

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; July 5-10, '21

Mon Lamentations 3:22-37 does not read like a lament but more like self-encouragement, and that's why this passage resonates with us, for we are learning to bear trials *patiently* (28-30). Knowing our human nature, God prompted Jeremiah to feed our souls with spiritual nutrition. God assures us that He will *show compassion* as dependably as sunrise; so we can relax, awaiting God's intervention according to His best judgment.

Tues Mark 5:21-24a, 35-43 Jairus staked a claim on Jesus' compassion even before some bad news (35), and Jesus was ready. [Now, watch this:] Jesus claimed that the girl was NOT DEAD but asleep—for that's how God sees it—and sure enough, when He coaxed her to awaken, she got out of bed, waltzed around the room, and headed for the kitchen (39-43). A great day.

Wed 2 Corinthians 8:1-9,13-15 The mother-church in Jerusalem needed a boost from overseas brethren, which Paul was organizing. Now then, if our overseas brethren took up a collection to help us state-side, *giving themselves to the Lord first and then giving themselves to us*—all to serve God (5)—that would shame us.

Thurs Psalm 30 When you read this psalm, place emphasis on yourself—stressing that God has lifted ME up, that God has healed ME, that He has brought MY soul up; that He has kept ME alive. Now we're in touch with God's Spirit, who gets into our heart this way and turns our *mourning into dancing*. Our brain may still be groggy (8-10), but our heart/soul will be singing praises to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

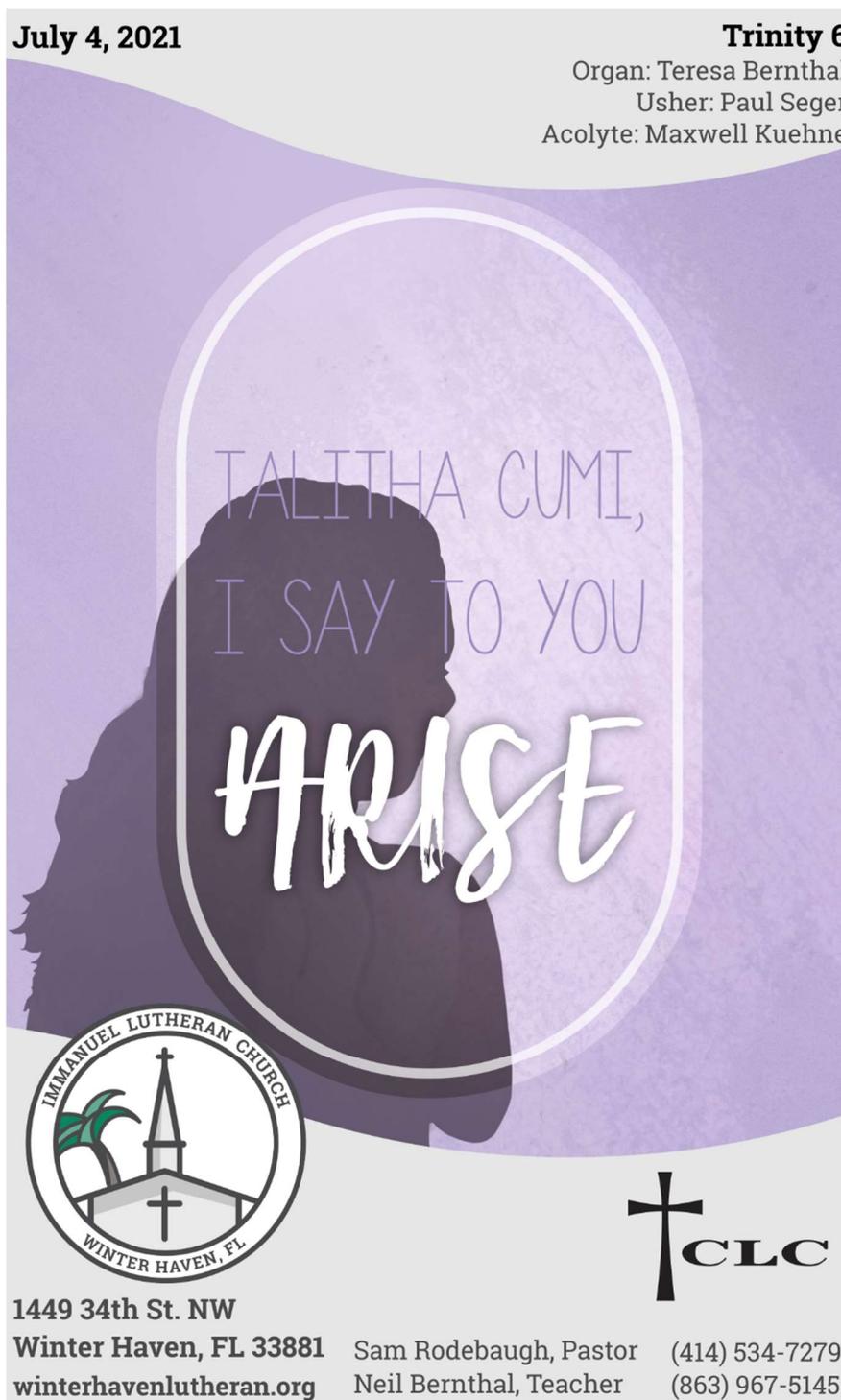
Fri Mark 5:25-34 Shoehorned into Tuesday's Scriptures is this episode of an unidentified woman who was too shy to step forward and spell out her problem, yet she had the courage of faith to get in touch with Jesus. What happened next shocked and scared her, but she took courage to tell Jesus her long, sad story. He then blessed her and sent her home with a new lease on life. [We make a suitable deduction to fit our own situation.]

Sat Acts 28:11-16 doesn't seem to contain much spiritual meat, but it proves this: though God's mill grinds slowly, it grinds exceedingly fine. Our travels, layovers, and pit stops all click into their appointed slots (as they should) while God's machinery inches forward hour by hour and day by day. Just imagine how God blessed those soldiers who tented a whole week with Christians (14), then walked side-by-side with other Christians who were thrilled to welcome Paul into their neighborhood and homes. Those soldiers had a lot to think and talk about when they went off duty (16). God was generous with them—as He was with Paul too, of course. Praise the Lord!

July 4, 2021

Trinity 6

Organ: Teresa Bernthal
Usher: Paul Seger
Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne



1449 34th St. NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
winterhavenlutheran.org

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor (414) 534-7279
Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

Ps. 30:1-5

¹ I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me. ² O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. ³ O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit. ⁴ Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. ⁵ For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

P Pastor

C Congregation

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: TLH #27

“Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul”

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from conception. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

INTROIT

Ps. 62:5-8

P I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

C **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

P The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

C **The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

P The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

C **The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**

Romans 15:13 *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

Pursuit of Happiness?

Today is the 245th birthday of the United States of America. July 4, 1776 was the day when Congress voted to adopt the Declaration of Independence, effectively beginning the formation of the country we know today. Near the beginning of that document lies its most well-known line: “That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Boy, do we ever use our lives and liberties to pursue our own happiness! The pursuit of happiness has been used as an unassailable defense for every manner of sinful choices. “Do whatever makes you happy,” they say. Whatever your mind can imagine as a source of happiness is deemed valid and given approval, so long as it doesn’t infringe on anyone else’s happiness. And so, the “pursuit of happiness” has become an idol in our country, as millions serve only their own pleasure.

It could be argued that life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness—these aren’t necessarily God given rights at all. And any that were given by God were given up when we sinfully rejected God’s will in our lives, claiming for ourselves death as our only true “right.” Nevertheless, God declares for us an independence which we could never declare for ourselves. Independence from sin, independence from shame, independence from the weight of guilt that we so often carry—Christ’s blood spilled on the cross has blotted out each one.

Do you want happiness? Instead of pursuing it, consider the happiness God has given to you instead. The almighty, holy God has declared that between you and him, there is actually peace. No matter how unhappy your life may sometimes seem, God has declared that you can still hold onto the certain hope of deliverance from death and hell through your Savior. That is true happiness!

Lord, you have given us true happiness. Thank you for making us members of Your Holy Nation and blessing us with your abundant gifts. Amen.

✠ Announcements ✠

The CLC Convention met on June 24-27. Much hard work was done for our efforts together in the LORD's kingdom. A summary of the Convention (from the daily "Convention Chronicles") can be found at tinyurl.com/convchron-21 (see page 6 for the Convention resolution on the "Joint Statement"). The full Convention *Proceedings* will be published later this summer. There were two excellent essays delivered; the first, by Pastor Luke Bernthal, can be seen at tinyurl.com/conv-essay-1. The second, by Michael Schierenbeck, can be seen at tinyurl.com/conv-essay-2. You may see a selection of Convention photos at tinyurl.com/conv-pics-21. Paper copies of these documents are available in our narthex. We thank the LORD for His blessing on our work in the CLC!

Vacation Bible School will be held here at church July 19-23.

- ✠ July 4: Quarterly Voters' Meeting
- ✠ July 4: Ladies of Immanuel
- ✠ July 11: Orlando Service 8 am
- ✠ July 11-17: Katie Naumann Move
- ✠ July 18: Teacher Installation
- ✠ July 19-23: Vacation Bible School

This year, our theme will be "Children of the Heavenly Father." If you are interested in helping in any way or donating snacks, please speak with Pastor. Also, please start inviting any children you might know!

Miss Katie Naumann Move – Katie will be moving into her apartment on July 15th. She will be living at Briarcrest apartments in Winter Haven, near the Cypress Gardens Wal-Mart. If you are able to be here on the 15th to help her move in, the more the merrier!

POTLUCK! In honor of Miss Katie Naumann's arrival as the newest called worker of Immanuel, we will be holding our first potluck since last spring after her installation on July 18th. Please be sure to bring a dish for the meal so that we can greet Katie with some good old southern hospitality. The Ladies of Immanuel will be meeting today to coordinate.

Pounding – As we get ready to receive Miss Katie Naumann as our new lower grade teacher, let's be sure to welcome her with a pantry full of dry goods. If you are able to donate some cans or other non-perishable food items to help her stock her pantry, please bring some to church over the next few weeks. If you'd like to donate something to put in her refrigerator, just be sure to wait until the week of to buy it! Thank you!

Last Week: WH – 11 Orlando – 10

Total Offering = \$3000

General = \$3000

Cleaner (7/10): Rodebaugh | **Acolyte (7/11):** Hayden Morris

LORD, HAVE MERCY and GLORY TO GOD

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,

Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:

We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
 Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,

Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

☐ Heavenly Father, during His earthly ministry Your Son Jesus healed the sick and raised the dead. By the healing medicine of the Word and Sacraments pour into our hearts such love toward You that we may live eternally; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ Amen.

Lord, to whom
else shall we go?



GOSPEL READING – Mark 5:21-24a, 35-43 And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. ²² Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet ²³ and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." ²⁴ And he went with him. ³⁵ While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" ³⁶ But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." ³⁷ And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. ³⁸ They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹ And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." ⁴⁰ And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." ⁴² And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. ⁴³ And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

EPISTLE READING – 2 Timothy 1:8-14 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹² which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³ Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
 tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
 bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

THE BENEDICTION:

Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

G Amen!

HYMN: TLH #422

"Savior, I Follow On"



Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please remain seated.

P Take and eat. This is the true body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink. This cup is the true blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

May this body and blood strengthen and preserve you in the true faith, unto life everlasting. Depart in peace. Amen.

C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
 light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that
 Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

G I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON – Lamentations 3:22-32 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴ "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." ²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. ²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. ²⁷ It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. ²⁸ Let him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him; ²⁹ let him put his mouth in the dust-- there may yet be hope; ³⁰ let him give his cheek to the one who strikes, and let him be filled with insults. ³¹ For the Lord will not cast off forever, ³² but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

What is a Christian Waiter?

- I. He knows the meaning of Grace
- II. He makes the Lord his portion
- III. He humbly endures trials
- IV. He looks forward to God’s deliverance

OFFERTORY

WS p.16

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

- ☩ ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.**



– OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:



OFFERING HYMN: TLH #788:1 “Lord, You Love...”

- ☩ ♪ Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land. Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true That our life and all our living We may consecrate to You.**

HYMN: TLH #305:1,2,7-9 “Soul, Adorn Thyself With Gladness”

✠ PRAYER and the LORD’S PRAYER ✠

P The Lord be with you.

☩ And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

☩ We lift them up to the Lord!

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God: Who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

☩ ♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabbaoth, adored; Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, “Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” And the peace of the Lord will be with you always!

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
 blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
 part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
 tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

The Order of Holy Communion

