

Announcements

November 27, 2022

- ♦ A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests, friends both old and new. We pray that God has blessed your time among us with His Word and Holy Spirit. We cordially invite you to join us this morning for coffee and other refreshments downstairs following the Divine Service; and we ask that you please sign the guest book at the back of the church.

- ♦ Today's Psalm Tone:



- ♦ Today on this First Sunday in Advent, begins a yearlong 100th anniversary celebration of Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church. During the Divine Service, the Rev. Dr. Grobien is preaching. The Rev. Dr. Stuckwisch serves as presider and celebrant. Rev. Seyboldt serves as Deacon.
- ♦ The 38th Annual “Weihnachts Vesper” - a Christmas Service in the German Language - will be held at 4:00 PM today, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 51490 Laurel Road, (Corner of Auto and Laurel Roads) in South Bend. A time of fellowship will follow the Service.
- ♦ We have extended a Call to Rev. Ronald Stephens of St John Aurora, Indiana. He has pledged to make his response to us by December 11th. As part of his process of considering the call, he will visit Emmaus and South Bend with his family December 5th and 6th.
- ♦ We will not have Catechesis on Wednesday. **The Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle, Divine Service** begins at 6:00 p.m.
- ♦ Pastor Zell and Marie will be away until December 2. Pastor Seyboldt will lead weeknight services this week.
- ♦ Emmaus has not had an Altar Guild for many years. Some have expressed interest in serving in this way, and since we're already in a time of transition, this is a natural time to reorganize. Please contact Deaconess Rhein by November 30, if you are interested in more details, or might be willing to serve.
- ♦ It was requested that the Hospitality Committee develop a form for requesting use of the Emmaus building. The purpose of the form is simple communication: any member is welcome to use the building for a shower,

reception, game night, etc. They just need to know who to ask! Copies of the form are available in the church office. Complete the form when you would like to use the building and return it to the office so Alyssa can note the event on the calendar.

- ♦ Announcements for the printed bulletin should be sent to the church secretary, Alyssa Horner, no later than the Thursday before they need to appear in print. Please email them to her at horneramw@gmail.com.
- ♦ Team members needed for altar flower duties. See Sharon Makowski or Diana Fish for details.
- ♦ The Altar flowers this morning are provided by Dave and Debbie Smith, to the glory of God.
- ♦ COLLECTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 13: \$ 2,148.00

In order to meet our financial obligations and commitments, an average of \$3,243 is needed each week.

On the Epistle to the Galatians

“For it is written: Rejoice, O barren one that does not bear; break forth and shout, thou who art not in travail; for the desolate hath more children than she who hath a husband’ (Galatians 4:27). Paul quotes this passage, which is completely allegorical, from the Prophet Isaiah. It is written, he says, that the mother of many children, who has a husband, must grow sick and perish, while the barren one, who does not bear, must have very many children. Hannah sings the same way in her canticle, from which Isaiah took this prophecy: ‘The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn’ (1 Samuel 2:4–5). It is an amazing thing, she says: the one who was prolific will be barren, and the one who was barren will be prolific. Those who were mighty, satisfied, alive, righteous, blessed, rich, and glorious will be feeble, hungry, sentenced to death, sinful, condemned, poor, and shameful; and, on the other hand, the feeble and the hungry will be mighty and satisfied.

“With this allegory from the Prophet Isaiah, Paul shows the difference between Hagar and Sarah, that is, between the synagogue and the church, or between the Law and the Gospel. It is as though he were saying: ‘The Law, the husband of a prolific woman, that is, of the synagogue, gives birth to very many children.’ For men of every age, not only the ignorant but those who are the wisest and best — in other words, the whole human race with the exception of

the children of the free woman — do not see or recognize any other righteousness, nor to say any more excellent righteousness, than that of the Law. (Now under the term 'Law' I am including all laws, both human and divine.) Therefore if they follow the Law and perform its outward works, they think they are righteous. All such men are slaves, not free men, because they are sons of Hagar, who gives birth into slavery. If they are slaves, they do not share in the inheritance but are cast out of the house. 'The slaves do not continue in the house forever' (John 8:35); in fact, they have now been thrown out of the kingdom of grace and freedom. 'He who does not believe is condemned already' (John 3:18). Therefore they remain under the curse of the Law, under sin, death, and the power of the devil, under the wrath and judgment of God.

“Now if even the Moral Law of God, the Decalogue, gives birth only to slaves — that is, does not justify but only terrifies, accuses, condemns, and brings consciences to the point of despair — how, I ask you, could the laws of the pope or human tradition justify? Therefore anyone who teaches or urges either the Law of God or human traditions as something necessary for righteousness in the sight of God does nothing other than give birth to slaves. And yet such theologians are regarded as the best; they earn the applause of the world and are the most prolific mothers, that is, have an infinite number of disciples. Since reason does not understand what faith and true godliness are, it neglects and despises them. Naturally, it is impressed by superstition and hypocrisy, that is, by the righteousness of works, which is so brilliant and successful that it is the mighty empress of the universe. Therefore those who teach the righteousness of works on the basis of the Law give birth to many sons, but all of these are slaves who will be thrown out of the house and condemned.

“Sarah, the free woman, on the other hand, that is, the true church, seems to be barren; for the Gospel, the Word of the cross, which the church preaches, is not as brilliant as is the teaching about the Law and works, and therefore it has few pupils who cling to it. Besides, it has the reputation of forbidding good works, making men idle and faint, stirring up heresies and sedition, and being the cause of every evil. Therefore it does not seem to have any success or prosperity; but everything seems to be filled with barrenness, waste, and despair. Hence the wicked are fully persuaded that the church will soon perish along with its doctrine.”

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(From Dr. Martin Luther's Lectures on Galatians, A.D. 1535)

Walking with Our Savior this Week

TODAY	Divine Service of Communion	9:00 a.m.
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
	Bible Class & Catechesis	10:45 a.m.
MONDAY	<i>Vespers</i>	6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	<i>The Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle</i>	
	<i>Divine Service</i>	6:00 p.m.
NEXT SUNDAY	Divine Service of Communion	9:00 a.m.
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
	Bible Class & Catechesis	10:45 a.m.

*You may also want to keep in mind, in your observance of daily prayer at home:
The appointed readings for next Sunday, The First Sunday in Advent: Isaiah 2:1-5,
Romans 13:8-14; St. Matthew 21:1-11.*