

Our Redeemer's Voice



July 2022

Summertime is Here

If someone had a contest to pick the color of summer, I think I just might vote for green. After all, summer is the season for growing things. That means we have to be mowing our yards regularly. It means our community garden is full of lush, green growing vegetables and flowers. If you live on a farm, the newborn farm animals are growing up. Okay, they are not green, but they are still growing. Green would be a good pick for the color of summer.

During summer the Church is in the Season after Pentecost. The color for this season is green. According to "Lutheran Worship: History and Practice" (164, CPH © 1993), green is "the color of growth, leaves, foliage, fruit, and life, suggesting a time of spiritual growth."

The readings from the Bible we use throughout this time accent the work of the Holy Spirit as he guides us into a deeper understanding of our Christian Faith and a closer walk with our Lord (our sanctification). So this season starts with Trinity Sunday, a major festival on our calendar, and ends with the minor festival of the Sunday of the Fulfillment. This Sunday can also be called Christ the King Sunday. With either name the accent is on Jesus returning on the Last Day to judge the living and the dead and ushering in our eternal future. With the accent of growing in our Christian faith and walk, the color green certainly fits.



There are no major festivals during this portion of the Church Year and only two minor festivals (The Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24); St. Michael and All Angels (September 29) and All Saints' Day (November 1)). There are numerous commemorations, which are included to give us good Christian examples and inspire us in our Christian walk. In other words, another "green" aspect of the Season after Pentecost.

How true Christian Faith grows is by the grace of God: "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). Our growth in this grace of God is achieved by the Holy Spirit through the "means of grace," which are Word and Sacrament.

Jesus teaches that the Scriptures are the primary and indispensable means of salvation (Luke 16:31; 24:27, 44-45). The preaching of God's Word was central in the ministry of the Apostles (Acts 2:22, 41; 4:4; 5:20; 6:7; 12:24; 15:7, 32, 36; 16:14; 19:20; 20:32). Paul explains in Romans 10:17, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." The Apostles placed the highest value on the Word of God as the means of the salvation and sanctification of believers (Col. 3:16; Heb. 5:14; James 1:18, 21, 25; 1 Peter 2:2).

Scripture also teaches that God has appointed the sacraments to be means of grace. Paul makes the connection between baptism and the grace of salvation when he writes, "[God] saved us ... by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit" (Titus 3:5). Peter writes, "Baptism ... now saves you" (1 Peter 3:21). Paul also refers to the grace found in the Lord's Supper writing about the "cup of blessing" we receive (1 Corinthians 10:16).

For summer to be a true growing season for our faith, we need to remain connected to the means of grace, that is, word and sacraments. Therefore I encourage you to remain faithful in your church attendance. That is where you will find the means of grace. That is where growth can be found. If you want a true "green" metaphor, you can think of the word and sacraments in our worship services as how our faith is watered, weeded, mulched, fertilized, and so on.

See you Sunday

Pastor

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DIGGING IN The Nicene Creed Third Article, Part 5

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, **who proceeds from the Father and the Son**, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Last month we looked at the phrase "who proceeds from the Father and the Son." We discovered that the eastern churches do not include the phrase "and the Son." The reason for this is partly linguistic. The Greek word used in the creed is *ekporeuetai* (ejkporeuovmenou). It is the same word found in John 15:26 in saying the Spirit proceeds from the Father.

But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

This same word is used in Matthew 3:5; 4:4; 15:11, 18; 17:21 (this verse is in a footnote in most modern translations); 20:29; Mark 1:5; 6:11; 7:17, 19, 20, 21, 23; 10:17, 46; 11:19; 13:1; Luke 3:7; 4:22, 37; John 5:29; Acts 9:28; 19:12; 25:4; Ephesians 4:29; and Revelation 1:16; 4:5; 9:17, 18; 11:5; 16:14; 19:15; 22:1.

If you look up these passages as you will see the word has the idea of movement, like leaving a crowd, or going into a building, and so on. It can be used of demons coming out of a victim. It can even be used of speech (words proceeding out of one's mouth) and thoughts (which proceed from one's heart). We read that reports about Jesus proceeded (went out) to the entire region. It is even used of our resurrection from the grave. However, nowhere is this word directly used in reference to the Holy Spirit "proceeding/being sent/going forth" "from/by" the Son. The Scripture uses other Greek words to describe the sending of the Spirit when the sender is the Son.

However, the Son as the sender of the Spirit is alluded to with the word "*ekporeuetai*" in the book of Revelation. In Revelation 1:16, as part of the vision of the exalted Christ, we read:

In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

In Revelation 19:15 we have the return of this exalted Christ:

From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

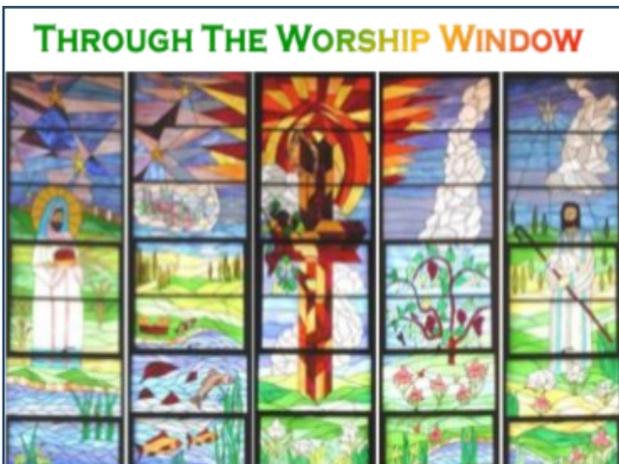
Certainly all the commentators that see this image as depicting the word of God are correct. Yet we remember that this word that is proceeding from the mouth of Christ here is called the "sword of the Spirit" by Saint Paul (Ephesians 6:17).

In Revelation 22:1 we read:

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb...

We find the throne of the Father and the Son and proceeding from their throne is the river of life. We remember that the Holy Spirit is the "Spirit of life" (Romans 8:2). We also remember the Spirit works through the waters of baptism to grant faith and life. Therefore, again see that the Spirit is at least strongly alluded to proceeding from the Father and the Son.

Next month I will share some quotes from the Church Fathers on this "proceeding" question. 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.



THROUGH THE WORSHIP WINDOW

July—Pentecost

Luke describes the sending of 72 Disciples to prepare for Jesus' ministry. An early message was that of the good Samaritan. The story of Mary and Martha followed to illustrate the importance of the Gospel. Jesus teaches the Disciples about prayer. July ends with the parable of the rich fool so we would value salvation over wealth.

The Old Testament begins with Isaiah's message of the birth of Israel as God's chosen. In Leviticus God warns Israel not to follow the pagan nations into sin. The story of Sodom and Gomorrah reminds us of the punishment God afflicts on the godless.

The Epistle lessons begin with the lesson of church discipline to heal us. In Colossians we are reminded of the importance of
(Continued next page) →

prayer and thanksgiving. It continues to remind that Christ is superior to all and provides salvation to those who believe in Him. There is a reminder of Paul's labor in service to Christ out of his love.

There is a reminder that we have freedom from man made rules and live only in the faith with Jesus' care and assurances of our salvation. The message in Colossians ends with a summary of the rules for holy living in our faith as outlined in the Bible. *As we move through July let us focus on Jesus.* **Arlen D. Besel– Worship**



In His Presence

From the message, "This Nation Under God," by Chaplain Earl Kettler

Exodus 33:13-15 - (Moses said) "Now

therefore, if I have found favor in Your sight, please show me now Your ways, that I may know You in order to find favor in Your sight. Consider too that this nation is Your people." And He (God) said, "My presence

will go with you, and I will give you rest." Here when Moses prayed to God, Moses was leading the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land of Canaan. Moses is urgent in his prayer to God for help. He cannot rest until he is assured repeatedly that God will go with him and his people. This is how much the presence of God meant to Moses.

God spoke to Moses face-to-face as a man speaks to his friend. He said, "My presence will go with you." Moses latched on to that promise, and he prayed as a man prays who dreads the thought of leading his people without God's help. In effect Moses prayed: If You do not go with us, dear God, don't take us up there at all. Without You we can go nowhere. Without Your love and help it isn't worth it. All that we do, or all the wealth we shall have, without You, it is nothing.

This is the same humility and trust in God that we need in our nation today, as we near the observance of Independence Day (or for our Canadian neighbors, "Canada Day," celebrated just yesterday). When Moses prayed for God's help, he remembered Israel's life in Egypt where Idol worship was practiced and where God's people experienced harsh conditions under their Egyptian overlords. Moses also remembered the priceless spiritual treasures from God that must not be lost—that He was their God, and that He would give them a Savior.

God's earlier promise to Abraham that in him all the families of the earth would be blessed (see Genesis 22:1-18; Acts 3) meant that God would be with Moses and the children of Israel as they ventured forth through the Sinai to the land of Canaan. In truth, we enjoyed the same spiritual blessings today. The promise of the Savior for us has been fulfilled. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Moses prayed for his people because he loved them. He knew it was God alone who could lead and protect them—and this is true for us today. When did you last pray for the senators from your state, your representatives in Congress, the President? Please pray for them. Pray also that we live as a nation under God. I have met many people in lands where I have served, and I know that men and women of many nations look to us with the hope that we shall help them strike away the bonds of ignorance, misery, and tyranny that are all too common in their lives.

In humility and with true repentance, may we thank God for this wonderful country and the countless blessings He has showered upon it. I have served, and I know that men and women of many nations look to us with the hope that we shall help them strike away the bonds of ignorance, misery, and tyranny that are all too common in their lives.

In humility and with true repentance, may we thank God for this wonderful country and the countless blessings He has showered upon it.

Arlen D. Besel– Worship

Call for Pastor

Our Redeemer church council has begun the process of forming a Call Committee in the search for a new pastor. The Council expects to receive a list of pastors available to serve from Southeastern District Pastor Deninger shortly. Please keep our committee, the church, the potential candidates, and all involved in the process in your prayers. We ask that our congregation pray for this process to move forward smoothly.

NEWS & NOTES

Congratulations Sarah

On Sunday June 19 Sarah Tackitt became the newest confirmed member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Following the service the congregation held a celebration to recognize this important milestone in her life. Sarah, also our newest lay reader, has graced our church with her beautiful voice during special church year events. Everyone at Our Redeemer looks forward to watching Sarah grow in faith and talent. Congratulations to Sarah, and to her family who support her. Blessings to you.



June proved to be a busy month at O.R.C.H.A.R.D

On June 12, following the church service, Pastor Rickert blessed the O.R.C.H.A.R.D garden. The rain gently watered the garden, but generously took a break just before the outdoor service began. We were doubly blessed..

The new shed arrived later in the week. Garden volunteers came out the following weekend to make shelves and move equipment into the shed.

Gardeners continue to work on their plots. Yellow straight neck squash, cherry tomatoes and arugula are just some of the plants being shared with neighbors and other gardeners. Bee balm, zinnias and other flowers brighten the garden and also lure helpful insects that feed on pests such as aphids.

This is the fourth year for the O.R.C.H.A.R.D project. We are pleased to announce that we have several new community gardeners joining the project this season. This is in line with our goal is to encourage more people in the neighborhood and surrounding community to join our garden each year.

An additional goal this year is to increase knowledge of the Food Bank of Delaware among the gardeners as they socialize and work on their plots. If you have questions, or would like to volunteer to help with food bank deliveries, please contact Robin.

We pray that the garden will continue to serve and build a relationship with ORLC's community and spread God's Word to our neighbors.



Orphan Grain Train Fundraising Opportunity

OGT is preparing for its annual October fundraising even. Ruth will again be selling shopping passes for \$5.00. This gives you a discount for the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends sale on October 19. The discount is 25% on most purchases, including items already on sale. OGT keeps the \$5. With the cost of shipping increasing, it is expected to be a successful sale. The coupon can be used at any Boscov's location. Contact Ruth for more information.

*A Devotion By Rev. Donald Schaefer,
 Northern Region Facilitator
 for Mission Engagement*



Galatians 6: 1-6, 7-16
***The Lesson for the Fourth Sunday of
 Pentecost, July 3, 2022***

The bottom line cuts away
 Details and distractions
 Always sharpening the focus
 Of action and intent

Beyond the holy pious veneer
 Of our faith practice

Paul helps us to clearly see
 what Christian faith leads to
 Bear one another's burdens
 For that is Christ's command

Our calling is always to serve beyond
 More than the greedy within

The vulnerability this brings
 Tires our heart and good intentions
 Because the real possibility of
 Being wounded always exists

Yet we do not grow weary
 In well doing for others
 Because we know how well
 God has done in loving us.

A Child's Perspective on Patriotism
(www.funny.jokes.com)



The Fourth of July weekend was approaching. The nursery school teacher took the opportunity to tell her class about patriotism. 'We live in a great country,' she announced. 'One of the things we should be happy about is that, in this country, we are all free.'

Trevor, who was a little boy in her class, came walking up to her from the back of the room. He stood with his hands on his hips and said loudly, "I'm not free. I'm four."

Independence Day Trivia about the "National "
bird.(www.funny.jokes.com)

- Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson served on the committee that picked the eagle for the national seal [Franklin wanted the turkey].



- Bald eagles are not, and never were bald. The term comes from when "bald" meant "white-headed."

- Bald eagles have few natural enemies and live only in North America.

• Bald eagles get their white head and tail feathers about 4/5 years of age.

- Their maximum speed: 40 mph or over 100 mph while in a dive.

- They can lift roughly half their body weight.

- The Bald Eagle is no longer considered endangered, and now only threatened.

- The only other kind of eagle in North America is the Golden Eagle.

- Bald eagles mate for life, but if one dies, the survivor will accept new mate.

- It is a felony to shoot an eagle.

Commemoration of Isaiah—July 6

The Lord be with you.—July 6, on our calendar, is the Commemoration of Isaiah. Isaiah, the son of Amoz, is considered to be the greatest of the writing prophets and is quoted in the New Testament more than any other Old Testament prophet. His name means "Yahweh [the LORD] saves." Isaiah prophesied to the people of Jerusalem and Judah from about 740 BC to 700 BC and was a contemporary of the prophets Amos, Hosea, and Micah. Isaiah was a fierce preacher of God's Law, condemning the sin of idolatry. He was also a comforting proclaimer of the Gospel, repeatedly emphasizing God's grace and forgiveness. For this he is sometimes called the Evangelist of the Old Testament. No prophet more clearly prophesied about the coming Messiah and His saving kingdom. Isaiah foretold not only the Messiah's miraculous birth (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6), His endless reign (Isaiah 2:1-5; 11:1-16), and His public ministry (Isaiah 61:1-3), but most notably his Suffering Servant role and atoning death (Isaiah 52:13-53:12). The apostle John's description of Isaiah, that Isaiah saw Jesus' glory and spoke of Him (John 12:41), is an apt summary of his prophetic ministry.

Prayer: Lord God, heavenly Father, through the prophet Isaiah, You continued the prophetic pattern of teaching Your people the true faith and demonstrating through miracles Your presence in creation to heal it of its brokenness. Grant that Your Church may see in Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the final end times prophet whose teaching and miracles continue in Your Church through the healing medicine of the Gospel and the Sacraments through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Blessings in Christ,



2 Don Hartwig II
3 Ruth Hewlett
10 Sandy Billy



8 Bill & Janet Stenner

What do we do with all these vegetables?

Garden Macaroni Salad

2 cups uncooked macaroni
1 10 once package of frozen peas
1 bell pepper chopped
5 green onions chopped
8 oz of chopped meat (chicken, steak, tuna) optional
3 medium tomatoes chopped
1 cup chopped celery
1 medium cucumber
1/4 cup chopped parsley
1/2 cup olive oil
1/4 cup rice or wine vinegar
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp hot sauce to taste
2 clove garlic pressed
Lettuce leaves
Ripe olives

Cook macaroni according to package directions, drain and rinse. Add frozen peas to a large bowl and cover with boiling water. Let stand 1 to 2 minutes and drain. Add macaroni, tomatoes, celery, cucumber, pepper, onion, and meat. Whisk olive oil, vinegar, garlic, salt, parsley and hot sauce together. Pour over macaroni mixture and toss lightly. Serve on lettuce leaves and garnish with olives. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Squash, a quandary

There are many ways to cook yellow squash or zucchini. You can roast it, sauté it, grill it, bake it, fry it, or eat it raw. You can make a cake or put it in soup. For the dinner table, here are some favorite ways to utilize those squashy veggies.

Bake it: Cut squash or zucchini in half lengthwise, scoop out seeds. Brush with olive oil and season with sea salt. Bake at 400 degrees until tender in about 20-25 mins. You can also stuff with sausage, cheese and tomato sauce and bake for a main course.

Sauté it: My favorite way is to cut squash into small pieces with equal parts chopped onion and some pressed garlic to taste. Sauté in olive oil over

medium high heat in a cast iron pan until tender. Season with sea salt and fresh ground pepper. For a main course, add some chopped bell pepper and onions to the mix. Throw some beaten eggs and cheese on top. Bake in a 375 degree oven until eggs puff up. Easy frittata. About 15 minutes.

Grill it: Cut in to thick slices, about the size of a potato log. Brush with olive oil and grill 5 minutes on each side or until tender, sprinkle with your favorite seasoning at each turn.

Air Fry it: Brush with olive oil and sprinkle with your favorite seasonings. cook at 375 degrees for about 8 minutes. Turn over halfway through for even cooking. I add a bit of pressed garlic to the olive oil for a deeper flavor.

Yellow Squash Bundt Cake (Southern Living)

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 large eggs, at room temperature
1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
1 cup canola oil
2 cups grated yellow squash (from 2 medium [6 1/2 oz. each] squash)
1 tablespoon lemon zest plus 2 Tbsp. fresh juice (from 1 lemon)

Lemon-Buttermilk Glaze

2 cups unsifted powdered sugar
2 tablespoons whole buttermilk
1 teaspoon lemon zest plus 1 Tbsp. fresh juice (from 1 lemon)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Coat a 10-cup Bundt pan with baking spray. Stir together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a bowl. Place eggs, sugar, and oil in bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment. Beat on medium-high speed until light and airy, about 3 minutes, stopping to scrape down sides as needed. Stir in squash, lemon zest, and juice. Gradually add flour mixture, beating on low speed until just combined, about 45 seconds. Pour batter into prepared pan.

Bake in preheated oven until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean, 50 to 55 minutes. Cool in pan 10 minutes. Invert onto a wire rack; cool 1 hour.

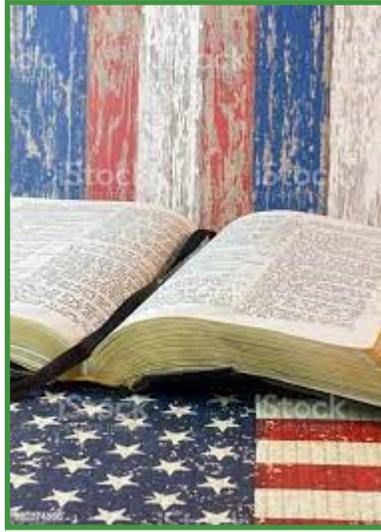
JULY 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SERVING Pastor Rev. Dr. John Rickert Organist Julie Hockersmith David Rash	USHERS Arlen Besel Dennis Boon Jim Rose	LECTORS 7/3 Gary Weaver 7/10 Julie Hockersmith 7/17 Sarah Tackitt 7/24 Bob Cooley 7/31 Arlen Besel	STREAMING 7/3 Robin Billy 7/10 Emily & Steve 7/17 7/24 Emily & Steve 7/31			
3 Worship—Communion Divine 3, 10 am 	4 Office Closed	5 Announcement Deadline	6	7 Pastor on Vacation	8 Pastor on Vacation	9 Pastor on Vacation
10 Worship, 10 am Pastor on Vacation	11	12 Announcement Deadline	13	14	15	16
17 Worship—Communion 10 am Church Council 	18	19 Announcement Deadline	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22	23
24 Worship, 10 am / 31 Worship, 10 am	27	28 Announcement Deadline				

July Bible Readings

- 1 Deuteronomy 32:1-4
1 Samuel 28-31
- 2 Psalm 28
2 Samuel 1-3
- 3 Psalm 29
2 Samuel 4-6
- 4 Psalm 30
2 Samuel 7-9
- 5 Psalm 31
2 Samuel 10-12
- 6 Psalm 32
2 Samuel 13-15
- 7 Psalm 33
2 Samuel 16-18
- 8 Psalm 34
2 Samuel 19-21
- 9 Psalm 35
2 Samuel 22-24
- 10 Psalm 36
1 Kings 1-2
- 11 Psalm 37
1 Kings 3-6
- 12 Psalm 38
1 Kings 7-8
- 13 Psalm 39
1 Kings 9-11
- 14 Psalm 40
1 Kings 12-14
- 15 Psalm 41
1 Kings 15-17
- 16 Psalm 42
1 Kings 18-20



Through the Bible in a year

- 17 Psalm 43
1 Kings 21-22
- 18 Psalm 44
2 Kings 1-3
- 19 Psalm 45
2 Kings 4-6
- 20 Psalm 46
2 Kings 7-9
- 21 Psalm 47
2 Kings 10-12
- 22 Psalm 48
2 Kings 13-15
- 23 Psalm 49
2 Kings 16-18
- 24 Psalm 50
2 Kings 19-22
- 25 Psalm 51
2 Kings 23-25
- 26 Psalm 52
1 Chronicles 1-5
- 27 Psalm 53
1 Chronicles 6-10
- 28 Psalm 54
1 Chronicles 11-15
- 29 Psalm 55
1 Chronicles 16-20
- 30 Psalm 56
1 Chronicles 21-25
- 31 Deuteronomy 32:1-4
1 Chronicles 26-29

