



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

May 9, 2021

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 5/9/21—5/15/21



SUNDAY- Romans 5:1-11
MONDAY- Romans 5:12-21
TUESDAY- Romans 6:1-14
WEDNESDAY- Romans 6:15-23
THURSDAY- Acts 1:1-11
FRIDAY- Romans 1:12-26
SATURDAY- Romans 20:17-38

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5/9/21 Mothers Day
8:30am Balsamlund Worship
9am OSLC Fellowship
10am OSLC Worship

5/12/21
9am Quilters
5pm Finance Mtg.

5/16/21
8:30am Balsamlund Worship
9am OSLC Fellowship
10am OSLC Worship
After Worship Congregational Mtg./Vote
6:30pm Sebek Baccalaureate Service

Balsamlund Announcements

- *Balsamlund Confirmation Class dates May 16.
- *VBS Save the Date! June 20-24 with counselors from Pathways Bible Camp. Watch for more information coming soon.
- *Spring Clean-up Indoor- May 23rd at 6pm
- *Confirmation Celebration Sunday June 13th at 8:30am.

OSLC Announcements

- **Notice** There will be a congregational meeting May 16, after worship to vote on using up to \$10,000 of the parsonage fund for building repairs. More information went out in a letter this week.
- *Baccalaureate Service for all our Graduating Seniors will be on Sunday May 16 at 6:30pm at Friends in Christ Community Church in Sebek.
- * We are going back to using hymnal during worship. If you are worshiping with us from home and would like to borrow a hymnal please let the church office know.

***Teachers Needed:** If you are interested in teaching Sunday School and/or VBS, please let Pastor Eric or Dawn know. If you have any questions you can talk to Roxie or Ronnie. Teachers are needed for this Summers VBS as well as next school year. Two teachers will be stepping down for sure so we are in need of volunteers to fill these roles.

*** Sign-up sheets are on the table in the fellowship hall for fellowship servers and ushers. If you have any questions please contact the church office.**

***We will be having the Potato Booth this year during RERD, (July 30-August 1). Please watch for more information coming soon.**

***VBS Save the Date!**

June 20-24 with counselors from Pathways Bible Camp at Balsamlund Lutheran Church. This is open to kids in grades K-6. Watch for more information coming soon.

A mother held her new baby and very slowly rocked him back and forth, back and forth, back and forth. And while she held him, she sang:

*I'll love you forever,
I'll like you for always,
As long as I'm living
my baby you'll be.*

This is from the story by Robert Munsch. It's familiar to so many of us because of the children's book that expresses this motherly love so well.

As Mother's Day approaches, I've been thinking about this in the context of God's love for us as well. So often we think of God as a Father -- and indeed the historical stories and interpretations have fostered this. But when I hear this love of a mother expressed in this storybook, it's hard to not see God's love as that of a mother as well.

It turns out that when we look at different spots in Scripture, we hear of God's love expressed as a mother's love as well.

In Deuteronomy, God is talking with the Israelites as they are approaching the Promised Land. God says, "*You have forgotten the Rock who bore you and put out of mind the God who gave you birth.*" (Deut. 32:18)

This happens often through Scripture where God as our creator is paralleled to a mother giving birth to us.

In the prophets, God also speaks through care, as a mother does for us. God says, "*Listen to me, descendants of Jacob, all who are left of my people. I have cared for you from the time you were born. I am your God and will take care of you until you are old and your hair is gray. I made you and will care for you; I will give you help and rescue you.*" (Isaiah 46:3-4)

Even Jesus uses mothering imagery for God as he weeps over Jerusalem at the end of Matthew's gospel. "*How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings...*" (Matthew 23:37)

Mother's Day can be a complicated day for many of us for so many reasons. But whatever it brings up for you, I hope you can feel and know the mothering love of God whose mercy, love, and care for you knows no end.

Because God's like that.

God will love you forever, like you for always, as long as you're living (and even thereafter), God's child you'll continue to be.

Grace + Peace,
Pastor Eric