

"For so the Lord has commanded us: 'I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, That you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

Acts 13:47



Welcome to Spring Mission Festival LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL

(Grades K-8)

Church of the Lutheran Confession
134 21st Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935
(920) 922-7421

10:00 am Service Sunday School and Bible Class at 9:00 am
Pastor Dave Naumann Principal Dave Bernthal
Teacher Amy Osborne Teacher Anita Meyer
Fdlutheran.com

3RD AFTER EASTER MISSION FESTIVAL APRIL 25, 2010

Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 47 front of hymnal p. 134
The Hymns: 769, 498, 771, 505:3

Prayer: O almighty God, You who made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth, use us as instruments of Your holy Word, and let the light of your salvation shine to all the ends of the earth. Accomplish this great work first with our family, friends, and close neighbors, then, as you have commanded, to all the world. Ever keep Christ and Him crucified the center of every message we bring, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. For Jesus sake we ask it, Amen.

Bells – Opening Prayer

First Hymn 769

THE INVOCATION

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
(Hymnal, page 5 – Congregation Stands)*

PASTOR In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONGR. (sing) Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

PASTOR Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

CONGR. (sing) Who made heaven and earth.

PASTOR I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

CONGR. (sing) And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

PASTOR Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL O most merciful God, who has given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTOR Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

CONGR. (sing) Amen. *(congregation is seated)*

THE INTROIT

Having received the Lord's forgiveness, we are glad to enter into His courts with praise and thanksgiving. This entrance is made in the Introit with the Lord's own Word, often from the Psalms.

P: Oh, sing to the LORD a new song!

C: For He has done marvelous things;

P: The Lord has made known His salvation

C: His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations.

P: His right hand and His holy arm

C: Have gained Him the victory.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory to the Father" (Hymnal, page 6)

CONGR. (sing) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life. (Hymnal page 7 - sing)

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

"Glory to God in the highest" (Hymnal page 7 - sing)

Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world. Receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE SALUTATION *(Greeting)*

PASTOR The Lord be with you.

CONGR. (sing) And with thy spirit.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The main thoughts for the day are "collected" together in this prayer.

PASTOR Let us pray.

CONGR. (sing) Amen.

THE BIBLE LESSONS

God speaks to us.

First Bible Reading:

Acts 5:27-42 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, 28 saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" 29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. 30 "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. 31 "Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 "And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." 33 When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them. 34 Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and

commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while. 35 And he said to them: "Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men. 36 "For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing. 37 "After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed. 38 "And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; 39 "but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it; lest you even be found to fight against God." 40 And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

PASTOR Here ends the First Bible Reading. We continue with the responsive reading of:

THE GRADUAL

The Gradual is a "Bridge of praise" that links the Old Testament with the New Testament.

P: Hallelujah! Then was the Lord Jesus known of the disciples:

C: In the breaking of bread. Hallelujah!

P: Then said the disciples one to another:

C: Did not our hearts burn within us? Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: I am the Good Shepherd:

C: I know My sheep, and am known of mine. Hallelujah!

CONGR. (sing) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

PASTOR The 2nd Bible Reading is from Revelation chapter 5, beginning there in the 11th verse.

CONGR. (sing) Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

Second Bible Reading:

Revelation 5:11-14 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!" 13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!" 14 Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshipped Him who lives forever and ever.

PASTOR Here ends the New Testament Reading.

CONGR. (sing) Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Congregation stands for:

THE APOSTLES' CREED

We boldly confess what we believe. (Hymnal, page 12)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn 498

THE SERMON

John 21:1-14 After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. 3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the

boat, and that night they caught nothing. 4 But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?" They answered Him, "No." 6 And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish. 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. 9 Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught." 11 Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?"; knowing that it was the Lord. 13 Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. 14 This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

Theme: "FISHERMEN OF JESUS"

- I. He is concerned about our catch (5)
- II. He tells us what to do (6)
- III. He gives success to our labors (6,11)
- IV. He takes care of our needs (9,12)

THE OFFERTORY

*In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.
(Hymnal, pages 12-13) (sing)*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. While the ushers present our offerings at the Lord's Altar, we stand and sing the offering hymn 496:3:

**If you cannot be a watchman, Standing high on Zion's wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven, Offering life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your bounties
You can do what God demands;
You can be like faithful Aaron, Holding up the prophet's hands.**

THE GENERAL PRAYER - (Pastor)

THE LORD'S PRAYER - (All)

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen.

Hymn 771

Congregation stands for:

THE BENEDICTION

The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

PASTOR:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

CONGR. (sing) Amen, Amen, Amen.

The Closing Hymn (standing) 505:3

*** Silent Prayer ***

Verbal Announcements -- Ushers dismiss by row

Announcements

"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James 4:15

IN THE HOSPITAL – IN OUR PRAYERS Warren Roesler is at the Lutheran home due to prostate cancer that has spread to his bones. Joy Heise is at St. Agnes recovering from a major surgery. Floyd Mielke is recovering at home after a stay at Aurora Medical in Oshkosh. Elmer Goldapske continues to recover at home after suffering from a pair of strokes. Gosaye Selgrad (1st grader at LM School) is back home after a stay in Children's Hospital in Milwaukee for a hip infection. We thank the Great Physician for answering our many prayers and ask Him to completely heal all who are in need, trusting that His will for each of His children is always good and best. **Deuteronomy 33:12 "Let the beloved of the LORD rest secure in Him, for He shields him all day long, and the one the LORD loves rests between His shoulders."**

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

TUE: 6:30 pm School Committee Meeting

WED: 6:30 pm PTC – Parent Teacher Connection Meeting

TV CHURCH – Today's Service replayed on Cable TV Channel 21 Tuesday at noon and Wednesday at 4:00 pm.

NEXT WEEK: CREATION SUNDAY A service of thanks and praise to our Creator expounding His great love and the wonders of His creating hand. The children will be singing two songs for this service.

75ER'S SPRING BANQUET Friday May 7, at 1:30 pm. Hosted by Jodimae Seibel, this year's theme is "Baseball." Sure to be a hit!

SUNDAY MAY 16TH Is the date scheduled to celebrate our Synod's 50th Anniversary. This celebration of 50 years of the LORD's love and grace toward the CLC – the Church of the Lutheran Confession will be marked with special liturgy and song. Mark the day!

BASEBALL OUTING The Luther Memorial Young Adults have planned a trip to Appleton May 15th to see a Timber Rattlers baseball game. A pre-game tailgate cookout is planned. After the game Craig Youngerberg has invited everyone to His house in New London (nearby) for dessert and refreshments. A sign up sheet is on the

bulletin board this morning with all the info and details. This invitation is for EVERYONE! Not just the young adults. Play ball!

TWO DELEGATES NEEDED Two voting age men of the congregation are needed to represent Luther Memorial Church at the Great Lakes Delegate Conference at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Coloma, Michigan. Time: 10:00 a.m. Monday, June 7, through Noon Tuesday, June 8. Two voting age men are also needed to attend the 29th General Convention of the CLC in Eau Claire, WI June 21-25. Please speak to the Pastor if you would like to be considered for this important work of the LORD's Kingdom.

CHURCH CLEANING We're still looking for a couple volunteers to help clean the church sanctuary on a monthly basis. The months of July, August, September December still need to be filled. If you can help, take a look at the sign-up sheet or call Wayne Wischneski, Chairman of Buildings and Grounds – 921-2113.

TOUR CHOIR CD – "TIDINGS" Earlier this month a new CD of choral music was released. This recording features the Tour Choirs of 2006-2009. The choral selections reflect various seasons in the church year. Some of the pieces which present themes of Holy Week are "God So Loved the World," "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," "Christ Atoned for our Transgressions," "O Crucified Messiah," "He Is Living," "Today is Risen Christ the Lord," "Alleluia! Christ Has Destroyed Death." The price is \$14/single or 2/\$25. There are still a few copies left in the hallway. Additional copies may be ordered.

OUT OF NECESSITY: A History Of the CLC This book written by Rev. David Lau for the 50th Anniversary of our Lutheran Synod, the Church of the Lutheran Confession – CLC, is still available in the hallway for \$24.95 each. Please make checks payable to Luther Memorial Church. The Pastor recommends at least one for every home. A great gift for your children!

2010 ARISE AND SHINE RETREAT The 8th annual retreat to strengthen and encourage Christians in their 20's and 30's is scheduled for July 8-10 near St. Louis Missouri. For info and registration: <http://www.ariseandshineretreat.com/> Or contact Pastor Todd Ohlmann tohlmann@swbell.net or Alana Ahrens alanaahrens@yahoo.com

CLC NEWS The Rev. Frank Gantt, Lemmon SD, has returned the call to St. John's Lutheran, Clarkston WA, and Peace Lutheran, Orofino, ID. <> The Rev. Timothy Wheaton, Lamar CO, has returned the call to Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild WI; the congregation has now called the newly colloquized Richard Kanzenbach, Watertown SD. <> Sara Pfeiffer, Mountain View CA, has returned the call to teach at Grace Lutheran school, Fridley MN <> Grace Lutheran, Valentine NE, St. Paul's Lutheran, White River SD, and Peace Lutheran, Mission SD, have called the Rev. Nathan Pfeiffer, Hecla SD. <> Our Redeemer's Lutheran, Red Wing MN, has called the Rev. Mark Gurath, Sioux Falls SD

CLIMB THE SIGN Progress of our LM Sign Fund is posted on the bulletin board in the form of a staircase. The Voters decided to get 90% funding before beginning. The total project cost is \$15,000. 90% is \$13,500. Currently \$12,134 has been given in cash and pledges. We need \$1,366 to begin the project. Together, let's keep climbing - we're almost to the top!

THE CLC, and the GREAT COMMISSION - (I): As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Church of the Lutheran Confession—many congregations are also celebrating their own 50th anniversary—we muse about the future of the CLC. Yes, we know that the future of our church lies in the hands of the Lord. Whether there is a 75th or 100th anniversary we commit to Him and His grace. While we do not know how many more anniversaries, if any, the CLC will celebrate, of one thing we are sure. So long as the world stands, God's Word will endure. It will not pass away. The word with its message of salvation will endure to all generations, because it is as eternal as God Himself.

The grace of God shines forth in the face of our Lord Jesus in Whom we are redeemed, and possess the blessed inheritance of heaven. God's Word is our staff and stay in times of trouble, the anchor of our soul when we will inevitably pass from this world. When the Savior asked His disciples if they would depart from Him, they said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Surely this brought joy to the heart of our Lord. It is the message of salvation that inspires the heart to worship the Lord. And Luther said, "Nothing (is) more beautiful in the eyes of God than a soul that loves to hear His Word" (WLS-Vol. 3, para. 4755, p. 1471).

We of the CLC are blessed to be able to delight the Lord through faithful worship within a confessional Lutheran church body in which the Word of God is paramount to all that we teach and are. Indeed if we do not teach the Word of God, we have no reason to exist! A confessional Lutheran church body that makes its stand on and confesses Scripture alone, and that faithfully holds to the confessions drawn from Scripture and that are set forth in the Book of Concord of 1580 is a rare church body in the midst of the religious wasteland in which we live!

A confessional church body takes the command seriously to preach and share the Gospel—the message of Jesus' atonement—with others.

However a confessional congregation and/or church body will not forget what today is ignored by many churches and by many individuals who in their zeal to share Christ ignore the last part of the great commission: "**teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you**" (Matthew 28:20). When it comes to the great commission "preservation is as important as propagation"—or there will soon be nothing worthwhile for a church body to propagate.

It is faith alone in the Lord Jesus Christ that saves. Thank God! We will be discreet and wise in our Gospel sharing, giving the milk before the meat (1 Corinthians 3:2). But as a *matter of principle* established by the Lord God Himself and transmitted to the Church we are not free to *set aside* any part of the Word of God, even if the noble pursuit is to share the message of salvation. Who gives the church the right to say, "In the interest of saving souls we preach Christ, but we are not going to be bound by all that Scripture teaches?" Where in Scripture does one find justification to say that it is acceptable to preach less than **all** that God says in His divinely inspired and inerrant Word? Since the Word is God (John 1:1) who will be so presumptuous as to claim that he can separate the Word from God, or God from the Word? How can anyone, including ourselves—even in the interest of saving souls—consciously and/or deliberately for reasons of our own—even love—presume to set aside any portion of the Word that we think may get in the way of saving souls. Do we presume to understand the mind of men better than the Lord Who in His commission tells us to "teach them to observe *all things whatsoever I have commanded you.*"

Many churches and church bodies have floundered on this point. Pleading love for souls they have presumed that it is loveless to teach the "hard sayings" of Scripture. The consequence is that they have lost what is the true mission spirit, namely teaching all that the Lord has commanded. In our personal mission efforts, and as a church body, we need to search our own heart in this matter carefully. As we proceed into the future we need to pray for faith and strength of conviction to show our love for souls—those within our fellowship, as well as those we hope to reach—by proclaiming the whole counsel of God, and thus in the proclamation of the salvation message, "**teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you.**"

If we do less, we might well ask what purpose we will serve, and why we should even think that the Lord would be minded to preserve our church body for another 50 years! As we are faithful, on the other hand, we can commit ourselves, our church body, and our mission to the care of Him Who concluded His commission with a promise:

"And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

FROM THE CLC BOARD OF MISSIONS

Pastor Todd H. Ohlmann, chairman

www.LutheranMissions.org and www.CLCLutheran.net/MissionHelpers/
 Greetings in the name of our Savior! The members of CLC congregations are blessed with a variety of opportunities to spread the truth of God's Word through the offerings made to the CLC Cooperative Budget Plan. The Lord has given all of us the privilege of supporting U.S. and foreign mission efforts along with our Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary in Eau Claire, WI.

The following comes from Missionary David Koenig.

Prayer List:

- Denis Mulumba in South Africa spent two weeks in the hospital after his accident. Pray that he is able to get back to his secular work which provides the financial resources so he can continue the work of God's Kingdom in Johannesburg, South Africa. Suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, character produces hope and hope does not disappoint us because the love of God has been poured into our hearts. Romans 5:3-5
- Pastor Kham of the CLCM reports that strong winds swept through Chin State. Three pastors (each serving seven villages) report that 38 homes were damaged. Pray that our brothers are able to help one another, as Pastor Kham is encouraging them. Remember them in your prayers. Righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit are what counts above the material things. These cannot be swept away because they are in the heart. Rom. 14:17
- In the Chengleput Dist. of the BELC Pastor Dayalaraj has gone to be with the Lord. It seemed as if he might recover with his heart trouble, when he came home from the hospital, but it was not God's will. His son has replaced him in our monthly pastoral studies. Elijah's mantle is passed to Elisha. May God comfort the family such that they anticipate with joy being in that great white host.

**“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?
 And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?
 And how shall they hear without a preacher?
 And how shall they preach unless they are sent?” Romans 10:14-15**

SERVICE TODAY Usher Team 1 Lowell Boelk, Rodney Kern, John Scheberl, David Dexter, Sam N., Larry Stubbs, Craig Y. Organist Adrienne

NEXT SUNDAY Usher Team 2 Don Seibel, Lowell Boelk, Joe Naumann, Ed Jacobs, Gene Mielke, Don Gescheidle, Tom Naumann. Organist Rhoda E.

LAST WEEK FOR THE LORD Attendance: 131

(This is an unofficial summary. For the official summary, speak to the Financial Secretary)

Budgetary	weekly (needed)	for the fiscal year	
Received	\$2,966 (\$4,442)		\$64,026
Non-budgetary			
Maintenance & Improvement	\$40	balance	\$2,036
Debt Retirement Fund	\$20	balance	\$2,718
	<i>(\$20 given in memory of Annette Gurath)</i>		
LM Building Fund	\$15	mortgage	\$21,402
	<i>(\$10 given in memory of Annette Gurath)</i>		
50 th Anniversary Sign Fund	\$135	balance	\$9,134
	<i>(\$100 given in memory of Marie Hageman; \$10 given in memory of Annette Gurath)</i>		
2009 Deficit Fund	\$300	(to date \$7,094; needed \$32,000)	
	<i>(\$20 given in memory of Annette Gurath)</i>		
Undesignated Memorial	\$260		
	<i>(\$240 given in memory of Annette Gurath; \$20 given in memory of Annette Gurath)</i>		
Missions (CLC fiscal year is July 1 to June 30)			
Budgetary	weekly	year to date	
Received	\$864	\$41,415	
	<i>(\$10 given in memory of Annette Gurath; \$10 given in memory of Annette Gurath)</i>		
Non-budgetary			
ILC Building Fund		\$0	
India Orphanage		\$5	
	<i>(given in memory of Annette Gurath)</i>		
Pastor Steve Karp Fund		\$10	

MEMORY VERSE

“And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.”

Acts 5:42

MISSION WORK

Good mission work begins first with the LORD's saving work in your heart. He gave you a gift called faith that believes in the forgiveness of sins in Jesus Christ. That faith clings to the Gospel (Good News!) message that God has done it ALL for you! After His Mission Work is accomplished in your heart, your loving God tells you: “GO! Be My witnesses.” Witnessing the One True Triune God means bringing His powerful Word (the BIBLE) to others. You don't have to worry about what to say, all you have to worry about is telling

people HIS Word. The Holy Spirit will do the rest. Know the Word, study it, memorize it, hold it close in your heart and minds, then: Share it!

A Brief Summary of the Books of the Bible Put to Rhyme

OLD TESTAMENT

In **GENESIS** the world was made by God's creative hand,
In **EXODUS** the Hebrews marched to gain the promised land.
LEVITICUS contains the Law, Holy and Just and Good,
NUMBERS records the tribes enrolled, all sons of Abraham's blood.
Moses in **DEUTERONOMY** records God's deeds,
Brave **JOSHUA** into Canaan's land the host of Israel leads.
In **JUDGES** their rebellion oft provokes the Lord to smite,
But **RUTH** records the faith of one well-pleasing in His sight.
In **I & II SAMUEL** of Jesse's sons we read,
Ten tribes in **I & II KINGS** revolted from his seed.
In **I & II CHRONICLES** see Judah captive made,
But **EZRA** leads a remnant back by princely Cyrus' aid.
The city walls of Zion, **NEHEMIAH** builds again,
While **ESTHER** saves her people from plots of wicked men.
In **JOB** we read how faith will live beneath affliction's rod,
And David's **PSALMS** are precious songs of every child of God.
The **PROVERBS** like a goodly string of choicest pearl appear,
ECCLESIASTES teaches man how vain are all things here.
The mystic **SONG OF SOLOMON** exalts sweet Sharon's Rose,
While Christ the Savior and the King the rapt **ISAIAH** shows.
The warning **JEREMIAH** apostate Israel scorns,
His plaintive **LAMENTATIONS** then their awful downfall mourns.
EZEKIEL in wondrous words of dazzling mysteries,
While kingdoms and empires yet to come, **DANIEL** in vision sees.
Of Judgment and of mercy **HOSEA** loves to tell,
JOEL describes the blessed days when God with men shall dwell.
Among Tekoa's herdsmen **AMOS** received his call,
While **OBADIAH** prophesies of Edom's final fall.
JONAH enshrines a wondrous type of Christ our Risen Lord.

MICAH pronounces Judah lost - - lost but again restored,
NAHUM declares on Nineveh last Judgment shall be poured.
A view of the Chaldean's coming doom **HABAKKUK'S** visions give,
Next **ZEPHANIAH** warns the Jews to turn, repent and live.
HAGGAI wrote to those who saw the temple built again,
And **ZECHARIAH** prophesied of Christ's triumphant reign.
MALACHI was the last who touched the High Prophetic cord,
It's final note sublimely shows the **COMING OF THE LORD**.

NEW TESTAMENT

MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND JOHN - the holy Gospels
wrote - describing how the Savior died, His life, and all He taught.
ACTS prove how God, the apostles led with signs in every place,
St. Paul in **ROMANS** tells how man is saved by grace.
Paul in **CORINTHIANS** instructs, exhorts, reproves,
GALATIANS shows that faith alone the Father loves.
EPHESIANS AND PHILIPPIANS tell what Christians ought to do,
COLOSSIANS bid us live for God and for eternity true.
In **THESSALONIANS** we are told the Lord will come from heaven,
In **TIMOTHY AND TITUS** a bishop's rule is given.
PHILEMON marks a Christian love, which only Christians know,
HEBREWS reveals the Gospel prefigured by the law.
JAMES teaches that without deeds, faith is vain and dead,
PETER points the narrow way in which the saints are led.
JOHN, in his three epistles on love delights to dwell,
ST. JUDE gives awful warnings of Judgment, wrath and Hell.
REVELATION prophesies of that tremendous day
when Christ and Christ alone shall be the sinner's stay.
First Bible Reading for our Spring Mission Festival
Acts 5:27-42

In these verses we continue hearing about the beginnings of the NT Church from the book of Acts. Here we learn of the bold witness of Jesus disciples. Despite the threats and

physical abuse of men, the Apostles continued teach and preach Jesus as the Christ. We read...

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, 28 saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" 29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. 30 "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. 31 "Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 "And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." 33 When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them. 34 Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while. 35 And he said to them: "Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men. 36 "For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing. 37 "After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed. 38 "And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; 39 "but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it; lest you even be found to fight against God." 40 And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

THE GRADUAL

The Gradual is a "Bridge of praise" that links the Old Testament with the New Testament.

P: Hallelujah! Then was the Lord Jesus known of the disciples:

C: **In the breaking of bread. Hallelujah!**

P: Then said the disciples one to another:

C: **Did not our hearts burn within us? Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P: I am the Good Shepherd:

C: **I know My sheep, and am known of mine. Hallelujah!**

CONGR. (sing) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Second Bible Reading:

Revelation 5:11-14

These verses present John's vision of the heavenly chorus singing the praises of our Risen Savior Jesus Christ. This is our Savior God! The One we're here to tell people about! We read...

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!" 13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!" 14 Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.