

Immanuel Lutheran Church Augsburg
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September, 2020

Dearly Beloved,

When God created man, “The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.” (Gen. 2:15). So man was created to work; and, before the fall into sin, such labor was a splendid, joyous activity. But after man sinned, the labor became difficult. God said to Adam,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” (Gen. 3:17-19).

Because of sin, work became laborious and toilsome.

It’s easy to see that such labor was necessary if man was to eat. Yet, God also promised that the earth would yield food. As hard as it would be, man’s labor would not be fruitless, and God would provide for His needs. So food remains one of the rewards for our labor. In fact, God makes the connection between labor and eating when He says, “If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.” (2 Thess. 3:10).

As important as this is, Jesus also says, “Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” (John 6:27). As hard as we labor for physical food to nourish our bodies, it is even more important to labor for spiritual food which nourishes our souls.

And how do we labor for such enduring food and where do we get it? Hear the Word of the Lord given through Moses,

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work. . . . ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Ex. 20:8-11).

He repeats it in Deuteronomy 5 and adds the reason why.

“Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁴ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work. . . . ¹⁵ You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.” (Deut. 5:12-15).

The purpose of the Sabbath was to rest in God’s mercy by resting from their labor and remembering, dwelling on, and contemplating the work of God for their salvation and deliverance from slavery and oppression. The same is true for us.

That’s what Jesus gets at when He says, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” (Matt. 11:28). He invites you to rest from your labors to receive His gifts of grace, mercy, forgiveness, and life. Yes, rest for the body is good and necessary. But Jesus is more concerned that your soul be fed, nourished, and restored. He wants you to receive the food which endures to eternal life and doesn’t perish. So He calls you into His presence each week to rest from your labors and receive from Him that which is most enduring, the forgiveness of sins. For He endured the most bitter labor as He suffered and died for the sins of the world; and He gives you the fruit of His labor: the forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

So when we gather in God’s House each week, God is at work giving us what we need most: rest and nourishment for our souls. When we realize this, we won’t feel compelled to DO something. Instead we will gladly rest and receive from Him that which restores our soul. And we will joyfully respond with praise and thanksgiving.

And being fed by Him and resting in Him, we are strengthened to go about our daily tasks, our labor, as His dear children, trusting Him to bless our work. So as you labor this month, no matter what your labor is, remember His grace, mercy, and love for you and hold to His promises:

Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. (Ps. 127:1).

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. (1 Cor. 15:58).

And don’t forget to thank God for your labor, wherever it is done – at home, work, church, school, or in the community – for it is His gift to you. Also, pray for the unemployed and underemployed, that God would grant them fruitful, fulfilling work.

God bless you and all your labors.

Pastor Landskroener

Reminder – If you or someone in your household has been sick or not feeling well, please refrain from attending our worship service. We understand, this is out of love for one another.

Church Week at Rural King ended August 15th. Please give your receipts to Scott Torbeck & he will make you a copy of your receipt. Receipts must be submitted by Sept 15 to qualify. Thanks for your cooperation.

GRACE, FAITH, SCRIPTURE & CHRIST ALONE... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Word "Light" in the Bible, The Vocation of Singleness, Old Testament Judge Joshua, 6th Century Bishop of Rome Gregory the Great and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

Ladies Aid meeting will be held Monday, September 14th due to the holiday.

Bulletins are printed on Wednesday evenings. Contact me if you would like to have something placed in the bulletin. You can send emails to Storbeck@augzburgchurch.com or Church email augzburg@augzburgchurch.com call @ 349-6152, call or text 367-3355, hand me a note. Must receive bulletin note by 4:00 pm Wednesday afternoon to make in the bulletin for Sunday morning. Thank you.

Covid 19 has changed our life in many ways. However, the mission work of the LWML continues, by helping to spread God's word throughout the world. Ladies of the congregation are invited to participate in our **MITE OFFERING** on **Sunday OCTOBER 4th**. The MITE basket will be in the narthex. We pray God's blessings and good health to you and yours.

Augsburg is collecting Christian materials, bibles, Portals of Prayer, Sunday School and VBS materials, Lutheran Witness, books, etc., to be given to the mission in Butler to distribute worldwide. Please put them on the table in the middle of the basement.

Trimming Stamps for Mites -- Trim each stamp leaving paper measuring 1/8 of an inch or less around the stamp. Be careful not to trim too close to the stamp. No corners or edges should be cut. The stamps must be 100% complete. If there is a group of stamps trim around the whole group.

Prayer request update – Due to our extended time away from Church services at Augsburg. We will be starting over with our prayer list. If you have someone you would like to have on our prayer list notify Pastor or Scott. Also let us know the relationship you have with them. We will remove names from the prayer list after 4 weeks, unless we are informed otherwise.

Church office is looking for help in maintaining accurate records for Augsburg. Have you moved since our last directory or had a change in marital status? Have you noticed a birthday or anniversary that is incorrect or missing? Please notify Scott Torbeck to get our Church records updated.

Parish Hall reservations – If you would like to plan an event or meeting to use our Parish Hall for any reason, this also includes Church activities. You will need to contact Scott or Karen Torbeck. If not asked, we don't know. Use of the Parish Hall will be determined by the first reservation made.

Do you have a cell phone? Do you text? Do you have a home phone? Some do some don't. How do you want to be contacted by the Church? The

Church would like to contact you via text with any info, updates or closings. To receive a text message, you will need to give us your cell number. Normal text fees will apply. Please provide info to Scott with a note or email storbeck@augsburchurch.com or text 618-367-3355

Augsburg Church

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	3	4	5
6 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	7	8	9 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	10	11	12
13 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	14 7:00 pm Ladies Aid	15	16 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	17	18	19
20 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	21	22	23 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	24 7:00 pm Elders Meeting	25	26
27 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	28	29	30 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline			

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 (A) Bob & Janet Williams 60 (B) Steve Hickerson	5 (A) Curt & Lori Meseke 81 (B) Rachel Schaal
6 (A) Doug & Pam Stein 86	7 (B) Evelyn Schukar (B) Mandi Austin	8 (B) Michelle Schukar	9 (B) Deborah Harmeier (B) Steve Lotz	10	11 (B) Kathy Crippen (B) Thacker Cripe	12 (A) Ronald and Abigail Rogers 15 (B) Ryan Gramlick
13 (B) Keith Cole	14 (B) Roberta Schmid	15 (A) Phil & Phyllis Richards 67 (B) Bella Walk	16 (B) Thomas Wolf Jr.	17 (A) Travis & Amanda Torbeck 11 (B) Jase Torbeck (B) Kay Schukar	18 (B) Melissa Gramlick (B) Seth Schukar	19 (A) Gary & Roberta Schmid 64 (B) Violet Braasch
20 (B) Michael Bauer	21 (B) Jenny Harrison	22	23 (B) Gale Meseke (B) Phyllis Richards	24	25	26
27 (B) Madison Dowd	28	29	30			

