



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
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Rev. Dr. John Rickert, Pastor

OUR REDEEMER'S VOICE SEPTEMBER 2019

What's Happening?

This September 23 Fall officially begins. Maybe we will get a break from the heat. As seems to always be the way around Our Redeemer, a lot is happening. Our very first "happening" will be the very first day of September, Sunday 9/1. We will be having a "Mission Festival." Mission Festivals were, at one time, a common event in the LC-MS. God willing we will bring them back into style, at least in our little part of Delaware. Mission Festivals typically include a real-live missionary who speaks to the congregation, some physical knickknacks from the mission field that members of the congregation can see and touch, a meal that features exotic foods, a special offering for the missionary, and so forth. Our missionary will be Kate Phillips and the "exotic" land she will be laboring in is the Dominican Republic. While Kate has been to the DR several times, this will be her first long-term (2 years) trip. If all goes according to plan, she will arrive in the DR in October. We look forward to encouraging her and receiving encouragement from her as we labor in our respective mission fields to bring the love of God in Christ Jesus to people who are in need. (Of course, we will be adding her to our Sunday prayer list beginning in September, but you don't have to wait until September to put her in your prayers.)



Also on the first day of September, our Sunday School classes for children resumes. Kate Phillips will have a special presentation during both the adult Bible Class hour and the children's Sunday School class (during the worship service). In the past, this Sunday has been observed as Rally Day, so we will celebrate our teachers and students during the potluck luncheon after our worship service. Please bring your kids, grandkids, neighbor kids on this special day.

While the month begins with a "festival" it will end with a picnic and a special "dialogue" worship service. On September 29 we will have our annual picnic. There will be games and food and just a good time for all.

Why we do The worship service will be specially modified by pastor. He calls it a "dialogue" service. Instead of how we normally conduct a service, the various portions of the service will be interspersed with commentary explaining the various portions of the liturgy. For example, we all know that the Kyrie is that portion of the service where we pray "Lord, have mercy" (in Latin, "Kyrie Eleison"). But why do we make this prayer when we do? After all, it comes after our confession of sins and absolution?

What we do This might be a great worship service to invite a friend to who does not understand the liturgy. For us, well ... a refresher is always a good idea. Of course, one of the drawbacks to a service like this is that pastor doesn't get to drone on with his sermon (ha!); the liturgy becomes the sermon.

When we do

We are happy to welcome the Chestnut Hill Estates Civic Association (CHECA) Friday, September 6. They will be having their end of the summer BBQ at Our Redeemer. A number of us will be attending as well. We are excited by our partnership and growing relationship with our community. The BBQ is just one fruit from this strengthened relationship. The garden on our property is another. We call it ORCHARD. That stands for "Our Redeemer, Chestnut Hills Association, Reaping Delights." ORCHARD is not just for gardeners. There is now a produce stand on which extra produce is put for any and all. Now anyone in our neighborhood can have freshly grown, organic vegetables. Wasn't it great when extra tomatoes, cucumbers, and whatnot, were passed out on several Sunday mornings this past summer? Thank you, gardeners!



It is an exciting time at Our Redeemer as we reach out with God's love in Christ Jesus both to our immediate neighbors and across the Caribbean waters. Then, again, this is the sort of thing the Church of Christ has always been about. We are blessed to walk in the footsteps of people like Saints Paul, Peter, Cyril and Methodius, Boniface of Mainz, Patrick, Wyneken and especially our Lord Jesus. May the Lord bless Our Redeemer.

Blessings in Christ
Pastor



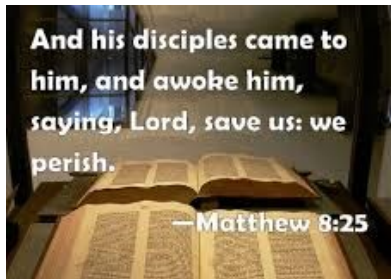
Digging In The Nicene Creed Second Article, Part 4

And [I believe] 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.

Having spent time on the word "one," we now turn our thoughts to the words "Lord Jesus Christ." Actually, we will simply consider the word "Lord" in this article.

The word "Lord," when used to address Jesus, is simply a continuation of the practice begun in his lifetime.



And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing." (Matthew 8:25)

When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." (Matthew 9:28)

But when he [Peter] saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." (Matthew 14:30)

The word "lord" can have several different meanings. It might be a synonym for our word "sir." Matthew 8:6, 8, 10 are places where this meaning *might* be the intention of the speaker when addressing Jesus. In the non-Jewish/non-Christian population, this was common.

Next, it might be a title of human authority, especially political authority. Again, in the non-Jewish/non-Christian population, this was common. Matthew 20:25 and its parallels sort of use the word with this thought, though in them the word used is "lording." Luke 19 has a parable that has this word "lord" in it. Of course, the "lord" in the Luke 19 parable is the Lord God. Aside from the Luke 19 parable, the word "lord" is *never* used in the Gospels to identify an earthly authority figure.

The word "lord" can also be used when addressing a being that is clearly one's superior. In Acts 10, Peter sees a vision as an angel appears to him. Peter addresses the angel as "lord."

In the Gospels, the title "Lord" is used exclusively in reference to Jesus or God (unless you want to count the parable in Matthew 20, but that "lord" is God). The use of the word "lord" as a synonym for God developed over the centuries in the Jewish culture. There are two words commonly translated "lord" in a typical English Bible, and this practice is a reflection of historic Jewish practice.

The first word is "Adonai." It is typically translated "Lord" or "lord." It is used in reference to one who has authority, such as a king (1 Kings 1:2). It was also used in reference to God (Genesis 15:2). The second word is the proper name for God. Most scholars would transliterate it as "Yahweh," through the vowels are uncertain. It is typically translated "LORD" in English Bibles (all capitals). This word is only used in reference to the true God. Because the words "Adonai" and "Yahweh" sometimes appear together, English translators will translate it "Lord GOD." When you see this, the word "Lord" is Adonai and the word "GOD" (note the capitals) is Yahweh.



The Jews, in order to avoid misusing the name of God, stopped using his proper name at all. When they were reading from the Scriptures in their synagogues and came to his name, they substituted "Adonai" (Lord) for the proper name of God. By the time of Jesus, then, the word "Lord" was a synonym for God. This is underscored by how the Gospels refuse to identify anyone, not Pontius Pilate, not Caesar, not Caiaphas, not Herod, not anyone, as "Lord." Yet the use of the word for Jesus is liberal. The Nicene Creed picked up on this. When they say "Lord" Jesus Christ, they mean "God" Jesus Christ, the God of the Old Testament, the God who keeps promises, the God who is the Redeemer of humanity.

Next month we will continue with our look at the phrase "Lord Jesus Christ." Until then, "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14). Amen.

By Grace I'm Saved!



"By grace! Oh, mark this word of promise
When thou art by thy sins opprest,
When Satan plagues thy troubled conscience,
And when thy heart is seeking rest.
What reason cannot comprehend
God by His grace to thee doth send

"By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, despite all fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?"
LSB 566

Music moves us. It's a primal human language that flows straight to our hearts with more information than words alone can convey. Search no further than the movies to find that often it's the music informing us if the main character is being courageous or stupid to go check on the noise they heard in the basement.

Similarly, our lives often have soundtracks attached to different seasons lending insights into the thoughts, feelings, struggles, and joys of that age. And in many ways the church is no different. The tunes to which we sway, the rhythms that move us forward, the words that we communally sing into each other's ears when we gather -- those also become the soundtrack of our faith journeys and compel us instinctively forward when the fury of hell rattles up again from our lower dwellings.

Take the story of an eight-year-old girl who stood by her mother's grave, along with hundreds of other lives the mother had touched. There the child sang, "Amazing Grace." Talk about a timid heart trembling! The girl trembled and quaked with the fear of her earthly anchor now lost. For years, she experienced deep existential fear and loneliness that beckoned her find an anchor more secure than a loving mother. In the end, she was thankful the invitation to faith came so early in her life because, as the hymn suggests, grace alone was powerful enough to tether her troubled soul.

Grace gave her the courage to keep going forward though others judged. In fact, it was grace that saved her from her own harsh judgments, learning over time to accept God's unmerited love and favor as a truer identity than the rumblings of fear and trouble with which she was still familiar in the basement of her soul.

The amazing thing is that grace has been a powerful enough source of strength that the music has changed when she now descends the steps of her soul to see what the trouble is. There are still notes of dissonant fear and foreboding, unexpected rhythms of suspense, and tones from instruments we know not yet how to identify. But there are also the familiar notes of grace and love reminding her that fear, doubt, hatred, lust -- not one of them, nor all of them combined -- can overpower the grace of God in Jesus Christ by which she is held secure. Now she is free to face tribulations -- even those of her own making -- because by grace she is saved, grace free and boundless.

[This *Daily Devotion* was written by AmyRuth Bartlett.]
Arlen D. Besel – Ambassador



THROUGH THE WORSHIP WINDOW



August — The Latter Third of Pentecost:

Our first reading in September is from Proverbs 25:2-10; "*Counsel for the king's presence*". These readings continue from OT. The faithlessness of Israel is noted in Deuteronomy and Ezekiel speaks of the Lord as shepherd. Amos laments over the lust for money. The final Sunday is St. Michael's as described in Daniel.

The Gospel lessons begin with Jesus' healing ministry and parables. The parables include: the counting of cost, the lost coin, the lost son, and the unrighteous steward. On the final Sunday, Jesus reminds his disciples of the value of humility by using a small child as the example.

In September, the Epistle readings continue with verses from Hebrews 13, that counsel us on our obligations as Christians to show love and hospitality to others, including strangers. It includes a warning against apostasy.

In his letter to Timothy, Paul outlines the problem of unsound doctrine and the importance of the Gospel. He also mentions his own conversion to being an Apostle of Christ. Paul urges prayer for those in authority and godly living by the believers.

Once again the month ends with St. Michael's Sunday and includes a description of the angel Michael and his war with Satan and his followers. This leads to the rebellious angels being cast out of heaven.

The Pentecost season ends in October with Reformation Sunday; heralding the re-birth of salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone—a reformation of the church that culminated in the birth of the protestant church.

Arlen D. Besel– Worship



Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.
Colossians 4:5-6 ESV

Conversation, Fellowship & Sharing Jesus' Love

One of the most natural ways of sharing your faith in Jesus is by everyday conversation. When talking with a friend, coworker, relative, store clerk, or whoever, you talk about many things, don't you? It's natural and normal. So is talking about God's great love for us in Christ: we tell people what Jesus has done for us in our lives, how He has given us grace, strength, healing, direction, met our needs, delivered loved ones from danger or distress—the list is endless!

We have so many opportunities for fellowship and sharing our faith during the next several months, so be intentional about it; plan now to be open to God's leading in your everyday conversations as we fellowship together; tell the Good News of Jesus to someone! Here are a few events where you can do this in September:

Mission Festival

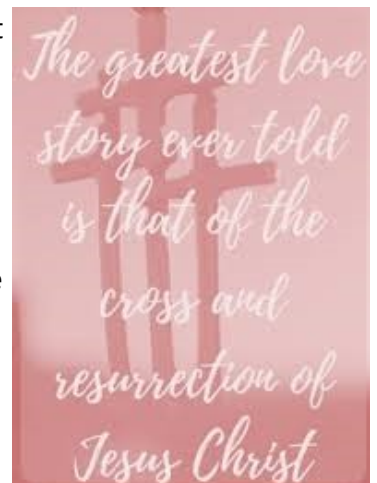
We are hosting Kate Phillips, missionary to the Dominican Republic, on Sunday, 9/1. She will give a presentation during the Sunday morning Bible class hour, will lead the children in learning about the DR in Sunday School, and there will be a potluck luncheon after the worship service. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex to provide a dish for lunch, & be sure to let us know where the recipe is from (what country)! Kate is visiting churches to help everyone know about this mission effort & to raise funds to support her during her 2-year stay in the DR, so please bring your checks, cash, food, friends & questions & let's celebrate the love of God in Christ Jesus here & throughout the world!

CHECA End-of-Summer BBQ

Our neighborhood homeowner's association (CHECA) is having their annual BBQ here at Our Redeemer in the parking lot on Friday, 9/6, 6-9 pm. This is a great time for us to come together with our neighbors, get to know them in a casual setting & show them the love of Jesus as we make connections with them; maybe gaining an opportunity to share God's love with them—wouldn't that be great?! So, please come, bring something to grill, a comfy chair, a neighbor & let's reconnect with our neighborhood at this event.

Annual Church Picnic

Our annual church picnic will be held on Sunday, September 29, 2019 after the service. Congregation Life will supply the hot dogs, hamburgers, rolls, beverages and place settings. A signup sheet will be available for attendance and other food items, if you would like to participate. We will also need volunteers for grilling, setting up and clean up afterwards. Please come and join us with family and friends—all will be welcomed! If you have any questions, please contact me at (302) 737-3234 or wbesteder@aol.com Lina Besteder, Congregational Life



Bring your friends to these events, walk through ORCHARD, sit in the shade or at a table indoors, and pray for an opportunity to tell your friends about the greatest love in the history of the world: Jesus coming to die to rescue us! When the opportunity comes—and it will—tell your friends about this love story; they may not know that they are the ones He came to save!



Sunday School

Sunday School begins again on 9/1 with a special class led by Kate Phillips, missionary to the Dominican Republic! Please plan to stay after class & worship to enjoy a potluck lunch for Kate.

ORCHARD Update

We have received our third & final grant that has been approved, our new produce stand now has signs that tell our neighbors that they can take the excess veggies home to enjoy, our larger composting area has been constructed, and we all are enjoying the fruits of our labors! Some of our gardeners have already begun fall planting, so be prepared to enjoy more seasonal produce (spinach, broccoli, brussels sprouts, etc.) once it's harvest time!

Bulletin & Newsletter Information Dates

Please have all information for the bulletin into the office no later than Tuesday of each week. Newsletter info is due no later than the 20th of each month to ensure its inclusion. Thanks!

Church Flowers

We still need altar flowers for 9/1 & 9/15, 11/10 & 12/8. Please consider signing up for flowers to beautify our sanctuary; if you don't want to keep the flowers, someone will take them to our homebound. Thanks.

LWML News

Your LWML is having a Bake/Bakeless Sale to help support Kate Phillip's work. The sale will take place during the CHECA BBQ (Fri 9/6, 6-9 pm), so please bring small, wrapped baked goods to church on Thu between 9 & 2, or to the BBQ at 6 pm (brownies, cookies, bars, etc.). If you do not bake, you may donate the cost of baking to the Bake/Bakeless Sale. Questions? Contact Kathy O'Malley (291) 791-3656 or Kitty at the church office. We will celebrate LWML Sunday on the first Sunday in October (10/6)



Human Trafficking Seminar—Can you recognize the signals of someone caught in modern slavery (sex trafficking, e.g.)? We have been invited to a seminar to help us spot those who may need help to be freed from such criminal activity. The seminar is on Thu 9/26, 6:30 pm. If you are interested in travelling to Christ Lutheran in Seaford, DE, let pastor or Kitty know.

September Birthdays

- 6 Jessie Hartwig
- 9 Eleanor Petik



If we missed your special day, please call or email the church office with your info so we can celebrate with you! (302) 737-6176; secretary.orkde@outlook.com

SEPTEMBER BIBLE READINGS

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 1 | 1 Chronicles 29:10-13
Job 31-33 | 16 | Psalm 100
Ecclesiastes 4-6 |
| 2 | Psalm 86
Job 34-36 | 17 | Psalm 101
Ecclesiastes 7-9 |
| 3 | Psalm 87
Job 37-39 | 18 | Psalm 102
Ecclesiastes 10-12 |
| 4 | Psalm 88
Job 40-42 | 19 | Psalm 103
Song of Solomon 1-4 |
| 5 | Psalm 89
Proverbs 1-3 | 20 | Psalm 104
Song of Solomon 5-8 |
| 6 | Psalm 90
Proverbs 4-7 | 21 | Psalm 105
Jeremiah 1-3 |
| 7 | Psalm 91
Proverbs 8-10 | 22 | Psalm 106
Jeremiah 4-6 |
| 8 | Psalm 92
Proverbs 11-13 | 23 | Psalm 107
Jeremiah 7-9 |
| 9 | Psalm 93
Proverbs 14-16 | 24 | Psalm 108
Jeremiah 10-12 |
| 10 | Psalm 94
Proverbs 17-19 | 25 | Psalm 109
Jeremiah 13-15 |
| 11 | Psalm 95
Proverbs 20-22 | 26 | Psalm 110
Jeremiah 16-18 |
| 12 | Psalm 96
Proverbs 23-25 | 27 | Psalm 111
Jeremiah 19-22 |
| 13 | Psalm 97
Proverbs 26-28 | 28 | Psalm 112
Jeremiah 23-25 |
| 14 | Psalm 98
Proverbs 29-31 | 29 | Psalm 113
Jeremiah 26-28 |
| 15 | Psalm 99
Ecclesiastes 1-3 | 30 | 1 Chronicles 29:10-13
Jeremiah 29-31 |

