

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

November 14, 2021

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 11/14/21—11/20/21



SUNDAY- Psalm 48  
MONDAY- Psalm 67  
TUESDAY- Psalm 68  
WEDNESDAY- Psalm 100  
THURSDAY- PSALM 104  
FRIDAY- Psalm 105  
SATURDAY- Psalm 106

11/14/21  
8:30am Balsamlund Worship  
9am Fellowship  
9am Sunday School  
10am Worship

11/17/21  
9am Quilters  
5:45 Council Mtg  
6:30pm Youth Group

11/21/21  
8:30am Balsamlund Worship / Holy Communion  
9am Fellowship  
9am Sunday School  
10am Worship / Holy Communion

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## Balsamlund Announcements

\*If you have any questions or are interested in applying for the administrative assistant position please contact Council President Rich Gronlund.

\*Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner details are forthcoming.

\*The December Altar Guild is open for assignment. Please contact Rita Johnson at the church office at 218-837-5861 to sign up for the month. Thank you in advance.

\*We are looking for someone to head up the Adult Vocal Choir and the Bell Choir. If you are interested in helping out with one or both of these groups please contact Pastor Eric for more info.

The next few weeks of scriptures speak of something that is both well-known *and* often misunderstood. It's something that can help us understand our present age, and perhaps give us a path to see a future and hope.

We're talking about the apocalypse.

Apocalypse comes from a Greek term, which simply means "to pull back the veil." It's an unveiling, a revealing of something that is true, but has been hidden.

In the Bible, this often comes with grand hyperbole and metaphor. Stars fall from the sky. The moon turns to blood. The ground shakes and buildings fall. It can often seem like a whole new world compared to what we see and experience in our day-to-day life. It can seem like a place where "normal" doesn't exist anymore.

In some ways, I think these last 21 months of COVID time has been an apocalypse of sorts. It's been an unveiling. This time has pulled back the curtain and revealed things to us that are true.

We see how fragile life and health can be.

We see how important relationships with our family, friends, and neighbors are.

We don't take our ability to travel and be together with others for granted.

All of these things have been revealed to us in a new way this time.

In Mark 13, Jesus says "Stay awake" four different times. In other words, "Learn the lesson that this has to teach you." It points to everything that we take for granted and says, "Don't take anything for granted." An apocalyptic event reframes reality in a radical way by flipping our imagination.

The apocalypse isn't meant to strike fear in us, but signal a re-arranging of our world. It's the end of one world and the beginning of another. We are unable to go back to the world before. And we are finding our way forward into a new beginning.

New beginnings give us new opportunities to let go of the things that didn't give us life and they invite us into something new.

We begin again giving thanks for what was.

We begin again remembering in prayer those who are no longer with us.

We begin again trusting in the God who makes all things new.

We begin again together.

Thanks be to God.

Grace + Peace,  
Pastor Eric