

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; July 12-17, '21

Mon Ezekiel 2:1-5 follows upon the vision that knocked Ezekiel flat on his face (which disabled him), so God picked him up and stood him at attention to receive his assignment. *“Tell the Hebrews that though they have turned their back on Me, and despite their impudent and stubborn refusal to bow before Me, I am not done with them yet.”* God had lots more to say to them, and Ezekiel was His mouthpiece. We listen up and pay attention to God too.

Tues Mark 6:1-6 We see these as rhetorical questions, for the answers are obvious. Of course, Jesus’ skill set was heavenly, superseding His carpenter skills, and as second Person in the Trinity, Jesus put His siblings in the shade (1-3). Further, when Jesus doesn’t get the credit He deserves, He may pack up and go where others will provide a more receptive audience (4-6).

Wed 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 Whatever the infirmity was, God allowed it as a *messenger of Satan* to repeatedly knock the wind out of Paul. Why? Because pride over one’s spiritual gifts or religious adventures is still pride, in utter contrast to the humble demeanor God wants from us. P.S. Our weaknesses ought not bother us, for Jesus’ power flourishes in our weaknesses (9-10).

Thurs Psalm 143 Summary: “O Lord, I really need You (1-2). The old evil Foe is in my face and on my case (3-4) even while I am trying to hold tightly to You (5-6). But I still can’t handle what is happening in my life (7), so please take control of my life (18)! Cancel out all my negatives (9) and fortify Your positives in me (10). Lord Jesus, **I really need You** (11-12); help me!

Fri Mark 6:4-5 It’s human nature for childhood chums to remember us as we were back then—classmates and buddies. That familiarity may hinder their accepting us as Sunday School or VBS teacher, or even as pastor or parochial day-school teacher. Jesus ran into that obstacle, too, sad to say.

Sat Acts 28:17-27 Though his civil trial was on hold, Paul was willing to state his case and share his convictions with the local Jewish officials. They accepted his invitation and listened to his testimony. What was really on trial was the basic issue—whether Jesus of Nazareth was God’s choice as the Messiah long-promised to Abraham and his descendants (20). From personal experience Paul knew that Jesus was in heaven and was seated there with His Father for good reason—for He had paid the price required by God’s Law, and His performance squared our account with God. Perfectly. Finally.

Now then, who dares ignore God’s own good judgment and reject His gracious benediction (23)? Those who react that way against the Holy Spirit are committing spiritual suicide (25-27). Lord, have mercy!

July 11, 2021

Trinity 7

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Paul Seger

Acolyte: Hayden Morris

“My grace is
sufficient
for you, for
my power is made perfect
in weakness.”

2 Corinthians 12:1



1449 34th St. NW

Winter Haven, FL 33881

winterhavenlutheran.org

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor (414) 534-7279

Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145



PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 123

¹ To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! ² Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us. ³ Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. ⁴ Our soul has had more than enough of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

 Pastor

 Congregation

OPENING PRAYER

Hymn: TLH #40:2,4 *“The God of Abraham Praise”*

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

 *A - - - men.*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

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

 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

 *Who made heaven and earth.*

 I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

 *And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.*

 Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

 **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

 Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

 *A - - - men.*

Church (Humble, TX), *Living Word* Lutheran Church (Blue Springs, MO), *Mount Olive* Lutheran Church (Detroit Lakes, MN), and *Rock of Ages* Lutheran Church (Jenison, MI).

CLC Website Memorial: We are grateful to those volunteers who have managed and updated our online presence. If there are additional suggestions going forward, the Board of Education and Publications always welcomes input from CLC members. We encourage the Board of Education and Publications to investigate ways that we can expand our online presence and to work toward a common CLC look and feel.

Elections — The following were re-elected, **President:** Pastor Michael Eichstadt, **Moderator:** Pastor Paul Nolting, **Secretary:** Pastor Wayne Eichstadt, **Board of Trustees:** Pastor Michael Roehl, Mr. Neal Wietgreffe, **Board of Regents:** Teacher Matthew Thurow, Mr. Steve Ludvigson, **Board of Missions:** Pastor Rob Sauers, **Board of Education and Publications:** Teacher Seth Schaller, Mr. Rick Nelson. **Newly elected:** Pastor Michel Wilke, **Vice President** and Mr. Jeff Radichel, **Board of Missions.** (Since this Convention was the delayed 2020 convention, officers were elected to one-year terms, and board members were elected to three-year terms.) It was resolved that nominations for officers and board members are to be made before convention or through the written nomination at Convention. Nominations from the floor will be allowed if a bio has been provided and willingness to serve has been verified. It was resolved to continue using electronic voting.

Appointments for periodical editors were ratified: Professor Paul Naumann (Lutheran Spokesman), Pastor Wayne Eichstadt (Journal of Theology), Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer (Ministry by Mail); Pastor David Pfeiffer (Daily Rest); and Pastor Glenn Oster (CLC Webmaster). A full list of appointments will be published in the Convention Proceedings.

Convention — The Convention Communion Service offering was designated for the CLC General Fund \$3,640.15. Lord-willing, the next convention will be held on the Immanuel Lutheran College Campus, June 23-26, 2022 (Thursday through Sunday).

Note: The CLC Coordinating Council’s next meeting is set for September 22, 2021 (9:00 a.m.)—Boards meet September 20-21.

Committee of Partners in the Public Ministry (CPPM): It was resolved that the Candidate for the Reverend Ministry (CRM) requirements remain as they are for those who wish to serve in the full-time pastoral ministry in the CLC. The Board of Regents and seminary faculty were encouraged to promote the revised Limited Pastoral Ministry program. The convention established the position of “Recruiter for the Public Ministry.”

ILC Planning Committee (ILC-PC) — \$20,000 was allocated from the ILC Building Fund to the ILC-PC to complete the fieldhouse renovation plan, and it was resolved that the ILC-PC present its plan for the gymnasium and chapel/theater, arts/musical arts facility to the 2022 Convention.

Proposal to Eliminate Publicizing the Nomination Slate when Calling a Professor — It was resolved that the publication of qualified nominees be retained to allow for comments from the body of the CLC. It was recommended that the Board of Regents include a preamble to the announcement of the nomination list, expressing the list should only be considered in respect for the divinity of the call and differences in God-given gifts, not in any kind of competition between individuals. It should be further understood that the nominated individuals have not sought this nomination and may never receive the call.

CLC Constitution – Bylaw 3B, #3 was removed from the Constitution as proposed by the Standing Constitution Committee.

Conference Visitors – The Convention ratified the Conference Visitors as elected by their respective conferences: **Great Lakes:** Pastor Andrew Schaller; **Minnesota:** Pastor James Albrecht; **Pacific Coast:** Pastor David Naumann; **West Central:** Pastor Michael Roehl; **South Eastern:** Pastor Matthew Hanel.

Membership: Teachers, Nathan Buck and Benjamin Hansen; Pastors Cory Drehle, Drew Naumann, Samuel Naumann, Johnathan Schnose; and Professor Daniel Schierenbeck were accepted as voting members of the Church of the Lutheran Confession. *Our Shepherd* Lutheran Church (Conroe, TX) and *St. Paul’s* Lutheran Church (Melrose, WI) were ratified into congregational membership of the CLC. The declaration of fellowship with Bangladesh Lutheran Church Mission was ratified. The dissolution of four congregations was acknowledged with regret: *Bethel* Lutheran

INTROIT

Ps. 132:13-16; Ps. 34:8

- P** Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!
- C** For the LORD has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His dwelling place:
- P** “This is My resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
- C** I will abundantly bless her provisions; I will satisfy her poor with bread.
- P** Her priests I will clothe with salvation, and her saints will shout for joy.”

GLORIA PATRI

Latin for “Glory be to the Father”

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

VERSE OF THE DAY

2 Cor. 12:9

- P** Alleluia. My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia.

THE KYRIE

Latin for “O Lord”

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us.
on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

G ♪ All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

P Let us pray. O God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy. Grant us the fullness of Your grace that we may be called to repentance and made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G ♪ A - - - men.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Ezekiel 2:1-5 And he said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you."² And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.³ And he said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day.⁴ The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.'⁵ And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them.

GOSPEL LESSON – Mark 6:1-13 He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.² And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands?"³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.⁴ And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household."⁵ And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them.⁶ And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.⁷ And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.⁸ He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff-- no

It was resolved that the General Pastoral Conference study the *Theses and Antitheses on the Role of Admonition in the Termination of Fellowship with Church Bodies* and bring a recommendation as to the adoption of this statement as an official doctrinal statement of the CLC to the 2024 Convention.

The Standing Constitution Committee was directed to answer the question, "Does the CLC Constitution require the president to request the Board of Doctrine to represent the church body in doctrinal discussion with other church groups, or is this action at the president's discretion?" and report to the 2022 Convention.

Missions – The Board of Missions and other CLC entities were directed to refer to "Project Kinship" as simply "Kinship" without the word "Project" and without any associated acronym. It was resolved that the Board of Missions encourage domestic subsidized congregations to open Christian Day Schools. It was resolved that the Board of Missions develop and implement a model for a Christian Day School as an outreach tool in domestic subsidized congregations. It was resolved that the Board of Missions and the Board of Education and Publications explore other ways to make use of subsidized Christian Day Schools as mission tools and report their findings to the 2022 Convention.

Finance – The Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) budget was adopted:

Education and Publications	\$ 018,000
Trustees	\$ 075,000
Missions	\$ 426,430
<u>Regents</u>	<u>\$ 740,000</u>
General Fund Budget	\$ 1,259,430
+ ILC Revenue	\$ 708,120
Total FY22 Spending Plan	\$1,967,550

The Church Extension Fund (CEF) Policy was approved as presented and edited by the floor committee. The committee's policy added two points to what the Trustees presented in the Prospectus. The full policy will be printed in the Proceedings. The proposed increases in retirement contributions and compensation were approved. It was resolved that the president form a Compensation Committee to provide a Target Base salary recommendation for called workers and report its findings to the 2022 Convention. Convention concurred with the Trustees' recommendation of establishing a General Fund Endowment.



2021 Convention Summary

The 34th Convention of the Church of the Lutheran Confession was held at Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, WI on June 24-27, 2021. The theme of the Convention was “Still Our Great Commission: ‘Make Disciples of All the Nations.’” A full report from the Convention will be published later this summer in the *Proceedings*.

Doctrine

Joint Statement Regarding the Termination of Fellowship

RESOLVED that we decline to adopt the Joint Statement as a settlement of the doctrinal difference between the CLC and the WELS and ELS concerning the termination of fellowship, and prayerfully seek the Lord’s guidance in His Word for a different approach.

RESOLVED that we continue to use the doctrinal principles of the Joint Statement as a basis for discussion with WELS and ELS on the doctrine of termination of fellowship.

RESOLVED that the four-man CLC committee, in conjunction with the Board of Doctrine, clearly define what is necessary for a settlement of the doctrinal difference between the CLC and the WELS and ELS concerning the termination of fellowship.

RESOLVED that the four-man CLC committee work with the Board of Doctrine to address additional questions in our midst (e.g., role of admonition, pre-requisites for settlement, practice of the fellowship principle, the dangers expressed by Romans 16:18).

RESOLVED that these findings be brought before the 2022 Convention. RESOLVED that the four-man CLC committee, in conjunction with the CLC Board of Doctrine, continues to work with the WELS and ELS to settle these doctrinal differences on the basis of Scripture.

The full text of the resolutions including the supporting statements will be published in the *Proceedings*.

It was resolved to create and maintain an official “CLC Statements and Publications Registry.” The Board of Doctrine will be responsible for the maintenance and administration of this registry.

bread, no bag, no money in their belts--⁹ but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics.¹⁰ And he said to them, "Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there."¹¹ And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them."¹² So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent.¹³ And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

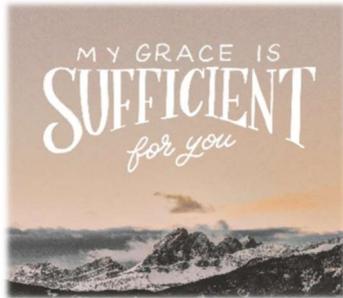
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #512

“O Christ, Our True and Only Light”

SERMON – 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven-- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows.³ And I know that this man was caught up into paradise-- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows--⁴ and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.⁵ On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses--⁶ though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me.⁷ So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the

flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.



“Christ must increase; I must decrease.”

- I. Stamping out self-righteousness
- II. Welcoming weakness
- III. Boasting in Christ

OFFERTORY

✪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Hymn: WS #776 “LORD, ‘Tis Not that I Did Choose You”

- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS -

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:

OFFERING HYMN: TLH #441:1 “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

✪ We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24-26*

☞ 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.

✪ Amen, amen, a – men.

HYMN: TLH #346 “Jesus! And Shall it Ever Be”

✠ Announcements ✠

Vacation Bible School will be held here at church July 19-23. 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. If anyone is able to show up to help out the move, it would be greatly appreciated! She won’t have a ton of things to move in, but it would be great to show our love and support in this way. The address is 200 Ave K SE #61 Winter Haven, FL 33880, and the move-in will begin at **10 am**.

- ✠ **July 11:** Orlando Service 8 am
- ✠ **July 15:** Katie Naumann Move
- ✠ **July 18:** Teacher Installation
- ✠ **July 19-23:** Vacation Bible School

Installation for our newest teacher will be held this coming Sunday during the regular service. Katie’s father, Prof. Paul Naumann will preach.

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!

Shut-in/Encouragement List **Patti Meno** continues to receive regular dialysis and is awaiting a kidney transplant. **Johanna Jaehnigen** remains mostly housebound. **Paulette Galstad** is suffering through bad back pain and other health problems. **Greg Tincher** is recovering from his recent surgeries at home and receiving frequent therapy. **Rudy Enriquez** is receiving treatment for throat cancer. **Shirley Rosenberry** is struggling with severe knee pain which has greatly limited her mobility. **Liz Hartmann** is home recovering from recent surgery.

Last Week: WH – 39 **Total Offering = \$2,895**

General = \$1,420 | CLC Missions = \$50 | Property Improvement = \$400
Kuehne Memorial = \$875 | Kinship = \$150

Cleaner (7/17): Ream | **Acolyte (7/18):** Seth Bernthal