



1Thessalonians 5:13-15

Rise and Shine

13 and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another. 14 We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15 See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.

Plymouth Lutheran Church
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Pastor Joel Baker February 2022
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From the Pastor's Office

As we recently took a look at the beginnings of Jeremiah's call into ministry directly from the Lord. In doing so there becomes the recognition that God not only created us but He has written in His book all the days of our lives-before we were even born! That's one reason why it's so terrible to abort babies whose life God had already planned for. It's the reason any kind of loss of life is a tragedy-it puts an end to God's plan for that person and what they are to accomplish for His purposes. (**Jeremiah 1:4-5**) "Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, And before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations... Because everywhere I send you, you shall go, And all that I command you, you shall speak. "Do not be afraid of them, For I am with you to deliver you," declares the LORD."

The Lord Jesus, as well as God the Father, and the Holy Spirit join us in our daily journey of trials and delights, strengthening us, guiding us, and giving us hope just when there appears to be no possible hope. Turn to Jesus regularly and often for the guidance and hope you need.

Shalom2u!

Pastor Joel

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February at PLC



Celebrate Our Congregation February Birthdays:

Sharon	Wahala	2/2
Henry	Wempen	2/4
Pietro	Serazzi	2/9
Sue	Jukuri	2/19
Kevin	Myrmel	2/20
Pam	Bielinski	2/20
Larry	Walters	2/23
Ryan	Rintala	2/24
Nicole	Bartell	2/26

February Anniversaries:

Save The Date

Easter Season starts with
Ash Wednesday on March 2nd, 2022

Sundays:

- 6, 13, 20, 27** 9:15am Sunday School/Bible study
10:30am Worship service
also via YouTube & FB live
11:30am Coffee Fellowship
- 6** 11:45pm Movie Afternoon
- 20** 10:30am Worship service with
Communion
- 27** 11:40am Abbreviated Communion

Tuesdays:

- 8** 5:45pm Mission Committee meeting
6:30pm Board of Trustees meeting

Wednesdays:

- 2** 9:30am Men's & Ladies Breakfast @
Perkins HWY 55 & 494
6:30pm Bible Study @ the church
- 9, 16, 23** 9:30am Women's Bible Study
6:30pm Bible Study @ the church
"What Jesus Demands from the World"

Fridays: 9:00pm Esko Ski Weekend Begins

Saturdays:

- 12** 9:30am Ladies Saturday Bible Study



Don't look for a better tomorrow or even a better 2022!

God does not make this better! He makes all things New!





THE WORD, A SWEET GIFT

My grandparents were caught in the turmoil of the Russian Revolution when it broke out in 1917. Emil Edvard Saarnivaara was pastor of a church in Ingria, an area surrounding St. Petersburg. It was populated by descendants of Finnish Lutherans who had migrated there in the late 1600s. The clergy were particularly targeted as enemies of the Revolution, many being imprisoned and even killed. The Bolshevik leader Vladimiroff came to Grandfather daily, threatening to have him shot that day. He was even arrested several times and imprisoned. One night, as he returned from visiting a sick parishioner, militia surrounded the house. Grandfather managed to escape to the roof, where he hid in a chimney. He prayed: *...call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.* (Ps. 50:15) The militiamen searched the house but did not investigate the chimney; and after they left, Grandfather fled through the forests to Finland, nearly 20 miles away. Shortly afterwards, my grandmother loaded the children into a horse-drawn wagon, and the family miraculously escaped with the aid of sympathetic parishioners along the way.

At the end of the 1960s a foreign couple showed up at a church service in Helsinki, Finland. It turned out that they were Ingrians who had been deported to Siberia in the 1930s. Their faith held fast in all of their trials and sufferings; and surprisingly, they were now allowed to visit Finland. My parents invited them to stay in their apartment. Many other Christians showered them with kindness, and they were blessed spiritually.

Before the Ingrians left, they were asked what they would like to have by way of remembering their Finland visit. The man picked up a Bible from the table, stroked it longingly, and replied, "If only we could have our own Bible, we would be happy." His wife tearfully sighed, "We don't dare take a Bible. We would be arrested at the border." And so they left for their return journey without their dearest wish being fulfilled.

A group of people gathered at the railroad station to see the Ingrians off on the Moscow train. They were handed a parting gift: a box of the finest Finnish chocolates wrapped in cellophane. This they accepted gratefully.

There was an anxious period of awaiting word from the Ingrians. At last a letter arrived from Siberia with the message: "The chocolates did not melt on the way." Thus they knew that Customs had not detected the Bible in the box of chocolates. What rejoicing and praising God there was among the givers!

Do we, in this land of religious freedom, treasure God's Word like these precious persecuted believers did?

I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you (Ps. 119:10-11)

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. (Psalm 119:105)

(By Aila Foltz, published in The Lutheran Ambassador 2018)

*It is in the process of being worshipful that
God communicates His presence to me.*

C.S. Lewis

Lenten Services 2022 @ 7pm

A Lenten Journey with Joseph

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
Mar 2 nd	Ash Wednesday Service The Genesis of Joseph Gen 30:22-24
Mar 9 th	“A Wondrous Silence” Gen 37:12-36; Luke 22:14-30
Mar 16 th	“A Miracle of Miracles” Gen 39:1-21; Luke 22:31-51
Mar 23 rd	Wait for the Lord Gen 41:9-16; Luke 22:52-71
Mar 30 th Conscience	Chased by a Dirty Gen 42:6-24; Luke 23:1-25
Apr 6 th	God Does Have a Plan Gen 45:1-15; Luke 23:26-47 Forgiveness Finished Gen 50:15-21; John 19:30
Apr 10 th	Palm Sunday
Apr 14	Maunday Thursday Passover Service (TBA)
Apr 15 th	Good Friday Tenebrae Service @ 7:00pm
Apr 17 th	Easter Morning Service

It's in the Valleys I Grow

by Tracy Mayfield

Sometimes life seems hard to bear,
Full of sorrow, trouble and woe
It's then we have to remember,
That it's in the valleys we grow.

If we always stayed on the mountain top,
And never experienced pain,
We would never appreciate God's love,
And would be living in vain.

We have so much to learn,
And our growth is very slow,
Sometimes we need the mountain tops,
But it's in the valleys we grow.

We do not always understand,
Why things happen as they do,
But I am very sure of one thing.
My Lord will see me through.

The little valleys are nothing,
When we picture Christ on the cross
He went through the valley of death;
His victory was Satan's loss.

Forgive me Lord, for complaining
When I'm feeling so very low.
Just give me a gentle reminder
That it's in the valleys I grow.

Continue to strengthen me, Lord
And use my life each day
To share your love with others
And help them find their way.

Thank you for the valleys, Lord
For this one thing I know
The Mountain tops are glorious
But it's in the valleys I grow!