

THE WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
HOME DEVOTIONS - Week #7

**Monday - Acts 13** In jealousy and hatred the Jews turn on Paul and away from the Gospel message. The ultimate result was that Paul announced, “Lo, we turn to the Gentiles.” “When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the Word of the Lord.” Praise God that this message of salvation alone through Jesus Christ has been sent to us!

**Tuesday - Hebrews 3** The dead bodies of the Israelites scattered throughout the desert are a stark reminder and warning of the results of a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. They were not able to enter His Rest. We have been made partakers of that Rest through faith in Christ. “Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.” Hymn 615

**Wednesday - Hebrews 4** Is the Word of God living and active in your heart? Does the Law cut your heart, laying bare your sinfulness in thought, word, and deed? Nothing is hidden from God’s sight. Does the Gospel heal the wound, make it whole again through our High Priest-Savior, Jesus Christ? Through Him we receive mercy and grace: a Sabbath-Rest from all our labors.

**Thursday - Hebrews 5** The qualifications for being a High Priest are revealed. 1) His being called (appointed) by God. 2) His ability to sympathize with His people (offer gifts and sacrifices for sin). These qualifications are found in Christ. God the Father appointed His Son to be our High Priest and through His suffering and death for His people Jesus has perfected (i.e., fully qualified to be the Savior and High Priest of His people). He is our Source of eternal salvation.

**Friday - Hebrews 6** Another warning against falling away. Once in faith does not mean always in faith. Have we become lazy Christians, failing to drink in God’s Word, producing thorns and thistles (sins and impenitence) instead of fruits (repentance and godly living)? Our only refuge is to take hold of the Hope set before us, as an Anchor for our soul, firm and secure. This Hope is found in our High Priest-Savior, Jesus Christ. Is your future Hope anchored in Jesus?

**Saturday - Hebrews 7** What is the difference between the many human high priests of the Old Testament, and the one great High Priest Jesus? Jesus became our High Priest with an oath from God. Jesus lives forever; therefore His priesthood is permanent. Jesus always lives to intercede for us. Jesus meets our needs perfectly for He is holy, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. Jesus was sacrificed for our sins once, for all, when He offered Himself.



# Peace Thru Christ

## Lutheran Church and School

Pastor: Mark H. Bernthal • Teacher: Miss Claire Abbas  
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Pre-service Ps. 114

### THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Liturgy, p. 12 W.S.

Opening Hymn:	279
Before Sermon:	394
Offering Hymn:	283
After Prayers:	775 (1-4)
Closing Hymn:	775 (5-6)
Antiphon Ps. 84	Pg. 38 WS

#### Scripture Readings:

#### Acts 13:26-52

What a remarkable response to the Word of God---“On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.” You would think that would cause great joy and rejoicing, however, we read, “But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul.” The unbelieving Jews were jealous that the message of salvation by grace through Jesus Christ was for the Gentiles as well. We thank the Lord that

the Gospel has been sent to us Gentiles, but we grieve over the many unbelieving Jews who reject their one and only Savior.

*26 "Men and brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to you the word of this salvation has been sent. 27 For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor even the voices of the Prophets which are read every Sabbath, have fulfilled them in condemning Him. 28 And though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death. 29 Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. 30 But God raised Him from the dead. 31 He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people. 32 And we declare to you glad tidings—that promise which was made to the fathers. 33 God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.' 34 And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: 'I will give you the sure mercies of David.' 35 Therefore He also says in another Psalm: 'You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.' 36 "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption; 37 but He whom God raised up saw no corruption. 38 Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; 39 and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. 40 Beware therefore, lest what has been spoken in the prophets come upon you: 41 'Behold, you despisers, Marvel and perish! For I work a work in your days, A work which you will by no means believe, Though one were to declare it to you.'" 42 So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. 43 Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. 44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God. 45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul. 46 Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge*

## Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

### **GOLF OUTING:**

The 2nd Annual CLC Golf Invitational will be held on July 19th at 2 p.m. at Lake Windsor Golf Course. It will be a shotgun start like last year. It is \$25/person for 9 holes and a cart. A basket for free will offering for food is in back of church.

### **CONGREGATION OUTING:**

Sunday, July 26th we are planning a picnic lunch at Devil's Lake starting around 1 p.m. Congregations in Markesan, Appleton, Fond du Lac, Cambridge and Hales Corners have also been invited. More information to come!

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

Our VBS will be held Aug 3-7 from 9-11:45 a.m. Parents, please mark your calendars. If you would like to help out with teaching, arts & crafts or singing, please contact Pastor Bernthal or Tim Schaser.

**MOWING HELP NEEDED:** A new mowing schedule has been put up. We hope you will be able to volunteer to help mow during the spring, summer and fall months. Any questions, please check with Randy Dreyer or Pastor Bernthal.

### **WITNESSING IDEA FOR THE**

**WEEK:** Lord, grant to Your servants that with all boldness we may speak Your word. (Acts 4:29) When's the last time? ... You invited a relative, neighbor, friend, or coworker to church? Yes, it can be a bit unnerving at times. But who do you know who has recently experienced: the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, a divorce, expecting or a birth of a child, personal injury or illness, a retirement, financial difficulties, a marriage, or a child leaving home? **INVITE CHILDREN TO OUR VBS TODAY!!! DON'T WAIT!** Remember that Jesus has made you a "fisher of men!" (from Luther Memorial bulletin)

**VBS FLYER DISTRIBUTION:** 13 members from Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac and Peace Thru Christ handed out 2,500 flyers this past Thursday. We thank them for their work as well as for those who drove and prepared the meals. We pray the Lord bless the message that was put out. There are a few left over. If you have a friend or neighbor you would like to invite, take one with you and give it to them.

those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

## Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

### PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU!

We thank the Lord that you are worshiping with us this morning. We pray the Word you hear today will lead you to a heartfelt knowledge of Jesus Christ as your only Savior from sin, death and hell. We, at Peace Thru Christ, proclaim the Bible as the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of our Triune God, trustworthy and true in all of its teachings. Come, worship your Savior with us and hear God's Word again. Please also sign our guest register.

#### This Week:

**Tuesday** 10:30 a.m. Bible Class at Artisan

**Thursday** 10:45 a.m. Bible Class at Heritage

**Next Sunday** 9:00 a.m. Family Worship • 10:30 a.m. Church Council

**LAST WEEK:** Worship 33

**OFFERINGS** 7/5 for Unified Budget: \$2,264

In loving memory of Wendy Fassbender \$25

#### IN SERVICE TO OUR LORD:

Cleaners this week: Church--- Birkholz/Heberlein

Counters today: Ruth Bernthal & Pam Shulz

**IN YOUR MAILBOX:** July Calendar & Newsletter.

**NEW CLEANING LIST:** A New cleaning list for the second half of the year is in your mailboxes.

#### CLC NEWS:

- Pastor Michael Schierenbeck has accepted the call extended to him by Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan WI.
- Trinity Lutheran, Watertown SD, has called recent graduate Leah Ude to be its teacher.

#### CONGRATULATIONS & LORD'S

**BLESSINGS:** to Eric Dreyer and Amanda Blaser who were united in holy matrimony yesterday. May Jesus ever be the third One in their union as they live their lives united in Christ.

**NEPAL RELIEF HELP:** \$70,000 has been received in relief help from CLC members. Praise the Lord! The total needed is estimated to be around \$108,000, You can give an offering at church made out to MDF (Nepal Relief).

yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. 47 For so the Lord has commanded us: 'I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, That you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.'" 48 Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. 49 And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout all the region. 50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and prominent women and the chief men of the city, raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. 51 But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and came to Iconium. 52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

**The Sermon:** read/listen to sermons at [www.middletonlutheran.org](http://www.middletonlutheran.org)

## THE WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Sermon Text: Hebrews 3:7-19

### Theme: LESSONS FROM THE PAST:

### Our Wilderness Walk—An Encouragement for Today!

#### I: Hear His Word today!

#### II: Do Not Harden your Heart with Disobedience.

#### III: Be Partakers of Christ from Beginning to the Glorious End!

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:- "Today, if you will hear His voice, 8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, 9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. 10 Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, 'They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.' 11 So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'" 12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, 15 while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." Failure of the Wilderness Wanderers 16 For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? 17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with