ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH, HOLLAND, MN May 2022–NEWSLETTER 5

And They Remembered His Words@

“And [the women] remembered his words” (Lk 24:8). When we remember Christ’s words, what are we remembering, and what do those words mean for us as we go forth each day from Easter? Martin Luther writes,

So then when you come together and receive Christ’s body in the bread (and His blood in the wine), you thus do it “in remembrance of Me.” That is to say that we recall . . . His death and are thankful for it. Him we praise and Him we thank.

We are all children of death, and will be buried. The whole world complains and cries out against the fearful death that does us in.

But that death you are facing I will tear away from you [says Christ], and set against it an other death [another’s], so that your death should not terrify you. When you set your eyes on that other death, then your death will not terrify you or make you despair.

That we die, we who are children of death, is not something to wonder at. But that the Lord of death dies, that is something to ponder.

When death and sin stare threateningly at us, then let us look to the death of the Lord. . . . What does my death amount to? However, when the Lord of life dies, then one little drop of His blood does more than the death of all men. So then we leave behind us every distress. For He did not die for His own sake but for ours. . . .

“Until He comes.” Then He will appear for all to see, and He will say, “You have a portion of my blood.” For He says “given for you.” . . . Those who believe this are given it into their mouths, and what that brings is salvation into everlasting life, and the body will be resurrected. When the death which God dies is set against our death, it is the strongest medicine against death. . . .

Even if our faith is weak, that blood is still ours to hang on to. That blood which Christ shed He shed not for Himself but for us.

When we go to the Sacrament, we are to sing and say and have no doubt that the blood of Christ is given for us. If one dies, he yet does not die even if he is returned to the dust. On the last day, you will nevertheless be raised up. For you have received My body and blood for you. . . .

Therefore we should praise God and sing (as it goes in church): “God be praised and blessed; He has Himself fed us with His flesh and with His blood. Grant this, Lord God, for all the good this is for us, Kyrie eleison.” . In His Service, Pastor Petrich

@Martin Luther, “Sermon on the Twenty-sixth Sunday after Trinity (July 28), 1538,” WA 46:479.5–480.25; E. Ellwein, D. Martin Luther Epistel-Auslegung (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1968), 2:137–39; translated by Norman E. Nagel in his “Viaticum Death,” edited by Frederic W. Baue et al., Shepherd the Church: Essays in Pastoral Theology Honoring Bishop Roger D. Pittelko (Fort Wayne, IN: Concordia Theological Seminary Press, 2002), 193–94. Naomichi Masaki, Fort Wayne, IN

**Upcoming LESSONS AND HYMNS *(Guitar)***

**May 1st**

***”***

**May 8th** :

**May 15th** :

**May 22nd**

**APR. 24th** : Ps. 105:1-5,8; Acts 5:12-20; **Rev. 1:4-18**; John 20:19-31

 **Matins:** **HYMNS:** ***AGPS#241 “This Is the Day”;*** #646 “Church of God”; ***AGPS#91 “The Easter Song”***; #471 “O Sons and Daughters of the King”; #532 “The Head that Once Was Crowned with Thorns”; #534 “Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor”; #482 “This Joyful Eastertide”