

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

January 30, 2022

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 1/30-2/5



SUNDAY- 2 Corinthians 12:11-21
MONDAY- 2 Corinthians 13:1-13
TUESDAY- Luke 10:1-24
WEDNESDAY- Luke 10:25-42
THURSDAY- Luke 15:1-10
FRIDAY- Luke 15:11-32
SATURDAY- Luke 18:15-30



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1/30 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

No Fellowship
No Sunday School
9am Worship

2/2 Wednesday

9am Quilters
11am WELCA Meeting
5pm Worship Committee
6:30pm SHYG

2/6 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

9am Fellowship
9am Sunday School
10am Worship / Holy Communion
4pm 4H

Balsamlund Announcements :

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

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.

* **Missing!** Please return our 50-cup coffeemaker.

* **Offering envelopes:** 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.

* **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.

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

One of my early-pandemic hobbies was baking sourdough bread. If you've ever had sourdough starter going in your house, you know that there's a certain rhythm you develop in feeding and using the mixture of flour and water. You could continue to accumulate more and more of the starter, but it works best when you develop it through utilizing some to bake bread.

I've been thinking back on those days because, as long ago as they seem (and it's been at least 20 years), there were some good lessons in the patience and faithfulness of that daily ritual.

I've been going back through Luther's Small Catechism with our confirmation kids and as I was preparing, there's a part of it that really stuck out to me.

It comes from when Martin Luther is teaching about the Lord's Prayer. He gets to the petition where we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," and he has this to say.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

Luther goes even further to hone in on what we mean when we say "daily bread." It's certainly, in part, a call back to the story of the Exodus when God gave the Israelites manna each morning when they wandered in the wilderness. But Luther expands it even more.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout spouse, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

It includes much more than just our physical needs. There are emotional, relational, and economic needs that Luther includes as well.

Luther would say that when we pray "give us this day our daily bread," we are praying for anything and everything that sustains goodness, life, and joy in our lives and in the life of our community.

"Daily bread" encompasses all of these things.

It's powerful to remember this as we pray as Jesus taught us. What may once have been prayed by rote repetition or glanced over because of its familiarity in our lives can be seen in new ways as God continues to help our prayer life and our faith grow deeper.

May all the blessings and fullness of daily bread be yours today.

Grace + Peace,
Eric