



'Till We Meet Again!

Week of August 29 and 30, 2020

REFLECTION FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020:

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: ²²The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases^[a] his mercies never come to an end; ²³they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:21-23

Good morning my friends!

GOOD MORNING MY FRIENDS!

I was thinking this morning about how neat it is to attend band concerts, orchestra concerts, musical plays, or other events involving instruments. I was thinking about the time that occurs just before the concert begins when the instrumentalists begin tuning or “warming up” their instruments. You know what I mean, first you hear one instrument play a note, then another, then others join, and soon enough there is a cacophony of sounds coming from the stage and as quickly as it begins there is suddenly silence before the conductor joins the group. Just a wonderful image, filled with the beauty of sound!

I was thinking this morning about how neat it is to pay attention to the beginning of a new day. The morning dove begins to “coo.” The wind moves through the trees. A speck of light comes over the back of a mountain and soon enough the world begins to awake. The landscape before your eyes begins to unfold, refreshed and renewed as the morning dew begins to glisten from the wakening sun! Just an incredible image!

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God’s mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning!

A renewed and fresh world awaits you to join. What will you do with the day that has



been fashioned and created?

We’ve spoken about this before; yet it is worthwhile sharing again. I believe “time” is one of the greatest gifts our Lord shares with us. Time to forge, deepen, sustain, strengthen, and renew our relationships with God and with the world around us. Time never returns. Time is NOT a renewable resource. Time is fleeting. Yet in the glory of our Lord, time continues to move ahead offering new opportunities, new challenges, and new hope!

So this morning when you awoke from sleep creation was preparing herself for your presence. How will you treat and use the day that our Lord has created? How will you use the great gift of time that our Lord has shared with you today?

May your time on this day be filled with love my friends!

Till next time,

Keep trusting our God, wash your hands, and be at peace with God and with one another in the time of this day!

PJ

REFLECTION FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2020

WHAT KEEPS YOU UP AT NIGHT?

Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20

I am participating in training for community organizing and one of the first questions we are trained to ask is, "what keeps you up at night?" In other words, what kinds of things do you think



about and/or worry about especially at night. Over the course of my life, I have worried about many things, money, my spouse's illness, living on my own, gun violence, lack of mental health awareness and treatment, and social justice issues. All of these are powerful issues and certainly keep us up at night. Sometimes they can be completely overwhelming and threaten to bring us to despair or even worse.

Over the course of my life I have learned that if I tackle one thing and focus on things, I can control then I find peace and even some sleep. There are so many things we cannot control and so many things that seem larger than life, especially at night!

I am part of a clergy caucus for Power Lehigh Valley which is an interfaith collaboration to address social justice issues on a local level from a faith perspective. We are just in the forming stage and soon will have elected leadership within the state and locally which will allow us to focus on the social justice issues in our community. Uniting we can absolutely make a difference in our community. We can take what feels overwhelming and work together to create good change in our own backyard.

I have long said that the mainline churches have kept silent to the point that we allowed ourselves to become irrelevant in our own communities. It is good to join with likeminded individuals and work to bring our faith into the public square. We really do have a voice, a commission from Jesus to go out and share God's love and forgiveness with everyone. We

have a commission to make disciples of all nations. If I am honest with myself, I have not done this. I have been afraid to create conflict or speak out in case someone would judge me.

God has gifted me with many gifts to share, as God has done for each and every one of you to share. We are blessed to be within this community of faith. I hope that you will join with me in learning about issues of social justice and other issues that keep you up at night. With God's help and guidance, we can work together to address these issues and in doing so, may we all find peace, and some good rest.

In Peace,
Pastor Suzanne



IN PERSON OUTDOOR WORSHIP
Sunday, August 30 at 9:00 AM (weather permitting) at the Lutheran Center in Northeastern Pennsylvania, 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109-3044

Things to Bring: Chair (or you may stay in your car); Face mask; Sunscreen or umbrella

for shade; Water or refreshments; Restrooms will be available to folks attending worship.

Directions: Exit Route 22 at the exit for the Lehigh Valley Airport, Route 987 north. Drive 1.5 miles to Grove Road on the right. Turn right on Grove Road. Drive approximately ¼ mile, and the Lutheran Center will be on the right. (If you are coming from Schoenersville Road, turn left on Grove Road. The center is located between Schoenersville Road and Airport Road.)

Call one of the below church offices with any questions:



Light of Christ Lutheran Church 610-691-2321
St. John's Windish 610-868-3282
St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church 610-867-0519

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Area teachers are in need of the following items for their students and classrooms. If you would like to donate some items please bring them to worship at the Lutheran Center, Sundays at 9:30 AM weather providing and place in the bins marked school supplies. Thank you very much for your support of area students and teachers. We will collect supplies through Sunday, August 30, 2020. Any questions or to request some supplies please see/call Lynn Terry - 610-554-4090. If you are unable to attend church at the Lutheran Center, the school supplies can be placed on the back porch in a designated bin on the Light of Christ campus.

- plastic pencil cases
- child-friendly scissors
- glue sticks
- crayons - individual packs
- red, green, yellow, blue folders
- red, green, yellow, blue one subject notebooks
- composition books
- notecards
- pencils
- pens
- mechanical pencils
- markers



- colored pencils
- black dry erase markers
- highlighters
- pencil erasers
- rulers
- notebook paper
- assorted sizes of Ziploc sandwich bags
- gallon size Ziploc bags
- electric pencil sharpeners
- socks for erasing white boards
- adult scissors
- Velcro strips/dots
- magnetic tape
- packing tape

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS TRAINING

SEPTEMBER 19

OCTOBER 3

LCS will host two virtual trainings for Lay Eucharistic Visitors in fall 2020. Choose Saturday September 19, or October 3, 2020. Fee for the training is \$25. Those participating will be mailed a guidebook prior to the training. Participants will be asked to read sections of the text prior to the training day (instructors for both sessions are ELCA pastors). Instructors will be using Zoom to deliver the training, which will last about two hours. Participants will be asked to complete some follow up work and a final virtual check-in before the training certificate is issued. Training will include options for how to deliver the Eucharist in times of social distancing.

CHRISTMAS INGATHERING



For the 2020 Ingathering, the UPG has committed to "gathering" 180 tubes of toothpaste, 75 bottles of lotion and 75 women's personal care items. Our collection will not begin until the 1st weekend of October. If you wish to purchase items in the meantime, please put them aside in your Pantry bag or other bag and bring your contributions to worship on October 4th (or any time after that). There will be more details about the Ingathering at a later time.

PLASTIC BAGS



Thanks for bringing in your clean collection of plastic bags. Please no bags that newspapers are wrapped in. Our

collection is growing by leaps and bounds. Please keep them coming and out of the land-fill. If you would like to help with the project of transforming the bags into sleeping mats for the homeless when our Day of Service is scheduled, please call or email Linda Maule (610-258-5006; maule@ptd.net).

THANK YOU LETTERS

Dear pastor Jerry, Lynn and Light of Christ and UPG members,

Thank you so much for your calls, prayers, cards and concern for me over the past few months. It means so much to me. I am blessed to be a part of such a kind, caring church. I am humbled by the support. Happy the surgery is behind me and I am recovering nicely. Thank you again.

Love & Blessings
Ann Nonnemacher

I want to thank everyone for the cards sent, phone calls and prayers during my two surgeries.

Grace E. Jesse

August 5, 2020

Dear St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your gift of \$502.00 to ELCA World Hunger.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God (Romans 5:1-2)

As a church, we believe that God's grace is

freely given to us. This brings us peace and hope. It makes a difference in our lives. Through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, you are sharing this amazing grace with others. You are helping people around the world feel the transformational power of God's love.

Your generosity is getting at the root cause of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Through your gifts, you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God is shining through you.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robin Brown

Mission Funding Director, Congregations

THIS WEEK IN THE UPG AUGUST 29—SEPTEMBER 6

Saturday August 29

9:00 AM Worship Recording (LoC)
4:45 PM Worship (Facebook)

Sunday August 30

9:00 AM Worship (Lutheran Center) -
Blessing of Children, Teachers,
Parents, Grandparents & Helpers

Monday August 31

7:00 PM Coffee & Conversation (Zoom)

Tuesday September 1

9:00 AM Staff Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday September 2

Thursday September 3

6:30 PM Bible Study (Zoom)

Friday September 4

Saturday September 5

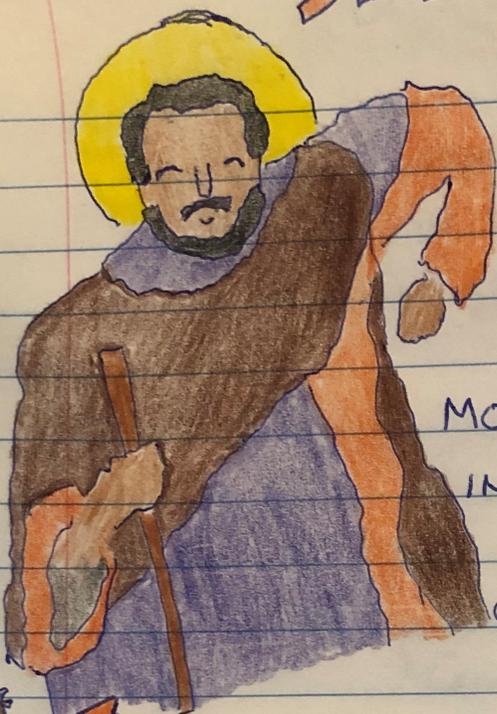
4:45 PM Worship (Facebook from SJW)

Sunday September 6

9:00 AM Worship (Lutheran Center)

MOSES THE STRONG: FROM STINKER TO SAINT!

St. Moses the STRONG!



STRAP YOURSELF IN FOR 1 OF THE CRAZIEST SAINT STORIES YOU'LL EVER HEAR!!

MOSES WAS A BANDIT WHO LIVED IN THE **300s!** HE WAS AN EGYPTIAN OUTLAW WHO LED A TERRIFYING GANG OF CRIMINALS!



1 DAY HE WAS ON THE RUN FROM THE LAW AND HID OUT IN A MONASTERY. HE WAS SO IMPRESSED BY THE PEACEFUL MONKS THAT HE TURNED HIS BACK ON CRIME AND BECAME A MONK HIMSELF!

HIS ADVENTURES DIDN'T END THERE! **1** DAY HE WAS ATTACKED BY A GROUP OF RIVAL ROBBERS OUT FOR REVENGE. MOSES TIED THE CRIMINALS UP AND DRAGGED THEM INTO THE CHAPEL. WHEN HE WAS DONE WITH THEM THE MONASTERY HAD A FRESH BATCH OF NEW RECRUITS!

