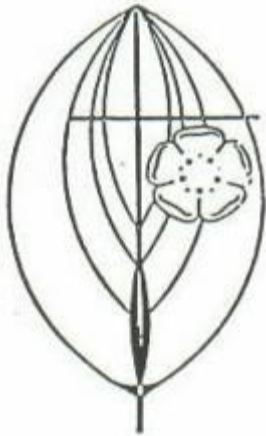

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH



Messiah Messenger

407 Nassau Street at Cedar Lane
 Email: lcmaprinceton@gmail.com
www.princetonlutheranchurch.org
www.facebook.com/MessiahChurchPrinceton

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Why the Lectionary?

THE REV. DR.
 MARTIN K. ERHARDT
 PASTOR

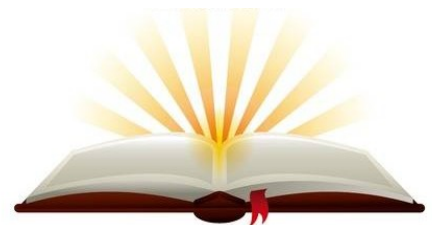
THE REV. DR.
 JOHN MARK GOERSS
 PASTOR EMERITUS

JANICE HOFREITER
 ORGANIST AND
 CHOIR DIRECTOR

ALLY PEXA
 OFFICE ASSISTANT

People occasionally ask me why Messiah uses the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) as the source for our Sunday scripture readings. In the August 2019 issue of *Forum Letter*, a monthly publication of the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau, Pastor Richard O. Johnson makes a seven point case for using the RCL. I won't repeat all seven points here, but here are a few important ones:

1. A standard lectionary unites congregations that use it. It's something we have in common, and reminds us that we are part of a common mission – God's – to his fallen but beloved world. In feeding us the same Word that our sisters and brothers in other congregations are receiving on the same day, a common lectionary builds unity and a shared sense of purpose and priorities among us.
2. The RCL was created by a large number of scholars with interest and expertise in different parts of the Bible. As a result, it includes passages from a range of biblical sources, including difficult passages. The RCL ensures that we receive a rich, varied, challenging, and encouraging diet of God's Word.
3. Reading and preaching from a lectionary keeps us disciplined. As with many things in life, we get tired of it. Persevering through the lectionary anyway is good practice for persevering with what is good in other areas of life, even when the novelty has worn off and it no longer excites us.
4. The RCL helps us to pattern our lives according to the liturgical year. Many of the readings are seasonal and form our sense of time around the festivals of the church.



continued on the next page

The symbol in the upper left corner expresses by means of candle and messianic rose the worship of the Messiah and the Truth of Christ. The cross signifies His central deed and the five crosses in the rose the sacred wounds.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK CONTINUED

5. The RCL provides a variety of readings each Sunday through which God speaks to us, in addition to the sermon. Pastors are, or should be, acutely aware that congregations include people with a variety of needs, and that no one sermon can address them all. Having several readings widens the scope of the Word we hear on a given day, addressing a greater range of questions and needs.

I can testify from personal experience to the truth of several of Pastor Johnson's points. When, before I was a pastor, I lived for a summer in Gardiner, Montana, there was no Lutheran congregation in or near town. But at local congregations that used a lectionary, I could at least be assured of hearing four substantial, varied passages of scripture in the Sunday worship service.

Hearing from four different parts of scripture each week (typically, Old Testament, Psalm, New Testament Epistle, and Gospel) helps us to hear the whole counsel of God in scripture, and to develop and reinforce a coherent, nuanced, and multi-faceted biblical theology that is at once challenging and refreshing. There is rejoicing and lament, Law and Gospel, history and poetry, comfort and exhortation. The RCL keeps us from becoming lazy, clinging to our hobbyhorses, and pushes us into the depth and variety of God's Word, so we grow up into maturity.

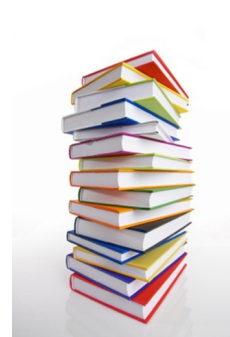
There is no perfect way to select Sunday scripture readings. Every one has pros and cons, but some are better than others. The RCL is a gift to the church, and despite its drawbacks, I'm grateful for it. If there is a part of scripture that the RCL omits that you'd like to hear more from, please let me know. I may be able to include it in worship services or adult education. The lectionary is not a straitjacket, but provides structure and variety that we would otherwise miss. Thanks be to God for the gift of his Word!

If you'd like to read Pastor Johnson's article, my copy of the August 2019 *Forum Letter* is in the magazine display case to the right of the double doors at the back of the nave. You're welcome to borrow it, and please bring it back the following week so others can read it too.

Pastor Martin

Summer Book Group

The Summer Book Group has slipped the surly bonds of summer and continues to meet. This month's book is *Death Comes for the Archbishop*, by Willa Cather. All are invited to read it and participate in a discussion at 7:30pm on Thursday, Sept. 26, on the top floor of the parish building. This event is open to the public – please invite friends! If you plan to attend, RSVP to lcmaprinceton@gmail.com by noon on Sept. 22 to ensure that we'll have seats for everyone.



Visit our website to listen to audio recordings of Sunday Sermons.
princetonlutheranchurch.org/services.html

CHURCH CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Love & Fidelity Conference

Would you like to learn how to help young people form healthy dating relationships, marriages, and families? If so, consider attending the annual "Sexuality, Integrity, and the University" conference Nov. 8-9 at Princeton University, sponsored by the Love and Fidelity Network. The conference is geared towards college students, but anyone may attend. Registration is required. For more information and to register online, go to loveandfidelity.org. Early registration (reduced rates) closes Sept. 15.

County-wide Reformation Service

The LCMS congregations of Mercer County are planning a joint Reformation Sunday service on the afternoon (typically 4:00pm) of Sunday, October 27, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on Princeton Pike in Lawrenceville. Please plan to join us, and look for more details in future Sunday bulletins.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 7, 8 am

International Student Garage Give-Away (p. 8)

Summer BBQ at 4pm



Sunday, September 8, 9 am

Christian Education classes resume

Change to LBW Setting II



Thursday, September 12, 6:30 pm

LCM Table Talk (p. 7)



Thursday, September 19, 7 pm

Executive Board Meeting



Friday, September 20, 6 pm

International Student Dinner



Sunday, September 22

Pledge Sunday



Thursday, September 26, 7:30pm

Book Discussion Group (p. 2)



Saturday, September 28, 9 am

Men's Forum



Thursday, October 10, 6:30 pm

LCM Table Talk (p. 7)



Tuesday, October 15, 7 pm

Executive Board Meeting



Friday, October 18, 6 pm

International Student Dinner



Saturday, October 26, 9 am

Men's Forum



Sunday, October 27, 4 pm

Reformation Service & Potluck

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Lawrenceville



THIS IS MESSIAH

Funeral Service for Martha Peck on August 19



Committal at Princeton Cemetery



The funeral lunch was well attended, with many people sharing memories of Martha.



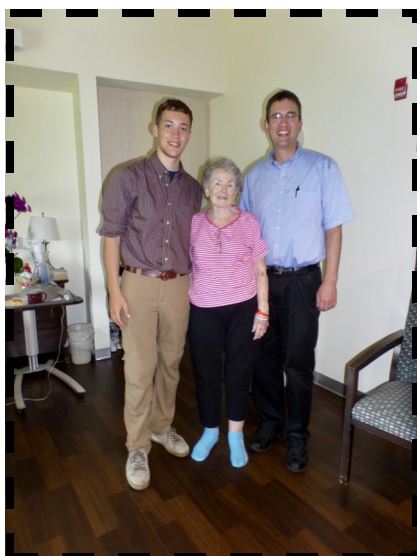
LCMS pastors of the New Jersey, English, and Ohio Districts gathered on August 25 for the ordination and installation of Candidate Dale Fjordbotten as pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Somerset, NJ. Congratulations and welcome to Pastor Fjordbotten and his wife, Kori!

THIS IS MESSIAH



On June 23, we publicly recognized and celebrated the baptism of Julia Ann Majsztrik

Samuel Rausch visited us on Sunday, August 18. He's grown since he left us in 2014! Samuel has begun an undergraduate program in music at the Kodály Institute of the Liszt Academy in Kecskemét, Hungary.



Samuel, Anne Bolick, and Pastor at the Merwick Rehab Center



THIS IS MESSIAH



**Congratulations to Christopher “Petey”
Peters on defending his dissertation
July 1 at Princeton University**



**Messiah cheers on the Trenton Thunder!
June 28 at Waterfront Park**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education classes meet Sundays at 9:00am

Adult Forum meets in the parish building lounge (top floor).

Sunday School for children of all ages meets in the Fellowship Hall.

Upcoming Adult Forum Topics:

Sept. 8-29: Heresies and How to Avoid Them

Oct. 6-27: Holistic Christianity: How Much Wholeness Should We Expect?



TABLE TALKS

Fall 2019 Lutheran Campus Ministry Monthly Dinner Discussions

Lutheran Campus Ministry's monthly Table Talks (dinner discussions) will resume on Thursday, Sept. 12, in 210 Murray-Dodge Hall at Princeton University. The discussion topic will be *The Bible and Human Rights*.

We will meet during the 2019-20 academic year on the following dates:

9/12/19, 10/10/19, 11/7/19, 12/5/19, 1/9/20, 2/6/20, 3/5/20, 4/2/20, 4/30/20



After 5:00 PM on weekdays, free parking is available in the university lot on William St., between Washington Rd. and Charlton St.

All are welcome! Please join us and invite friends.

THE 36TH ANNUAL ISI GARAGE GIVE-AWAY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

PLACE: LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH

DATE: **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019 (Rain Date 9/14)**

TIME: 8:00 – 9:00 A.M. DONATION DELIVERY TIME

8:00 – 10:00 A.M. SET UP TIME

10:00 – 11:00 A.M. OPEN TO STUDENTS & SCHOLARS

11:00 – 12:00 Noon CLEAN UP TIME

HELPERS ARE NEEDED BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Drivers with pickups, vans, and bigger vehicles are needed

MUCH SOUGHT AFTER ITEMS:

KITCHEN: POTS, DISHES, SILVERWARE

BED & BATH: SHEETS, BLANKETS, PILLOWS, TOWELS,
COMFORTERS, THROW RUGS

APPLIANCES: TOASTERS, IRONS, HEATERS, FANS

FURNITURE: DESKS, DINETTE, LAMPS, CHAIRS, COUCHES, BEDS, BOOKSHELVES, BICYCLES

NOT NEEDED: TELEVISIONS, COMPUTERS, MONITORS, TOYS, CLOTHES, GAMES, BOOKS,
CURTAINS



* DONATED ITEMS MUST BE **CLEAN** AND IN **GOOD WORKING CONDITION**.

** FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

GLENN SHIMOMURA (908) 369-4898 gaabcshim@gmail.com

TOM TAYLOR (908) 406-4790 guytmt@gmail.com

JOHN & ARUNA DESAI (609) 924-0763 jdesai45@verizon.net

BLAST from the PAST



**MESSIAH AT THE BEACH!
CAN YOU GUESS THE YEAR?**

Photos courtesy of Messiah archives



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

SUNDAYS AFTER PENTECOST

YEAR C

FIRST READING

PSALM

SECOND READING

GOSPEL READING

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost September 1, 2019	Jeremiah 2:4-13	Psalms 81:1, 10-16	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14
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The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 8, 2019	Jeremiah 18:1-11	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18	Philemon 1:1-21	Luke 14:25-33
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The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 15, 2018	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28	Psalms 14	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Luke 15:1-10
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The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 22, 2018	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1	Psalms 79:1-9	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Luke 16:1-13
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The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 29, 2018	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15	Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16	1 Timothy 6:6-19	Luke 16:19-31
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LECTIONARY READINGS FOR OCTOBER

SUNDAYS AFTER PENTECOST YEAR C	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL READING
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost October 6, 2018	Lamentations 1:1-6	Psalms 137	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 17:5-10
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 13, 2018	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7	Psalms 66:1-12	2 Timothy 2:8-15	Luke 17:11-19
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 20, 2018	Jeremiah 31:27-34	Psalms 119:97-104	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5	Luke 18:1-8
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 27, 2018	Joel 2:23-32	Psalms 65	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Luke 18:9-14

October



September 2019

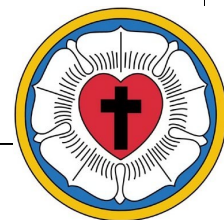


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>10:30am Holy Communion</i>	2 <i>Labor Day</i>	3	4 <i>7:30pm Choir</i>	5	6	7 <i>8am-12pm International Student Garage Give-Away</i> <i>4pm Messiah BBQ</i>
8 <i>9am Christian Education</i> <i>10:30am Holy Communion</i>	9	10	11 <i>7:30pm Choir</i>	12 <i>6:30pm LCM Table Talk</i>	13	14
15 <i>9am Christian Education</i> <i>10:30am Holy Communion</i>	16	17	18 <i>7:30pm Choir</i>	19 <i>7pm Executive Board Meeting</i>	20 <i>6pm International Student Dinner</i>	21
22 <i>Pledge Sunday</i> <i>9am Christian Education</i> <i>10:30am Holy Communion</i>	23	24	25 <i>7:30pm Choir</i>	26 <i>7:30pm Book Group</i>	27	28 <i>9am Men's Forum</i>
29 <i>9am Christian Education</i> <i>10:30am Holy Communion</i>	30					

October 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7:30pm Choir	3	4	5
6 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	7	8	9 7:30pm Choir	10 6:30 pm LCM Table Talk	11	12
13 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	14	15 7pm Executive Board Meeting	16 7:30pm Choir	17	18 6pm International Student Dinner	19
20 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	21	22	23 7:30pm Choir	24	25	26 9am Men's Forum
27 9am Christian Education 10:30am Matins 4pm Reformation @ Holy Trinity	28	29	30 7:30pm Choir	31		



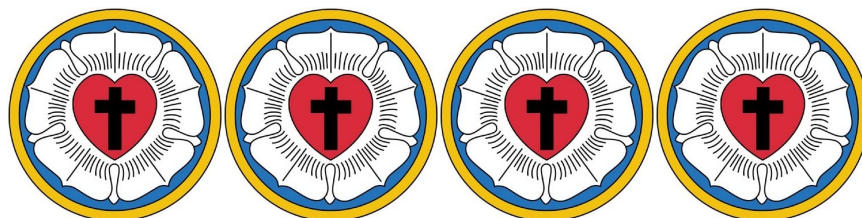


THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE MESSIAH

407 Nassau Street at Cedar Lane
Princeton, NJ 08540

Phone: 609-924-3642
lcmprinceton@gmail.com
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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED



If we missed your birthday, we're sorry, but it means it's not on file. Help update our data...
Call (609) 924-3642 or email the church office at lcmherald@gmail.com
