's Outback (5-6). God help us to be like the riverside tree, with our roots nourished by the water of Life, so that when heavy heat arrives, we won't shrivel and lose our unfruitful souls (8). Lord, have mercy on us (7)!

Tues Luke 6:17-26 Jesus attracted people as a magnet attracts iron; they came to hear Him and be healed (17-19). Then Jesus realigned their souls' magnetic pole and blessed them by turning them around in repentance (20-21). They were blessed enough to endure persecution (22-23) and to avoid the wayward pull of other magnets—such as satisfaction with oneself, with one's social status, and with devotion to earthly values (24-26).

Wed 2 Corinthians 12:7b-10 Being spiritually *exalted above measure* is being unbalanced, so Jesus applied a counterbalance (which stymied Satan). Paul's prayer was answered by God stabilizing Paul on Jesus, not on himself (7-9). Paul was ever learning that God's grace was his firm foundation, and that Jesus' strength offset his own weakness. God is good to His children!

Thurs Jeremiah 16:11-13 Life was difficult for Jeremiah because the people who had been God's pride and joy had become unbalanced: *each one walked according to the imagination of his own evil heart, so that no one listened to God.* Therefore, they had to learn a hard lesson in God's school: "*Therefore I will cast you out of this land into a land that you do not know . . . where I will not show you favor.*" Via the Babylonian Captivity God brought them to repentance.

Fri Matthew 5:1-12 Jesus took His seminary students aside, got them seated, cleared His throat, and laid out the blessings of being Christian: Being humble, repentant, and spiritually hungry are blessings (3-6). Further, you are blessed when God has given you a *merciful spirit, a clean heart, ability to resolve disputes, and strength to endure persecution* (7-10)! Especially in times of persecution you will be put to the test, so that's when God will bless you especially. [Note: The Beatitudes are not a recipe for how to become a Christian, but rather outline some blessings that Christians have.]

Sat 2 Corinthians 10:7,12-18 presents a balanced approach to life: don't be misled by outward appearances. A person who brags about himself is not balanced (12), whereas the well-balanced Christian knows his limits (13). In Paul's case, he hoped that the Corinthian Christians would help him extend his sphere of mission outreach (16)—all to the glory of God, not to flesh out his resumé in the clergy roster (17-18). Lord, bless us and our pastors!

February 13, 2022
Epiphany 6



BLESSED
ARE THOSE WHO
TRUST
IN THE
LORD



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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Opening Hymn: TLH #381 "I Know My Faith is Founded"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C *♩ Amen.*

P Pastor

C Congregation

Confession of Our Sins

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C *♩ Who made heaven and earth.*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C *♩ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

P O Almighty God, our Maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given us His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives the power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C *♩ Amen.*

Announcements

Welcome! We pray that God's Word and our worship today will help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior Jesus. We ask our visitors to please sign our guest book in the back of the church. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. Ask our Pastor about a free Bible study he offers to explain what we believe and teach. Where and when? Your convenience.

Bible Class & Sunday School: Are continuing with their usual schedules. For our Sunday morning, 9:00 am Bible Class, we are studying the Gospel according to Mark. On Wednesday mornings, at 9:30 am, we will be studying Habakkuk. Please come join us for study this Wednesday and/or next Sunday! It's a joy to be able to grow in the Word with fellow Christians.

Pastoral Visits: Pastor would like to start visiting all of the members of Faith to get to know you better. Feel free to reach out to Pastor if you have a convenient time in mind.

CLC Call News: ILC Professor Joe Gullerud **has received** the call to be teacher and principal of Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, WI. <> Teacher Claire Abbas of Gethsemane Lutheran School, Spokane Valley, WA, **has received** the call to be the lower grade teacher at Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN. <> Pastor Mark Tiefel of Redemption Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA, is **still considering** the call to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL. <> Mrs. Dawn Mayhew **is still considering** the call to be the teacher and principal of Redeemer Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY. Mrs. Mayhew is a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Cheyenne.

February 6 Offerings:	\$ 7,540.75
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,607.69
General Fund Balance	\$22,227.97
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$19,391.45
Total Cash All Funds	\$57,657.80

with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

*"My grace is sufficient for you,
for My power is made perfect
in weakness."*

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

"Christ must increase; I must decrease."

- I. Stamp out self-righteousness
- II. Welcome weakness
- III. Boast in Christ

The Offertory

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

- G** *♩* Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation;
And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Sermon Hymn: TLH #427:1-4,7 "How Firm a Foundation"

Prayers, Lord's Prayer, and Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- G** *♩* Amen, amen, a – men.

Closing Hymn: TLH #346:1,4-6 "Jesus! And Shall It Ever Be"

The Introit

Ps. 119:1ff

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your just and righteous decrees.
- G** **Blessèd are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord!**
- P** Blessèd are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart.
- G** **You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.**
- P** Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!
- G** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**
- P** As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Gloria Patri

WS #798:1,3

Latin for "Glory be to the Father."

- G** *♩* God, we praise You, God, we bless You!
God, we name You sov'reign Lord! Mighty King
whom angels worship, Father, by Your Church
adored: All creation shows Your glory; Heav'n
and earth draw near Your throne, Singing,
"Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts and God alone!"

Jesus Christ, the King of glory, Everlasting Son of God, Humble was Your virgin mother, Hard the lonely path You trod: By Your cross is sin defeated, Hell confronted face to face, Heaven opened to believers, Sinners justified by grace.



Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

- P** O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** *♩* Amen.

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. ⁶ He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷ "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸ He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

Luke 6:17-26

And he came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸ who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all. ²⁰ And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. ²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³ Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. ²⁶ "Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

Closing Hymn: WS #764 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

✠ The Sermon ✠

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

And must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. ² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven-- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. ³ And I know that this man was caught up into paradise-- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows-- ⁴ and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. ⁵ On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses-- ⁶ though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. ⁷ So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. ⁸ Three times I pleaded