

THE WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

HOME DEVOTIONS - Week #11



Monday - I Thessalonians 4:13-18 We are to comfort one another at all times. Sorrow over the loss of a loved one in Christ is not condemned here. Sorrow without hope is! On Judgment Day, the first order of business will be the resurrection of the dead. The bodies and souls of the dead will be reunited and join the living in the eternal celebration in heaven around the Throne of the Lamb.

Tuesday - I Thessalonians 5:1-11 When will that glorious day of the LORD come? Soon---without warning---suddenly---as a thief in the night. Day and night we are God’s children. Watch and be sober. Judgment Day holds no terrors for us. It is merely the return of our Savior whose blood has washed away all sin and Who comes to take us home to heaven.

Wednesday - I Thessalonians 5:12-28 The on-going activities of the children of the light: 1. Loving respect for spiritual leaders. 2. Appropriate actions in love to all people. 3. Rejoice and pray – always. 4. Hold fast to good, avoid the appearance of evil. How is all this sanctification possible? See verse 23.

Thursday - II Thessalonians 2:3-12 The Antichrist is human (v ... 3.,5); the leader of a spiritual falling away (v.3, 10) within the visible Christian Church (v. 4,5,6,8); a so-called substitute for God (v.4,5) and present throughout the New Testament time (v.7-8). We confess the Roman papacy is the Antichrist - it fits the description and, above all, it damns the teaching that the righteousness of Christ alone saves us.

Friday - II Thessalonians 2:13-17 We have escaped the kingdom of Antichrist only because God chose us and called us by the Gospel. We continue to escape by holding to the Scriptural and God-inspired “traditions” set forth in the Bible. Christ is for us! Who can be against us?

Saturday - II Thessalonians 3:1-16 There are other serious enemies that we need to be aware of; wicked unbelievers (v.2) and irresponsible believers. The latter upsets the fellowship by their disorderliness and need to be admonished. The former evoke prayers to the LORD with all power to protect us. Meanwhile, don’t let these enemies wear you down but continue in well-doing.

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church is a confessional Lutheran Church.

If you are interested in learning more, please call Pastor Bernthal at 608-233-2244 or e-mail him at mbern@juno.com

More Information and Audio Sermons at middletonlutheran.org



Peace Thru Christ

Lutheran Church and School

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Organist: Miss Claire Abbas

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Pre-service Preparation: Ps. 104

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Worship Supplement, p. 12

Opening Hymn: 396

Before Sermon: 394

Offering Hymn: 442 (1-2)

After Prayers: 381

Closing Hymn: 401

Antiphon, Ps. 85 Pg. 40

Scripture Readings:

Acts 17:1-15

The Gospel of Jesus Christ advances across Macedonia. After three weeks of preaching, we find that many believe—both Jews and Gentiles. But once again Satan raises his ugly head in the form of jealousy among

the Jews and Paul is forced to leave and go to Berea. All of Satan's efforts to destroy the message of Christ and His Church fail, and the Bereans, moved by the Holy Spirit, gladly receive the Good News of Jesus and another Christian congregation is established.

17 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ." 4 And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas. 5 But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. 6 But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. 7 Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus." 8 And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. 9 So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go. 10 Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. 12 Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men. 13 But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they came there also and stirred up the crowds. 14 Then immediately the brethren sent Paul away, to go to the sea; but both Silas and Timothy remained there. 15 So those who conducted Paul brought him to Athens; and receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him with all speed, they departed.

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

CLC NEWS:

- Mrs. Collette Krause has both received and accepted the call to teach at Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown SD, for one year.
- Pastor Richard Kanzenbach, pastor of Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild, and Peace with God Lutheran, Onalaska, has accepted the call as pastor/coordinator for Trinity Lutheran, Millston WI.

From CLC Mission Board Chairman Todd Ohlmann:

The Board of Missions will meet by conference call on Thursday evening, August 27 to issue a divine call for a full-time resident missionary to India. Since the primary role of our foreign missionaries is to assist in the training of pastors, qualified individuals should be seminary trained. The Board of Missions is asking the members of the CLC for nominations. You may send the name(s) along with any pertinent information to Pastor Ohlmann at: tohlmann@swbell.net or 1183 Big Bend Rd, Manchester, MO 63021. The deadline for nominations is Tuesday, August 25.

PEACE THRU CHRIST SCHOOL

BEGINS: Tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. everyone is welcome to the opening devotion to be held in church. We pray for a blessed school year in Jesus' name. We have three students again: Cayden DerHasen: 4th grade; Jonah Greve: 2nd Grade; Set Greve: 1st Grade.

ILC BEGINS: Immanuel High School, College and Seminary opens its doors for the 2015-2016 school year tomorrow. Three Peace Thru Christ members will be attending this year—James Schaser, H.S. Junior; Kaitlyn Brandle & Joshua Gerbitz, H.S. Sophomores. We pray the Lord's blessings and guidance upon these young people as they travel to Eau Claire for their Christ-centered education.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY/ CHURCH PICNIC: Date is Sept. 13th. Make it a point to be here for this special day. Please bring a meat to grill and a dish to pass. Please also sign the sheet in the entry-way if you are planning on coming. Anyone interested in helping to co-ordinate activities for that day please contact Pastor Bernthal or Tim Schaser.

PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU!

We are glad you could join us this morning in worshipping our Savior. May the Word of God and the message of salvation through Jesus Christ fill your hearts. We invite you to come and worship your Savior with us again. Please also sign our guest register.

This Week:

Monday 8:00 a.m. Opening Service/School Begins

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

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

Saturday Float Assembly

Next Sunday

9:00 a.m. Family Worship

12:00 p.m. Good Neighbor Parade

LAST WEEK: Worship 52

OFFERINGS 8/16

for Unified Budget: \$2,263.25

IN SERVICE TO OUR LORD:

Cleaners this week: Church--
-Albrecht/Franson School---
Brandle

Counters today:

Randy Dreyer & Joel Albrecht

IN THE HOSPITAL:

Bruce Templeton is recovering at U.W. Hospital where he will be for the next several weeks. We thank the Lord for His watchful and protective care over His child and continue to pray for his recovery as the Lord wills. He is able to and would love to have visitors.

CONGRATULATIONS & LORD'S

BLESSINGS: to Jared Barthels and Hannah Gerbitz who were united in holy matrimony last weekend. May Jesus ever be the third One in their union as they live their lives united in Christ.

THANKS: to all who have been mowing this summer. The grounds look great! We are still in need of mowers for the rest of the summer.

FLOAT BUILDING: We will be working on assembling our float for the Good Neighbor Parade next Saturday at church. Come and help us! We also hope you can volunteer to walk in the parade with us.

GOOD NEIGHBOR PARADE: We will be participating with a float in the Middleton Good Neighbor Parade next Sunday beginning around 12:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: We are in need of Sunday School teachers for the coming year. Please contact Pastor Bernthal or Tim Schaser if you are interested in teaching.

The Sermon: read/listen to sermons at www.middletonlutheran.org

THE WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Sermon Text: I Thessalonians 1:1-10

Theme:

GOD'S WORD PRODUCES FAITHFULNESS!

I: Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians faith

II: God's Word works a firm faith

III: The Thessalonians' faithfulness—

A Model for Us and Others.

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, 3 remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, 4 knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. 5 For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. 6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. 8 For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. 9 For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

