

BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021
SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2021

“DON’T FORGET TO LOOK UP”

Text: Mark 6:41 “Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. He also divided the two fish among them all.”

INTRODUCTION: God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made. There you have it! God himself looking up to give thanks to the Father. I had a teacher once who used to say: before you eat, pray for two reasons: first, you can pray; second God gave you food. Pigs do not pray, even though the Father feeds them. Pigs cannot pray.

- 1 – Prayer ties us to God.
- 2 – Prayer is a gift believers receive from God.
- 3 – A prayer of thanksgiving is all we can bring to God.
- 4 - Everything belongs to God – for He made it.
- 5 – The Marvel of the order of creation
- 6 – We are here because God put us here.
- 7 – He knows our needs and faithfully supplies for them.

CONCLUSION: In the feeding of the five thousand people Jesus teaches us that God does what He wants, the way He wants to do it. Another lesson here is that if Jesus looks up and gives thank to the Father, then how much more us, unworthy people ought to acknowledge EVERY gift from above! Finally, giving thanks brings joy to the heart! Amen.

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Lord Jesus Shepherds His Church on Earth by the Ministry of the Gospel

The Lord rebukes and removes “the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep” (Jer. 23:1). He gathers the flock, brings them back to the fold, and sets “shepherds over them who will care for them” (Jer. 23:3–4). He raises up the Son of David, the great Good Shepherd, to “reign as king and deal wisely” (Jer. 23:5). He is “our righteousness,” in whom we “dwell securely” (Jer. 23:6). He has compassion on all of us, who were “like sheep without a shepherd” (Mark 6:34). Not only does He teach us many things, but taking the bread, He blesses and breaks and gives it to the disciples “to set before the people” (Mark 6:41). He abundantly provides for His Church on earth, so that everyone is fed and fully satisfied in body and soul. He preaches peace “to you who were far off,” and “by the blood of Christ,” He brings you near (Eph. 2:13, 17). Though you were “separated from Christ” by your sin, “having no hope and without God in the world” (Eph. 2:12), now “you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Eph. 2:19).

CHURCH INFORMATION

REOPENING: The Board of Elders has been meeting every month since the beginning of the pandemic. Without rushing things, the Elders have analyzed a lot of data and guided the congregation in the various facets of ministry. The Elders are extremely cautious in determining what can be done and when. Please note that slowly, yet responsibly, God willing, life will get back to normal. Starting on July 15 and 18, every pew will be opened for use. Attendance cards and hymnals will return to the pews in mid-August. Please watch the weekly bulletins for updated information.

SPECIAL MISSIONS THIRD QUARTER: Rachel Meyer, a Lutheran School Teacher is a missionary in Bufuula, Uganda. Rachel is to be admired for her courage to go in our place into a nation that is politically in conflict. Let us pray for her safety. May the Lord surround her with His holy angels and bless her ministry of teaching seventh graders the ways of the Lord. – Go, Rachel, go! The Lord be with you!

MISSIONARY VISIT: We welcome the Rev. Paul Nelson and his wife Genevieve who will be visiting us on Sunday, July 25th. The Lord assigned them to do ministry in Indonesia, where Pastor Nelson serves as Theological Educator by mentoring and training local

pastors and lay leaders. May the Lord bless them in all their travel and work while among us.

GARDEN TEA PARTY: Save the date! Women's Ministries is hosting a Garden Tea Party on Saturday, September 11th at 1pm. This is an outdoor event, weather permitting. Watch for more details to come!

TABLE HOSTESSES NEEDED: We are looking for hostesses for the Garden Tea Party event on September 11th at 1pm. As a hostess, you will provide a table and chair for four (4), decorations for the table, and the tea settings (teapot, carafes, etc). You can sign up on the Women's Ministries bulletin board, or by emailing wminbs@gmail.com

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: We will once again partake in Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse. This is just a friendly hint if you plan to pack shoe boxes this Christmas to keep in mind that some of the items that they suggest you pack are available NOW. Items like t-shirts, flip flops, etc. are around during the summer months and can be found fairly inexpensive. Be sure to stock up now and when it comes time to stuff those shoe boxes you will have the items you need! More information on this wonderful project can be found at www.samaritanspurse.org or if you have questions see Jennifer Leinss.

SCHOOL KITS: Please keep your eyes peeled for when those wonderful school supplies go on sale! We will once again participate in the school kit program through Lutheran World Relief. We are blessed each year to pack over 100 kits for those in need. Please consider helping with this wonderful cause and be a blessing to others! More information and a list of supplies can be found at www.lwr.org. There will also be a list and more information available in the narthex in the next coming weeks!

CLASSROOM AIDE NEEDED: Our 3K class is looking for a classroom aide for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. We are looking for a nurturing, kid-loving, reliable individual to serve in this position. This is a paid position, and the hours are from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact Jennifer Leinss at jleinss82@gmail.com.

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.

The Altar Flowers are sponsored by Jack & Marian Welter in memory of their son, Michael.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Jeff Driessen in celebration of all God's Blessings.

RADIO CHURCH SERVICES

SUN 6:30AM—WTMJ (AM 620) LUTHERAN HOUR &

SUN 7:00AM—WJYI (AM 1340) LUTHERAN RADIO

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSIONS

We pray for those undergoing medical treatment:

Arless Judy Adeline Laverne Karen

John Holley Nancy Ralph

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR July 18 – July 25

Thur	7:00 pm	Worship
Sun	8:00 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Worship
Mon		Scrip Orders Due
Tue	6:30 pm	Board of Education Meeting
Thur	7:00 pm	Worship & Communion
Sun	8:00 am	Worship & Communion
	9:30 am	Worship & Communion
	6:00 pm	Youth Group

Last Week's Attendance: 153 **YouTube:** 42

Offerings: \$9,184.00 **Needed Weekly:** \$11,800