



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
1212 West Jefferson
Brenham, Texas 77833
(979)-836-3475

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

www.gracebrenham.org

Rev. Ryan J. Ogrodowicz, Senior Pastor Rev. William H. Holzer, Associate Pastor Rev. Isaac S. Schuller, Associate Pastor

PASTOR'S PAGE

“O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.”
Habakkuk 1:2-4

Many of you probably noted my absence at the end of July and beginning of August. I had the opportunity to take a trip that involved visiting some of my sons and seeing some of America in the process. We often see the rest of the country on the television. Now many see it on their smart phones. We form our impressions of what our nation and people are becoming based in part by these images. So, of course, depending on your sources of information, you will have your own opinions on the state of our world be it good or bad.

Some people believe that we live in the best of times. A very good argument can be made for this belief. Some people believe that things are very bad right now and quickly getting worse. There are arguments that certainly support this point of view. I formed some impressions that both support and undermine both of these views.

The good news is that I traveled across the country twice and visited what many (and statistics) would call the major cities of our nation safely and enjoyably. I heard no gunfire, saw no crime (even though graffiti is criminal it seldom rises to a level that could be called more than a nuisance) and found just about everyone helpful and polite. I used most forms of public transportation without fear. I walked in what some

would call questionable neighborhoods and wasn't accosted by anyone save for a few passive panhandlers. I looked the tourist and wasn't set upon. Those I encountered were friendly, perhaps not as much as Texans, but by big city standards, certainly so.

So, what's your point, Pastor? If everything seems good, if not great, what's the big deal?

I personally believe the closest Biblical parallel to our times are the times of the Judges of Israel. The refrain, “*Everyone did what was right in his own eyes,*” occurs twice. And that was the direction of Israel. They had the moral law written into their hearts, as everyone does. In addition, they had the written law, which they were to “*lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates...*” Deut. 11:18-20

I find the best descriptions for our time is, “Everyone does what is right in his own eyes.” That could be the creed of the United States, if not the wider world. There is no indication that anyone seems bound by man's law, so what of God's law? And although this describes our society and even the world that we live in, things don't seem to be all that bad. YET.

Once again, we are being told that everything is riding on the upcoming election. That if the right (or wrong) people aren't elected; watch out. Once again doom and gloom on the one hand, roses and chocolates on the other. From

both sides the threat is that everything is on the verge of collapse, even the very foundation of our society.

I would be remiss if I agreed with either of these opinions. The experience of my recent trip for one. But things can and could get worse, a whole lot worse. They have been considerably worse, even in some of your lifetimes. Next year is the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. That was worse, but now the youngest veterans are in their 90s. Before that was the Great Depression. Again, you would have to be in your 90s to even remember that disaster. There are wars, fire and flood, natural and man-made disasters and these certainly will continue until the Lord returns, as He promised. (Both the continued strife and His glorious return.)

As God's people, we are privileged to know of a gracious and merciful God who deals with us, not according to our sin, but for the sake of the innocent suffering and death of His only begotten Son: Jesus Christ. For Jesus' sake, God has put away our sin and promises forgiveness, life and salvation. No trouble in this world can take away this assurance. This alone fills us with joy and peace. Peace that the world cannot give.

We, like Habakkuk, will continue to see strife, suffering and misery in this world. We are not promised that we will be spared the troubles of this world. On the contrary, God has prepared us just for this day. The problems of this world are His vehicle for showing the world its need for a Savior. They point the world away from man-made solutions and the arrogance of thinking that we can perfect this fallen world. The more men try to save themselves, the more they are bound to fail.

This leads me to believe things will indeed get worse. And history teaches me that they can get much worse. We think we have seen it all. But there is an old saying, "You haven't seen anything yet!" Perhaps things will get better. I'm not a prophet. Yet God's word points us to an end times where things definitely get worse across the whole world. *"And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are but*

the beginning of the birth pains." Matthew 24:6-8

But, getting back to what I saw on my journey across America, I would have to say they aren't bad enough yet. The people I saw were comfortable with their situations. They felt secure in themselves. They, like the Israelites at many times during the period in their history of the Judges, haven't suffered to the point they are crying for relief. There doesn't seem to be the urgency to seek comfort in a time of trouble.

Most people don't feel threatened in their persons. They are not fearful for their children or grandchildren. And what is worse, many don't really care if things do get worse, because they are secure in themselves. "What is it to me if things do get worse," they might say. "I've got all I need and enough for the future," I'm not worried.

But is this really love for brother? Is this really how our hope in God is expressed in this world? Isn't this just another way of doing what is right in our own eyes? And what does the Scripture teach about this attitude, being right in our own eyes?

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice." Proverbs 12:15

"Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the heart." Proverbs 21:2

We can certainly share our knowledge with the world. We can proclaim that God has promised a day of judgement for this world. That the standard is not what is right in our own eyes but what He has commanded. This may cause some to turn from us. They won't want to hear the condemnation of their sin. They might feel that we are self-righteous. But then, we have warned them.

And we can certainly share the reason for our hope. That we too are sinners before God who have been bought with the blood of Jesus. He is our hope and glory. He is the Rock upon which we stand and the place where they too find forgiveness and life. To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor Holzer

September

Worship Opportunities – September 2024

Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School & Bible Classes – 10:30 a.m.



Date	Festival	First Reading	Epistle Reading	Gospel	Preacher	Liturgist	Hymns	Distribution Hymns	Order of Service LSB Pg #
Sept 1. (Prop. 17)	Fifteenth S. a. Pentecost	Deut. 4:1-2, 6-9	Eph. 6:10-20	Mark 7:14-23	Ogrodowicz	Holzer	666 566 582	650 645	p. 184
Sept. 8 (Prop. 18)	Sixteenth S. a. Pentecost	Is. 35:4-7a	James 2:1-10, 14-18	Mark 7:(24-30) 31-37	Schuller	Ogrodowicz	841 797 839	617 619	p. 184
Sept. 15 (Prop. 19)	Seventeenth S. a. Pentecost	Is. 50:4-10	James 3:1-12	Mark 9:14-29	Ogrodowicz	Holzer	528 849 688	702 710	p.151
Sept. 22 (Prop. 20)	Eighteenth S. a. Pentecost	Jer. 11:18-20	James 3:13-4:10	Mark 9:30-37	Ogrodowicz	Holzer	438 851 725	708 644	p.203
Sept. 29	St. Michael and All Angels	Dan. 10:10-14; 12:1-3	Rev. 12:7-12	Matt. 18:1-11 or Luke 10:17-20	Ogrodowicz	Holzer	718 506 576		Matins p.219
or (Prop. 21)	Nineteenth S. a. Pentecost	Num. 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29	James 5:(1-12) 13-20	Mark 9:38-50					

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

As of August Council Meeting

Baptism:

None

Profession of Faith:

None

Death:

Mary Cone, 7/18/24 Funeral at Our Savior Lutheran on 8/2/24

Removed:

None

Souls: 592

Communicants: 508

 **September 2024**

Meetings This Month



Ladies Afternoon Circle will be having a Luncheon at The Café at Martha's Bloomers on Thursday, September 5. Afternoon Circle Members who are planning to attend the luncheon are asked to meet at 10:15 a.m. in the front church parking lot to carpool.

Ladies Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. Hostesses are Sue Krueger and Karen Markwardt.

Men's Bible Breakfast meets every Tuesday at 6:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Men of the congregation who would be interested in joining the group are encouraged to attend.

September 3 – David Dahmann

September 10 – Charles Babb

September 17 – Pastor Ogradowicz

September 24 – Melvin Riske



ALTAR FLOWERS

September 1 – Elroy & Bonnie Wellmann
September 8 –
September 15 – Drew & Mimi Wied
September 22 –
September 29 – Herbert & Diane Faske

RADIO MINISTRY

(30-minute program aired on KWHI 1280 AM each Sunday at 12:30 p.m.)
(Cost is \$85 per week.)

September 1 – Anonymous
September 8 – Maudie Bates
September 15 –
September 22 –
September 29 – Paul Schulze



COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS



September 1 – Drew & Mimi Wied & Family
September 8 –
September 15 – Reese & Janette Wawarosky
September 22 –
September 29 -

ALTAR GUILD ASSISTANTS

Communion Ware: Ann Muchow

Parameters: Ann Muchow & Mary Lueckemeyer

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Delphine Addicks, Sandra Addicks, Billy Thaler, Elroy Wellmann

Mark your Calendar: This year's Blood Drive is scheduled for October 6th. 8:30am to 1:00pm in the FAC. Please see future bulletins for more information and for more details.



This form has been included in this month's Newsletter for your prayerful consideration for the first Sunday of October which is Stewardship Sunday,

STEWARDSHIP GOALS

- _____ Worship God faithfully and regularly.
- _____ Receive the Lord's Supper frequently.
- _____ Read and study God's Word, the Bible.
- _____ Ask God for increase in my spiritual life.
- _____ Pray for the needs of others in my congregation, community, world.
- _____ Commit to God an offering of:
 - \$_____ Annually
 - \$_____ Monthly
 - \$_____ Weekly

NAME _____ DATE _____

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it." Psalm 24:1

+++++



September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost Pastor Ogradowicz - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	2 1 Kings 9:1 - 10:29 Offices Closed - Labor Day NO SCHOOL - DAYCARE CLOSED	3 1 Kings 11:1-43 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 3:00pm Volleyball game @Grace 4:00pm Varsity Football game @Grace 6:00pm PTL Meeting	4 1 Kings 12:1-33 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm - 6:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice	5 1 Kings 13:1 - 14:31 8:15am Chapel 8:30am Ladies Bible Study 10:15am Ladies Afternoon Circle Luncheon @Martha's Bloomers-Navasota 7:00pm Elders	6 1 Kings 15:1 - 16:34 Pastor Ogradowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel	7 1 Kings 17:1 - 18:46
8 Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost Pastor Schuller - LSB 184 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC Special Voters Meeting - After Sunday School	9 1 Kings 19:21 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm Volleyball game @St. Paul Serbin 4:00pm Varsity Football game @St. Paul Serbin	10 1 Kings 20:1-43 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm Volleyball game @Grace 5:30pm JV Football game @Grace 7:00pm Ladies Evening Circle	11 1 Kings 21:1 - 22:53 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm - 6:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice	12 2 Kings 1:1 - 2:25 8:15am Chapel 8:30am Ladies Bible Study	13 2 Kings 3:1 - 4:44 Pastor Ogradowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel	14 2 Kings 5:1-27
15 Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost Pastor Ogradowicz - LSB 151 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	16 2 Kings 6:1 - 7:20 Newsletter Deadline 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm Volleyball game @Grace 5:00pm JV Football game @Grace	17 2 Kings 8:1-29 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel	18 2 Kings 9:1 - 10:36 Fair Holiday - NO SCHOOL DAY CARE OPEN - sack lunch 12:00pm Trustees 4:30pm - 6:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm GLSB	19 2 Kings 11:1 - 12:21 Fair Holiday - NO SCHOOL DAY CARE OPEN - sack lunch 8:30am Ladies Bible Study	20 2 Kings 13:1 - 14:29 Pastor Ogradowicz Day Off Fair Holiday - NO SCHOOL DAY CARE OPEN-sack lunch	21 2 Kings 15:1 - 16:20
22 Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost Pastor Ogradowicz - LSB 203 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	23 2 Kings 17:1-41 8:15am Chapel 3:00pm Volleyball game @Thorndale 4:00pm Varsity Football game @Thorndale 7:00pm Council Meeting	24 2 Kings 18:1 - 19:37 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel 6:30pm Men's Club	25 2 Kings 20:1-21 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm - 6:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice	26 2 Kings 21:1-26 8:15am Chapel 8:30am Ladies Bible Study	27 2 Kings 22:1 - 23:37 Pastor Ogradowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel School Pictures	28 2 Kings 24:1 - 25:30
29 Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost Pastor Ogradowicz - LSB 219 9:00am Matins 10:30am Confirmation 10:30am SS & BC	30 1 Chronicles 1:1 - 4:43 8:15am Chapel 4:00pm Varsity Football game @St. Paul Serbin	1 1 Chronicles 5:1 - 8:40 6:00am Men's Bible Breakfast 8:15am Chapel	2 1 Chronicles 9:1 - 12:40 8:15am Chapel 4:30pm - 6:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm PTL Meeting 7:00pm Elders	3 1 Chronicles 13:1 - 14:17 8:15am Chapel 8:30am Ladies Bible Study 2:00pm Ladies Afternoon Circle	4 1 Chronicles 15:1 - 16:43 Pastor Ogradowicz Day Off 8:15am Chapel	5 1 Chronicles 17:1-27



HELLO september

