

BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thursday, August 27

Sunday, August 30

“HELP FOR CROSS BEARERS AVAILABLE HERE”

Text: Matthew 16:24: “Then Jesus said to them: ‘If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me.’”

INTRODUCTION – Our dear Savior bids us to pick up our cross – to suffer for our faith, if needed. He does not call on everyone to suffer for one’s faith, but faith has to determine one’s posture and behavior in this life. The reward will come in heaven. For the time being, we serve. Peter had a lesson to learn here.

1 – In Caesarea Philippi by design.

2 – The long journey to Jerusalem starts.

3 – The unimaginable happens.

4 – Peter is human.

5 – Peter’s collapse under his cross.

6 – Peter is rebuilt by the seashore.

7 – “Quo Vadis?” – Peter went to the cross.

CONCLUSION – There is work to be done and it might not be painless. Whenever called upon to serve the Lord and His Kingdom we ought to think of it in godly and spiritual terms, and not according to the rules of this world. In a hymn we sing, there is a verse that goes like this: “Teach us, o Lord, true thankfulness divine/ That gives as Christ gave, never counting cost/ That knows no barrier of “yours” and “mine”/ Assured that only what’s withheld is lost.” Like Peter, I believe that most of us still have some space for spiritual growth! Amen.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
The Glory of God Is the Passion and Cross of Christ Jesus

After St. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, our Lord *"began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised"* (Matt. 16:21). Upon hearing this "theology of the cross," Simon Peter stumbled into a satanic "theology of glory." But the glory of God is revealed in the Passion and cross of His incarnate Son. The faithful prophets, such as Jeremiah, suffered persecution and rejection in anticipation of Jesus' cross. Yet the Lord did not abandon them; He remembered them, and He was with them to deliver them (Jer. 15:15–20). By His cross, Jesus has redeemed the world, and in His resurrection, He has vindicated all who trust in Him. Thus, the Christian life is a discipleship of self-sacrificing love. Since Christ Jesus has reconciled us to God, we *"live peaceably with all"* (Rom. 12:18). By the certainty of His cross and resurrection, we *"rejoice in hope,"* and we are *"patient in tribulation"* and *"constant in prayer"* (Rom. 12:12).

CHARITABLE INFORMATION

SPECIAL MISSIONS All gifts for the special missions in the third quarter will go to support "Helping Hands Eastern European Ministries". This is a worthy cause that brings the gospel to the poorest nations of Europe. In ages past they organized "mission societies" that brought us the gospel. Now we have the opportunity to return their service! Checks, as always, are made out to Blessed Savior Lutheran Church.

INGATHERING FOR CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY FOOD AND CLOTHING

CO-OP Due to the cancellation of the LWML Fall Retreat these items cannot be gathered there. Help if you can. The collection bin is located outside of church for your donations. **Collection ending September 13.** Sorry for the short notice.

Diapers and Wipes
Shampoo and Soap
Over the counter children's medicines

MITES Please remember to bring your mites. The first grant of the 2020-2022 Biennium is **Church Worker Student Grant, \$30,000**. This money will help seminarians purchase their books. The need for new pastors is great.

CHURCH INFORMATION

PRESCHOOL STARTS! We are excited to begin our 30th year of preschool on Tuesday, September 1st. As we embark on this school year with a new staff, new families, and during uncertain times we ask that you would keep us in your prayers! We can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for us! We kindly welcome Angela Heisler, Laura Kidd, and Jenny Otto to our team!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD We will once again be collecting Christmas boxes for Samaritan's Purse. Please watch the September Messenger for more information and how to participate!

SCRIP While SCRIP gift cards may not be available for purchase on Sunday mornings, you are still able to purchase cards through our order forms. Simply fill out your order, include your payment (checks can be made out to Blessed Savior Lutheran), and place it in the SCRIP mailbox, which is located on the north side of the Narthex. The order forms are available near the SCRIP bulletin board in the hallway. Your order will be placed in your church mailbox when it arrives, unless other arrangements are made. If you have any questions, please contact Jaime Greene at jaimelynn581@gmail.com.

YOUTH GROUP All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us for an outdoor Youth Group on August 30 from 6-8pm, weather permitting. We will be playing yard games. If you have any yard games we can play, please bring them. We will also have a bonfire and s'mores. If you have questions please email Jaime Greene at jaimelynn581@gmail.com.

DEVOTIONALS AND SUCH If you would like a copy of the devotionals that we receive, Portals of Prayer, Lutheran Woman's Quarterly, or Lutheran Digest, please check out the bins outside of the front of church and help yourself!

HELPING HANDS EASTERN EUROPEAN MINISTRIES We have been busy the last several months with the preparation and distribution of hundreds of food packets containing devotions and prayers. We have started working in a new area, the large city of Plovdiv, as that is where many Bulgarian immigrants in Chicago come from.

Unemployment due to COVID is high and there is no unemployment compensation for them. Many are hungry and afraid, and are more open to the Gospel than ever. We have also started publishing Time of Grace devotions in Bulgaria Sega newspaper (the Chicago area newspaper in which we've long published articles on health with a Gospel connection). Our estimated readership is about 10,000 souls.

FLOWERS, BULLETINS, & SPECIAL MISSIONS SIGN UP If you would like to sign up for flowers, bulletins, or special mission contact the church office by email blessedsavior.nb.lcms@gmail.com, or call 262-786-6465.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSIONS

1. We pray for those undergoing medical treatment:

Chuck Arliss Nancy Russell Judy Vicki Harold Adeline

2. The altar flowers were donated by Carol Dwyer in celebration of her birthday. Bulletins were donated by Dale and Jackie O'Neil in celebration of their 28th wedding anniversary.
3. We pray the Lord to have mercy on us and bless the efforts to contain the Corona Virus, the wildfires in the west coast and the recovery from the storms in Iowa.

Special intercessions: please pray for all health care workers in America and the world, for all first responders, truck drivers and essential workers.

We continue to pray for those who are in need of medical attention.

We pray the Lord to watch over those who are serving in the military.

Last Week's Attendance: 148

Last Week's Offerings: \$9,174.00

Needed Weekly: \$10,365.00