

NOTES ON JOHN: The writer of the Gospel of John was the Apostle John, brother of James, the son of Zebedee. John refers to himself throughout the entire book as “the disciple whom Jesus loved.” The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke share many common lessons and accounts and are therefore grouped together as the Synoptic Gospels. John, on the other hand, contains many accounts that are unique to his book so it stands alone as the fourth Gospel. According to church tradition, John is believed to have continued his ministry in Ephesus, where he eventually wrote I, II, and III John. After serving in Ephesus he was most likely exiled to the island of Patmos where he received a revelation from Christ.



One could say that the Holy Spirit inspired John to focus his Gospel account around the verb *believe*. This concept is associated with the atoning word of Jesus and is brought out in many passages such as: 1:12, 3:16, 3:36, 5:24-29, 10:27-29, and 11:25-27. Our sermon text today is taken from a section of private instruction during holy week between Jesus and His twelve disciples.

WHO WE ARE: Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church is a confessional Lutheran Church. We proclaim to a world dead in sin that salvation is a gift of God’s grace; that Jesus Christ paid the full sacrificial price—His very life—so that gift of salvation could be ours. If you are interested in learning more about our congregation, please speak with Pastor Bernthal



We teach that the Holy Spirit works repentance and faith in the hearts of individuals through which one receives the blessings of Christ’s redemption. The foundation for such saving faith is the Bible—God’s holy, unchangeable, inerrant Word. Since “all Scripture is given by inspiration of God,” the Bible is completely reliable, trustworthy and true. It is the only source of our faith and life.

Psalm 1:1-3

Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church and School

Pastor: Mark H. Bernthal • Today’s Preacher: Vicar Mark Tiefel

School Teacher: Ms. Jennifer Ohlmann Organist: Mrs. Karen Schaser

Church/Office (608) 233-2244 • Parsonage (608) 442-9986

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Pre-service Preparation: Psalm 1

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

The Lutheran Hymnal p. 5

Opening Hymn	743
Before Sermon	277
Offering Hymn	442 v.1
After Prayers:	514
After Benediction	414 v.1-3

Scripture Readings:

Hosea 14:1-9

Throughout the entire book of Hosea, the divided kingdoms of Israel and Judah have been examples of unfaithfulness to the LORD. Hosea uses several illustrations to depict this type of attitude: A wayward wife, illegitimate children, wild grapes, and a stubborn young calf. Although Israel

and Judah have once again turned from the LORD to themselves and foreign idols, the LORD's mercy is not extinguished. Chapter 14 describes the relief that they had in the LORD, the same comfort that we have today.

1 O Israel, return to the LORD your God, For you have stumbled because of your iniquity; 2 Take words with you, And return to the LORD. Say to Him, " Take away all iniquity; Receive us graciously, For we will offer the sacrifices of our lips. 3 Assyria shall not save us, We will not ride on horses, Nor will we say anymore to the work of our hands, 'You are our gods.' For in You the fatherless finds mercy." 4 " I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, For My anger has turned away from him. 5 I will be like the dew to Israel; He shall grow like the lily, And lengthen his roots like Lebanon. 6 His branches shall spread; His beauty shall be like an olive tree, And his fragrance like Lebanon. 7 Those who dwell under his shadow shall return; They shall be revived like grain, And grow like a vine. Their scents shall be like the wine of Lebanon. 8 " Ephraim shall say, 'What have I to do anymore with idols?' I have heard and observed him. I am like a green cypress tree; Your fruit is found in Me." 9 Who is wise? Let him understand these things. Who is prudent? Let him know them. For the ways of the LORD are right; The righteous walk in them, But transgressors stumble in them.

Galatians 5: 16-26

The Apostle Paul uses two contrasting lists of works to show the Galatian Christians just how futile it is to justify oneself by the law. When we rely on our own flesh for works we get nothing but sin-stained results (vv. 19-21). But when we rely on Christ's merits as our works, we actually crucify our sinful flesh and receive the fruit of the Spirit (vv.22-23). Thanks be to God that because of Christ's work we are able to serve one another.

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

PARADE T-SHIRTS:

There is a t-shirt sign-up sheet in the entry way for the Middleton Good Neighbor Parade (8/29). Cost is roughly \$7-8. Please indicate name, quantity, and size.

ILC BEGINS:

Our synod high school, college and seminary opens its doors for the 2010-2011 school year on Monday, August 23. Four Peace Thru Christ members will be attending this year--Sarah Gerbitz, H. S. Senior, Tim Schaser, H. S. Junior, Joseph McDonald and Rachel Schaser, H.S. Freshmen. We pray the Lord's blessings and guidance upon these young adults as they travel to Eau Claire for their Christ-centered education.

PEACE THRU CHRIST SCHOOL BEGINS:

We are preparing for our 10th year of school at Peace Thru Christ. We thank the Lord for His blessings of a Bible-based, Christ-centered education in the midst of our immoral, godless, self-centered society. First day of school is planned for Wednesday, Sept. 1st at 8:00 a.m.

LUTHERAN SPOKESMAN:

The August issue is available to pick up.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY/ CHURCH PICNIC:

Date is Sept. 12th. Anyone interested in helping to co-ordinate activities for that day please contact Pastor Bernthal or Matt Schaser.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

We are in need of Sunday School teachers for the coming year. Please contact Pastor Bernthal or Matt Schaser if you are interested in teaching.

VBS CRAFTS:

Various crafts from last week's VBS session are in the narthex. Please take them home if they belong to you.

DVD'S AVAILABLE:

2 DVD set which includes both the 2010 Convention Worship Service as well as the 1 hour film shown at convention, "By the Grace of God." This presentation was put together by Jaime Arndt and consists of interviews of several of the founding CLC members. Pre-order price is \$8 per set available through today. For more information, please see the sheet on the bulletin board in the entry-way.



Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

THIS WEEK

Friday

7:00 p.m. Family Fun Night

Next Sunday

9:00 a.m. Family Worship

Pastor Bernthal

Next Monday (8/23)

ILC Begins

LAST SUNDAY Attendance:

Worship: 57

OFFERINGS 8/8

for Unified Budget: \$1,799

Special Gifts: \$20 Parsonage

Windows/Siding

IN YOUR MAILBOX:

August Calendar & Newsletter.

Pastor and Ruth will be gone until Tuesday.

If pastoral assistance is needed,

please call President Bruce

Templeton. 608-628-0496

MOWING HELP NEEDED FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER:

Thank you to all who have been

helping with the mowing. Please

sign the sheet in the entry-way.

Remember to mow on Friday-

Saturday if possible.

CLC NEWS: Our Redeemer's Lutheran, Red Wing, MN. has called Pastor John M. Johannes. Pastor

Mike Eichstadt has returned the call to Prince of Peace, Loveland, CO.

Pastor Paul Larsen has announced his resignation from his call to CLC Lutheran, North Port FL, effective August 31.

PASTOR'S CALL:

On Tuesday evening Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Loveland, CO called Pastor Bernthal to be their pastor. He will be receiving more information by this weekend. Pastor Bernthal asks for your prayers during this time of deliberations and any words of advice concerning our work here at Peace Thru Christ would be greatly appreciated. May these deliberations serve to the glory of God and the welfare of His Church.

SALT AND LIGHT WORKSHOP:

On Tuesday of this past week we held a workshop which focused on a number of real life evangelism examples. Five scenarios were studied, presented, and discussed; 19 members attended. A review sheet of what was discussed can be picked up by the member boxes. Even if you were not able to attend, the sheets list helpful information for future outreach opportunities. Thank you to all who planned, helped, and attended.

The Sermon : audio sermons at www.middletonlutheran.org

Sermon Text: **John 15:1-8** **GO GREEN IN CHRIST**

I. ABIDE IN HIM

II. BEAR FRUIT IN HIM

1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

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PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU!

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning.

A special welcome to all visitors and guests. Please sign the guest book in the entry way. It is our desire

at Peace Thru Christ that all who attend our services receive the saving message of sins forgiven in Jesus Christ. We take great comfort in the fact that Jesus

has saved us and given us the ability to perform fruits of faith in our own lives such as worshipping together and spreading that message to others. Please feel free to contact Pastor Bernthal or Vicar Tiefel if you have questions.



He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." John 3:36

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:2