

Christ Lutheran Church

127 N. Spring St., Klamath Falls, OR 97601

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November 2017

The Ninth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

Catechism Explanation

We should fear and love God, so that we do not craftily seek to gain our neighbor's inheritance or home, nor get it by a show of right, but help and serve him in keeping it.

The Tenth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is his.

Catechism Explanation

We should fear and love God, so that we do not tempt, force or coax away from our neighbor his wife or his workers, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

When Pompeii was being excavated, a body was found that had been embalmed by the ashes of Vesuvius in 79 AD. It was the body of a woman. Her feet were turned toward the city gate, as if to flee the volcano, but her face was turned back to something that lay just beyond her outstretched hands. The prize for which those frozen fingers were reaching was a bag of pearls. Though death was hard at her heels, and life called to her beyond the city gates, she coveted those pearls. The price she paid was her life.

1 Timothy 6:6-7 reminds us: *"Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out."*

The opposite of godliness with contentment is greed and covetousness. To covet means to have a strong craving or lust for something God has not intended to give us or has forbidden.

Eve, together with Adam, ate the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. She coveted wisdom and becoming like God (Genesis 3:5-6).

King Ahab wanted Naboth's vineyard, but Naboth did not wish to sell his family inheritance. In his covetous desire, the King had Naboth falsely charged and killed, so he could get his property (1 Kings 21:1-16).

David lusted after Bathsheba. He coveted another man's wife. David arranged for Uriah's death on the

front lines of battle so he could take Bathsheba as his wife (2 Samuel 11:2-4).

God's Word warns that coveting leads to death. Adam's sin of coveting the forbidden fruit resulted in death for all; for we all share his sinful nature (Romans 5:12). *"But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death"* (James 1:14-15). Covetous desire leads to all manner of breaking God's commands; and unrepented sin brings eternal death.

Many people are living like that woman in Pompeii. Death is coming, yet they are grasping for life and meaning in the world's passing treasures and pleasures. But Mark 8:36 says: *"What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"*

The only remedy for our sinful coveting and death is God's gift of forgiveness and eternal life in Christ. Consider how strongly God desires to have us for His own. In order to save us from sin, death, and hell, God did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all. On the cross, Jesus paid with His own life to win our forgiveness and eternal life. We can be confident that, along with the priceless treasure of His Son, God will freely give us all things that we need (Romans 8:32).

When we know the boundless love of God for us in Christ, we can have true godliness with contentment. Psalm 37:4 says: *"Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart."* As we delight our souls in God's grace and the unfading riches of His heavenly kingdom (1 Peter 1:4), we can sing in the hymn, "Jesus, Priceless Treasure":

Hence, all earthly treasure!

Jesus is my Pleasure;

Jesus is my Choice.

Hence, all empty glory!

Naught to me thy story

Told with tempting voice.

Pain or loss

Or shame or cross

Shall not from my Savior move me

Since He deigns to love me.

In the riches of His grace,

Pastor Glenn Smith

“A Thankful Thanksgiving in Jesus”

(A newsletter of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod's Board for Home Outreach)



As Thanksgiving approaches, and especially on Thanksgiving Day, individuals and families reflect on what they have to be thankful for in the past year.

There are many families that have had significant events that have taken place. For instance, a loved one who was in serious condition and was not expected to survive; but with God's guiding grace, the doctors and the nurses were able to pull them through. Or perhaps the family that by the grace of God survived a head on collision with only minor injuries.

There are also many families and individuals that have had just an "ordinary" year. They too were blessed by God's loving hand as He provide for their daily needs.

All of God's children can give thanks for the blessing that God provides in this earthly life. Not a single one is forgotten; we learn from God's Word that he watches over every aspect of our lives, even the minutest details, for "even the hairs of your head are all numbered" (Matthew 10:30).

Dr. Martin Luther explained it this way. Included in our daily blessing are "everything needed for this life, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, fields, cattle, money, goods, God-fearing spouse and children, faithful servants and rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, order, honor, true friends, good neighbors, and the like." (Small Catechism)

Everyone has much to be thankful for! The Apostle Paul reminds us in his letter to the Colossians: "Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." (Colossians 3:17)

However, far above and beyond giving thanks for the earthly blessings that God daily provides are the spiritual blessings that God blesses us with. We are to be especially thankful for the gift of His dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Out His great love for us, Jesus came and lived among us. He lived a perfectly sinless life in our place. And at the appointed time, He shed His holy blood on the cross as He died paying for the sins of the world. Those who believe in Him enjoy the forgiveness of all their sins, and can live with a clean conscience, and will be with Him and all who believe in heaven for eternity.

Yes, we have much to be thankful for, more than we can ever imagine. Join us this Thanksgiving as we praise God, giving thanks for all blessings!

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>“Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.”</i></p> <p><i>Psalm 106:1</i></p>			<p>1 <i>All Saints Day</i></p> <p>Jesus' Little Lambs Preschool Program 10:00 AM</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jesus Cares Ministry 2:00 PM</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 <i>All Saints Sunday</i></p> <p>Worship with Communion 9:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM</p> <p>Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM</p> <p>Luther Movie: "A Return to Grace" 2:30 PM (in the fellowship hall)</p>	<p>6</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday</i> Gerry Hasskamp</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Jesus' Little Lambs Preschool Program 10:00 AM</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>9</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday</i> Bobbie Hauck</p>	<p>10</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday</i> Clark Pederson</p>	<p>11</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday</i> Nick Tousey</p>
<p>12 <i>Last Judgment</i></p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM</p> <p>Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday Sue Eberlein</i></p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Council Meeting 5:00 PM</p>	<p>15</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday</i> Jan Hughes</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>16</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday</i> JoAnn Teigland</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CLWMS Women's Meeting 3:30 PM</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 <i>Saints Triumphant</i></p> <p>Worship with Communion 9:30 AM</p> <p>Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM</p> <p>Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>23 <i>Thanksgiving</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday</i> Vicky Banta</p> <p>Thanksgiving Service 9:30 AM</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 <i>Christ the King</i></p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Anniversary</i> Virgil & JoAnn Teigland</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>30</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Birthday</i> Gayle Adams</p>		

**Christ Lutheran Church
127 North Spring Street
Klamath Falls, OR 97601**

November 2017 Newsletter

You Are Invited!

**At this 500th year anniversary
of the Lutheran Reformation**

**A movie about the life and work
of Martin Luther: “A Return to Grace:
Luther’s Life and Legacy.”**

**Showing at Christ Lutheran Church
Sunday, November 5th
2:30 PM in the fellowship hall**

