

THE WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

HOME DEVOTIONS - Week #22



Monday - I Peter 1:10-2:3 We have been born again by the living and enduring Word of God. All things of this earth will end, but the Word of God stands forever. That Word is preached to us every Sunday. May we, like newborn babes; crave this pure, spiritual milk; drink it daily, so that we may grow up in our salvation, especially now that we have tasted that the Lord is Good. Even the angels desire to look into these things!

Tuesday - I Peter 2:11-25 Through Christ we have been set free from the Law, and now have been made willing slaves of the Gospel. May our freedom from the Law never be a cover-up for evil. Christ is our perfect example: He willingly submitted to every authority; He endured suffering without retaliation; He bore our sins in His body, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness. By His wounds we are healed!

Wednesday - I Peter 3 The real beauty of the wife is within, in the heart - a gentle, quiet spirit, submissive to her husband. The husband's beauty likewise lies in his loving consideration and tender treatment of his wife. More thoughts: Be willing to suffer even for doing good; Christ's descent into hell was to proclaim His victory over the devil and death, not to give the people in hell a second chance. Baptism saves through the forgiveness of sins in Christ's resurrection.

Thursday - I Peter 4 & 5 Oh, how this section applies to today's immorality. Let us be clear-minded and self-controlled, serving and suffering for Christ's sake as the end quickly approaches. Beware of becoming the lion's prey! The only means of defense is a steadfast trust and reliance in the Chief Shepherd, Who Himself will restore us and make us strong and firm until the end.

Friday - II Peter 1 How does the Christian prove his faith? Through all kinds of good works: goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, love. In the Scriptures we have not only the account of reliable eye-witnesses, but the inerrant account of the holy men of God writing by inspiration of the Holy Ghost.

Saturday - II Peter 2 & 3 More applicable thoughts to our day. Beware of false teachers who with their false teachings ("stories they made up" NIV) and ungodly lives shall deceive and mislead many. Their end is tragic, as seen from past history; but the mercy of the Lord is ever toward those who cling to His Word. The Day of the Lord is near! Be not deceived, this world will come to an end. May the Lord find us repentant, living in Christ's righteousness, spotless, blameless, and at peace with God.

Peace Thru Christ

Lutheran Church and School



Pastor: Mark H. Bernthal • Teacher: Miss Claire Abbas
Organist: Mrs. Karen Schaser

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Last Sunday after Pentecost — November 22, 2015



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Pre-service Preparation: Ps. 27

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Lutheran Hymnal, p. 5

Opening Hymn: 466

Before Sermon: 376

Offering Hymn: 572 (1 & 4)

After Prayers: 460

Closing Hymn: 370

Scripture Readings:

I Peter 1:1-9 The letter of HOPE! Yes, we have HOPE, even in the midst of trials, tribulations, and temptations. These trials, together with the Word, help to purify that HOPE and FAITH, so that we respond in praise and glory to Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School • Announcements

CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATIONS:

We plan to put up the Christmas tree and church decorations on Saturday, Dec. 5th beginning around 10:00 a.m. Please come and help.

CLC NEWS:

Gethsemane Lutheran, Spokane Valley WA, has called Pastor Michael Gurath, pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran, Phoenix AZ. The Commissioning of CLC Foreign Missionary Peter Evensen will take place at 4:00 pm on Friday, December 18th (a few hours prior to the ILC Christmas Concert) at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

2016 Mission Helper Trip to India – Applications are currently being accepted until January 8th, 2016. More

information and an online application can be found at: www.mht.lutheranmissions.org/2016-india Also, bulletin inserts, posters, and other resources can be downloaded at: <http://mht.lutheranmissions.org/resources>

DUANE'S DOWNSIZING:

Duane has a kneeling chair that can be of help to persons with back problems that may be alleviated by keeping the back straight, not slumped. It is available to anyone who would like to take it. It can be seen in the fellowship hall.

READERS NEEDED:

Pastor is looking for 8-9 men to help read Scripture lessons for our Christmas Day worship service. If you are interested, please contact Pastor.

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church/School 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, 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 Church/School is a Member of
The Church of the Lutheran Confession. www.clc.org

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PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU! We praise God that you are with us this morning worshipping our Savior. May the Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ, be the Foundation of your faith and life. We encourage you to come and worship your Savior with us again. If you are interested in learning more about our Savior and His Word, please speak with Pastor Bernthal. Please sign our guest book.

This Week:

Today 9:00 a.m. S.S.: Job

Bible Class: Spending Time in Luther's Catechism—3rd Article (Enlightens/Sanctifies)
11:15 a.m. Choir

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

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Thursday THANKSGIVING DAY

Thurs-Fri. NO SCHOOL

Next Sunday 9:00 a.m.

S.S./Bible Class
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
11:15 a.m. Choir

LAST WEEK:

Worship 37 S.S. 4 B.C. 25

OFFERINGS 11/15

for Unified Budget: \$1,872

IN SERVICE TO OUR LORD:

Cleaners this week:

Church---

School---Dreyer/Dumke

Counters today:

Randy Dreyer & Joel Albrecht

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP:

This Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Oh, come, give thanks to the Lord!

PASTOR'S VACATION:

Pastor & Ruth will be gone Thanksgiving Day thru Sunday evening. If pastoral assistance is needed please call President Dan Schaefer at 274-0052. Seminary student Stefan Sonnenfeld will be conducting the worship service next Sunday.

ADVENT SEASON:

The Advent season begins Sunday, Nov. 29th. We will be having mid-week Advent services Wednesdays, Dec. 2, 9, 16 at 7:00 p.m.

faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

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

THE WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Sermon Text: I Peter 2:4-8

CHRIST IS OUR FOUNDATION STONE

I: This Stone is rejected by men, but chosen by God.

II: This Stone causes many to stumble and fall.

III: Built upon this Stone we will never be put to shame.

IV: As living stones, we will offer up spiritual sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving.

4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." 7 Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone," 8 and "A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

