

Weekly Update from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church – June 1, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

We worshipped together! It was so good to see folks! The Bible says we need the fellowship of other Christians, and I'm coming to appreciate anew how true that is. It was great to be together, even if we were socially distanced! And I have to confess, I've gotten tired of speaking to a camera. It was great to see and talk with real people, people that I know and care about! Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to pull this together.

Here are the plans as we move forward. For the immediate future we will offer an outdoor service on Sunday mornings at 9:00. And we will continue to offer our online services. The sermon will be the same for both offerings. Please make use of the service that works best for you.

Just a note on the outdoor service. We will need to keep an eye on the weather each week. If the weather turns bad we will have to cancel. We will put cancellations on the church website and answering machine as soon as that decision is made.

Please keep praying about our worship life. We are moving onward!

Another Thought

One of the values of the Christian faith that we don't talk about enough is Endurance. Endurance – the ability to hang in there and keep going when things are tough. John writes about this in Revelation 14:12 when he shares, "This calls for endurance from the saints, who keep God's commands and their faith in Jesus."

This is a time that calls for endurance. I'm sure we are all ready for this pandemic to be over, but of course it isn't that simple. There is still a ways to go and we need to continue to be diligent and careful and caring. We continue to look to our Lord who strengthens us and guides us. Even in these challenging times we continue to be a faithful people, a compassionate people, a caring people. And I would add, I believe that Jesus does some of His best work in tough times. He just has a knack for doing that. He is the one who leads us onward, who keeps us hopeful, who helps us to take one more step when we think we've reached our limit. Jesus blesses us with life in the midst of a difficult world. We live with endurance that is rooted in Jesus Christ.

Another Prayer

And I have another prayer to share with you this week. This again is a prayer that is shared by Reverend Eric Reisen, who is the president of our North American Lutheran Seminary.

Almighty and merciful God, you are the only source of health and healing; you alone can bring calmness and peace. Grant to us, your children, an awareness of your presence and a strong confidence in you. In our pain, our weariness, and our anxiety, surround us with your care, protect us by your loving might, and permit us once more to enjoy health and strength and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

May our Lord continue to guide and bless us!

Pastor Mark

Sharing a Meal

Our congregational care committee is bringing meals to one of our families a couple of times a week. We could use a few more people helping with this. If you would be able to cook and deliver a meal, please call Becky Chambers.

Zoom Class

One more Zoom class and it will be this Wednesday. Our final class will be this Wednesday evening at 7:00 and we will continue to discuss Baptism.

For those of you who have been part of this, the invitation you have received continues to work. If you are new to this and need an invitation, please send me an email at mbraaten@oslctyler.org I will send you an invitation that has all the information for how to connect.

This has been fun!

Food Collection for June

I have a way that we can say thank you to the good Lord. He has and is blessing our congregation through this crisis time. Let's do a food collection for those in need. We are excited to be worshipping together again. How about when you come for worship, bring a non-perishable food item and leave it on the table with the bulletins? We will do this for the month of June. At the end of the month we will bring the food to PATH for those in need in Smith County.