



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

May 1, 2022

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 5/1-5/7



SUNDAY- Psalm 18:1-24
MONDAY- Psalm 18:25-50
TUESDAY- 1 Samuel 1:1-18
WEDNESDAY- 1 Samuel 1:19-28
THURSDAY- 1 Samuel 2:1-11
FRIDAY- 1 Samuel 2:12-26
SATURDAY- 1 Samuel 2:27-36

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5/1 Third Sunday of Easter

9am Fellowship
9am Sunday School (*last class until further notice*)
10am Worship / Confirmation / Holy Communion

5/4 Wednesday

9am Quilters
11am WELCA Meeting
6:30pm "Confirmation End of The Year" Party

5/8 Fourth Sunday of Easter

9am Fellowship
10am Worship



Balsamlund Announcements: Please continue to watch for updates.

OSLC Announcements:

- * **We are happy to announce that we are resuming regular Holy Communion practices.** Red wine and fruit juice options AND the ushers will pass along the offering trays from row to row. Thank you for supporting OSLC. We are truly blessed.
- * **It's time for spring cleaning projects.** No sign-up sheet has been set out as of yet. Please watch bulletins for future projects and dates.
- * **Want to serve as Altar Guild?** Sign-up sheet is on the Fellowship table and/or contact the church office. Months open are: June, July, August, September, & November.
- * **Thank you to WELCA & Quilters for** your time and talents in creating beautiful handcrafted quilts, of which, were gifted to the OSLC Sebek School Seniors Class of 2022. It was a wonderful presentation last Sunday during worship. Tip...It's not too late to view that service online if you missed it.

* **Please note: Fellowship Hall Reservations** April 30 (10am-5pm), May 1 (11am-2pm), May 12 (10am-3pm), May 21 (TBD).

* **Last Sunday School class is** May 1 @ 9am.

* **Potato Booth July 28, 29, & 30 - It is time to start planning potato booth.** With the Sebeka All School Reunion being held in conjunction with Red Eye River Days we need to decide now if we will be open both Friday and Saturday. Since there are many of us that graduated from Sebeka and would like to participate in our own Class get togethers, it may be hard for some to volunteer their time. There may also be some All School Reunion activities beyond our individual class gatherings. Sign-up sheets for times will be posted in the Fellowship Hall and we will be looking at having these spots filled by the middle of May so that we can determine how to move forward. It is a lot of hard work that goes into this and the money it brings in helps fund OSLC and helps us with outreach to the community. I enjoy the work, the fellowship we have while working and seeing how our hard work helps us reach out to others. In Faith - Janet Eckman

* **You are welcome to join** the public at the Sebeka Sr Center for Pancakes and French Toast feed to-day, May 1st. Serving time: 8am to Noon.

* **A special word of gratitude and "Thank You Dawn Eitel"** for creating these wonderful Bulletin & ENews templates and making this position to serve the congregations of Balsamlund and OSLC an approachable process. Her thoughtfulness and commitment does not go unnoticed. You are blessed Dawn.

This week at OSLC, we celebrate with our 9th grade families as seven of our young people affirm their baptism in worship. This is always such a powerful milestone because we, as a congregation, affirm what the Holy Spirit is doing in their lives, and we also give space for them to take ownership and responsibility of the baptismal promises that were made on their behalf at baptism.

In the Lutheran church, we believe that God is the primary actor in baptism. This was key to Martin Luther's understanding of baptism and what differentiates us from a lot of other Christian traditions. Some churches do dedications or consecrations of newborns and then do baptisms when the youth are in their early teens.

Since we believe baptism is primarily to do with God and God's promises, we baptize anyone who expresses desire for themselves or their child(ren) to be baptized.

The milestone we call Affirmation of Baptism (or Confirmation) is when the young people take those promises on for themselves. In our Affirmation liturgy, there are 5 promises that young people take on. They're good reminders for us as well, about our call to discipleship and our vocation as baptized Christians. Here they are:

- to live among God's faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

One of the things I tell our 9th graders often is that we spend the rest of our lives seeking these out. By affirming our baptism, it doesn't mean we're experts at all of these things or that we'll never make mistakes. Far from it!

It only means that we are committing to using these acts of faith as our guide for our lives. And when we fall away from them (and that's a *when*, not an *if*), we commit to doing what we can to turning and re-turning to this life of faith.

They're great promises for us to examine every so often too. Because these are promises we made once upon a time. These promises are a good lantern to guide us through the wilderness shining the light of Christ to illuminate the way ahead.

We continue to pray for our young people and their families as they celebrate this wonderful milestone. And that we may align ourselves with these promises in our lives of faith as well.

Grace + Peace,
Pastor Eric