

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK
24686 OLD CHURCH ROAD, RED WING, MN 55066
www.immanuel-lcms.org

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Lowell Sorenson
Togo Missionary: Rev. Micah Wildauer

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The 11th Sunday After Pentecost

August 5, 2018

The Lutheran Heritage Foundation
Special Speaker: Rev. Dr. Bernhard Lutz

EAGERLY SHARING THE GOOD NEWS WITH BOLDNESS!
A MISSION LITURGY BASED ON ACTS 4:20

THE WELCOME

We welcome all who worship the Lord Jesus Christ today. We pray that God's Word will be a powerful blessing for you as we, His family, together discover His incomprehensible love! May the Holy Spirit create a desire to more aggressively share the Good News which we have heard and seen! If you are a guest, we welcome you and invite you to sign our guestbook. Please visit with the pastor or a member of this congregation if you have any questions. God richly bless our time together in Jesus.

(When the Pastor asks worshipers to stand, please feel comfortable remaining seated if you are unable to stand.)

OPENING HYMN

"On Galilee's High Mountain" #835

We are eager to begin the worship with

THE INVOCATION

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Peace be with you!

C: Peace be with you, too!

We are eager to confess our sins and receive the forgiveness of our sins.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND THE ABSOLUTION (Stand)

P: God, through His Word, calls us to repentance.

C: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for brief self-examination)

P: Let us boldly confess our sins to God, our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I assure you that all who turn to God and repent find their sin forgiven for the sake of Jesus! I, therefore, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. You are forgiven! Go now, with joy, and tell what you have heard and seen about Jesus!

C: Amen.

THE INTROIT (Portions of Psalm 96)

(Reasons we eagerly want to share the Good News about Jesus!)

P: Declare His glory among the nations,

C: His marvelous deeds among all peoples.

P: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;

C: He is to be feared above all gods.

P: Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns." The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.

C: He will judge the peoples with equity.

P: Worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness;

C: Tremble before Him, all the earth.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Declare His glory among the nations,

C: His marvelous deeds among all peoples.

THE LIVING WORD SPEAKS TO US FROM 2 KINGS CHAPTER 7:
(What created a desire to aggressively tell the good news about new hope?)

7 Elisha replied, "Hear the word of the Lord. This is what the Lord says: About this time tomorrow, a seah^[a] of the finest flour will sell for a shekel^[b] and two seahs^[c] of barley for a shekel at the gate of Samaria." 2 The officer on whose arm the king was leaning said to the man of God, "Look, even if the Lord should open the floodgates of the heavens, could this happen?" "You will see it with your own eyes," answered Elisha, "but you will not eat any of it!"

The Siege Lifted

3 Now there were four men with leprosy^[d] at the entrance of the city gate. They said to each other, "Why stay here until we die?"

4 If we say, 'We'll go into the city'—the famine is there, and we will die. And if we stay here, we will die. So let's go over to the camp of the Arameans and surrender. If they spare us, we live; if they kill us, then we die." 5 At dusk they got up and went to the camp of the Arameans. When they reached the edge of the camp, no one was there, 6 for the Lord had caused the Arameans to hear the sound of chariots and horses and a great army, so that they said to one another, "Look, the king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings to attack us!" 7 So they got up and fled in the dusk and abandoned their tents and their horses and donkeys. They left the camp as it was and ran for their lives.

8 The men who had leprosy reached the edge of the camp, entered one of the tents and ate and drank. Then they took silver, gold and clothes, and went off and hid them. They returned and entered another tent and took some things from it and hid them also. 9 **Then they said to each other, "What we're doing is not right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this to the royal palace."**

P: This is the Word of God.

C: Lord, open my heart to respond: Thanks be to God!

HYMN

"Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying" #826 (stanzas 1 and 4)

MEN SING

Hark, the voice of Jesus crying,
"Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting,
Who will bear the sheaves away?"
Loud and long the master calls you;
Rich reward He offers free.
Who will answer, gladly saying,

WOMEN SING: "Here am I. Send me, send me"?

WOMEN SING

Let none hear you idly saying,
"There is nothing I can do,"
While the multitudes are dying
And the master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly;
Let His work your pleasure be.
Answer quickly when He calls you,

MEN SING: "Here am I. Send me, send me!"

THE SECOND LESSON FROM GOD'S WORD IS FROM
ROMANS 4:1-5:

(How is faith connected to the Word of God?)

4 What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? 2 If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. 3 What does Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." 4 Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. 5 However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS TAKEN FROM THE BOOK OF ST. JOHN, CHAPTER 10. (VS 14-16)

(THE WORSHIPERS WILL READ THE GOSPEL WITH THE PASTOR.)

¹⁴“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

P: This is the Holy Gospel!

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE CONFESSION OF WHAT WE BELIEVE/THE APOSTLES' CREED back cover of the hymnal

(We eagerly confess our faith to one another)

A HYMN OF PREPARATION TO HEAR THE SERMON

"Lift High the Cross" #837

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 2: Women

Stanza 3: All

Stanza 4: Men

Stanza 5: All

Stanza 6: All

(All shall sing the refrain after each stanza)

THE MESSAGE: “EAGERLY SHARING THE GOOD NEWS WITH BOLDNESS?”

BECAUSE

THE MESSAGE IS REAL

THE MESSAGE DEMANDS RESPONSIBLE ACTION

THE MESSAGE REQUIRES RELIABILITY

Sermon text: ACTS 4:20 “For we cannot help speaking of what we have heard and seen.”

THE 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.

THE OFFERING

(Note: A door offering supporting the work of the Lutheran Heritage Foundation will be received following the worship service.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER back cover of the hymnal

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace!

C: Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" #524

Vs. 1: All

Vs. 2: Women

Vs. 3: All

Vs. 4 Men

Vss. 5-6: All

A WORD ABOUT THE LUTZES

Pastor Bernie was born in Iowa and grew up in northern Minnesota. He was the son of a poor farmer who was filled with God's rich grace and who was also blessed with six sons and three daughters. By God's grace, the mantle for the Holy Ministry fell on Bernie at 14 years of age; he prepared for this holy work at Concordia, St. Paul, MN (high school and junior college). He also taught in a Christian Day School and graduated from Concordia University, River Forest in 1956. He taught school for eight years - his final four years teaching at Concordia College, Edmonton, Alberta, serving as Athletic Director, Professor, and also coaching hockey and football.

In 1963, the Lord provided a bout with death that put him back on the ministry track and he studied at Concordia Seminary, Springfield, IL. Since completing the seminary in 1967, the Lord has used Bernie as teacher, preacher, missionary, coach, athletic director, professor, and evangelist. He has lived and told the story about Jesus in seven countries and three continents. Bernie, a person who didn't believe he had the ability to teach or preach, found out that "with God all things are possible!"

The LCMS elected him to the Board for World Missions three times. The Government of Papua, New Guinea presented him with the Independence Medal in 1975. He has served as Circuit Visitor in three districts and has also served as district LWML pastoral advisor in Minnesota South and Minnesota North Districts. He received the ***Servis Ecclesiae Christi*** award from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne in 1988. He received the D. Min. degree from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. He was awarded the Doctor of Divinity by Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne in 2007. Concordia University, St. Paul, MN awarded the Doctor of Letters in 2014. To God be the glory!

Following retirement in 2000, he served five months each year with the LHM living in Beirut, Lebanon for four years. In 2004, he became chaplain for the West Mission Lutheran Fellowship in Mission, TX and served eight years in a very successful senior

ministry in RV parks. In 2008, he was asked to become the director of seminary curriculum for Concordia Institute for Holy Ministry (CLIHM) in Yambio, South Sudan, and has been actively serving with the Lutheran Heritage Foundation as a professor and advisor of the ELCSS-S.

Bernie married Roberta Will in 1956 and God blessed them with four children. The Lord called Roberta to her final rest in 2014. A year later, May 16, 2015, God blessed him with Ellein, a faithful servant of God who loves His Word.

Pastor Bernie and Elly, like many Christians, connect very personally to the text for the message today, "For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard!"

SOLA DEO GLORIA!