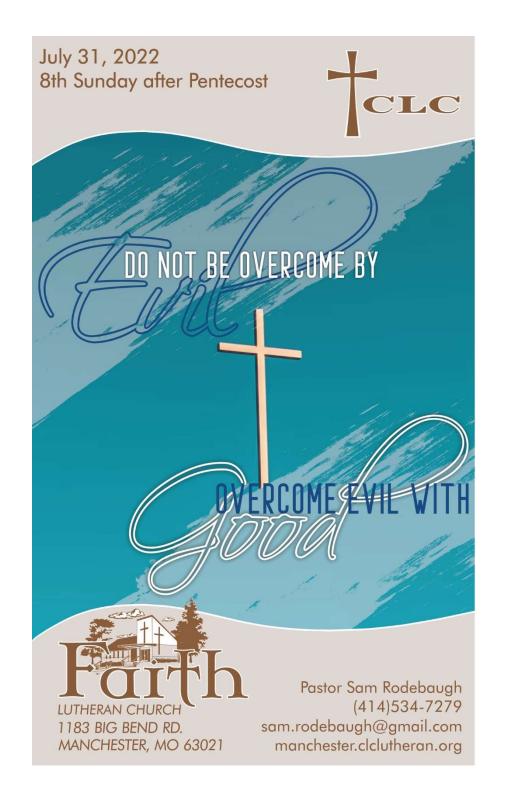
Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; August 1 - August 6, '22

- Mon. Luke 12:13-15 How often Jesus' followers are tempted in matters of inheritance! Jesus does not say whether or not the inheritance should be divided, but warns against the unholy desire for earthly possessions (covetousness). Focusing on possessions can make one blind to the true source of Life and the greater gifts of God.
- **Tues. Ecclesiastes 1:1-2, 12-14** If our life consisted in the abundance of our possessions, even the wealthiest would be poor, because all earthly things are temporal (for a time). "All is vanity," the Preacher says, as empty as a breath of air. Only Christ gives us the Life that outlasts the entire universe.
- Wed. Colossians 3:1-4 The apostle echoes his Lord when he reminds us not to "set our minds" on things that are on the earth, but rather on things that are above. Since Christ died in our place, we died with Him, and with Him we have been raised! Our life is now with Him, although hidden until His return. Nevertheless, it is He who makes us "rich toward God" (Lk. 12:21).
- **Thurs. Luke 12:16-21** By means of a parable Jesus puts earthly riches in perspective. It was not the rich man's wealth or savings that made his end so sad, but the fact that he was not rich toward God. Precious little could all his barns and RV's do for him when he stood before his Maker.
- **Fri. Ecclesiastes 2:18-26** Without a parable, the Preacher also taught in the Old Testament that the results of our life's work must be left for others. "This also is vanity" (v23). Recognizing that our toil and the results of it are all gifts from God, may we enjoy them as such, and look to Him for our Life, "our wisdom and knowledge and joy" (v26). May He also use us to leave the richer spiritual gifts for those who come after us.
- **Sat. Colossians 3:5-11** Here the covetousness which Jesus warned us about is labeled for the idolatry that it is and placed in the list of self-serving wickedness which we who are risen with Christ should leave behind in the tomb. The "new self" (v10) is the creation of the Spirit and is *renewed* in knowledge after the image of its creator (Gn. 1:27).



+ Opening Prayer +

Hymn: TLH #395:1-3,5,8 "O God, Thou Faithful God"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C → Amen.

Confession of Our SinsPastorWe come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His
forgiveness.

- 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.
- G ♪ Who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
- ☐ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- 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.
- 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)

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.

"As Christ Also Loved Us..."

"Why should I empty the dishwasher? I did it last time." "I always do the extra work around church, let's let someone else do it for a change." "I'm not going to stay late at work. It's someone else's turn this time." Even the most generous, kind-hearted person can relate. There are times when we're just tired of helping, especially when it seems as though others aren't doing their part.

Yet Jesus tells us to love all people, even enemies. Paul writes, "Do not grow weary in doing good" (2 Thess. 3:13). But where do you find the motivation? If we look around, we're going to see people like us, people who have a selfish nature, people who are quick to spot faults in others but who are myopic when it comes to their own shortcomings. In other words, we may decide that, compared to others, we've done more than our share and it's their turn to step up.

But God doesn't tell us to compare ourselves with other people. We read in Eph. 5:1: "Therefore, be imitators of God, as dearly loved children, and walk in love, as Christ also loved us and gave himself for us, a sacrificial and fragrant offering to God." Love like Jesus, the Bible tells us. Jesus never said, "It's someone else's turn." He never turned anyone away. He was always there to speak words of comfort to the despairing, to heal the incurable, and to give new life and hope to those dead in sin. He has done the same for you and me. It's not all about us. We can't claim a right to a certain status or position. Yet God loves us and has made us His children by faith in Jesus. All we are and have are due to His grace alone.

Jesus then is not only our example, He is our motivation to serve and help. "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again" (2 Cor. 5:14-15). Through Jesus' love working in us, may the Spirit renew our love today. Instead of grumbling, "It's someone else's turn," let's cheerfully offer, "How can I help?" - Pastor Michael Eichstadt

+ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer +

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

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.

🖸 🎜 Amen, amen, a – men.

Hymn: TLH #399:1-3,5

"Thee Will I Love, My Strength"

Thank You to Pastor Tom Naumann for bringing us God's Word this morning!

Landscaping Fund: A landscaping refresh is underway in the front of church, involving the new beds near the stairs as well as the bed surrounding the church sign. The cost of all the bricks, soil, mulch, and plants should be under \$500. If you are able/willing to contribute to help offset these costs, please do so in your offering, simply making the note: "Landscaping."

The CLC Mission Helpers returned safely to their homes late on Thursday evening. We praise the Lord for keeping them safe! Next Sunday, Noah will be giving a presentation about the trip during our **9:00** Bible Class hour.

<u>CLC Call News:</u> Pastor Drew Naumann of Trinity Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA, **has received** the calls to serve as vacancy pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, and Redemption Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA.. + Pastor Samuel Naumann of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Corpus Christi, TX, **has returned** the call to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL.

July 31st Offerings:	\$ 2,015.50
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,607.69
General Fund Balance	\$20,204.73
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$25,293.66
Total Cash All Funds	\$61,631.60

The Introit

The Gloria Patri

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

- P Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
- **C** The Lord is my portion; I promise to keep your words.
- I entreat your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.
- **C** When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies;
- **P** I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.
- The earth, O Lord, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes!
- P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- **C** As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

TLH #528:15

Latin for "Glory be to the Father."

 ☑ A My heart for joy is springing And can no more be sad,
'Tis full of mirth and singing, Sees naught but sunshine glad. The Sun that cheers my spirit Is Jesus Christ, my King; That which I shall inherit Makes me rejoice and sing.

Collect Prayer of the Day

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

▶ Lord Jesus Christ, in Your deep compassion You rescue us from whatever may hurt us. Teach us to love You above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G ♪ Amen.

Luke 10:25-37

And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I

do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" ²⁷ And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live." ²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion.³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another

with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." 20 To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Confession of Faith The Apostles' Creed

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.

Hymn: TLH #400

"Take My Life and Let it Be"

Numbers 6:22-27

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²³ "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you

shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them, ²⁴ The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. ²⁷ "So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them."

Much More Than Closing Credits!

The Lord's Benediction... I. Ensures His protection II. Imparts His grace III. Promises His peace

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

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 +