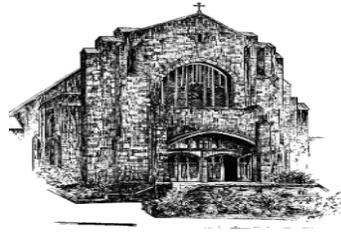


First Lutheran Church
92 W. Walnut Street
Washington, PA 15301



Ixoye

ICH-THUS

Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior

Pastoral Perspectives for July-August 2017

I recently read an article by Dennis Bratcher, *Low Church and High Church*. According to Bratcher these two types of church have been considered either positive or negative depending on the individual perspective. For the last 500 years the Lutheran church has been high church!

What exactly does it mean to be a high church?

Well, firstly we need to ask if the Lutheran church traditionally, “Has a service that is more liturgical in form of worship and is the service structured around the theology of the Word and the sacraments?” The answer to this is a resounding YES! Our Tuesday classes affirmed this in the, *Concordia, The Lutheran Confessions*, on page 219. This is where we see The Divine Service of Martin Luther’s form of the Mass in 1523 verses the Medieval Roman Mass. Interestingly enough; this is what I studied at the university in Wittenberg, Germany. Our service remains very similar to the RC order of service because Martin Luther was trying to “reform” the church not abandon the church. He did not want to, as the old saying goes, “throw the baby out with the bathwater”. Zwingli, Calvin and other Anabaptists were far more radical in their understanding of their “reformation” like removing stained glass windows and instruments.

Secondly, we can ask ourselves is, are we catholic? Yes! Are we Roman Catholic? Certainly not. The term *catholic* simply means that we are *universal Christians*; it has nothing to do with either Rome or Roman Catholicism. Martin Luther understood that some may not understand the concept of *catholic* verses *Roman Catholic* so he did change the term to *Christian* for this reason. This can be found in our Creeds that we use here at First Lutheran where both terms of “*catholic*” and “*Christian*” are used.

Finally, how many times should we celebrate the Lord’s Supper? Martin Luther did not have a service of the Word-as is evidenced in the *Concordia, The Lutheran Confessions*. This is a strong clue indicating that he celebrated the Lords Supper weekly. What about the high feast days of the Lutheran church? Well, the *Lutheran Book of Worship: Minister’s Desk Edition* tells us that these days are also times when we are to celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar! The Lutheran Church has been a high church, a catholic church and celebrates the Lord’s Supper in the Lutheran tradition for the last 500 years. This is what it means to be “*gnasio*” Lutherans.

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

First Lutheran
Evangelism Report
July 2017

Your Deliverer

But deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6:13

Just as God delivered the Jews from Pharaoh's kingdom, so God delivers those who trust in Jesus from the kingdom of Satan to the kingdom of God (*Colossians 1:13 – 14*). When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, "But deliver us from the evil one," He was likely speaking against the backdrop of God being the deliverer of His people. In the New Testament, that idea is affirmed by the apostles in terms of eternal security: Satan will do what he can to prevent us from reaching God's eternal kingdom but God "will deliver [us] from every evil work and preserve [us] for His heavenly kingdom" (*2 Timothy 4:18*).

In Christ you are protected from every temporal and eternal desire of "the evil one" to harm you: "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer" (*2 Samuel 22:2*).

Turning Point

There is no devil in the first two chapters of the Bible and no devil in the last two chapters. Thank God for a Book that disposes of the devil!

Vance Havner

God Bless

George Salvucci

First Lutheran
Evangelism Report
August 2017

Daily Doxology

For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Philippians 2:13

One of the hardest, but most important, lessons for children and young people to learn is to view hardships in light of their purpose and outcome.

Most children don't like to practice scales on the piano, but they love a superior rating at the recital. Most young athletes don't relish the hours of grueling practice, but they love the joy of victory and accomplishment.

Granted, the purpose and outcome of every hardship in life is not always evident. But all we need to know is that God is at work in us "to will and to do for *His* good pleasure." God has a purpose (Romans 8:28), and His outcome is plainly stated: to conform us to the image of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:29). And for that He is worthy to be praised. It's why Paul wrote that we should "in everything give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). We may not thank God for the pain, but we can certainly worship Him because He is in control of our life --- confident that He has a purpose and knows the outcome. .

Worship in times of hardship isn't easy. If you need a guide, use Paul's words in Romans 11:33 – 36 --- a doxology of praise when we don't have all the answers.

Turning Point

The best rubrics of worship are those which are written on broken hearts.

Charles H. Spurgeon

God Bless

George Salvucci

July Lay Readers

2nd Kris Briggs
 9th Cristina Serbak
 16th Lisa Hagar
 23rd Kyle Glozier
 30th Jill Sabol

July Altar Flowers

2nd Donna Bassi
 9th Sabol's
 16th Herb & Carol Snyder
 23rd
 30th Diane Antila

July Acolytes

2nd Andrew Serbak & A.J. Chadwick
 9th Brice Berry & Wesley Black
 16th Bailey DeWalt & Aiden DeWalt
 23rd Josh Hoffer & Ashley McCartney
 30th Rexanna Quedenfeld & Caroline Quedenfeld

July Altar Team

Karen Gavazzi
 Kimberly Luketich

July Ushers

2nd J. Hoffer; C. Krcil; R. Williams; N. & L. Williams
 9th C. Gosnell; J. Luketich; S. Ringer; D. Schmidt
 16th T. Bernhart; E. Goga; R. Johnson; J. Ulanich
 23rd N. Bassi; R. Phillips; J. Sakera; D. Wheeler
 30th K. Carl; R. Fritz; C. Group; C.R. Group; T. Wright

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/2 George Julos Kenneth Schrader	7/16 Matthew Serbak 7/19 Cathy Savage Robyn Reihner Isabella Mazzotti	7/26 Robert Phillips Chiquita Pearson John Kobuchi II Marie McvFeely Dr. Matthew Houston
7/3 Trisha Thompson	7/20 Melinda West-Emerich Eric Schrader	7/27 Linda Patten Anna Sumaker
7/4 Kenneth Carl, Jr.	7/21 Ingeborg Steinmiller	Jenny Carpenter
7/5 Jennifer Sabol Jordan Umbach	7/22 Jane Paul R. Douglas West	Candice Caddies 7/29 Joanne Recvk
7/6 Laura Ringer	7/23 Gerald Anderson	7/30 Paula Leppert
7/9 Jean Shearer-Lucas Michele Leppert		
7/13 Melvina Behrens		
7/14 Douglas Scheffel		
7/15 Harry Dobroski Shelley Farahani		

August Lay Readers

6th
13th
20th
27th

August Altar Flowers

6th
13th Klaus & Mel Behrens
20th Billie Sue Serbak
27th Sarver's

August Acolytes

6th Andrew Serbak, Nathaniel & Wesley Black
13th Rexanna & Caroline Quedenfeld
20th Bailey & Aiden DeWalt
27th Brice Berry & A.J. Chadwick

August Altar Team

Linda Coleman
Esther Finney

August Ushers

6th T. Bernhart; E. Goga; R. Johnson; J. Ulanich
13th N. Bassi; R. Phillips; J. Sakerka; D. Wheeler
20th K. Carl; R. Fritz; C. Group; C.R. Group; T. Wright
27th C. Burda; A. Chadwick; M. Mazzotti; G. Salvucci; J. Sarver

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/6 Samantha Sakerka Holly Rea	8/17 Kay Rush Jason Webeck	8/28 Richard Johnson
8/9 Robert Thalhofer	8/18 Melissa West	8/29 Delores Stebella
8/10 Rebecca Bednarski Ernest Oliver Ryan Forsberg Michael Throckmorton	8/19 Terrence Serbak Jill Sabol	8/30 Andrew Sabol
8/11 Michelle Burbank	8/21 Karen Stofan Jared Battistone	8/31 Linda Nickles Myra Bernhart Christy Martos
8/12 Wendy Debnar Lori Goga Anne Belski	8/22 Erwin Leppert, Jr.	
8/14 Wayne McDonald Ryan Jerico	8/23 Rick West Beth Jones Sam Jemley Amie Buel	
8/15 Beth Dailey	8/24 Cathy Jurkovsky Sharon Russell	
8/16 Gary Walz Cindy Maxwell	Michelle Bartanus	

CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual picnic will be at Billy Bell Park on July 23rd. It will be a bring-your-own format as it was last year. Hamburgers, hot dogs and buns will be provided (thank you George Salvucci), as will corn-on-the-cob (thank you Allan Zimmerman) and table place-settings (thank you Sonie Rea and the women of the church). We'll also again feature raffles, gift baskets, bingo and etc. (thank you Kim Chadwick). Sign-up sheets will be posted so we don't have so many duplications. Come join in the fun and fellowship!

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of you and Pastor Grewe who thought of me with prayers, cards and visits while I was in the hospital and nursing home. I really appreciated all of your kind thoughts.

God Bless All Of You!

Sally Hazlett

Mission District Summer Youth Camp July 24th-27th

St. Thomas Church grove (near Hooversville PA),1341 Ridge Road.

\$40.00 (meals included) New showers installed at facility for 2016, Tent and sleeping bag required.

July 24th – Dedication of our official Mission District NALC Camp



MUSIC HISTORY

ANTONIO VIVALDI

March 4, 1678—July 28, 1741

Antonio Vivaldi, 'the Red Priest', Italian 18th century Baroque composer, violinist, teacher, priest, opera impresario. His Four Seasons is the most played piece of classical music in the world.

His father, a talented violinist, was his first teacher. They also performed together. At age 15 he began studying for the priesthood, 10 years of study during which he also developed his musical and composing talents.

At age 25 he was ordained a priest. Nicknamed 'the Red Priest' because of his red hair. He was appointed violin teacher at the Ospedale della Pieta orphanage for girls in Venice. The Pieta served as his base for most of his working life. From age 40 he travelled a lot and was often away working on other projects around Italy, Germany, Austria, Bohemia, France and Holland. He had an agreement with the Pieta to regularly send them two concerti per month and to rehearse and teach there when he was in Venice.

At age 62 he moved to Vienna where he was to be appointed composer to the Imperial Court of Charles VI, one of his big fans. Unfortunately Charles died just after he arrived, leaving Antonio without an income and in dire straits. Soon after this tragedy Antonio himself fell ill and died.

Works: over 500 concertos of which over 230 for the violin including the "Four Seasons"; 73 sonatas of which 40 for the violin; choral and vocal music of 46 operas of which about 20 survive. Sacred music: Gloria, Magnificat and psalms, motets and hymns.

Mighty Fortress VBS: Coming up soon, VBS begins July 17th!

Mighty Fortress VBS will be here before we know it! It begins Monday July 17th and runs through Friday July 21st! We will gather from 9am until noon each day. Please sign-up your children or grandchildren and bring their friends, too! The more children, the more blessed our church will be! Please complete a registration form for each child. Registration forms can be found in the office, narthex, or printed from this newsletter.

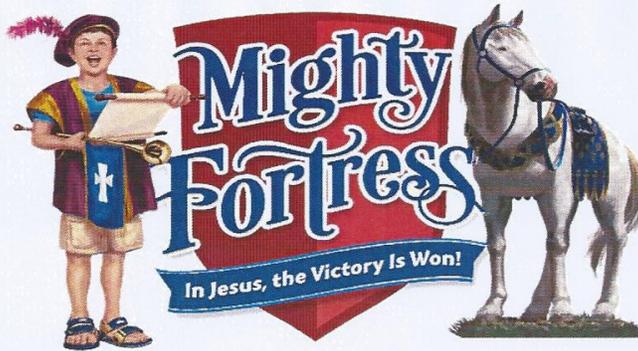
For the children attending, each day has a "color" theme. Please try to dress your kids in a t-shirt of this color. Monday will be green; Tuesday is red, Wednesday is purple, and Thursday is blue. On Friday, we will provide the children with a yellow "Mighty Fortress" t-shirt.

Finally, there is still time to volunteer or support VBS! If you show up, we will find a fun way for you to serve! We need to get snacks and craft supplies. Bottled water is always needed (The hottest week of the year)! "Mighty Fortress" decals need ironed on the t-shirts, and so on!

If you can't participate, but would like to help, you can make a monetary offering. Please use a "Love Offering" envelope, and include your name and/or envelope number on it. Thank you so much!

The week flies by so fast, and the kids have a great time. It's a very fun and fulfilling way to serve The Lord!

Many Blessings! Michelle Williams



Vacation Bible School will be July 17th - 21st.

Please complete one registration form for each child attending.
Return completed form to the church office.

Child's Name: _____

Child's Age: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

E-mail: _____

To whom may we release the child at dismissal?

Name: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Please list any allergies/medical conditions the VBS staff should be aware of:

What t-shirt size does your child wear? Circle one:

Youth: small medium large

Adult: small medium large XL 2X 3X

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING AS A VOLUNTEER,
PLEASE CONTACT AMIE BUEL OR MICHELLE WILLIAMS. THANK YOU!!**

First Lutheran
Thoughts and Tidbits
August 2017

Sister Joanne Reck submitted a prayer from Reinhold Niebuhr, for our enjoyment:

Prayer for Serenity

God, grant me serenity to accept things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can & wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardship as a pathway to peace; taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that You will make all things right if I surrender to Your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. **AMEN.**

Paul Jacobs

Friday, August 25

7:30 PM

Enjoy listening to local Organist Paul Jacobs at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2040 Washington Road, Upper St. Clair at their Music & Arts Series.