

FROM THE PASTOR

Spiritual Welfare

"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare (Isaiah 55:1-2).

In these hard times, more and more people are in need of assistance. The COVID-19 crisis has taken an emotional toll on many people. The economy has been struggling and many people are without jobs or their means of income has diminished significantly.

Our government has programs to help people through these times of crisis. We call these programs "welfare." But as beneficial as these programs are, we all know that the government cannot meet all our needs.

Did you know God has a welfare program? As our Creator, God looks after everything and everyone he has made, providing all we need for life here on earth. He makes it possible for us to have food, clothing, house, home, medical care, protection from crime and disaster. Everything blessing which we have comes from God. But God also provides for our spiritual well-being.

Pride sometimes keeps people from getting the assistance they need. They'd rather go hungry than take help from someone else. When it comes to God's welfare program, we can't afford nor do we have any reason to be proud. By nature, we are all desperate sinners. We have nothing with which to buy God's love or forgiveness. The sin that stains us from birth makes it so that we could never hope to have a place in God's heaven. From the moment we were conceived we were poor, miserable and hell-bound, destined to live out our days on earth in spiritual poverty.

But God changed all that. Jesus, the Prince of Peace took the place of us spiritual paupers and earned us the riches of God's grace. With the time he spent on earth he bought each one of us enough righteousness to be as holy as God himself and with the horrors he suffered in hell, he paid for all the sin charged to our name.

So where do we sign up for God's welfare? We don't! There are no forms to complete and no criteria to meet. In the same love that sent Jesus, God just hands it all out to everyone through his gospel in Word and Sacrament. That's what he's telling us in these verses from Isaiah. God's love and forgiveness are paid for by Christ so we "buy" them for nothing. They come to us free of charge as often as we "tune in" to the Word of Christ.

Do you feel overwhelmed by all the troubles that our world is going through? Have you been working hard but feel like you're getting nowhere? Does your conscience thirst for some peace? Are you hungry for a more fulfilling relationship with God? He has so much to give you. Make some time to meet with him in his Word. Take some time to listen to what he has to say. Choose a time in your day to read the Scriptures. Participate in a Bible class. Make weekly worship a top priority in your life. You won't be sorry. Your soul will delight in the richest of fare. That's a promise – from God himself!

-- Pastor Kehren

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Worship is on Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am.

Beginning in October we are planning to livestream our Sunday morning service on the internet.

It is important for our life of faith to gather for worship as the Scriptures tell us (Hebrews 10:25) so that we can encourage each other and be encouraged in Christian living. At the same time, we want to be concerned for each other's health and well-being so we follow proper health and safety protocols.

If you are coming to worship, please register for in advance by e-mail (secretary@jerusalemlutheran.org) or phone (847-965-4750). If you get the voice mail, please leave a message indicating which service you wish to attend and how many are coming.

ONLINE WORSHIP

We plan to begin live streaming of our worship on Sunday mornings. Go to www.jerusalemlutheran.org and click on the YouTube or Facebook icon link. Please also subscribe to our YouTube channel to give us more visibility on the internet. Just click the subscribe button when you are on our YouTube channel.

STREAMING OUR SERVICES

Do you have an interest in video recording? We are looking for people to help with recording our Sunday service so we can livestream them. If the Lord has blessed you with this interest, please contact Chiseon Kim to learn more ckim@jerusalemlutherschool.org

CALL RETURNED

Pastor Kehren has returned his call to St. Paul's First Lutheran, North Hollywood, CA and will remain at Jerusalem. Thank you for the prayers and advice you gave. Keep St. Paul's First in your prayers as they wait for a pastor.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our next congregational/voters meeting will be Sunday, October 25th after the 10:30 am service. No food will be offered and we will practice social distancing. It will be held in the church sanctuary.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

Sunday morning in-person Bible class has resumed. We will shorten the time a bit to avoid crowding before second service. Class will run from 9:15 am until no later than 10:00 am. We will have 7th graders on up join the adult class. We will study the parables of Jesus.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will also have a video Sunday school class produced by NPH for any younger children who attend. If you are bringing a child to Sunday School on Sunday mornings, let us know so we know how many to prepare. NPH is also providing online Sunday School videos for parents to use at home at their convenience. Contact the church office by phone or e-mail if you would like the at-home Sunday School materials. The lessons focus on Old Testament stories.

ECCLESIASTES

WEDNESDAY ZOOM BIBLE CLASS

We have started a new Bible class series on the book of Ecclesiastes called "Living a Life that Matters." Ecclesiastes shows us how meaningless life is without God, but also how God and his blessings give us true meaning and purpose. We will meet over Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 7 pm to 8 pm. A link will be e-mailed on Tuesdays.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Chrissy Botten and her children Anastasia, Zoe, and William have become members of Jerusalem Church.

Chrissy and her husband, Dan, are Morton Grove residents. Anastasia and Zoe attend Jerusalem school.

Daylight Saving Time 2020

ends Sunday, November 1



THANK YOU, PASTOR KEHREN

We are thankful that God provides us with pastors. Jeremiah 3:15 - Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding. Pastor Kehren recently celebrated his 25th year in the ministry. Our Jerusalem family would like to thank him for his service and express our appreciation.

In the words of Martin Luther,

To support or protect a poor, pious pastor is an act that makes no show and looks like a small thing.....Meanwhile my pastor, who does not glitter, is practicing the virtue that increases God's kingdom, fills heaven with saints, plunders hell, robs the devil, wards off death, represses sin, instructs and comforts everyone in the world according to their station in life, preserves peace and unity, raises fine young folk, and plants all kinds of virtue in the people. In a word, he is making a new world! He builds not a poor, temporary house, but an eternal and beautiful Paradise, in which God himself is glad to dwell. A pious prince or lord who supports or protects such a pastor can have a part in all this. Indeed, this whole work and all the fruits of it are his, as though he had done it all himself, because without his protection and support the pastor could not abide. Therefore no mountain of gold or silver in a land can be compared with this treasure. (From Luther's *Commentary on Psalm 82* Luther's Works 13:52-53)

1 Timothy 5:17 reminds us to appreciate our pastor when it says "those whose work is preaching and teaching" are "worthy of double honor"



Pastor Kehren's installation at Bethlehem Lutheran, Manassas, Virginia



School News

In-Person Learning Continues

Jerusalem faculty, staff, students, and parents are all working together to navigate this different and difficult school year. We are all wearing masks and keeping socially distant. We continue to strive to keep everyone healthy and safe!



Preschoolers enjoyed an outdoor exercise session led by a preschool parent. They did some stretches and fun animal poses while enjoying a beautiful day!

Eagles of the week

Students are selected by faculty members to be recognized as Eagles of the week. Students in preschool through 8th grade are chosen based on their Christ-like attitude and academic effort.

Congratulations to our first Eagles of the week for this school year:

- Ellen McGuire
- Ryan Jackson
- Eunae Ra
- Matthew Chalabi
- Ninib Gorgis
- Claire Benemerito
- Ahri Koh
- Jesse Ceriale
- Grace Vo



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor Jonathan Kehren
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Worship Schedule

Sunday 8:00 am and 10:30 am
Online Worship on Facebook and YouTube

*“Our purpose is to serve all people
with the gospel of Jesus Christ on
the basis of Holy Scripture”*

School Sign Fundraising

As you can see in this picture, we are excited to be able to incorporate our new logo into the design! The sign is being manufactured over the next couple of months and we hope to have it **installed around Thanksgiving**. We are very close to having this paid in full. We still need ~\$9k in donations to avoid taking out a loan. We know many of our families are struggling during this challenging time. If you are able to donate toward the sign (above your normal giving), please give it prayerful consideration. This sign will serve as the first opportunity to create awareness to neighbors about the Lord's wonderful gracious gift of salvation offered at Jerusalem Lutheran Church & School.

REMINDER: Make any checks payable to Jerusalem Lutheran School. If you have questions, please contact

