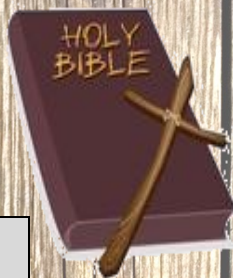


# Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News



For January 24, 2021

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 1/24/2021—1/30/21



SUNDAY- John 17:1-26  
MONDAY- Acts 9:1-25  
TUESDAY- Acts 9:26-43  
WEDNESDAY- Acts 10:1-33  
THURSDAY- Acts 10:34-48  
FRIDAY- Acts 11:1-18  
SATURDAY- Acts 11:19-30

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1/24/2021

8:30am Balsamlund Worship  
9:30am OSLC Sunday School  
10am OSLC Worship

1/27/21

6:30pm OSLC 9th grade confirmation

1/31/2021

8:30am Balsamlund Worship  
9:30am OSLC Sunday School  
10am OSLC Worship

**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.

**As a way to stay connected through these winter months**, we're going to gather on Zoom for a fellowship and conversation around a book we'll read together. The first book we'll read together is **Be the Bridge** by Latasha Morrison. This is a book about how the church has an opportunity to bridge the divides in our world. We'll meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7pm. Our next meeting will be on February 1st. If you have any questions or interest in joining us, please contact Pastor Eric.

### **Balsamlund Announcements**

**\*\*Any items for the annual meeting including reports and letters need to be in the office by February 7th.**

### **Make-up dates for Balsamlund Milestone Celebrations**

January 31- First Bibles presentation (an alternate date for those who didn't get theirs in October).  
February 14 & March 7- First Communion, these are two options for those who wish to celebrate First Communion. If you weren't able to be at the service where the class was taught, there is a link on the Balsamlund Facebook page.

**Balsamlund Confirmation Class dates-** January 31, February 21, March 14, March 28, April 18, May 2, & May 16.

**Balsamlund Annual Meeting will be February 28**, Worship will be at 10:15am, with Annual Meeting to follow. →

## OSLC Announcements

Any items for the OSLC annual meeting including reports & letters need to be in the office ASAP. OSLC Annual Meeting will Be February 14, following worship.

**\*We are looking for a members to fill the following: 3 members for council, 1 youth representative, 6 members for nominating committee, 1 member for financial review committee, 1 member for head usher. If you are interested please contact Roxie Ness or Dawn in the office.**

**\*\*2021 offering envelopes are in the mail boxes. If you didn't get any and would like envelopes please let the office know.**

**\*\* Financial statements are in the mail boxes.**

*"Be still and know that I am God" - Psalm 46:10*

When we think of spiritual practices of slowing down and focusing our time and attention on God's presence in our lives and in the world, a good place to start is with scripture. It can be difficult to know where to start when it comes to connecting with different parts of scripture, but a great place to start is the Psalms. The Psalms are basically the ancient hymnal of the church. There are Psalms with different themes: thanksgiving, lament, supplication, and trust. One of my favorite Psalms to begin this work is Psalm 46. It's a song of trust in God no matter what may come. It's a reminder to us in a tumultuous time to be still and listen to the voice of God, still speaking in our midst. So today, I'd invite you to take a little bit of time and read through it. Don't skim it. Don't skip over it. Take a deep breath. Relax your shoulders. And read these wonderful promises that God reminds us of in this Psalm.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though  
the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in  
the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble  
with its tumult. *Selah*

There is a river whose streams  
make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved.  
God will help when the morning dawns.  
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.  
The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah*

Come, behold the works of the Lord;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.  
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.  
"Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth."  
The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

In the days of stillness and slowing down, may we remember that God is, indeed, our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. I pray that this Psalm blesses you as it has blessed me, and that you are able to find some peace, rest, and respite in these days.

Grace + Peace,  
Pastor Eric