

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

***466 Elm St.
Monroe, CT 06468***



A Weekly Internet Devotional and Communication

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Let us pray: Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom will come and your will be done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, whom with you and the Holy Spirit we worship and praise, one God, now and forever.

Suggested Bible readings for the week of Pentecost 23:

M Micah 1:1-9; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Matthew 16:13-20.
T Micah 2:1-13; Revelation 7:1-8; Luke 9:51-62.
W Micah 3:1-8; Revelation 7:9-17; Luke 10:1-16.
Th Micah 3:9-4:5; Revelation 8:1-13; Luke 10:17-24.
F Micah 5:1-4, 10-15; Revelation 9:1-12; Luke 10:25-37.
S Micah 6:1-8; Revelation 9:13-21; Luke 10:38-42.

Next Sunday's Texts- 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Daniel 12:1-3

The book of Daniel represents a kind of literature called "apocalyptic," which is full of bizarre visions, strange symbolism, and supernatural happenings. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature employs a vivid language that prevents outsiders to the faith from understanding its content. Overall, it is concerned with God's revelation about the end-time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

Hebrews 10:11-25

Since Jesus Christ offered himself as a sacrifice so that sinners, cleansed by his blood, might have life, our life together should be marked by confidence, assurance, hope and encouragement.

Mark 13:1-8

In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

Brief reflection on the readings for Sunday:

We often hear that we are living in dangerous times. In such times, especially when there is so much transition and change people look for security in Biblical texts. Often this leads people to search for easy answers for events that we cannot control. The gospel for this coming Sunday has been often twisted into a "proof text" for current events. This is true for the Book of

Daniel's passage as well. Some religious leaders try to read into newspaper headlines a doomsday picture of the future, making predictions in order to sway frightened people. Anxious times breed a search for easy answers. Peter, James, John, and Andrew are anxious disciples. They have just heard Jesus announce that the temple, the center of religious life, will be destroyed. What's more, their teacher has talked about his own death several times on their journey to Jerusalem. So, these anxious disciples want to know when this will all occur. Jesus replies in a nonanxious manner. "Do not be alarmed." He does not speak about destruction, but rather birth. The end is really about something new breaking forth, the new creation, the reign of God in its fullness. For the Christian, the future is always full of hope, no matter what current events are transpiring.

Let us pray.....:

For those in need of healing and comfort: Family and friends of +John Kovacs+; Pastor Andy Ballentine, (Glenn and Rae Carlson's pastor); Veronica Serrano, recovering at home; Sue Hough, recovering at home; Faye Holmes, (mother of Sue Hough) cancer reoccurrence; Margaret (friend of the Schiess' and Tim Carlsons), lung cancer; Helga Furnes, receiving treatments; Andy, father of a member, prostate cancer; Kenneth Volek, relative of Arlene Juliano; Mary Curtis, friend of Trudi Black's, breast cancer; Christine Lawrence, friend of Eileen Remlin's, breast cancer; Joy Kotrch, (Ken Furnes' cousin), pancreatic cancer; Ty Bordenet, (friend of Eric Dreher's daughter), seriously injured in a motorcycle accident; Bob Wesche, now at home; Peg Wesche, Giant Cell Temporal arteritis; Raymond Plouffe, husband of Lynn Heim's co-worker; Kay Inderdohnen, former Monroe Town Clerk, lung cancer; Linda Pleva; June Mora; Sarah Mora; Victor Poklemba, brother of Helen Steinnagel, brain cancer; Jean McKinnon (metastasized breast cancer) and her husband Alex (friends of the Jacksons); Arlene Juliano, pain management; Judy Thomas, Beno's neighbor, mass on kidney; Bill Giarla (friend of Billie Flaherty), Lou Gehrig's disease, Ellie Ferguson, Wegener's vasculitis; Frank, prostate cancer

For peace with justice for all peoples of the Middle East.

Happenings at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church this week and beyond:

Monday, November 13	Confirmation Class – Test on Ten Commandments	7:00 PM
Tuesday, November 14	The Lutheran Course – “How to Share your Faith” Final Session of the Lutheran Course	7:00 PM
Thursday, November 16	Bell Choir Senior Choir	6:45 PM 7:30 PM
Saturday, November 18	“Integrating New Members Workshop” Concordia Lutheran Church, Manchester, CT	9:30-3:30 PM
Sunday, November 19	Pentecost 24 Services at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Sunday School at 9:15 AM	

Special Presentation by Intern Joshua Rinas on Fair Trade Marketing 9:15 AM (See next page for details!)

This Sunday, November 19th, Joshua Rinas will make his second of two presentations on The Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade Coffee Project. Joshua traveled to Nicaragua in 2004 and observed the economics of coffee first-hand on a Study Tour co-sponsored by LWR and Equal Exchange. Plan to join him during the Sunday School hour in the narthex for this interesting and challenging presentation. A description of this Sunday's presentation follows.

Fair Trade, Coffee, and Nicaragua: Sunday, November 19 @ 9:15 AM
"Coffee: A Taste of Justice"

What does the Fair Trade farm, farmer, and production look like? How good can coffee and justice taste? See the wonders of the Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade Coffee Project! Taste wonderful Fair Trade coffee – samples from all over the world!!

Shepherd's Pantry supplies non-perishable food items for the Monroe Food Pantry. The requested items for the month of November are: stuffing and potatoes (fresh, canned or boxes of instant mashed potatoes).

The Youth Group is conducting a **cell phone drive** to donate to the battered women's shelter. This drive will run through the end of December. Thank you for your support.

The Youth Group is also collecting hats, mittens, and gloves for the Salvation Army. A box for your donations is located in the narthex. Thank you for your generosity.

*Lord God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, always keeping in mind the end of all things and the day of judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of life here and may live with you forever in the world to come, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord..
Amen*

Pastor Bryan A. Leone