

Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News

For November 22, 2020

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 11/22/20—11/28/20



SUNDAY-Ezra 7:1-10
MONDAY- Ezra 7:11-28
TUESDAY- Nehemiah 8:1-18
WEDNESDAY- Nehemiah 12:27-47
THURSDAY- Psalm 138
FRIDAY- Psalm 139
SATURDAY- Psalm 135

11/22/20

10am Worship from Balsamlund on OSLC's Facebook Page

11/22/20

6:30pm OSLC Council Mtg on Zoom

11/25/20

7pm Thanksgiving Eve worship on OSLC's Facebook Page

11/29/20

10am Worship from Balsamlund on OSLC's Facebook Page

Church email: oslcelca@wcta.net

Office# 218-837-5831

Pastor Eric Email: pastor.eric.clapp@gmail.com

Pastor Eric # 701-261-2394

Church Website: www.oslcsebek.org

As we head into winter, if you are not on Pastor Eric's call list, but would like to be, please contact Dawn at the OSLC office or Pastor Eric's cell phone.

Balsamlund Announcements

****MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS**

Our Bible Milestone on November 22nd is postponed until further notice.

Communion Milestone Our Communion Milestone is open to youth of any age who would like to participate at God's table. We'll celebrate in worship on December 6th & December 13th.

OSLC Announcements

We are looking for ushers for the next 4 months. If you or your family is able to help out please talk to Janet after Worship, or contact the church office.

****Sebeka Thanksgiving Dinner** available for pick-up. Thursday, November 26, 2020 8:00am - 10:00am

We are offering our Thanksgiving Dinner to be reheated via pick-up this season. Thanksgiving Dinner Menu: Turkey, Potatoes and Gravy, Stuffing, Sweet potatoes, Biscuits & Dessert. So that an accurate count can be made please call or email the church to sign-up ASAP. OSLC Office: 218-837-5831 Email: oslcelca@wcta.net Free Will Offering Proceeds go to The Sebeka Food Shelf Community Donations Welcome But Not Necessary.

We have the tags ready for Operation Christmas Child. If you would like to get a gift for a child, please call the church office at 218-837-5831. All gifts should be in the church office by Dec 7th. Let's bring smiles to some local children's faces this Christmas.

One of the scripture readings always near my heart during the Thanksgiving season is Psalm 100. It's 5 short verses, but each of them speak powerfully in praise to God.

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth
Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.
Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name.
For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.*

This is a wonderful reminder for us, especially this year when things are not as we'd hope they would be, of the transformative power of gratitude - of praising God for his goodness and mercy, even when things are hard.

This year of COVID has reshaped how we see so much. It's reshaped how we see things as innocent as standing within six feet of another person. It's reshaped how we see embracing another, laughing together, eating together, singing together. It's reshaped so much.

I wonder how this time could also reshape the ways in which we give thanks.

If you're like me, you have found some things in life we took for granted, like the simple joys of gathering together. I hope in whatever comes after this time, we could be people of thanksgiving for all things great and small.

In many ways, giving thanks is the opposite of taking something for granted. Giving thanks helps us notice the gifts that we are given on a daily, even hourly, basis.

Giving thanks for food reminds us that, for some, a next meal cannot be taken for granted.

Giving thanks for family and friends reminds us that, for some, community and belonging is hard to come by.

Giving thanks for God's blessing in the good and presence with us in the not-so-good reminds us that, for some, God's comfort or presence is unknown to them.

Giving thanks is an act of resistance against taking things for granted. Giving thanks is the insistence that all good things come to us from a God who sees us, knows us, and loves us.

May that reassurance and trust carry us through this holiday. It's going to look different this year, because everything looks different this year. But, as the Psalmist reminds us, God's faithfulness carries through all generations.

And it continues to carry us now.

Grace + Peace to you this Thanksgiving season,
Pastor Eric