

The Crestview Lutheran

Newsletter

May, 2022

Our Savior Evangelical
Lutheran Church



Inside this issue:

From the Pastor	2
From the Deaconess	5
Board of Christian Life	6
From the Treasurer	7
Lectionary	8
From the Trustee	9
From LWML	11

“And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were watching, and a cloud took Him up, out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, then behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them, and they said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.”
Acts 1:9-11

For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

-M. Luther, SC

From the Pastor

Liturgical Thought

Explanation and Guide to the Lutheran Liturgy ¹

The Mass (Holy Communion) or Why is Holy Communion Sometimes called Mass?

“We are unjustly accused of having abolished the Mass. Without boasting, it is manifest that the Mass is observed among us with greater devotion and more earnestness than among our opponents. Moreover, the people are instructed often and with great diligence concerning the Holy Sacrament, why it was instituted, and how it is to be used (namely, as a comfort for terrified consciences) in order that the people may be drawn to the Communion and Mass. The people are also given instruction about other false teachings concerning the Sacra-

“...confessing Lutherans have not shunned the use of the term “Mass”, therefore we ought not be ashamed to use it, if only to distinguish ourselves from anyone who would deny that the Bread is truly Christ’s Body, and the Wine is truly His Blood.”

ment. Meanwhile no conspicuous changes have been made in the public ceremonies of the Mass, except that in certain places German hymns are sung in addition to the Latin responses for the instruction and exercise of the people. After all, the chief purpose of all ceremonies is to teach the people

what they need to know about Christ.” ²

So states the beginning paragraph of the German text of Article XXIV of the Augsburg Confession. We Lutherans have not abolished the Mass, in fact, we celebrate it more reverently than the Church of Rome! But why do we sometimes call Holy Communion the Mass?

To begin with, there are actually several different names for the service we call the Ser-

vice of the Holy Sacrament of the Altar. It is called Eucharist (from the Greek word for “thanksgiving”), the Holy Supper, Holy Communion, the Lord’s Sup-

per, and of course, Mass. In the earliest days of the Church it would have been known as “the breaking of the Bread” (cf. St. Luke 22:35; Acts 2:42, 46, 20:7, 11; 1 Corinthians 10:16).

The term “Mass” (or Latin, *missa*) is the term most widely used by Christendom. It has also become a stumbling block for many Protestants because of its association with the Church of Rome. The Lutheran Reformation renounced the Roman conduct and understanding of the Mass stating “The Mass in the papacy must be regarded as the greatest and most horrible abomination because it runs into direct and violent conflict with this fundamental article.”³

Yet, the context of this statement will determine what it is that is abominable about the Roman Mass, for Luther’s quote continues: “...it has been held that this sacrifice or work of the Mass, even though it be rendered by a wicked scoundrel, frees men from sins, both in this life and also in purgatory, while only the Lamb of God

shall and must do this.”⁴ From this, it is clear that what Luther opposed was the Roman idea of Mass as an act of man, essentially of re-sacrificing the Body of Christ for sins. For Rome the benefits of the Mass were effected by the work that the priest performed. For Luther and the Lutherans, the benefit was seen in the words,



“Given and shed for you for the remission of sins.” Thus in the Mass the Sacrament was to be received orally by the communicants in order for them to benefit from it. Yet the term

“Mass” was never abandoned on the Lutheran side. Indeed the Lutheran Confessions declare, “...we do not abolish the Mass but religiously keep and defend it. In our churches Mass is celebrated every Sunday and on other festivals, when the Sacrament is offered to those who wish for it after they have been examined and absolved. We keep traditional liturgical forms, such as the order of the lessons, prayers, vestments, etc..”⁵

Here, in America, the term

Continued on page 4

“Mass” has long been looked upon with no small amount of derision among many Lutherans, which likely stems from inadequate catechesis and a kind of “Romaphobia” which can be defined as an irrational bias against anything “Catholic.” This bias is unfortunate especially because it leads to the preference of tendencies and terms which are far more harmful and in more abundant use among churches and confessions which deny altogether the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament. Dr. C. F. W. Walther, founding father of the Missouri Synod, had this to say about such a bias: “It is a pity and dreadful cowardice when a person sacrifices the good ancient Church customs to please the deluded American sects, lest they accuse one of being papistic!”⁶

Since we agree that the Holy Sacrament is truly the Body and Blood of Christ—a point of agreement with Rome, and of disagreement with Methodists, Bap-

tists, and others—and since historically, confessing Lutherans have not shunned the use of the term “Mass”, therefore we ought not be ashamed to use it, if only to distinguish ourselves from anyone who would deny that the Bread is truly Christ’s Body, and the Wine is truly His Blood.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Father Parent

“...the Lutheran Confessions declare, “...we do not abolish the Mass but religiously keep and defend it.””

¹Much of this series on the Liturgy of the Church is found in *Why? A Layman’s Guide to the Liturgy*, by Rev. Burnell F. Eckardt Jr., Reprintation Press, (Malone, TX.), and first published in *Gottesdienst, The Journal of Lutheran Liturgy*, in a series by the same name between the years 1985-2005. Used by permission.

²Theodore G. Tappert, tr., ed., *The Book of Concord, The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1959), AC XXIV, The Mass (German) 56. Bold face is my own.

³Theodore G. Tappert, tr., ed., *The Book of Concord, The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1959), Smalcald Articles, II, [The Mass] 293. The “fundamental article” is the article of Justification by faith in Christ alone.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Ibid, *Apology to the Augsburg Confession*, XXIV, 1, 249.

⁶C. F. W. Walther, *Essays for the Church*, (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1992), 1:194.

From the Deaconess

The dear Lord has seen fit to allow me to have earned two degrees both of which lend to caring for others (Physician Assistant and Deaconess). For the past year, it has been my fervent prayer for guidance on how the knowledge I have been given in both areas can be used to benefit God's people. It is of great interest to me how God fearfully and wonderfully made man and the interdependency of spirit, mind, and body. It has begun to take shape to develop a health series which will address different health concerns from this lens.

This series, called "Wholly Living", is based on 1 Thess 5:23, "Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." In ending his letter with this, Paul reveals a central design in God's crowning creation, man.

We are created in three part: spirit, mind and body. Our Creator intends for all three parts to work together toward our sanctification until the coming of Christ when we will be made new and completely whole. Although, we will not reach perfection this side of heaven, we can live as healthy as possi-

ble for our own situation. Daily we make decisions that have profound effect on all three parts either for our benefit or detriment. "Wholly Living" looks at how God has designed our body, mind, and spirit, with each part benefitting the other in holy living.

This series will be largely directed toward women but there may be some subjects the men would also be interested. Men's health issues

"Wholly Living" Spirit · Mind · Body

will be addressed and adjusted accordingly in the Spiritual aspect (1 Tim 2). In addition to group dis-

cussions, I will be available for one-on-one consultations to discuss any medical issues you may have. Also, I will have installments in the Newsletter addressing various topics. The first presentation, COVID, A Study in Retrospect, will be on May 14th from 10-noon. Refreshments will be provided and there will be door prizes. My hope is these discussions will deeply benefit the people of God while enjoying fellowship with their fellow Christians.

Pax Christi,
Dcs. Heather

From the Board of Christian Life

Update on Adopt-A-Plant project:

The front and one side of the church, three sides of the parish hall, and the three crosses area have been refurbished. The total cost of \$1210 has been offset by \$982 in donations, leaving a \$228 deficit. When Brian Hull sets the next work days, we can address the incomplete areas: two sides of the church, plus the parking side of the parish hall. They mainly need cleaning up, but no major plantings are planned at this time.

Thanks to everyone who contributed funds, loaded and unloaded plants, pulled up over 50 clumps of monkey grass, meticulously cleaned out flower beds, dug over 50 holes, planted and transplanted plants, lugged and

spread heavy bags of dirt, donated and delivered pine straw, spread pine straw, swept sidewalks, and watered the new plantings several times a week. So grateful that God prepared this good work for His people at Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And that not of ourselves; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:8-10

In His service,
Jennifer Currid



LUTHERAN
PUBLIC RADIO

Sacred Music for the World

From the Treasurer

God continues to provide for the financial stability of OSELC through the leadership of our Pastor and by the hands and spirit of our generous membership.

Did you know that OSELC has an escrow fund that we use to offset some of our annual operating expenses? No, it's not a multi-million dollar endowment like Harvard University (I wish!). But it works like this:

At the beginning of each year, some members donate their entire annual contribution to our Operations Fund. I place that money into our savings account (so that it earns the maximum interest possible) and I account it separately from our "actual" savings. This is the "escrow fund." If a month's operating expenses exceed that month's donations, I transfer some of the escrow money to cover the expenses.

So, if you've ever wondered why we're transferring money from savings to our checking account: that's it. This was planned out as part of our annual budget

and doesn't mean that our "actual" savings are being depleted. They're not.

And some months, like April (thank you! And praise the Lord!), our monthly contributions exceed our expenses. In that case, I transfer the excess contributions back to escrow and build it up even more. Finally, at the end of the year, any leftover escrow is added to our "actual" savings (bringing the escrow fund balance to \$0) and we start the process all over again for the next year.

As always: it is my fervent desire that OSELC's financial operations and situation be as transparent as possible to each and every member. If you have any question, concern, or suggestion about our church finances, please do not hesitate to bring it to me. I will gladly speak with you about it.

God Bless,

Brian

From Grace Cafe

Grace cafe is picking up, but our volunteer cooks are having to stop cooking for a while due to surgery. I am praying hard for some volunteers during the actual surgeries and their recovery. So, please, if you have about an hour or two on Mondays around 2 pm to help unload the truck, I sure would appreciate it. Also, if you could, help cook one Tuesday a month during May and June, I would be very grateful.

Becky Williams

From the Board of Social Ministry

I am planning a dining out for May 20th at 6:00 pm at the Wursthau in Fort Walton. Would really appreciate a head count to make the reservations.

Becky Williams



Sunday's Readings

(Lectionary)

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel
May 1	Ez. 34:11-16	1 Pet 2:21-25	John 10:11-16
May 8	Is 40:25-31	1 Pet 2:11-20	John 16:16-22
May 15	Is 12:1-6	James 1:16-21	John 16:5-15
May 22	Num 21:4-9	1 Tim 2:1-6	John 16:23-33
May 26 (Thurs.)*	2 Kings 2:5-15	Acts 1:1-11	Mark 16:14-20
May 29	Ez 36:22-28	1 Pet 4:7-14	John 15:26-16:4

* There will be incense used during the Ascension Service

From the Board of Trustees

Wow! What a month April was. (I can just imagine your excitement as you read that. LOL) If you are willing to lead a project, work on one, or contribute in any other way, please let me know. And, if you've noticed something that needs attention which isn't on the list, please tell me and I'll add it.

Our Property Insurance company wants the Fellowship Hall soffits to be repaired. That job is now done.

Last year, I posted a list of projects that needed attention and everyone was very responsive to it. So, I'm going to post another one!

I am asking for a workday on May 7. The project-of-the-day will be to install new gutters and downspouts on the north side (parking lot side) of the Sanctuary building. Thank you in advance for all your help.

God Bless,
Brian



From the Board of Security

Reminder!

If you are the last to leave the premises, please check all doors to assure they are closed securely and locked.

Thank you!
Julie Blaylok

Getting Around OSELC

Flower sign up—Sign up poster in the fellowship hall

Refreshments sign up - Sign up sheet in the fellowship hall

Directories—on the back counter in the nave (where Service is held)

LWML mite boxes—on the back counter shelf in the nave

Serve as chairman of a board—See Alex Franco

Serve on a board—See that board's chairman (list is on the back of the newsletter)

Make Offerings Electronically—See Brian Hull

Subscribe to the Lutheran Witness magazine—See Trish Hull

Websites:

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod—www.LCMS.org

Southern District—www.southeranlcms.org

LWML—www.LWML.org



From LWML

Serve the Lord with Gladness! Psalm 100:2

Mites for April totaled \$4.29. Mite box Sunday is the first Sunday of every month. Mites will go toward National and District mission grants and District expenses.

We sold 18 Easter Lillies. Thank-you all for beautifying the sanctuary Easter Sunday.

Crystal Ballard, Jeannie Harrison, Trish Hull, and Linda Urda attended the Gulf States District Convention in Huntsville, AL, April 21-22. Linda was our group's delegate for voting on mission grants, new officers and approval of the biennial mission goal and adoption of updated bylaws to align with national. The mission goal for 2022-2024 is \$65,000. 8 of 18 proposed mission grants were selected. Following Mission Grants were approved: 1. Gulf States Scholarship Program (\$3000) Recipient is Ezekiel Potts from Good Shepherd Lutheran, Shalimar, FL 2. Camp Dixie Outdoor Chapel (\$5,000) Josephine, AL 3. Child Evangelism at Trinity School (5,000) Trinity Lutheran, Mobile, AL 4. Sanctuary & Bathroom Renovations (5,000) Holy Cross, Camden, AL 5. Comfort Food Ministry (\$3,000) Holy Cross, Mobile, AL 6. Lutherans in Black Ministry Convocation (\$5,000) 7. Sharing the Light of Christ's Love (\$5,000) Lutheran Braille Workers 8. Feeding Haitian

Children Spiritually and Physically (\$5,000)

Convention offerings: Offering 1: District Mission Grants \$1,262.26 Offering 2: Aid to Ukraine-Lutheran World Relief \$1,757.00 Offering 3: Second Mile Preschool \$1,092.00 Mission Walk: \$1,001.30 New Officers Elected: President: Cherie Endrihs, Enterprise, AL Vice President of Organizational Resources, Cathy Mason, Diamondhead, MS Vice President Special Focus Ministries, Judy Jankens, Cullman, AL Financial Secretary, Mary Thrash, Mobile, AL (Second Term) Pastoral Counselor (Jr.), Rev James Endrihs, Christ the King, Enterprise, AL Nominating Committee: Jeanie Kisner, Enterprise, AL Jackie Morris Geisler, Birmingham, AL Victoria Southern, Foley, AL (Chairperson)

Thanks to all who donated gift cards for the preschool and CDCs for the District Convention. Donations included 5 Walmart gift cards totaling \$155, 2 Target gift cards totaling \$50 and 2 rolls of masking tape.

Upcoming Events: Emerald Coast Zone Fall Rally, TBD LWML 40th Biennial Convention, Milwaukee, WI, June 22-25, 2023 "Celebrate the Lord of the Nations" Psalm 33:12-13 Emerald Coast Zone Christian Workshop, TBD (Spring of 2023) Gulf States District Convention, Prattville, AL, April 26-27, 2024 LWML 41st Biennial Convention, Omaha, NE, 2025

Linda Urda, OSLC LWML President



Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church

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We're on the Web
www.Oselc.net

OSELC Staff, Officers, and Volunteers

Pastor Raymond Parent

Deaconess Heather Bien

Council President: Alex Franco

Council Vice-President: Brad Bien

Council Secretary: Trish Hull

Treasurer: Brian Hull

Financial Secretary: Jeannie Harrison

Board of Elders: Alan Widener

Board of Christian Life: Jennifer Currid

Board of Trustees: Brian Hull

Board of Education/Youth: Gervase Anthony

Board of Evangelism: Alex Franco

Board of Social Ministry: Becky Williams

Board of Security: Julie Blaylock

LWML: Linda Urda

Library: Jennifer Currid

Soup Kitchen Director: Becky Williams

Usher Director: Julie Blaylock

Organist and Kantor: Brian Hull

Save the Date

Introducing a New Series

“Wholly Living”

Spirit · Mind · Body

The first in series:

“COVID:

A Study in Retrospect”

Saturday, May 14th, 10-Noon

Presented by:

Heather Bien, Dcs., PA-C

Take a look at the pandemic that shook the world through a Christian lens.

Refreshments

Door Prizes

Fellowship

Women’s Bible Study

Thursdays at 10:00

Study of

Psalms

Come join us for a good

Coffee with Pastor

Coffee with Pastor

begins with

Matins at 9:00 a.m.

followed by time with Pastor to get to know him and for him to get to know his flock!

Birthdays



Troy Grimes	5/2
Sydney White	5/2
Jeannie Arveson	5/3
Joshua Ballard	5/19
Tom Schmoltdt	5/21
Kevin Sparks	5/27

Men’s Group

May 17

7:00pm

Pastor Parent’s house

All men of the church are invited for a great time of fellowship.

(The Men’s group will meet on the 3rd Tuesday night of each month.)

6481 Wallannee Way

Laurel Hill

Sunday Mornings

8:00-8:45—Private Confession

9:00 Sunday School

10:00 Divine Service

SALE FOR THE SEM

June 4th

8 am—Noon

You may start bringing items on June 1st

(No clothing items, please)

Altar Guild

There are many opportunities to serve on the Altar Guild: cleaning, straightening, Holy Communion set up, there's lots to do!

If you are interested, please let Dcs. Heather know.

There are many opportunities to serve at OSELC:

Groundskeeping

Altar Guild

Soup Kitchen

Refreshments

Please see list of Officers on the back of the Newsletter for more information.

