

Christ Lutheran Church

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

(541) 884-1635 www.lutherankf.org

June 2018

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:28-29)

Jesus' words have comforted many a soul, weary and burdened with the crosses and trials of life. We seek rest and relief when we are weighed down with poor health, loss of a loved one, struggling finances, disappointment, rejection... Jesus promises rest for our souls, now and forever.

The rest He gives begins with removing our sin. Sin is our soul's heaviest burden before God. Our conscience tells us that because of the wrongs we have done, all is not right. We have lived with self-serving attitudes, not always doing what we ought toward God and people around us. Guilt is an unbearable burden. Sin would weigh our soul down to hell apart from rest with God forever. But God's Son willingly took that burden from us. On the cross He took the punishment and death our sin deserved, to give us God's gift of forgiveness and eternal life.

Now Jesus invites us: *"Take My yoke upon you... and you will find rest for your souls."* By faith in Jesus, we are yoked together with Him in eternal life, our souls enjoying rest in God's favor. This puts a new perspective on our daily lives and even our burdens. We have taken up our cross to follow Jesus through this world, heavenward. We can submit to His will, even in painful times. We can bear suffering and hardship for His name and truth. For through it all, we know that no cross or trial can ever separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:35-39).

Think about it. When God's Son came into our human flesh, even He experienced trouble, poverty, and weakness. He was *"despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief"* (Isaiah 53:3). When things looked the darkest, as Jesus bore His heavy cross, scorned by the world, yet God was working it all for eternal good. Through it, God brought us victory over sin, death and Satan.

Rest assured, the soul that is joined with God's Son in eternal life is in good hands. The Savior who gave His life for us, lives and loves us with infinite love. Though He has all authority and power over heaven and earth; yet, He is *"gentle and lowly in heart"* as ever. When our cross feels heavy, He understands like no one else. He is here, working it all for our good. In the words of Paul Gerhardt's hymn:

Why should cross and trial grieve me?
Christ is near With His cheer;
Never will He leave me.
Who can rob me of the heaven
That God's Son For my own
To my faith hath given?

Though a heavy cross I'm bearing
And my heart Feels the smart,
Shall I be despairing?
God, my Helper, who doth send it,
Well doth know All my woe
And how best to end it.

Through our trials, we learn from Him. When Jesus faced His trial and cross, He looked up to His Father and prayed, "*Thy will be done.*" So He teaches us to look up and pray with trust. In our weakness, He leads us to look to His unfailing strength for us. What harm can come to us, if our trials have served to bring us nearer to Him and His Word of promise? Right here, in His loving care, our souls have found true rest.

Lord, my Shepherd, take me to Thee.
Thou art mine; I was Thine,
Even ere I knew Thee.
I am Thine, for Thou hast bought me;
Lost I stood, But Thy blood
Free salvation brought me.

Thou art mine; I love and own Thee.
Light of Joy, Ne'er shall I
From my heart dethrone Thee
Savior, let me soon behold Thee
Face to face; May Thy grace
Evermore enfold me! Amen.

In His loving care,
Pastor Smith

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<p><i>“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28</i></p>					1	2	
<p>3 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i></p> <p>Worship with Communion 9:30 AM</p> <p>Voters' Meeting and Potluck After church</p> <p>Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM</p>	4	5	6	7	8	9	
			<p><i>Happy Birthday Ashlyn Smith</i></p>			<p><i>Happy Birthday Kelly Ruiz</i></p>	
<p>10 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</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>	11	12	13	14	15	16	
				<p>CLWMS Activity at Rogue River Place 2:30 PM</p>			
<p>17 <i>4th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>Father's Day</i></p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM</p> <p><i>Happy Anniversary Pastor & Maria Smith</i></p>	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	<p><i>Happy Birthday Margaret Howard</i></p>			<p><i>Happy Birthday Barbara Walker</i></p>	<p><i>Happy Anniversary Randy & Jackie Bednar</i></p>		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Evangelical Lutheran Synod Convention – Mankato, MN</td> </tr> </table>				Evangelical Lutheran Synod Convention – Mankato, MN		
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<p>24 <i>5th Sunday after Pentecost</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>	25	26	27	28	29	30	
						<p><i>Happy Birthday Nicole Banta</i></p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Dale Hauck</i></p>	

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