

St. Mark Lutheran Church and School

3930 S. 19th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502 www.stmarklincoln.org

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Pastor

Joel Vogel
Cell (740) 350-3261

Teachers

Jeremiah Drews (4-8, Principal)
Cell (402) 480-1940
Eva Van Egmond (K-3)
Cell (920) 210-9813

This Week at St. Mark

- Sunday - Worship Service 8:00 am & 10:30 am
- Sunday School & Bible Class 9:20 am
- Monday - Worship Service 7:00 pm
- Wednesday - Bible Class Lexington Assisted Living Center 3:30 pm
- Thursday - Bible Class 6:30 am
- 6:30 pm Ladies Aid
- BIC 7:00 pm
- Saturday - Church Cleaning: Sec. 1 Wilkinson Sec. 2 Workentine
Sec. 3 Witt
- Sunday - Worship Service 8:00 am & 10:30 am
- Sunday School & Bible Class 9:20 am

Poinsettias The Ladies' Aid will be purchasing Christmas poinsettias for the church altar. If you wish to give a donation toward the purchase of the poinsettias to help cover the cost, please make your check out to Elfi Lee and put your donation in her mailbox by Dec. 6.

Birthday—Ben Hoefler 11/2, Nate Workentine 11/3, Alta Beltz 11/5, Lois Weise 11/6



Grace Alone
Faith Alone
Scripture Alone

GRACE ALONE... FAITH ALONE... SCRIPTURE ALONE...

PASTOR'S WELCOME

OPENING SONG: *Sola Song (K-8)*

By Helen and Darrell Dobberpuhl

Not by works but grace alone,
Not by works but grace alone,
We will enter life eternal,
Not by works but faith alone.

Justified through faith alone,
Justified through faith alone,
God declares us to be righteous,
Justified through faith alone.

Scripture is the truth alone,
Scripture is the truth alone,
Not man's teachings or traditions,
Scripture is the truth alone.

Glory be to God alone,
Glory be to God alone,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Glory be to God alone.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

PRAYER

Gracious Lord God, we come before your throne today with hearts filled with gratitude and thanksgiving for having been made heirs of your glory through your gifts of grace, faith, and Holy Scripture. Be with our worship today as we refresh our minds, souls, and hearts with the saving grace of

CONGREGATION HYMN: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

By Martin Luther

A mighty fortress is our God, a trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need that has us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done; soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant one whom God himself elected.
"You ask, who is this?" Jesus Christ it is,
The almighty Lord.
And there's no other God;
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill, all eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; they shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done!
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain, nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain with his good gifts and Spirit.
And do what they will—hate, steal, hurt, or kill,
Though all may be gone,
Our victory is won;
The kingdom's ours forever!

Please remember in your prayers...



- Sarah Brauer (Margaret Booth's daughter)
- Jacob Kander, Jean & Denny Riegsecker's nephew.
- Alida Freese, Julie Nelson's mother

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

Elders: Nate Workentine, Ben Schroeder
Ushers: Rainer Gartzke, Rich Beltz (E), Brian & Trevor Wiles (L)
Greeters: Mel & Sue Soyk (E) , Lisa Duffield / Lori Meyer (L)
Organist: Eva Van Egmond

Vacation: Pastor Vogel will be on vacation November 4 through November 10. If you need pastoral assistance, call Pastor Kemnitz (402) 440-8145.

BELLA VOGEL

Interestingly the one name it never calls itself is The Holy Bible. But no matter how you name it, it is a precious jewel to the believer, one that should be kept safe and pure so that it can be shared from generation to generation.

SONG: *I'll Not Give Up the Bible (4-8)*

Words and Music by William T. Giffe

I'll not give up the Bible,
That precious book divine,
For glory guilds its pages,
And truth adorns each line.

REFRAIN

*I'll never give up that holy book,
I'll never give up the Bible;
I'll never give up that holy book,
That precious book divine.*

Though foes may fight against me,
And enemies combine,
Its precepts still shall guide me,
As light from heav'n they shine.
REFRAIN

When fate's wild storms come near me,
And loud the billows roar,
My chart shall be the Bible,
To guide to heav'ns bright shore.
REFRAIN

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Based on 1 Peter 1:25, ". . . but the word of the Lord stands forever. And this is the word that was preached to you."

OFFERING

PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

your love, the faith we have been given through the Holy Spirit, and the Scripture we treasure as our daily guide and comfort. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Friend and our Redeemer. Amen.

PART 1 GRACE ALONE

RESPONSIVE READING

P: Grace! 'Tis a charming sound, harmonious to the ear;
C: Heaven with the echo shall resound, and all the earth shall hear.
P: Grace first inscribed my name in God's eternal book;
C: 'Twas grace that gave me to the Lamb, who all my sorrows took.

P: Grace led my wandering feet to tread the heavenly road;
C: And new supplies each hour I meet while pressing on to God.

P: Grace taught my soul to pray and made my eyes o'erflow;
C: 'Twas grace that kept me to this day and will not let me go.

ALL: Grace all the work shall crown through everlasting days;
It lays in heaven the topmost stone and well deserves the praise.

MELODY TUSTIN

Five hundred years ago, during the time of the protestant Reformation, Martin Luther and his fellow reformers fought to restore a wandering church to the basic truths of Christianity. They believed that sinners are justified by grace alone, through faith alone, on the basis of Scripture alone. Today we will lead you on a journey through all three of these "alones" or as they are often referred to in Latin, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, and Sola Scriptura.

MYLES HOWARD

What does it mean that we are saved by grace alone? Grace is a word we often hear in church. It is used in the Bible over 120 times. In fact the book of Romans mentions grace 20 times. But what is grace?

ALL CHILDREN

Grace is God's kindness that we don't deserve.

ALL CHILDREN

Luke wrote in Acts 15:11, "We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved."

WILL COSTIN

Grace is the first step on our road to heaven. We deserved nothing from God but punishment and damnation. God had every right to condemn us to everlasting death. But he didn't. He showed us his grace. He freely gave us the opportunity to be saved through the death of his own son, Jesus Christ. How loving our God is. And he gave this grace not only to us, but to everyone. That means there is no other way to heaven but through the door of God's free grace. It doesn't seem fair. We might think we should have to do something to work for it, but that is not in God's plan.

We read in Romans 11:6, "If by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace."

We can easily understand grace if we just remember how it is spelled!

ALL CHILDREN

G-R-A-C-E is God's Riches At Christ's Expense

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Based on Ephesians 2:5, "It is by grace you have been saved."

MAKENA COLSON

Our grace hymn was written by someone who truly understood God's grace. He served in the British navy in the 1700s. Eventually he became involved in the horrible slave trade. But by God's grace his heart was opened to the message of Christ's love. He left his wicked past behind, and became one of England's greatest preachers. His name was John Newton, and this is his song.

CONGREGATION HYMN: *Amazing Grace*

By John Newton

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound!
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed.

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come.
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

MARTHA COSTIN

Our Bible is a very special book. It is the only book that was written by God, and it's the only book that we need to learn about our loving Savior. We don't need any manmade books or writings. We don't need any traditions or edicts from church fathers. We don't need any brilliant reasoning or scientific proof. The only thing anyone really needs to find heaven is God's guidebook, The Holy Bible.

FINGERPLAY: *God Gave Us a Book (K-2)*

God gave us a book (Hands make book opening)
The Bible is its name (Write name in the air)
It tells us of God's love (Give yourself a hug)
And why our Savior came! (Make cross with fingers)

SONG: *The Bible Message (K-3)*

Words and Music by Naomi Mahnke

I love my precious Bible,
It tells me of God's love;
Assures me of my Savior
And shows me heaven above!

And I must share the message
Of God's great love for me,
So all will see their Savior
And live eternally.

BETHANY FOX

God's Word is known by many names, but they all refer to God's revelation to us. Here are some of them:

The Law of the Lord — Will Costin
The Book of the Law — Myles Howard
The Words of God — Joey Murphy
My Words — Melody Tustin
The Living Word — MaKena Colson
The Word of Christ — Molly Wilkinson
The Word of Life — Martha Costin
The Word of Truth — Jonathan Alvarez-Fred
The Book of Truth — Isaac Beiermann
The Gospel — Atticus Bergen
The Scroll of the Lord — Bethany Fox
The Sword of the Spirit — Genevieve Schmidt
The Promises — Silas Vogel
The Scriptures — Bella Vogel
The Holy Scriptures — Robert Merklinger

SONG: I Do Not Know (Junior Choir)
Words and Music by Helen Lemmel

I do not know how Adam's sin
Lives on in you and me,
Nor how it causes all the wrong
And sorrow that we see.
REFRAIN

*But I read it in God's Word, and I believe it;
Yes, I believe it, fully believe it!
I read it in God's Word, and I believe it,
And that is all I need to do.*

I do not know how God could lay
My sins upon his Son,
Nor how, on Calv'ry's cross, for me
He perfect pardon won.
REFRAIN

I do not know how Jesus' blood
Can cleanse my heart from sin,
Nor how, by faith, in ev'ry fight
The vict'ry I may win.
REFRAIN

I do not know how one day he
Can come to earth again,
Nor how like him I shall be made,
And ever with him reign.
REFRAIN

PART 3
SCRIPTURE ALONE

GENEVIEVE SCHMIDT

We now come to the third Sola that Martin Luther treasured. We remember that Grace Alone shows us the undeserved blessing that God has given to all people. We also know that only by Faith Alone will that grace bear fruit. But how does that faith come to us? It is through the Holy Bible, or by Scripture Alone.

But what is the Scripture?

ALL CHILDREN:

The Scripture is God's Word that we have in the Bible.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
Than when we'd first begun.

PART 2
FAITH ALONE

ATTICUS BERGEN

Isn't the grace of God a wonderful blessing? But if it is given to everyone, why won't everyone be saved?

JONATHAN ALVAREZ-FRED

That takes us to the next of the three Solas: by Faith Alone. But what is faith?

ALL CHILDREN

Faith is believing that Jesus is our Savior.

SILAS VOGEL

God did some wonderful things for us. Sin began in the Garden of Eden, and it has infected everyone since then. But God found a way to take away the sin. He sent his Son Jesus to die on the cross. There he forgave the sins of everyone. But the suffering and dying of Jesus means very little if people don't believe it. Faith in Jesus as our Savior is the next step we take on God's journey.

BETHANY FOX

Martin Luther saw that the people were being taught that one could get to heaven by adding works and buying one's way. They didn't rely only on faith. Luther knew that wasn't what the Bible said.

ALL CHILDREN

Ephesians 2:8,9 says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."

MOLLY WILKINSON

The Bible is filled with examples of God's people who truly believed that God would rescue them from their sins. They looked forward to the coming Messiah. We look back to see that Jesus was that hope they were looking for, and we look ahead to the time he will come back to take us to heaven. Hebrews 11 names many of those great heroes of faith.

RESPONSIVE READING

ALL: Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. (Heb. 11:1)

MEN: By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. (Heb. 11:4)

WOMEN: By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death. (Heb. 11:5)

CHILDREN: By faith Noah, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. (Heb. 11:7)

MEN: By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. (Heb. 11:17)

WOMEN: By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future. (Heb. 11:20)

CHILDREN: By faith Jacob blessed each of Joseph's sons. (Heb. 11:21)

MEN: By faith Joseph spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. (Heb. 11:22)

WOMEN: By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. (Heb. 11:23)

CHILDREN: By faith Moses regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasure of Egypt. (Heb. 11:25)

MEN: By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land. (Heb. 11:29)

WOMEN: By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people marched around them for seven days. (Heb. 11:30)

ALL: And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, and Samuel. (Heb. 11:32)

ISAAC BEIERMANN

[These people] did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted they were aliens and strangers on earth. (Heb. 11:13)

CONGREGATION SONG: *Oh, for a Faith That Will Not Shrink* *By William Bathurst*

Oh, for a faith that will not shrink,
Though pressed by many a foe,
That will not tremble on the brink
Of poverty or woe.

A faith that shines more bright and clear
When tempests rage without,
That, when in danger knows no fear,
In darkness feels no doubt.

A faith that keeps the narrow way
Till life's last spark is fled
And with a pure and heav'nly ray
Lights up the dying bed.

Lord, give me such a faith as this,
And then, whate'er may come,
I'll taste, e'en now, the hallowed bliss
Of an eternal home.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Based on Romans 5:1, "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH: Luther's explanation to the Third Article

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.

But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.