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¹ Shout for joy to God, all the earth; ² sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! ³ Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you. ⁴ All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name." Selah ⁵ Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man. ⁶ He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him, ⁵ who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations-- let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah ⁸ Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard, ⁹ who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip. ¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. ¹¹¹ You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs; ¹² you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.

+ Order of Divine Worship +

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: TLH #189

"He is Arisen! Glorious Word!"

- P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

- P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.
- If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.
- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P Let us pray.
- Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus'

sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

- P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

INTROIT *Ps. 66:1-3, 5, 8-9*

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Alleluia. Sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise! Alleluia.
- Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies come cringing to You."
- P Come and see what God has done: He is awesome in His deeds toward the children of man.
- Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard,
- P Who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.
- Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Alleluia. Sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise! Alleluia.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

- P Let us pray. ...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 40:26-31 Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no

might he increases strength. ³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

EPISTLE READING – 1 Peter 2:11-20 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. 12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. 13 Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. ¹⁸ Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. 19 For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN: TLH #429 "Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart"

SERMON - John 16:16-24 "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." ¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" 18 So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." 19 Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? 20 Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. ²³ In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

What to Expect When You're Expecting (Eternal Life)

I. Sin-induced sorrow for a little while

II. Jesus-birthed joy forever

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SERMON HYMN: TLH #428 "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS -

PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER, and BENEDICTION

- The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C Amen.

♣ Announcements **♣**

Arise and Shine Retreat

registration is now open! Our theme for this year is "Confidence!" In this post-truth age that we live in, so many have a hard time knowing what to believe. The Lord does not want us to have uncertainty but rather calls us to be confident in His

Looking Ahead...

- ☆ Today: Orlando Service
- ☆ Today: Mother's Day
- ☆ May 25: ILS Wiffle Ball Tourney
- ₱ May 26: No Bible Class or SS; Summer Schedule Begins
- ₱ May 31: Last Day of School;
 Party starts 6 pm

Word and the salvation which He has won. If you are in your 20's or 30's and are looking for a relaxing getaway weekend of fun and fellowship, consider signing up for this retreat. The cost is \$140 per adult and \$100 per child. The retreat will be held June 13-16 in Pillager, MN. For more information, visit our website: http://ariseandshineretreat.com.

"The Branches" is a CLC Christian Women's magazine which is published quarterly. Subscriptions are available for the 2019-2020 subscription year (July through June). The Branches staff prays that, through this publication, we serve:

- to encourage you in your personal and family Bible study
- to edify you in your daily walk with Christ
- to provide a means to use and share your God-given gifts
- to celebrate and reflect upon God's gift of Christian sisters, near and far

Consider a subscription for yourself and/or gift subscriptions for women in your life! The cost is \$15.00/year for 4 issues. Checks are payable to, "The Branches," and should be sent to: Laura Wales, Subscription Manager, 8727 Forestview Lane North, Maple Grove, MN 55369. Online payments are also available via PayPal - you may contact Laura Wales at lewales@gmail.com.

CLC Call News 2019 ILC Teacher Graduate Nathan Buck has accepted the call assigned by the Call Committee on Graduates to Valley Bible Academy - St. John's Lutheran Church, Clarkston, WA. <> 2019

ILC Seminary Graduate Samuel Naumann has accepted the Call assigned by the Call Committee on Graduates to Resurrection, Corpus Christi, TX <> Teacher Josh Ohlmann (Grace, Sleepy Eye) has returned the call to Holy Trinity, West Columbia, SC. <> Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity, Watertown, SD, has received the call to Prince of Peace, Loveland, CO. <> Teacher Quinn Sprengeler, of Redemption, Lynnwood, WA has returned the call to Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, WI. Christy Moen (Berea member) has received the call to Berea Lutheran Pre-K/Kindergarten, Inver Grove Heights, MN. <> Pastor Caleb Schaller and Mrs. Jennifer Schaller of Messiah, Eau Claire WI, have received a call from the board of Regents to serve part time in the new "Immanuel On-Campus Couseling/Mentoring Program."

Shut-in/Encouragement List Emily Kuehne suffers from total blindness and severe knee pain when standing or walking. Patti Meno continues to receive treatment for her kidney condition and is awaiting a transplant. Ray Seger remains shut-in. Bill Issitt III remains mostly housebound while recovering from several health problems. Johanna Jaehnigen remains mostly housebound, being no longer able to drive. Crystal Shaw has many blood clots in her heart, lungs, and legs, and is receiving treatment to prevent a heart attack. Bill Hartmann's health is deteriorating. Please keep Bill and Liz in your prayers. Bill Issitt Sr. has been hospitalized at Celebration Hospital after complications following a surgery to remove a cancerous mass. Loye Issitt will begin dialysis tomorrow after a prolonged battle with a kidney condition.

Last Week (5/5) WH - 49

General = \$2,992 | Tuition = \$700 | Property Improvement = \$20 Building Fund = \$45 | CLC Missions = \$80 **Total Offering** = \$3,837

May Usher: Caleb Moorehead | Acolyte (5/19): Grant B. | Cleaner (5/18): Ream

Welcome!

If you are curious about what we believe and teach... At your convenience the Pastor is ready to arrange free Bible instruction classes at your home or at church for you and your family so that you may be sure of eternal life.

Pastor Sam Rodebaugh - Call or text: (414)534-7279 Email: sam.rodebaugh@gmail.com "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb." Psalm 139:13

The Miracle of Motherhood

When I reminisce about my wife's recent pregnancy and the birth of my infant daughter, I find it hard to believe that anyone could witness such an incredible process without recognizing God's hand in the miracle of life. And yet, in this sin-rotted world where 40-50 million abortions take place every year, God's miraculous creation of human life has never been more scorned.

When it comes to the origin and value of human life, King David sets the record straight. It is God alone who molded every component of my complex body with excruciating detail and care. It is God alone who knitted me together like some complicated stitch pattern. It is God alone who planted my tiny embryo in the womb of the woman whom He carefully chose to be my mother.

Life is a miracle and so is motherhood. God gives both at the same time when newborn children are welcomed into the world. Every mother has been given a most blessed role! It is the mother's gentle voice that is first heard in the womb as she sings and prays. It is the mother's Biblical instruction that is first learned as she teaches about the Savior from early on. It is the mother's joyous pleasure to heed Jesus' command to "Let the little children come to me." (Mark 10:14) May we always honor human life and motherhood as the precious gifts that they are, and may we always honor God who gives the miracle of both.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for my mother. Amen.

-The Mother's Day devotion from the first issue of "Daily Rest," the new devotion book periodical produced by the CLC.