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HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Words from the Cross

***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again
to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,
kept in heaven for you.***

1 Peter 1:3-4

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Not too long ago I saw a bumper sticker that read, "We're spending our kids' inheritance now." Unlike past generations, not all parents today are concerned about leaving something for their children, and even when they do, inflation and the uncertainties of the economy often shrink its value.

In sharp contrast, Saint Peter writes of the inheritance God has for His children, "that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading." By using these negative words, he highlights how much better our inheritance is than mere worldly treasures. Who can rob us of God's forgiveness of all our sins? The devil tries and our consciences accuse us, but the Word of God points us to Jesus' victory on Calvary's cross. What can spoil the peace we have with God? Storms may rock our boats. Tears may dim our sight. But God's peace still rests upon us, as surely as the waters of Holy Baptism wet our brows. The world may laugh, calling it "pie in the sky, by and by," but we have God's promise that what is waiting for us is far better.

Unlike some earthly parents, our heavenly Father is concerned about an inheritance for all His children. That is why He sent Jesus to the cross and raised Him up from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand. That is why He keeps us in this one true faith, by the power of His Spirit, and will continue to do so until we breath our last in this world and receive that wonderful inheritance He prepared for us and all who love Him, before the foundation of the world. What a day that will be!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Skelton

