

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Cantate—The Sunday of the New Song



“When the Spirit of truth comes,
he will guide you into all the truth...”

John 16:13a

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10 May A+D 2020

Welcome in Jesus' name to our guests this holy day. We pray God's richest blessings to you as we hear His Word and receive His gifts. If you're visiting for the first time, please sign our guestbook in the narthex.

Worship at St. Paul's is conducted according to the historic, liturgical worship patterns of the Christian Church throughout the ages. The rhythm of worship is from our God to us, and then from us back to Him. He gives His gifts, and together we receive and extol them.

The Lord's Supper is offered every Sunday of the month. St. Paul's observes the biblical practice of close communion. Members of sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are encouraged to commune with us. *We ask visitors who are not members of the LC-MS to speak with one of our pastors if you are interested in learning more about our church and communion practices.*

Cantate: The Sunday of the New Song

"He Is Risen to Proclaim the Truth"

Jesus Promises to Send His Holy Spirit, the Helper

Though Jesus has departed from us visibly to the right hand of the Father who sent Him, yet this is to our advantage. For Jesus—who is Lord over all creation, who intercedes for us before the Father, who is preparing a place for us in heaven—has sent the Helper, the Spirit of Truth (John 16:5–15). *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights"* through Jesus Christ (James 1:17). The Holy Spirit helps us by taking what is Christ's and declaring it to us. In the Word of truth, the Spirit works repentance and delivers to us the forgiveness of sins, the righteousness of Christ, and victory over the devil. For the ruler of this world is judged and defeated by the cross. Through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, we have been brought forth to new life in Him who is the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. Confident of our resurrection with Christ we confess, *"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid"* (Is. 12:2).

Service Notes: Julie Moreno will be the Kantor for both services. Trumpeters for both services are Pastor Frank and John Timm.

Prayer: O Lord, our God, as we come before You to worship You in spirit and truth, we ask You to open our hearts to the ministry of Your Word. Lead us to truly repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Divine Service

Setting One

Prelude: *Partita on Lasst uns erfreuen*.....*Charles Callahan*

819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

LSB 819



1 Sing praise to God, the high - est good, The au - thor of cre -
 2 What God's al - might - y pow'r has made, In mer - cy He is
 3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
 4 He nev - er shall for - sake His flock, His cho - sen gen - er -



a - tion, The God of love who un - der - stood
 keep - ing. By morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
 hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness
 a - tion; He is their ref - uge and their rock,



Our need for His sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our
 His eye is nev - er sleep - ing. With - in the king - dom
 And came with peace to cheer us. For this we thank and
 Their peace and their sal - va - tion. As with a moth - er's



souls He fills And ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stills:
 of His might All things are just and good and right:
 praise the Lord, Who is by one and all a - dored:
 ten - der hand, He leads His own, His cho - sen band:



To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!

5 All who confess Christ's holy name,
 Give God the praise and glory.
 Let all who know His pow'r proclaim
 Aloud the wondrous story.
 Cast ev'ry idol from its throne,
 For God is God, and He alone:
 To God all praise and glory!

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Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 98:1b, 3–4; antiphon: Ps. 98:1a, 2b

Sing to the LORD a new song, Alle- | luia,*

for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. Alle- | luia.

His right hand and his | holy arm*

have worked salva- | tion for him.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*

break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Sing to the LORD a new song, Alle- | luia,*

for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. Alle- | luia.

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

C **This is the feast of victory for our God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:1–6

¹You will say in that day:

"I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

²"Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation."

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

"Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵"Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 66:1–4

¹Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;*

²sing the glory of his name;
give to him | glorious praise!

³Say to God, "How awesome | are your deeds!*"
So great is your power that your enemies come cringing | to you.

⁴All the earth worships you
and sings prais- | es to you;*"
they sing praises | to your name."

Epistle

James 1:16–21

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

¹⁹Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires. ²¹Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

458 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

LSB 458 st. 1

1 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands
For our offenses given;
But now at God's right hand He stands
And brings us life from heaven.
Therefore let us joyful be
And sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of alleluia!
Alleluia!

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Holy Gospel

John 16:5–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**



⁵But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB 556 (Kantor St. 4; Men St. 6; Women St. 7)



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, With ex-ul-ta-tion
2 Fast bound in Sa-tan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark-ly
3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer-it
4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be-fore the world's foun-



spring-ing, And with u-nit-ed heart and voice And ho-ly
o'er me. Sin was my tor-ment night and day; In sin my
gain-ing; Free will a-gainst God's judg-ment fought, Dead to all
da-tion, And mind-ful of His mer-cies great, He planned for



rap-ture sing-ing, Pro-claim the won-ders God has done, How
moth-er bore me. But dai-ly deep-er still I fell; My
good re-main-ing. My fears in-creased till sheer de-spair Left
my sal-va-tion. He turned to me a fa-ther's heart; He



His right arm the vic-t'ry won. What price our ran-som cost Him!
life be-came a liv-ing hell, So firm-ly sin pos-sessed me.
on-ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf-fered.
did not choose the eas-y part But gave His dear-est trea-sure.

5 (men)	God said to His beloved Son: "It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever."	8	"Though he will shed My precious blood, Me of My life bereaving, All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing. Life will from death the vict'ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin, And you are blest forever.
6 (women)	The Son obeyed His Father's will, Was born of virgin mother; And God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother. His royal pow'r disguised He bore; A servant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the devil captive.	9	"Now to My Father I depart, From earth to heav'n ascending, And, heav'n'ly wisdom to impart, The Holy Spirit sending; In trouble He will comfort you And teach you always to be true And into truth shall guide you.
7	To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I Myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And where I am you may remain; The foe shall not divide us.	10	"What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and teaching; So shall the kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching. But watch lest foes with base alloy The heav'nly treasure should destroy; This final word I leave you."

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Sermon ~ "The Spirit Declares the Message to Sing" John 16:5-15

Nicene Creed

☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offering ~ "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth".....Wilbur Held

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:**
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 162

Pax Domini

LSB 163

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

- C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

482 This Joyful Eastertide

LSB 482

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and
2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the
3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son

sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,
riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill
slum - ber Till trump from east to west

Has sprung to life this mor - row:
My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:
Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

Refrain
Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on,

Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -
 ris - en, a - ris - en; But now has Christ a - ris - en!

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466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

LSB 466

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear!
 4 "Go spread the news: He's not in the grave;
 5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;

Re - joice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.
 Un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.
 He has a - ris - en this world to save.
 Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.

For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go;
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare;
 Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done;
 Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 And in its con - quest His might did show.
 On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there."
 E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
 He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;

Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

473 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free

LSB 473



1 Our Pas - chal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sac - ri - ficed. O keep
2 Let all our lives now cel - e - brate The feast; let mal - ice die.
3 Let all our deeds, u - nan - i - mous, Con - fess Him as our Lord



The feast of free-dom gal - lant - ly; Let al - le - lu - ias leap:
Let love grow strong a - new, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie.
Who by the Spir - it lives in us, The Fa - ther's liv - ing Word.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A -



gain Sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a - loud: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

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Stand

Thank the Lord

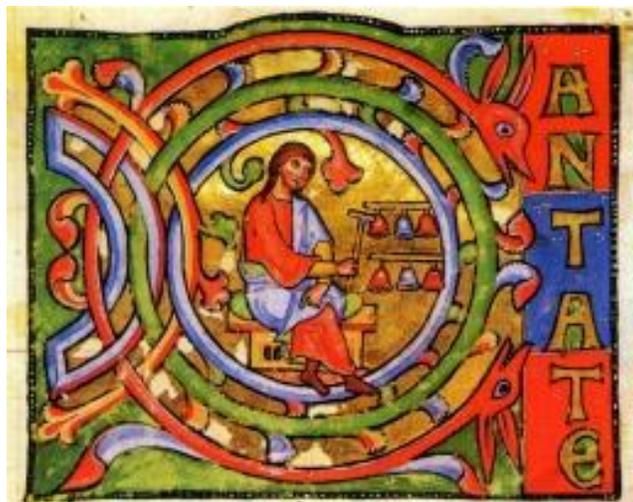
LSB 164

- ☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

LSB 166



816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
 2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal

praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
 Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -

ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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Postlude: *Praeludium*.....Arnold M. Brunckhorst

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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In our prayers we remember: Chris Rochleua, Janice Damon (cancer treatments), John Lusajo's mother, Carol Brockmann, Mary Ann Wege, Elizabeth Bowerman, Ashley Mohling, Greg Rummel (friend of Pastor Sherrill), Allen Timm, Jean Volkens, Bill Storey, Helen Nelson, Gertrud Rossbund, Chris Lindau, Brad White, Don Calkins, Earl Rollins (father of Mike Rollins), Larry Skinner (Jean Volkens brother), Susan Wurdeman (Dan Wurdeman's mother), Cindy Goodin, Elaine Goodwin (Pastor Tews & Karen Burns sister), Steven DeLorme (Christine Circo's uncle), Donny Kadereit (Don & Marsha Kadereit's son);

The family of Chad Carter (Bobbi Carter's son), who mourn his death;
 Kay Spicer and all other St. Paul's Shut-Ins;
 Rev. Michael Petri and the congregation of Timothy Lutheran Church, Council Bluffs;

Those serving in the armed forces...Claire Burgdorf, Dustin Bathen, grandson of Virg & Jan Steenbock, David Letcher, Charles Bowerman, Nathan Moeller -members of St. Paul's, Andrew Cohrs, (husband of Lauren Hardick Cohrs), Justin Carlton, husband of Kathryn Charlton, granddaughter of Bill Johannes, Matthew Bandomer, grandson of Art & Mabel Bandomer, Joey Greiner, nephew of Joni Doiron, Matthew James Harris, nephew of Mark & Erika Harris, Joseph Finch, (son of Bob & Dianna Finch), Jared Naja (nephew of Laura Goodwin).

Celebrating a wedding anniversary this week: Wes & Shirley Walker, Marvin & June Feller.



News and Notes

Please note that we will be practicing social distancing.

The offering will be placed in the narthex of the church. You can place your offering on your way out.

Communion will be offered. In accordance with the recommendations from the state we will offer communion “...in a manner to minimize close interaction.” We will follow a continuous line for the Lord’s Supper and serve at the base of the chancel steps. The usher will invite you forward, keeping the correct social distance from others.

After the service has ended, the ushers will excuse congregants pew by pew.

Bible Class and Sunday School will not resume at this time because our ability to keep appropriate levels of distance between each other is not possible.

Communion will be offered by appointment during the week.

Opportunities for Growth: May 10 – 17, 2020

Sunday: 5/10/20
8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. – Worship - C
Sunday: 5/17/20
8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. – Worship - C



St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
St. Paul’s Lutheran Early Childhood Center
St. Paul’s Music Conserdatory
Two Locations
One Word

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod / www.stpaulscouncilbluffs.org

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Essential to Christianity Witness, Mercy and Life Together

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:23-25

In the midst of the confusion around Covid-19, our manner of life across the world has been modified. The Christian Church is no different. Our structure and rhythm have been disrupted and we are left with many questions and uncomfortable feelings.

While we are regularly hearing in the media from experts in medicine, science, and governance, pastors and church leaders need to retain an unwavering focus on faithfulness to God’s Word at this time, and clearly apply God’s Word to the current situation.

It is clear that we are living in the midst of a dangerous virus. But a virus doesn’t stop the work of the Church, even if death is on the line. No matter what the conditions, the Church always has the responsibility and desire to witness to the Gospel, to show mercy to all, and to encourage and support one another in community. So how does the Church function in times of danger?

First of all, your pastors didn’t answer the call of the Lord because they thought this was an easy or even safe vocation. Quite the contrary. Many pastors, teachers, missionaries and evangelists specifically answer God’s call to go places and do things that are very dangerous and even deadly, for the sake of the proclamation of the Gospel and the love of our Lord.

Consider the work of Rev. Otto Hintze as an example. Rev. Hintze along with Rev. Dr. Willard Bruce were the first LCMS missionaries to Papua New Guinea in 1948. They willingly went deep in the “bush” in an effort to bring the Gospel to the Enga people who had no written language. He and Bruce risked their lives to learn the Enga language, put it into writing and translate the Scriptures and works of Martin Luther into Enga. Rev. Hintze would later write,

“God chooses very ordinary people who have strong faith in Jesus to be missionaries. God blesses whatever is done in love — even mistakes — to enable people to listen and have faith, created by the Holy Spirit, in their hearts. Even in dangerous circumstances, God’s angels protect and provide what is needed.”

Christian pastors, called by God through His Church, should never stop preaching and teaching the Gospel, no matter what. Even in danger, even in war, even in the midst of plague and pestilence.

But what about the people? How should they function? While it is the pastor’s duty to preach and teach God’s Word and administer the Sacraments to the people, it is the people’s responsibility to receive the teaching, preaching, and sacraments with joy in the Lord. Will there be times that the people are kept from Word and Sacrament for various reasons? Yes. Should the people put themselves in danger in order to hear God’s Word? That question should be left to the people. We live in grace. Whether at home or at church, in hiding or out in the open, it is the Christian’s strong desire to receive God’s gifts and dwell together in community. Whether at home or at church, it is significantly important that God’s people know the Lord is serving them through their called pastors no matter what.

Church leaders in western Iowa have recently suggested in the news that being together in community is not the most necessary thing for Christians, and that they will likely not return to church until a vaccine is discovered. We do not agree. God did not send His apostles out into the world with directions on health and safety. We will leave that to you and your doctor. The writer to the Hebrews makes it clear that the “assembly” of believers is very important. The Bible also makes clear that viruses, sickness and disease will never go away until we get to heaven. In fact it was into this reality that the apostles were sent and Jesus said, *“Make disciples of all nations...”*

Your pastors love you. We are here to serve you with the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and will do so with all the power we have. We will not allow a pandemic to rob us of our joy and confidence we have in Jesus.

Take comfort today! Stay home if you think it best, or come to church if you feel comfortable doing so. If you want us to come to you we will come quickly. In any case, know we have no plans of halting the proclamation of the Gospel. For the Lord is risen and the victory over sin, death and the devil is ours!