

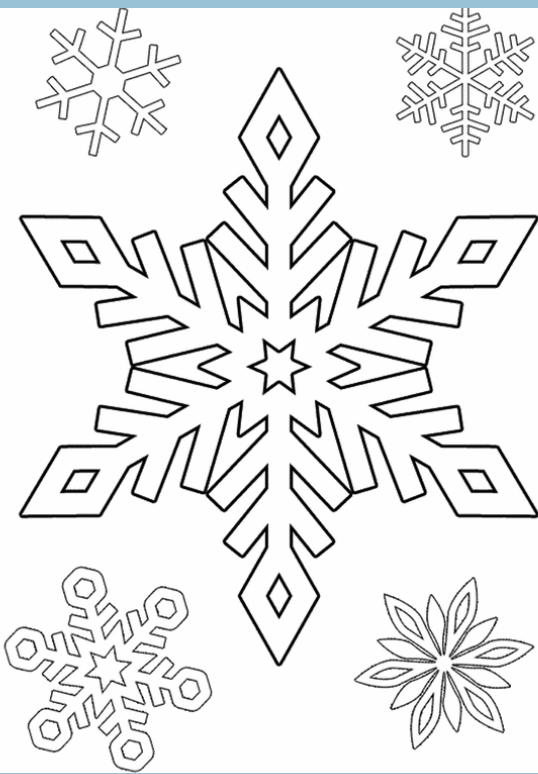
# Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News

January 23, 2022

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 1/23-1/29



SUNDAY- 2 Corinthians 8:1-15  
MONDAY- 2 Corinthians 8:16-24  
TUESDAY- 2 Corinthians 9:1-15  
WEDNESDAY- 2 Corinthians 10:1-18  
THURSDAY- 2 Corinthians 11:1-15  
FRIDAY- 2 Corinthians 11:16-33  
SATURDAY- 2 Corinthians 12:1-10



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## 1/23 Third Sunday after Epiphany

9am Fellowship  
9am Sunday School  
10am Worship

## 1/26 Wednesday

9am Quilters

## 1/30 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

No Fellowship  
No Sunday School  
9am Worship (*regular time will return next Sunday*)

### Balsamlund Announcements :

- Confirmation is every 4th Wednesday of the month.
- Jan 30th Worship time is 10:30am. Join us immediately following for the Annual Church Meeting and a Potluck.

### OSLC Announcements:

- \* 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 baptismal "Cradle Roll" position is available. Open immediately. Please inquire at the office if interested.
- \* If you are interested in being on the church council as the Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper, please contact Council President Richard Gronlund and/or the office.
- \* For any changes to service times or activities due to weather or last minute changes, please watch our Facebook page and we will also update the church answering machine.

\* Offering envelopes are in the works and thank you for your patience. If you would like envelopes for 2022 please let the office know ASAP.

\* Please consider what month you'd like to serve as Altar Guild. Sign up sheet is on the Fellowship table. You can leave a message on the office phone to sign up as well. Many thanks to those who fulfilled the months of January, February, April, and October.

\* Fellowship Servers are needed for February 6, 13, & 27 and beyond. If you are interested in signing up for other months and unable to get in to the church to sign up, please leave a message on the church phone. Thank you.

***Mark your Calendars for our Annual OSLC Meeting and a Potluck  
after worship on February 13th!***

We talked about the Ten Commandments last week in Confirmation and had a great discussion about how they help us in our relationships with God and with each other. There was one commandment in particular that we dove deep on last week and it is still sticking with me.

The 3rd Commandment says to not use God's name in vain, or not to misuse God's name.

When I was in Sunday School growing up, I was taught that this was primarily a command against saying the phrase, "Oh my God." This was God's deep concern for the Israelites and for the group of 8-year-olds assembled in that classroom.

There's a book by an Old Testament scholar named Dr. Carmen Joy Imes who casts this commandment in a new -- and much more helpful -- light.

At its core, this commandment is about how we use the name of God in our lives. The commandment is not to bear God's name in vain.

When we speak about God, what do we say? When we say we follow Jesus, do our words and our actions line up? When we talk about things that happen in the world and we attribute them to God, do we do it in a way that honors God and shows love?

It can seem like splitting hairs when we dive deeper into these commandments, but it's important for us to remember that these commands from God are not meant to be reduced to simple rules to follow \*or else.\* The Ten Commandments were given to God's people when they were wandering in the wilderness. The Ten Commandments were a structure and shelter given to wandering people. They were gifts to remind them that they weren't slaves in Egypt anymore and as such, this is how they were to live.

The Ten Commandments are a gift to us. Bearing God's name in our lives is such a gift.

May we bear God's name to our community in ways that show the mercy and love of God.

Grace + Peace,  
Pastor Eric