

This Week at VIC

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Today 7/12	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	12:00 noon	Fellowship Lunch
Tuesday 7/14	1:00 p.m.	Ladies Bible Study
Sunday 7/19	10:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	12:00 noon	Fellowship Lunch

Weekly Stewardship Focus

Romans 8:12 – “So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.” We owe the flesh, the world, and the devil nothing at all. We are not debtors to these enemies; we are freed by the blood of Christ. We are joyful servants in Christ’s kingdom – servants that He calls friends. We share our Lord’s plans and purposes, and this gives direction and purpose to our lives.

Announcements

Church Cleaning – Scheduled for church cleaning this week are the Safford and Visingardi Families.

Church Voters’ Meeting – There will be a Voters’ Meeting following the noon meal on Sunday, July 26.

General Fund Income –

Weekly Budgeted Income	\$ 3,226.23
Actual Income Received Last Week	\$ 2,538.00
Year to Date Budgeted Income	\$140,453.89
Year to Date Actual Income	\$120,562.27

Creation Day 5 by Julius Schnoor von Carolsfeld.

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Victory in Christ Lutheran Church



*So shall My Word be that goes forth from My Mouth.
Isaiah 55:11*

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Victory in Christ Lutheran Church
508 Main Street
Newark, Texas 76071
817-489-5400
Pastor Philip Schielke

Pastor's Email: pastor@viclutheranchurch.org

Church Website: www.viclutheranchurch.org

Church Email: churchoffice@viclutheranchurch.org

WELCOME! We thank God for you and pray that He will richly bless our worship activity together.

Communion: We welcome all of our guests worshiping with us today and pray your faith is strengthened. God's Word declares to us that the bread and wine we receive in the Lord's Supper is the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ given for the forgiveness of sins and nourishing of faith (Matt. 26: 26-28; Mark 14: 22-24; Luke 22: 19-21; 1 Cor. 11: 23-26). When receiving His true body and blood, all communicants are to be united in their understanding and confession of Jesus Christ and all of His teaching (Jon. 17: 22; 1 Cor. 1: 10). An unworthy reception of this gift results in one who "eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Cor. 11: 29). Therefore, if you are still learning Lutheran doctrine or are not part of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, we invite you forward for a blessing and encourage you to speak with the pastor *before* the service in order to learn more about our teaching on the Lord's Supper.

Hymn of Invocation: #582 – God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

Divine Service Setting Three: pg. 184

Psalmody

Psalm 103:15-19; antiphon 103:8 (E.S.V.)

⁸ The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

¹⁵ **As for man, his days are like grass;**
he flourishes like a flower of the field;

¹⁶ for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

¹⁷ **But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting**
to everlasting on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,

¹⁸ to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.

¹⁹ **The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,**
and his kingdom rules over all.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

⁸ The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10-13 (English Standard Version)

¹⁰ "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² "For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

New Testament Reading

Romans 8:12-17 (English Standard Version)

Heirs with Christ

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (English Standard Version)

The Parable of the Sower

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶ but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear."

The Parable of the Sower Explained

¹⁸ "Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³ As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Sermon Hymn: #577 – Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

Sermon:

Communion Hymns: #578 – Thy Strong Word

Closing Hymn: #921 – On What Has Now Been Sown

The Readings for today –

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Isaiah 55:10–13

Romans 8:12–17

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love

As "*the rain and the snow come down from heaven*" and "*water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout*" (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as "*an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off*" (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and "*indeed bears fruit*" (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who "*have received the Spirit of adoption as sons*" (Rom. 8:15). Thus being "*led by the Spirit of God*," we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we "*also be glorified with him*" (Rom. 8:17).

A Look Ahead to Next Sunday –

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Isaiah 44:6–8

Romans 8:18–27

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

The Word of the Gospel Bestows the Righteousness of Christ and Brings Forth Faith

The good Seed, which is "*the Son of Man*," Jesus Himself (Matt. 13:37), brings forth a harvest of faith and bears good fruits in "*the sons of the kingdom*" (Matt. 13:38). Whatever is sown apart from His Word is of the devil, who plants the weeds of unbelief and sin, even among the people of God. Thankfully, the Lord is patient and He does not uproot the weeds, lest the plants also be destroyed. He lets "*both grow together until the harvest*" (Matt. 13:30) while He continues to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins. Thus, He preserves His Church in righteousness, because He alone is "*the King of Israel and his Redeemer*" (Is. 44:6). Since all things are in His gracious care and keeping, "*fear not, nor be afraid*" (Is. 44:8). For "*the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God*" (Rom. 8:19), and in this hope we also wait with patience. Though we do not yet see it, "*the Spirit helps us in our weakness*" (Rom. 8:26) and, in truth, "*the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us*" (Rom. 8:18).