LUTHER MEMORIAL CHAPEL &
UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER

CHAPEL NEWS

1916 – 2016: A Century of God's Gifts in Jesus Christ

3833 N. Maryland Avenue, Shorewood, WI 53211 Phone (414) 332-5732 October 2020

The Fifth Petition of the Lord's Prayer

by Pastor Larson

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us. (Small Catechism)

"The Fifth Petition teaches us how to pray as sinners, for it has to do with our poor miserable life. Although we have God's Word and believe, although we obey and submit to his will and are nourished by God's gift and blessing, nevertheless we are not without sin. We still stumble daily and transgress because we live in the world among people who sorely vex us and give us occasion for impatience, anger, vengeance, etc. Besides, the devil is after us, besieging us on every side and, as we have heard, directing his attacks against all the previous petitions, so that it is not possible always to stand firm in this ceaseless conflict." (Large Catechism)

Martin Luther is reminding us here that we live in a fallen world. We sin against other people, and they also sin against us. We hurt others by the way we live and we ourselves get hurt, betrayed, or slandered. This petition of the Lord's Prayer deals with the reality that this life is messy and filled with trouble. Luther writes, "Let no one think that as long as he lives here he can reach such a position that he will not need such forgiveness. In short, if God does not forgive without stopping, we are lost" (LC). Therefore, the forgiveness of sins is not some one-time event in the past. Instead, the forgiveness of sins (Fifth Petition) is the ongoing reality in the Christian

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Serving Us

Michael C. Larson, *Pastor*

Jason Lane & Brian German, *Assisting Pastors*

Kathryn A. Hill, *Church Secretary*

Martha Galvin, *Director of Music*

Julie Wohlrabe, *IO Director*

Hannah Engwall, *US Coordinator*

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, Oct. 25, following Divine Service.

Lunch will be provided after the meeting.

Rest assured, there will be plenty of room for social distancing.

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FIFTH PETITION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

life. God has reconciled us through the blood of His dear Son. We simply cannot live without this constant, uninterrupted forgiveness of sins. Forgiveness is the very air that we breathe!

Now let's deal with that second part of this petition, the words, "as we forgive." Jesus says in Luke 6:37, "Forgive and you will be forgiven," and in Matthew 6:14, "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." Luther makes the point here that we do not merit forgiveness from God. After all, God forgives freely and without condition out of pure grace. Instead, when we forgive others it is a sign, a comfort, and an assurance that we are forgiven in heaven. Simply put, forgiven sinners forgive! How can it be otherwise!

Luther helps us understand this connection between God's forgiveness and the forgiveness that we extend to others with this little prayer: "Dear Father, I come to you and pray that you will forgive me for this reason: not because I can make satisfaction or deserve anything by my works, but because you have promised and have set this seal on it, making it as certain as if I had received an absolution pronounced by you yourself." (LC).

Let us all use and practice forgiveness every hour, as a thing that we have with us at all times!

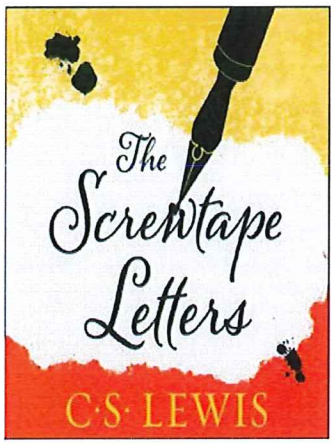
Forgive our sins, Lord, we implore,
That they may trouble us no more;
We, too, will gladly those forgive
Who hurt us by the way they live.
Help us in our community
To serve each other willingly.
— *LSB 766:6*

NEXT LMC BOOK CLUB SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2021

Next LMC Book Club
Saturday, January 9, 2021

Book: The Screwtape Letters *by C. S. Lewis*

9 a.m. Matins in Small Chapel
9:30 a.m. Discussion (donuts & coffee provided)
11:30 a.m. Break for the day



FEASTS AND FESTIVALS IN OCTOBER AT 6:30 A.M.

Divine Services at 6:30 in the morning will be celebrated for

St. James, Brother of Jesus and Martyr, on Friday, October 23.

St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles, on Wednesday, October 28.

This feasts and festival section will be a regular portion of the monthly newsletter now. Generally the feast will be observed at 6:30 a.m. on the day of the feast.

Excerpts from the Large Catechism by Martin Luther: The Third Article of the Creed

God's Spirit alone is called the Holy Spirit, that is, He who has sanctified and still sanctifies us. For just as the Father is called "Creator" and the Son is called "Redeemer," so the Holy Spirit, from His work, must be called "Sanctifier," or "One who makes holy" (403:36).

But how is such sanctifying done? Answer, "The Son receives dominion, by which He wins us, through His birth, death, resurrection, and so on. In a similar way, the Holy Spirit causes our sanctification by the following: the communion of saints or the Christian Church, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. That means He leads us first into His holy congregation and places us in the bosom of the Church. Through the Church He preaches to us and brings us to Christ" (403:37).

I am brought into the church and incorporated into it by the Holy Spirit through having heard and continuing to hear God's Word, which is the beginning of entering it. Through this congregation He brings us to Christ and He teaches and preaches to us the Word (405:53).

We further believe that in this Christian Church we have forgiveness of sin, which is wrought through the holy Sacraments and Absolution and through all kinds of comforting promises from the entire Gospel ... Everything, therefore, in the Christian Church is ordered toward this goal: we shall daily receive in the Church nothing but the forgiveness of sin through the Word and signs, to comfort and encourage our consciences as long as we live here (405:55).

But outside of this Christian Church, where the Gospel is not found, there is no forgiveness, as also there can be no holiness. Therefore, all who seek and wish to earn holiness not through the Gospel and forgiveness of sin, but by their works, have expelled and severed themselves from this Church (405:56).

However, while sanctification has begun and is growing, daily we expect that our flesh will be destroyed and buried with all its uncleanness. Then we will come forth gloriously and arise in a new, eternal life of entire and perfect holiness. For now we are only half pure and holy. So that Holy Spirit always has some reason to continue His work in us through the Word. He must daily administer forgiveness until we reach the life to come. At that time there will be no more forgiveness, but only perfectly pure and holy people. We will be full of godliness and righteousness, removed and free from sin, death, and all evil, in a new, immortal, and glorified body (405:58).

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

God's Child	Rebirth Date
Roger Carlton	Oct. 4
Zephaniah German	Oct. 4
Elijah Himsel	Oct. 5
Royce Huffman	Oct. 8
Derek Kempf	Oct. 11
Linda Fitzgerald	Oct. 17
Gideon Himsel	Oct. 18
Eva Astrid Lane	Oct. 19
Alexander Schauer	Oct. 20
Luther Larson	Oct. 21
Lillian Sagert	Oct. 21
Lauren Genthe	Oct. 23
Michelle Toll	Oct. 24
Brenda Carlton	Oct. 26
David Hessel	Oct. 26
Donald Toll	Oct. 26
James Berrens	Oct. 27
Susan Rebholz	Oct. 27
Elizabeth Blanke	Oct. 28
Karen Kosmider	Oct. 28
Jason Pelsis	Oct. 28
Melissa Pergande	Oct. 28

BAPTIZED *September 20, 2020*
Alexander Earl Bratz,
Son of Joe & Bethany Bratz

SOVITZKY SEMINARY UPDATE

Dear Saints at LMC,

The first few weeks of seminary have been going well. Our schedule is very busy; the time flies by. This fall I have Gospels I, studying Matthew, Dogmatics I, Church History I, Liturgics I, Greek Readings, and Field Education. All the classes are excellent so far – it is a real privilege to study here.

Seminary life is also a blessing – I am able to pray several times a day with my brothers here, and spend time talking about theology with them between classes. We have Communion together in the Chapel on Wednesdays and all Feast Days, which is a wonderful blessing.

COVID restrictions aren't too burdensome at the seminary. We are required to wear masks in classrooms, the Chapel, and the library, but the precautions do not inhibit our lives too severely. The seminary is planning on staying open, which is another blessing. Studying online is not the same as being gathered together in one place.

I have been assigned to Ascension Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne for my field education and will begin assisting this Sunday.

Besides seminary studies, I sing in the Bach Collegium, a special choir that performs sacred vocal music of the Lutheran tradition. We are working on Bach Motets and a Mass by Heinrich Schutz, a Lutheran composer from the 17th century.

God's blessings to all,
Richard Sovitzky IV

On the last two Sundays and Mondays of October, LMC will gather your mission gifts to support Seminarian Richard Sovitzky IV.

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S DAY IN OCTOBER

Wednesday, Oct. 28, is the Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles.

Date	Name of Day	Hymn of the Day	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Oct. 4	19th Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 708	Gen. 28:10–17	Psalm 34	Eph. 4:22–28	Matt. 9:1–8
Oct. 11	20th Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 828	Is. 55:1-9	Psalm 145	Eph. 5:15–21	Matt. 22:1–14
Oct. 18	21st Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 607	Gen. 1:1—2:3	Psalm 90	Eph. 6:10–17	John 4:46–54
Oct. 25	Reformation Day *(observed)*	*LSB* 555	Rev. 14:6–7	Psalm 46	Rom. 3:19–28	John 8:31–36 *or* Matt. 11:12–19

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH AT LMC:

MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE ... AND THEY FOLLOW ME

BY JULIE WOHLRABE, IO DIRECTOR

"***My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.***" John 10:27

Martin Luther once said, "I know not the way God leads me, but well do I know my Guide."

Five years ago, I began as a volunteer ESL teacher with ISM (now iO, of course), here at Luther Memorial Chapel. Two years ago, I began a new adventure as the iO Director. In both positions, but especially now, I learned what worked. Consideration for the students, subject material, teaching methods, structured classes, and simply being available to them for a myriad of reasons; listening to the ideas of and feedback from the volunteers and trying to support them with resources and encouragement; learning how to plan, organize, and advertise big events and, very importantly, how to delegate! There's been learning about the finances, setting up a budget, and preparing quarterly financial reports. There have been opportunities for speaking engagements to share about our iO mission, monthly committee/board meetings, and writing articles telling about the amazing things God has been doing within International Outreach. But now, I've been learning something new with iO. I'm learning how to wait and be patient with very few students, no formal classes at LMC, and no big events.

Please know that our iO mission continues, but in a very separate sort of way. You see, dedicated volunteers are continuing to reach out to internationals, so iO truly *is* still alive and active, just in a different way. Kim Hernandez leads an online Bible reading class on Sunday mornings from 11:30 to 12:30 for those internationals still stateside, joined by Kim's husband Raymond, along with John and Nancy Wolck. Deb Madigan stays in touch by phone and email with international friends. Tim and Cheryl Albers have several weekly Skype sessions with 11 to 12 international friends, many of whom were baptized at LMC, along with an online evening Bible study also attended by the Wolcks. Nancy Wolck met online twice weekly all summer long with a young high school girl who is far away from home, the same young girl who was baptized here at LMC about four years ago and confirmed at Elm Grove Lutheran earlier this year. Jeff Button continues to be a tremendous help for a young international LMC member and is in regular contact with his family, who live thousands of miles away. Pastor Larson and his family have become friends with a Russian-speaking family in the neighborhood, particularly the grandmother and her granddaughter, both of whom have attended our program.

I'd like to acknowledge the great investment of time through past years into iO, and include our faithful committee/board members and tireless volunteers like Judy and Paul Hessel, Martha and John Galvin, Barb Knetzger, Ann Nehring, Kathy Neumeier and Arlene Brackensick, who helped establish our present foundation. The entire iO team has been praying for our mission, and I am SO grateful for that; but I do also want to mention Susan Eyer, who not only is an extraordinary prayer warrior in general and specifically for iO, but has also been a constant encourager to me. And really, don't we all need encouragement? I now have a weekly scheduled conversation class in someone's backyard (and home), and we are trying hard to get more people to come, but it hasn't been easy. I also continue to get together with young UWM internationals, inviting them to my home and praying that a small group will grow as well.

It's a different time, we all know it, and yet, we wait, and we do what we can, knowing that we may not understand where exactly we're headed, but that we definitely know who is guiding us there. Thanks be to our Triune God!

"***Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.***" Romans 12:12