Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	4	5	6 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	7	8	9
10 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	11	12	13 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	14	15	16
17 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	18	19	20 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline	21	22	23
2.4 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	25 5:30 pm VBS	26 5:30 pm VBS	27 4:00 pm Bulletin Deadline 5:30 pm VBS	28 5:30 pm VBS	29 5:30 pm VBS	30
31 9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 (B) Adrianna Sasse
3 (B) Bob Crippen	4 (B) Jami Berry (B) Jerry Schukar	5	6	7	8 (B) Doug Stein (B) Haele' Ruble	9
10 (B) Logan Smith	11	12 (B) Hunter Sasse (B) Lila Knecht (B) Rhonda McCaslin	13	14	15 (B) Kevin Schaal	16 (B) Mark Meadows
17 (A) Michael & Tammy Sasse 04	18	19	20 (A) Brad & Sherry Courson 02	21	22 (B) Amanda Walk	23 (B) Colleen Wefer (B) Lisette Ehrat
24 (B) Fran Collier	25 (B) Fran Cole	26	27	28 (A) Michael & Diana Bauer 73	29	30
31 (B) Lisa Wasmuth (B) Ruth Ann Moyer						

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Pastor Timothy J. Landskroener

Cell: 330-204-4180 Email: lawandgospel@hotmail.com

July, 2022

Dearly Beloved of Christ,

As you have undoubtedly heard, on Friday, June 24, the United States Supreme Court declared that abortion is not a constitutional right as they overturned Roe v. Wade, which had stood since 1973. This decision has caused much joy, angst, and anger. Joy for those who knew and believed that the original decision (Roe) was wrong and had been working to limit its harm as much as they could. Yet, their joy is tempered because there are still many pre-born babies being killed, and that that will undoubtedly continue, for the Court did not say that abortion was illegal (against the law), but that there was no Constitutional right to it and referred the matter to the states as it was before Roe.

There was/is much angst because many who were used to thinking that abortion was a right found in the Constitution, have had that thinking shown to be mistaken and wrong. It'd hard when something you've believed for so long, maybe even your whole life, is shown to not be true. It's unsettling when things are not as you thought they were (or maybe wanted them to be).

There was also much anger over the decision. That was evidenced by violence directed against pregnancy centers and churches, demonstrations, and, even, threats (or more) against the justices, ometimes even by elected officials. There is much anger shown by those who want to ensure that women can continue to kill their babies at any point.

Now, we need to remember what God says about this. David writes: For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them. (Ps. 139:13-16).

God said to Jeremiah, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." (Jer. 1:5).

Of course, the most interesting part of the announcement was that it happened on the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. What makes that particularly interesting? Consider what happened when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited Elizabeth, pregnant with John:

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women,

and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." (Luke 1:39-45).

Children, pre-born and born, are gifts from God. "Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. ⁵ Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them!" (Ps. 127:4-5). Indeed, it was not punishment for Elizabeth or Mary to be pregnant and then to give birth. Their children were decidedly not punishment for something, but part of the plan and work of God to save the world, sinners, you and me, from sin and death.

Through Jesus, God's Son, born of Mary, salvation has come to all who believe in Him. There is forgiveness for those who have aborted their baby and later regretted that decision. There is forgiveness for all who have thought wrongly, un-biblically, about abortion, and repent and believe in Christ's birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, reign, and future return in glory.

God grant us all to repent of all our wrong thinking, our wrong speaking, our wrong doing, and bring us to, and keep us in, the faith which leads to life eternal. After all, God is prolife to the extreme. To Him be all the glory now and forever.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Landskroener

For a Pastoral visit, please contact Pastor Landskroener

If you want to take something from the picnic shed, please let Steve Hickerson know before you take it. Someone else may have talked to him about it. Also, if you have taken something, or will, please consider making a contribution as a Thank-offering. It would be greatly appreciated.

Council Meeting is July 20th at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall **Voters Meeting** is July 24th at 10:00 am in Sanctuary

VBS is scheduled for July 25 to July 29 from 6p to 730p. A light dinner will be served at 530p. Volunteers are always welcome and can contact me or Janet to help. My number is 618-367-2285. Thanks, Mandy Austin

SACRED MUSIC STATION... You can listen to the best of the Church's music for the past 2,000 years on Lutheran Public Radio. LPR streams 24/7 at <u>lutheran public radio.org</u>, TuneIn, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

Part-Time English Position at Christ Our Rock

Christ Our Rock is looking for a part-time English Teacher.

Part-Time Teacher Assistant Position at Christ Our Rock

Christ Our Rock is looking for a part-time Teacher Assistant to work with students who need additional time on tests or additional tutoring during the school day. Interested parties should send resumes to Mr. Don Duensing, Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School, 9545 Shattuc Road, Centralia, IL 62801, 618-226-3315, dduensing@corlhs.org or call the school office for additional information.

Christ Our Rock will be hosting an Alumni event on Saturday, July 30. We invite all former Graduates to play in a basketball tournament on our newly resurfaced and redesigned floor. Please contact Dan Kueper 618 226-3315 or by email dkueper@corlhs.org to play.

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.

Please Sign attendance books in the pew, so Pastor is better able to serve you.

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.

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@augsburgchurch.com or text 618-367-3355

57. A House Divided Cannot Stand

Mark 3:20-26 NLT

One time Jesus <u>entered</u> a house, and the crowds <u>began</u> to <u>gather</u> again. Soon he and his disciples couldn't even find time to eat. When his family <u>heard</u> what was <u>happening</u>, they <u>tried</u> to take him away. "He's out of his mind," they said.

But the teachers of religious law who had arrived from <u>Jerusalem</u> said, "He's <u>possessed</u> by <u>Satan</u>, the <u>prince</u> of <u>demons</u>. That's where he gets the <u>power</u> to cast out demons."

Jesus called them over and <u>responded</u> with an illustration. "How can Satan cast out Satan?" he asked. "A kingdom divided by <u>civil</u> war will <u>collapse</u>. Similarly, a family <u>splintered</u> by <u>feuding</u> will <u>fall</u> apart.

And if Satan is divided and <u>fights</u> against himself, how can he stand? He would never <u>survive</u>.

Mark 3:20-26 ASV

And the multitude cometh together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread.

And when his <u>friends</u> heard it, they went out to lay <u>hold</u> on him: for they said, He is <u>beside</u> himself.

And the <u>scribes</u> that came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and, By the prince of the demons casteth he out the demons.

And he called them unto him, and said unto them in <u>parables</u>, How can Satan <u>cast</u> out Satan?

And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom <u>cannot</u> stand.

And if a house be divided against itself, that house will not be <u>able</u> to stand.

And if Satan hath <u>rise</u> up against himself, and is divided, he cannot <u>stand</u>, but hath an end.

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57. A House Divided Cannot Stand

FALL	ENTERED	DEMONS	COLLAPSE	CIVIL	CAST	CANNOT	BESIDE	BEGAN	ABLE
POSSESSED	PARABLES	JERUSALEM	HOLD	HEARD	HAPPENING	GATHER	FRIENDS	FIGHTS	FEUDING
TRIED	SURVIVE	STAND	SPLINTERED	SCRIBES	SATAN	RISE	RESPONDED	PRINCE	POWER