

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

July 25, 2021

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 7/25/21—7/31/21

SUNDAY- Genesis 44:1-34
MONDAY- Genesis 45:1-28
TUESDAY- Genesis 46:1-27
WEDNESDAY- Genesis 46:28-47:12
THURSDAY- Genesis 47:13+31
FRIDAY- Genesis 48:1-22
SATURDAY- Genesis 49:29-50:26



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7/25/21

8:30am Balsamlund Worship
9am OSLC Fellowship
10am OSLC Worship

7/28/21

9am Ladies Coffee Hub 71

7/31/21

10am -10pm RERD Potato Booth

8/1/21

8:30am Balsamlund Worship
10am Community Worship in the Park
11am Visitation for Syd Nelson
12pm Funeral Service

Balsamlund Announcements

We had such a great response to our Sunday evening camp service that we're doing it again! Sunday, August 8th, we will worship at 6pm instead of our 8:30am worship time with camp songs, worship, and hotdogs!

OSLC Announcements

*The Potato Booth will July 31, from 10am to 10pm. Please see sign up sheets that are on the table in the fellowship hall for volunteers needed to help set up, manning the booth, assisting at the Church and clean up. Donations are also needed for items listed as well as monetary. To sign-up please contact the church office or add to the sign-up list on the table in the fellowship hall. Watch Facebook for up dated lists of what is still needed. Please join us in making this another successful year with the Potato Booth. Janet Eckman

*Midweek campfire worships will be on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Bring a chair and join us!

*Summer office hours will be as follow Monday 9am-2pm, Tuesday 8-3, Wednesday 8-3, Thursday 8-3, Friday closed.

When Paul was writing his letter to the Ephesian church, he offered a prayer for them in the middle of his letter that is so powerful. Paul was under house arrest in Rome while he was writing to these churches to encourage them.

What he writes about God in the opening chapters of this letter is foundational for us as Lutheran Christians today. He writes of God's grace being a gift, which cannot be earned that influenced Martin Luther so closely.

This is the Message translation of our reading for this Sunday that has been amazing me all week. Notice Paul's prayer for us in this passage.

My response is to get down on my knees before the Father, this magnificent Father who parcels out all heaven and earth. I ask him to strengthen you by his Spirit—not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength—that Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in. And I ask him that with both feet planted firmly in love, you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love. Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God.

God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

This is so powerful because it reminds us of one of the core aspects of God's love.

It's like the camp song goes.

"Higher than the mountains,
deeper than the seas,
wider than the ocean
is your love for me."

That's the expansive love of God.

And because that's who God is, God could choose to force this kind of love on us. But that isn't what God does. That ending verse is so powerful.

God loves us not by pushing us around, or making unreasonable demands of us, but rather God loves us by working within us.

This is the way in which God loves us. As we move into this weekend, my prayer is that Paul's prayer will come true in your life and you will know the incredible love God has for you in Jesus Christ.

Grace + Peace,
Pastor Eric