

Christ Lutheran Church

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

(541) 884-1635 www.lutherankf.org

October 2020

“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

“That we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.” In a year like 2020, who of us would not want this? Given all the troubles related to COVID, and the controversy over how it should be handled; then the tumult over injustice and violence in the streets; along with ongoing tensions felt in a politically and socially divided America – certainly, we could wish for a quiet and peaceable life.

In a time like this, the Holy Spirit inspired words of Paul encourage us to lift our hearts to God in prayer for godly peace: *“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.”*

God wants us to pray for all people – from those in highest positions of leadership to those in lowest places. This is what we do in our Prayer of the Church, for example, as we pray for our country: “Prosper what is good among us and bring to naught every evil counsel and purpose. Protect and bless Your servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this state, our judges and magistrates and all in authority. Fit them for their high calling by the gift of Your Spirit of wisdom and fear, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence” (*Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary*, p. 48)

In praying this, it does not matter whether we agree with those in office. We pray this because we recognize the truth of Romans 13:1: *“For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.”* As such, we pray for all in authority, that they may be led to fulfill the duties of their office according to the will of Him who appoints them, for the good of all.

For that matter, when God's Word instructs us to pray for *“all men”* it includes, not only friends, those with whom we can easily agree; but even enemies, those whose beliefs and ways are ungodly and irreverent. Jesus taught us to do so (Matthew 5:44). Again in the Prayer of the Church, we intercede for those who are lost in sin and error: *“In mercy remember the enemies of Your Church and grant them repentance unto life.”*

Here we are coming to the true source of a *“quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.”* It has nothing to do with the politics and policies of man, which can only affect outward peace to some extent. It has everything to do with the Word and promises of God, which alone can bring inward peace to souls, through His Gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ.

As God's Word instructs to pray for *“all men... and all who are in authority,”* this is our paramount concern. We pray that God would maintain godly peace and order, that His Gospel may proceed freely, and more and more souls may come to know His true and everlasting peace in Jesus Christ.

As we pray for this, we know it is the will of God, as it is written: *“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”*

And as we pray, we have that saving truth to share with all people. It is the good news that God has sent His Son to save sinners. Sin causes division and enmity between us and the holy God. But in love, He sent His Son to the cross to take away all our sin. As it goes on to say in 1 Timothy 2:5-6: *“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all.”* God has paid the price for our sins by the blood of His Son. In Christ, He has reconciled us to Himself in peace, giving us His forgiveness and eternal life.

In our troubled times, as we pray in the name of Jesus *“that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence,”* what an amazing message of peace we have to share with all people!

In His saving truth and everlasting peace,
Pastor Smith

Rescuing the Lost!

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. government ordered 110,000 people of Japanese descent into internment camps. Yet when offered the chance to join the Army, many Japanese Americans jumped at the opportunity to prove their loyalty. Hundreds ended up in the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team, a Japanese American unit that saw some of the hardest fighting of WWII.

Perhaps their finest hour came in October 1944 in the Vosges Mountains of France, where the Germans had surrounded 211 U.S. soldiers on a ridge top. *“Medical supplies low, no rations for three days... need ammunition,”* the desperate Americans radioed. News reports called surrounded soldiers the “Lost Battalion.” The 100th/442nd got orders to save them.

The men started into the hills in darkness so thick, each grasped the man ahead to keep from losing the way. As they climbed the steep, forested slopes, the Germans opened fire. *“I had never seen men get cut down so fast, so furiously,”* one GI remembered. They pushed forward a yard at a time.

Two days later, on October 29, the exhausted soldiers charged up the slope they dubbed “Suicide Hill” in a last effort to break the German line. *“I didn’t think about dying,”* a private later said. *“I had a job to do.”* On October 30 the men of the Lost Battalion saw Americans where Germans had been. The 100th/442nd had arrived... the Americans were saved!

“I had never seen men get cut down so fast, so furiously.” Those are haunting words, and they remind us of another battle in which not a few, but everyone was cut down so fast, and it happened in the Garden of Eden.

When Adam and Eve disobediently ate the forbidden fruit, they were spiritually cut down immediately... and like a slow acting poison, that sin ultimately led to their physical death as well.

With Adam’s bite, sin came into the world and became a part of all people’s very nature.

Indeed, David tells us in Psalm 51 that at the moment of our conception, all people are cut down by the inherited sin that brings spiritual and physical death.

All of humanity was trapped *on the ridge top*, surrounded by sin and death, with no hope of their own of ever breaking free of their certain and eternal doom.

But God, in His incredible love, took pity upon the lost, and sent the only regiment that could save mankind from an eternity in hell. And that regiment was made up of just one man; the God-Man Jesus Christ.

God’s one and only Son came down from heaven on a mission: to live a perfect life, to die for the sins of all people, and to rise from the grave victorious!

Like the 100th/442nd, Jesus Christ also had *a job to do!* He served as the second Adam, who never once succumbed to the devil’s temptations; whose perfect life and innocent death, along with His resurrection from the tomb, brought forgiveness, new life, and life everlasting to all who would believe in Him!

Scripture is clear: *“All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God”* and *“the wages of sin is death, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD.”* (Romans 3:23, 6:23).

Repent of your sins, believe in Christ for your forgiveness and salvation, and receive the life He has to give!



(From our Evangelical Lutheran Synod's Board for Home Missions)

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>“Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”</i> <i>(1 Timothy 2:1-4)</i></p>				<p>1 <i>Happy Birthday Cade Harrington</i></p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	2	3
<p>4 <i>Pentecost 18</i></p> <p>Radio Program 8:30 AM (KAGO 1150 AM) Worship with Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM</p>	5	<p>6</p> <p>Pastors' Meeting (Myrtle Creek)</p>	7	<p>8</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	9	10
<p>11 <i>Pentecost 19</i></p> <p>Radio Program 8:30 AM (KAGO 1150 AM) Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM</p>	12	13	14	<p>15</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	16	17
<p>18 <i>Pentecost 20</i></p> <p>Radio Program 8:30 AM (KAGO 1150 AM) Worship with Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM</p>	19	20	21	<p>22</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	23	24
<p>25 <i>Pentecost 21</i></p> <p>Radio Program 8:30 AM (KAGO 1150 AM) Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM <i>Happy Birthday Neal Eberlein</i></p>	26	<p>27</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Steven Caldwell</i></p> <p><i>Happy Birthday William Morrow</i></p>	28	<p>29</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>30</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Virgil Teigland</i></p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>Reformation Day</i></p>

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