



St Luke's Lutheran Church Newsletter

"Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus"

March | April 2021

Pastor's Corner

"For those who love God, all things work together for good." (Romans 8:28)

Every Sunday we conclude our prayers in the liturgy by trusting that God is working all things to our good. This promise from Romans 8 is one of my favorite verses in all the Scriptures. These words bring me as much comfort and peace of mind as any other word of Scripture.

Any time I feel anxiety, worry, stress, or fear about something going on in my life or something that could go on in my life, I try to run back to this verse. This verse assures me that if I love God then whatever is currently happening in my life that is really difficult, painful, and stressful will be taken into God's loving hands and worked for my good. It also means that any horrible thing that could happen in the future to me, my church, my family, or God's creation will also be taken into God's loving hands and worked for my good.

Take a moment and sit on the words "all things." Imagine the worst things that have ever happened in your life. Imagine the worst things you have ever heard about happening to someone else. Imagine the worst things you could ever picture happening in the future. Everything you have just imagined is covered in this promise of "all things."

But who are those who "love God"? How do I know that I am one of these for whom all things will work together for good?

Jesus teaches us in John's Gospel that to love him and the Father is to "τηρέω" his commands (John 14:21). This Greek word is often translated as "obey," which isn't a bad translation but also isn't the best



translation in my opinion. This word in Greek really means to "keep" or "guard" or "cling to" or "treasure" something. So we love God by holding tightly to his commands. This certainly means we must work everyday to obey them, but if we fail to live into that obedience, we must not worry. God is not concerned about perfection, he is okay with us making honest mistakes and failing. What God is concerned about is whether we are treasuring his commands and treating them as the most precious thing in all creation.

So let's cling to Jesus's commands. Let's gather together for liturgy and study to listen to them. Let's ponder them everyday. Let's think about them at home and at work and in all we do. For if we treasure the commands of Jesus and guard them closely, then we are loving God. And if we are loving God, then we know that **all things** will work for our good. In this promise, we can find complete freedom from all worry and anxiety and find a peace that is truly beyond all human understanding.

Pastor Luke



Council Corner

We will be having a volunteer group from Ascension Lutheran in Wichita, KS, joining us the third weekend in March. They will work mostly at the Disciple Garden, but will be joining us for worship on the Sunday morning they are in town. The Council has entered into a contract to redo the roofs and gutters of the parsonage and the duplex on our main campus. This work is scheduled for the first part of April. The Council is very grateful for all of your generosity that has allowed such much-needed and large updates and repairs to be done. The possible temporary easement at the Disciple Garden that Kansas Gas Service has requested is currently delayed as KGS is trying to figure out the best approach for their construction project.



Disciple Garden Corner

We are incredibly grateful for Stan Loftiss, Dave Sasnett, and Habitat for Humanity for providing so much labor for us over the last couple months. The water heater is up and running, the HVAC system is up and running, the dehumidifier system is up and running, the trim and baseboards are finished, the interior doors are all installed and cased, the cabinets are all installed and stained, the bathroom cabinets, showers, sinks, and fixtures are all installed, and the wood stoves are installed and functioning. But before final inspections we need the custom countertops to be made and installed in March (these are taking longer nationwide because of COVID and weather) and then the kitchen sink can be finished to get the house complete. In addition the city needs closeout documents from our engineers concerning our construction of public infrastructure down on 10th Street. Please continue to pray that the Lord's will and timing is done as we wait for these final pieces and inspections to come together in the coming months.



Community Ministry Corner

Psalm 119's 176 verses are crafted as an alphabet acrostic poem—Hebrew alphabet that is, 22 letters & 8 verses for each letter. This is ...news... to me with this "precept" psalm I referred to a few years ago. So with the continued wanderings/wonderings of how to convey a new spiritual alphabet and vocabulary and start to own it and embody it, following the ABC poem last newsletter, here were my takeaways and spin from Kierkegaard's audiobook, "Training in Christianity and the Edifying Discourse."

<https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.165989>

- A** - Kierkegaard Attacks the organized church and its leaders, urges Adherence of the individual to Christ's word challenge, declares Admirers are abundant and meaningless
- A** - Absorb offense, when you can't take one step more, a sigh to Him is to still come hither to Him
- B** - Believe or take offense to Jesus life being asked of you as well—this is the measure of a believer, a Bruised reed he will not break
- C** - Carry your Cross, He calls, "Come unto me" as he comes unto them
- C** - Contemporaries with Christ which is different than contemporaries with Christians is what is real faith
- C** - Compassion in the human sense is cruel
- D** - The Divine Compassion is not of this world, Display some abandon in this practice of compassion
- D** - Distinct/ion, Deeds over words
- D** - Draws us to Himself
- D** - Don't be a sham Christian
- E** - Exist (that's your word and profession, sermon, lecture, and input, Existence is the Embodiment of faith, the Example quietly lived of Elevated faith, truth, life, love)
- E** - Ego-bind, Ego-blind, Engagement/marriage to all forsaken for the name/cause of Christ is the call to each individual soul
- E** - Even his 12 disciples could not understand him until the resurrection, Even having been with the generation with him in flesh and blood
- E** - Every generation must be/become His contemporary
- F** - Fasting without show, in fact concealing the hardship it is, the book of Daniel speaks to rich food and drink and Daniel's relationship to this which Daniel alone entertained fully
- F** - be Followers not admirers, Follow the word and the word will follow you back into your heart
- G** - Give rest, 100 Generation accumulation of faith still results in the need/reality of every Generation starting over again in faith walk
- H** - be a Helper wherever He is to be found- offer this
- H** - a History of blasphemy of man says man would seem to have nothing to do with Christ today either
- H** - Humiliation is where one must start into true faith
- I** - Integrity, Internal Temple, Inner sanctuary is faith
- I** - Invites to His bosom
- J** - Judgement lies in the Father, who is your spiritual dad?
- J** - Jesus is the object of faith—does this offend you, are you willing/being a contemporary with him in his suffering?

Kevin Dierks

Holy Week Schedule

Join us on Maundy Thursday (6:30 pm, Apr 1 at the Disciple Garden), Good Friday (6:30 pm, Apr 2 in the Sanctuary), Holy Saturday (6:00 pm, Apr 3 at the Disciple Garden), and Easter Sunday (9:30 am, Apr 4 in the Sanctuary) for our Holy Week celebration. On Holy Saturday we will also be celebrating Confirmation for a couple of young men in our church. Please join us to show your support as they publicly confirm their commitment to their Baptism and our church.

“Patient Ferment” & Revelation

Join us on Mondays at 6 pm as we continue to go through Alan Kreider’s landmark book, “The Patient Ferment of the Early Church.” We are learning about the early church’s practices and way of life and how we can apply it to our own evolving life as a church. Also join us on Wednesdays at 6 pm starting in April as we go through the strange, challenging, and often misinterpreted book of Revelation. We will see that behind all the metaphors, the message of Revelation is quite simple and powerful.

St Luke’s Schedule

Sunday

- 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
- 10:30 am Food & Fellowship
- 11:15 am Text of the Week Study
- 5:00 pm St Luke’s Council — Mar 7, Apr 11

Monday

- 6:00 pm Table Talk: “Patient Ferment of the Early Church”

Wednesday

- 6:00 pm Scripture Study: Revelation (starts in Apr)
- 6:30 pm “40 Days of Walking the Way” (through Mar)

🎂 Birthdays 🎂

- Gavin Frazell — 5 Mar
- Roxanne Deines — 6 Mar
- Ann Hauser — 21 Mar
- Lucy Mellott — 29 Mar
- Marcus Dierks — 8 Apr
- Yvonne Brown — 12 Apr
- Joanne Leive — 13 Apr
- Anthony Frazell — 18 Apr
- Lisa Dierks — 24 Apr

♥ Marriages ♥



Check out our website and find access to great resources like the church calendar, sermons, newsletters, online-giving, updates on the Disciple Garden, and more!

www.stlukeskck.org

<i>St. Luke's Lutheran Church</i>		<i>"Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus"</i>				<i>March 2021</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	2	3 Worship (6:30 pm) "40 Days of Walking the Way" Way of Hope: Facing Our Past	4	5	6 MLM Breakfast Ministry (7:30-9:00 am)
7 Lent III "You Are the Branches" John 15 Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	8 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	9	10 Worship (6:30 pm) "40 Days of Walking the Way" Way of Hope: Waiting	11	12	13 MLM Breakfast Ministry (7:30-9:00 am)
14 Lent IV "I Have Conquered the World" John 16 Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	15 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	16	17 Worship (6:30 pm) "40 Days of Walking the Way" Way of Love: Sharing	18	19	20 MLM Breakfast Ministry (7:30-9:00 am)
21 Lent V "They Don't Belong to this World" John 17 Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	22 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	23	24 Worship (6:30 pm) "40 Days of Walking the Way" Way of Love: Caring	25	26	27 MLM Breakfast Ministry (7:30-9:00 am)
28 Palm Sunday "Put Your Sword Away!" John 18:1-27 Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	29 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	30	31			

<i>St. Luke's Lutheran Church</i>		<i>"Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus"</i>				<i>April 2021</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1 Maundy Thursday (6:30 pm) "My Kingdom" John 18:28--19:16	2 Good Friday (6:30 pm) "It Is Completed" John 19:17-30	3 MLM Breakfast Ministry (7:30-9:00 am) Holy Saturday (6:00 pm) "There Was a Garden" John 19:31-42
4 Resurrection of Our Lord "While It Was Still Dark" John 20:1-10 Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	5 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	6	7 Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	8	9	10 MLM Breakfast Ministry (7:30-9:00 am)
11 Easter II "The Gardener" John 20:11-18 Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	12 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	13	14 Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	15	16	17 MLM Breakfast Ministry (7:30-9:00 am)
18 Easter III "He Breathed on Them" John 20:19-23 Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	19 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	20	21 Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	22	23	24 MLM Breakfast Ministry (7:30-9:00 am)
25 Easter IV "Those Who Have Not Seen" John 20:24-31 Worship (9:30 am) Food & Fellowship (10:30 am) Jesus Time & Text Study (11:15 am)	26 Table Talk (6:00 pm): "Patient Ferment of the Early Church"	27	28 Scripture Study: Revelation (6:00 pm)	29	30	