



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

March 6, 2022

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 3/6–3/12



SUNDAY- Psalm 11
MONDAY- Psalm 16
TUESDAY- Psalm 25
WEDNESDAY- Psalm 27
THURSDAY- Psalm 28
FRIDAY- Psalm 40
SATURDAY- Psalm 41

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3/6 First Sunday in Lent

9am Fellowship
9am Sunday School
10am Worship / Holy Communion

3/9 Wednesday

9am Quilters
No Finance Mtg or Confirmation
5:30pm Lent Soup & Sandwich Supper
6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Service

3/13 Second Sunday in Lent

9am Fellowship
9am Sunday School
10 am Worship

Balsamlund Announcements :

- Confirmation is every 4th Wednesday of the month.

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.** 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. Months needed are June, July, August, September, & November.
- * **Fellowship Servers are needed for March 20th and 27th.** 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.
- * **Wednesday's—March 9, 16, 23, 30, & April 6 , join us for: Lent Soup & Sandwich Suppers @ 5:30pm and Holden Evening Prayer Services @ 6:30pm.**
Everyone is welcome!
- * **Please Note: The Fellowship Hall is reserved** March 12th 10a-3p, April 3rd after worship, and April 30th.

As we stand at the beginning of the season of Lent, it's helpful to center ourselves in the psalm that we pray each Ash Wednesday -- Psalm 51. Church tradition tells us that King David wrote this psalm in the spirit of repentance during his reign.

I want us to focus on verses 10 and 11 because I think that's where we can really latch on. It goes like this: "Create in me a new heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, O Lord, and take not your holy spirit from me."

"Create in me a clean heart, O God," is a wonderful prayer to begin each day of the Lenten season. So often in Lent we focus on our sinfulness and shortcomings and pray for God to take them away from us. But notice that we also pray for God to give us something as well. We pray to receive a new and right spirit within us.

It's not just about God taking away. But of God giving as well.

Lent is a time when we stand before God in all honesty of our brokenness and pain and we receive the grace that can only come from God. It's a time where we stand in awe and watch while God does something that only God can.

God takes all the sin and brokenness from us and from our world and gives us a restored and sustaining spirit.

This is what we focus on during our Lenten season, as we pray "Create in me a clean heart, O God." As we do that, I'll invite you to spend some time doing whatever it is that renews your spirit. Maybe it's going for a walk or sharing a meal with friends. Maybe it's calling up an old friend or reading through a devotional book.

Ask yourself what it is that renews your spirit and restores your soul, and then see if you can carve out some time this Lent to do exactly that. Because this is where God calls us in the season of Lent, not only to a place of repentance, but ultimately to renewal and restoration as well.

Grace + Peace,
Pastor Eric