

BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

“THE RULES OF THE POTTERY”

Text: Isaiah 64:8 “Yet, O Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay; you are the potter. We are all the work of your hand.”

INTRODUCTION – On the first Sunday of a new Church Year, it is entirely appropriate to go over the basic rules that will govern the year ahead. Isaiah draws an analogy from a pottery and applies it to the church. He compares us to clay, and God, to the potter. In God’s pottery, He sets the rules by which we live.

1 – Pottery 101: The Potter is the Boss.

2 – All clay objects were created by the Potter.

3 – Each clay object is an original.

4 – Looks and function differ from one to another.

5 – Changes are part of life in the pottery.

6 – Dry clay will crack.

7 – Since we are God’s creation – where is pride, supremacy?

CONCLUSION – A review of the rules our Lord God put in place for life in his world and especially in his family (those redeemed by Jesus through faith) is a humbling experience. None is above another and all are in the care of the Maker. Like clay, our Father in heaven molds us to his pleasure. We are privileged to be called the children of God! Amen.

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

The Lord Jesus Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us

Although we pray that God “*would rend the heavens and come down*” (Is. 64:1), that He would take vengeance against our enemies, we ourselves “*have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment*” (Is. 64:6). We have continued in our sins for “*a long time, and shall we be saved?*” (Is. 64:5). Yet, the Lord does not punish us in anger. He comes in voluntary meekness and humility to save us by His grace. Just as He once came into Jerusalem to sacrifice Himself for us upon the cross (Mark 11:4–8), He still comes to His Church with the fruits of His Passion. By His ministry of the Gospel, we are “*enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge,*” and so He will “*sustain you to the end*” (1 Cor. 1:5, 8). Although “*heaven and earth will pass away,*” His words “*will not pass away*” (Mark 13:31). As He sends disciples to call us to Himself in the fellowship of His Church, so will He “*send out the angels*” to gather us and all of His elect “*from the ends of the earth*” to Himself in heaven forever (Mark 13:27).

CHARITABLE INFORMATION

SPECIAL MISSIONS – Our Special Missions project for the last quarter of the year 2020 is the ministry to the deaf, specifically the work done at and through “Evangelical Emmanuel Lutheran Congregation do the Deaf”. This congregation is located in West Allis (2306 S 98th Street). The Rev. William Palmer has been their pastor for the last 34 years. They minister to all deaf of the Greater Milwaukee area. This is a worthy cause and your gifts to Special Missions will sustain the proclamation of the Gospel in sign language!

BIBLE STUDY

ONLINE BIBLE STUDY If you are interested in participating in an online Bible Study on the book of Psalms, please contact Jaime Greene at jaimelynn581@gmail.com. The study is held on Zoom at 9am and 7pm each Tuesday.

CHURCH INFORMATION

YOUTH GROUP Calling all 6th-12th graders! Make sure you save December 6 and December 20 on your calendar for Sunday Night Fellowship. On December 6, we'll meet online from 6-8pm for games and laughs. December 20th will be our Christmas party, so watch your email for more information to come!

HOUSEHOLD GOODIE BAGS A goodie bag containing Advent Devotions, Pastor's Worship Calendar, Offering Envelopes and more will be available for a drive thru pick up on Saturday, December 5 from 9am-12noon. Simply stop at the front doors of the church and Jennifer and Jaime will bring your pack out to you! They will also be available for pick up at Worship on Thursday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 6th. Any packs left after those days will be delivered by one of our Board Members

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.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL Due to the current health concerns for our brothers and sisters of this congregation, we as Church Council decided it was prudent to not hold a Voter's Assembly Meeting this fall. The fall meeting's primary focus is passing a working budget for the next calendar year. Our church constitution states that the Church Council will see to the church's needs when the congregation does not meet. Therefore, the Church Council unanimously voted to pass the budget that was presented first to the Elders, then the Church Council in October, and published in the Messenger and sent to the congregation through email and on our web page. To continue our focus of being a transparent Church Council, I invite any questions or dialog in any action the Council takes. Feel free to reach out to me at any time at: bobkunz1988@gmail.com or 262-227-2617 Bob Kunz, Church Council Chairman

YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK We are excited to introduce two new weekly segments on our YouTube channel (Blessed Savior Lutheran-New Berlin) and Facebook (@BlessedSaviorNBWI), in addition to our regularly posted material. If you haven't already followed or liked these pages, please do so! It's a great way to stay connected!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: This year our Christmas program will be coming to you in a virtual format! If you have children ages 2-8th grade and would like to participate and haven't seen the email from Jennifer Leinss please email her at jleinss82@gmail.com. This year's program is titled "Symbols of Christmas" and we are

asking families to record their part at home and send it to us! We are looking forward to sharing the love of Jesus in this unique way this Christmas!

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.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Thursday, December 24 – 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., & 10:00 p.m. (Please help us plan for how many people will be in attendance by calling the church office at 262-786-6465, or by emailing us at secretary.bslnb@gmail.com.) Christmas service will also be available to you online and will be posted the morning of December 24th.

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25 – 10:00 a.m..

Sunday Morning Worship

December 27 - 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 a.m.

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31 – 7:00 p.m.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSIONS

We pray for those undergoing medical treatment:

Arliss Judy Joyce Karen Rob
Adeline Richard John Nora Carol

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

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

Last Week's Attendance: 100

Last Week's Offerings: \$9,091.00

YouTube Attendance: 89

Needed Weekly: \$10,365.00