

St. Peter Lutheran

November 2022 Newsletter

- Nov. 2nd – Ladies Bible study on John 1,2 & 3, 3:00 p.m. at Mildred’s, Lesson 2
- Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 5th - Men’s Breakfast Bible Study, 8:00 a.m. Study leader is Pastor Czymbor, “Biblical Manhood: Zacchaeus”. A Breakfast server is needed.
- Nov. 6th - Communion Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.
~ Free Will offering during fellowship for Rodney and Malinda Hinrichs’ “Reaching the Unreached”
- Nov. 8th - Quilting Workday, 1:00 p.m.
- Nov. 9th - WMF Bible Study and Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Lesson 8, “Behold God Who Reigns in Power”.
Study Leader and Hostess is Tami Fink. Election of Officers (Vice President & Secretary) and deciding Christmas donations will be done at this meeting.
- Nov. 13th - Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.
~ Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes need to be returned this Sunday.
- Nov. 16th - Ladies Bible study on John 1,2 & 3, 3:00 p.m. at Mildred’s, Lesson 3
- FLY Bible Study and business meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 20th – Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.
~ Muffin Sunday – Ladies A - J are asked to bring the Muffins
- Nov. 24th - Thanksgiving Day Worship Service, 9:00 a.m.
- Nov. 27th – First Sunday in Advent. Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.
~ Advent Family Night – Soup Supper served by the FLY group. More info to follow
- Nov. 30th - Ladies Bible study on John 1,2 & 3, 3:00 p.m. at Mildred’s, Lesson 4

Usher’s List: Nov. 6 – Chad Lau & Corey Whitney
Communion Lay Assistant – Don Fink
13 – David Hartmann & Don Fink
20 – Doug VanZee & Dwight Brenner
27 – Ervin Fink & Ewald Fink

Cleaning List: Oct. 31 - Nov. 6 Audrey Fink & Carey Brenner
Nov. 7 – 13 Cindy VanZee & Connie Goldammer
14 – 20 Dee Fink & Jean Fink
21 – 27 Donna Picek & Donnelle Hoffman
Nov. 28 – Dec. 4 Hannah Lau & Joyce Sprecher



The Ten Words

Before we jump into the beginning of the Commandments of God we must discuss another important purpose of the Commandments as well as their numbering.

Both topics begin with the Jewish nation. At Mount Horeb, God spoke directly to His people and it was for the purpose of establishing a covenant with the people who are to be considered in relationship with Himself. This covenant is more than a mere agreement or contract but is in fact the most Holy and significant promise relationship that has ever been established throughout all of history. As noted last month, our Creator's desire is to bless, protect, and guard those in marriage relationship with Himself. **Deut. 5:29 Oh that they had such a heart as this always, to fear me and to keep all my commandments, that it might go well with them and with their descendants forever!** For, indeed, it is the purest and highest form of marriage between two different entities, God and Mankind, that is being spoken of through this covenant that God proclaimed that day. The Old Testament records the many ways in which humanity adulterates and breaks that covenant and demonstrates time and again God's faithfulness, patient endurance, and His loving kindness (Ches'ed, or Hesed).

The Good News for all is that any who seek to return to God's covenant do not need to fulfill His covenant on their own. The New Testament proclaims that the Chosen One, the Anointed One (Messiah/Christ), of God, the One prepared before the creation of the world to make peace between God and His creation, to unite and make whole all that which sin attempts to divide and destroy. (Colossians 1:15-20). Jesus has fulfilled the covenant with God on behalf of all of His servants. He redeems the price of breaking the relationship with God, death and destruction. And Jesus does that for ALL who turn towards Him (repent), those able to profess with their mouths that Jesus is Lord and believe that Jesus rose from the dead. (Romans 10:9-13).

And thus, God blesses us through His Ten Words, which is the Jewish translation of these 10 apart from the other 603 commandments of the Old Testament. And the numbering of the Ten Words can be found to be different whether one is looking to the Jewish, Catholic, or Protestant interpretations. This is in part why I personally choose to emphasize going directly to the Word of God whenever I discuss the Ten Words. Whether in confirmation class or from the pulpit I always refer to Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 instead of just denoting numbered commandments. I may make reference to numbering here and there as we walk through the two passages, but the emphasis will be on Scriptural content rather than interpretative choices. Likewise, we may often be left with questions rather than hard and fast answers, this is part and parcel of being those who are Israel, wrestlers with God. In the end, what God has revealed to us in His Word and Testament will always be final for defining Good and Evil, Right and Wrong, whether we fully understand or agree with what He says.

The first texts for consideration are **Ex. 20:2/Deut. 5:6 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."** These are the first words spoken to God's people by God Himself. To the Jewish readers these become the First Word to the people.

This first declaration of God establishes the legal foundation for this relationship. The Lord God Almighty, He is the One with the power and authority, the One alone who was mighty enough to bring His people out from the land of Egypt, where they had been in a house of slavery. They passed from death into life. He led them away from the power of the enemy, through the waters of the Red Sea, and to His mountain and to Himself. From this time forward He would be their God and they would be His people. God's people can rightfully claim Him as their Lord and Master and He makes them His possession. And God's Word testifies to us that we are His prized possession. (Deuteronomy 7:6-11, Psalm 139, Luke 12:4-12, John 3:14-21, Ephesians 2:1-10,)

Questions or comments can be directed to Pastor Kevin Czymbor - kevin@czymbor.net