## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Nov. 07 - 12, '22

Mon Luke 6:20-23 Man looks on the outward appearance, and sees the poor, the hungry, the weeping, the hated. Jesus has a forward look which even now brings great joy. "Blessed are you!" As we approach the end of another year, may it be with the forward look, "for behold, your reward is great in heaven" (v23).

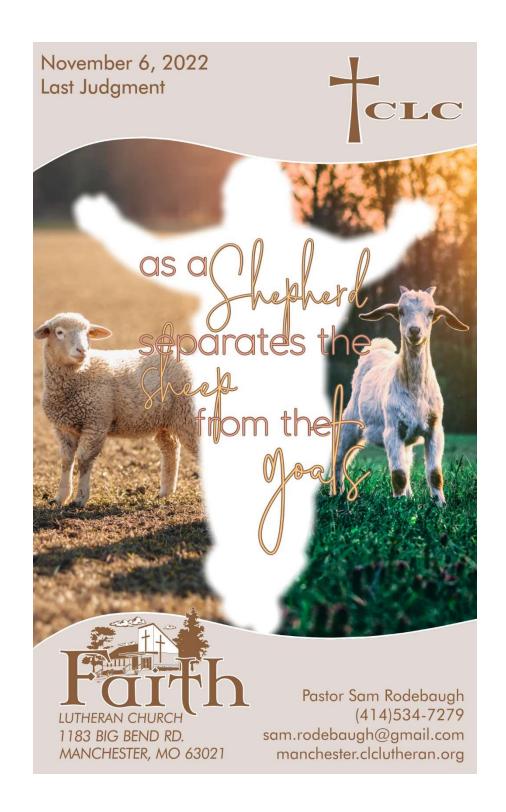
**Tues Hebrews 11:32-40** The saints of old did great things and suffered great things, but the distinguishing mark in all of them was their forward-looking faith in Christ, the gift with more promise than anything else in the world.

**Wed Revelation 21:1-6** When God came to see our first parents in the Garden of Eden (Gn3), they hid from Him in fear, but in the new heaven and new earth, God's dwelling place is with mankind, and His presence brings joy and every blessing in Christ, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end (cp22:13).

**Thurs Luke 20:27-38** Jesus was approached by some who thought the promise of resurrection was foolishness, and tried to make it look so with an extended example of a widow remarrying. Jesus points out that the resurrection we look forward to is to a new life, not the same world we left behind. To show that there is a resurrection, He quotes from Moses to show that even after the patriarch believers had died, the LORD at the burning bush called Himself their God.

**Fri Revelation 22:1-5** The angel shows John the new heaven and earth using images which the Scriptures and our present life have made familiar to us: a river, the water of life, bright as crystal, the throne of God, the Lamb, the tree of life, worshipers belonging to God the original source of light (cpGn1:3).

**Sat Isaiah 65:17-25** The prophet looks forward to a world in which the taint of sin and all its effects are no more to be found. This is the kingdom of God and of His Christ, which shall continue to be a joy forever, free from all hurt and destruction, says the LORD! (v 25)



# + Opening Prayer +

# Hymn: TLH #608 "Let Thoughtless Thousands Choose"

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

## Confession of Our Sins

# PastorCongregation

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

- We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from conception. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.
- God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

## C Amen!

The Introit

## 2 Peter 3:13, Ps 39:4-5, 7-8, 12a

In keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

- O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!
- Behold, You have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before You.
- And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you.
- Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the scorn of the fool!
- Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears!
- P For I am a sojourner with You, a guest, like all my fathers.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## Devotion: "Not Me!"

"Who left the towel on the bathroom floor?" "Who left the garage door open?" We all know the usual answer: "Not me!" We don't like to assume blame for something wrong or something that didn't work out quite the way we intended it to. After a heated argument have you said, "If I hurt you, I'm sorry"? It sounds good, but really, isn't saying, "if" avoiding accountability too? Wouldn't taking full responsibility be saying, "I hurt you and I'm sorry. Please forgive me"? It's tempting to claim that it's always someone else's fault: a parent, spouse, a boss with unrealistic expectations, a society which doesn't care about me. Taking it a step further is denying accountability before God: "God can't condemn me for my attitude and lifestyle. He made me this way."

"Not me!" does not excuse anyone from having to answer for their words and actions. Blaming others for one's own laziness or mistakes only compounds the guilt. Making excuses to God is true foolishness since He sees right through our words and actions to the motives of the heart. "O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar" (Ps. 139:1).

To those who think they can escape God's notice and avoid answering for their lives, Paul says, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ" (2 Cor. 5:10). We have no excuse for a single sin. "If we say, 'We have no sin,' we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (1 Jn. 1:8). Praise God for the Savior, who instead of shifting blame to someone else, took on Himself the sin of all humankind and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice! "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 Jn. 1:9).

Instead of foolishly trying to make ourselves look better than we are, let's humbly confess our faults to the Lord and to those around us whom we hurt. Let's trust in Jesus' righteousness, not our own, when God calls us to give an account. Then whether the final judgment is today or in the distant future, we have nothing to hide and nothing to fear.

### **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.

## C Amen!

Hymn: TLH #50 "Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing"

**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 hallway near the entrance. 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.

**<u>CLC Call News:</u>** Pastor Dave Naumann of St. John's Ev. Lutheran, Clarkston, WA, and Peace Lutheran, Orofino, ID, **has returned** the call to serve as the CLC's Third Foreign Missionary. + Pastor Luke Bernthal of St. Stephen Lutheran, Mountain View, CA, **is still considering** the call to Immanuel Lutheran, Winter Haven, FL. + Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN, **is still considering** the dual call to serve Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran, Tacoma, WA.

## Looking ahead:

Today – Pastor out of town until Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup> – NO Bible Class November 13<sup>th</sup> – Regular Sunday Worship & Bible Class November 23<sup>rd</sup> – Thanksgiving Eve Service 7 pm November 30<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday AM Advent Service 9:30 am

October 30 <sup>th</sup> Offerings:	\$ 836.50
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,607.69
General Fund Balance	\$20,656.64
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$28,707.25
Total Cash All Funds	\$64,699.73



# Collect Prayer of the Day

the

all

With

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

host we

glo - ri - fv.

heav'n - ly

P O Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and to the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

# C Amen.

# Malachi 4:1-6

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all

evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup> And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>4</sup> "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. <sup>5</sup> "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. <sup>6</sup> And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

# 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be

considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering-- <sup>6</sup> since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, <sup>7</sup> and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels <sup>8</sup> in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. <sup>9</sup> They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, <sup>10</sup> when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

# ☑ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION** *Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

0 Lamb of God, **O** Christ our Lord, whose life blood. once shed. true re - stored. Im faith Sus -Your joy, our in - crease. part tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

## Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

# + The Distribution of the Lord's Supper +

We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

#### I BELIEVE...

in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Hymn: WLH #611:1-3, 5-6 "The Day

### "The Day is Surely Drawing Near"



"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his

glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? <sup>38</sup> And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' <sup>40</sup> And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' 41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' <sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' <sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' <sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

# Judgment Day is Jesus' Special Day

I. The Day of Jesus' Glory II. The Day of Jesus' Justice III. The Day of Jesus' Joy

# 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 Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

+ The Offering of Thankful Hearts +

# Hymn: TLH #610

# "And Will the Judge Descend"

+ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer +

**P** The Lord be with you. • And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts!

The Order of Holy Communion



# **C** We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should, at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God for Your Son, Who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and aiven us life everlasting. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

