

SERMON NOTES . . .

“Making Godly Choices” Deuteronomy 30:15-20

1. “...Choose life, that both you and your descendants may live, that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your _____ and the length of your days.”
2. People have always had a _____. Adam and Eve had a choice.
3. We can choose to follow God and His ways or we can _____ God and go our own way.
4. We get to live with the _____ of our choices, good or bad.
5. If we choose to follow God and live a Christian life, the result of that choice is a life of joy, hope, abundant life, and eventually _____ life.
6. Love the Lord your God. You don't give your heart to Jesus out of regret or fear. It's something we do out of _____.
7. Jesus speaks to us when we read God's Word, when we sing songs of worship, through circumstances of life. We must learn to _____.
8. If a child clings to his father's hand, he will be able to walk securely. So it is with _____.
9. Life is full of choices. The really important choice, the most crucial choice you will ever make is between two things: _____ & _____.
10. There is no other way to life than through Jesus Christ. The lie of the world is that there are many ways to heaven. Even some Christians have bought into this lie. And many believe that as long as they are a _____ person they will go to heaven. But the Bible tells us differently.
11. God doesn't _____ His will on anyone. He lets us decide whether we will follow Him or reject Him. What is your decision?



West Prairie Lutheran
Church

Welcome to West Prairie Lutheran Church!

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

40041 150th Ave., P.O. Box 9, Leland, IA 50453

Steve Bang, pastor

Please sign the attendance sheets located at the end of each pew.

If you are a visitor, please include your mailing address.

We invite you to join us again!

8:30 a.m. — February 12, 2017

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Worship Service with Holy Communion

All who are baptized in the Christian faith and have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are invited to celebrate the Lord's Supper.

Prelude

Pastoral Greeting

Please stand if you are able.

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness page 77

Opening Hymn, Father, We Praise YouLBW # 267

Kyrie page 78

This is the Feast page 81

Prayer of the Day

(All) Lord God, mercifully receive the prayers of Your people. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, ad give us grace and power to do them; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

You may be seated.

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity; in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that you may live and multiply, and that the Lord your God may bless you in the land where you are entering to possess it.

“But if your heart turns away and you will not obey, but are drawn away and worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall surely perish. You shall not prolong your days in the land where you are crossing the Jordan to en-

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today. . .

7 p.m. Youth Group

Wednesday, February 15. . .

3 p.m. Confirmation Class

7 p.m. Adult Bible Class

Thursday, February 16. . .

Pastors' Conference at Riverside Bible Camp

Next Sunday, February 19

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Fellowship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

Gideon Sunday— Jerry Fjeld will deliver a message on behalf of the Gideons next Sunday. A special offering will be taken.

Thanks — The following have sent their appreciation as a benevolent recipient: Power of Gospel Church (a LCMC start-up church), United Way of North Iowa, Lutheran World Relief. A donation to WP Sunday School was received from Brenda Singelstad of Lake Mills. \$52.00 was received from Thrivent Financial through their Choice Dollars program.

Waldorf University will be hosting the “Stop Hunger” food packing event on Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 1:30-6:30 p.m. in the Atrium. They are in need of volunteers for one-hour shifts: 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30 p.m. Please contact Jaci Thorson at 641-585-3152 (jaci@immanuelfamily.com) if you would like to volunteer and to set your preferred time.

Prayer List — Jonie Bang, Denise Holst, Irene Eide, Elaine Ritz, Carver Moffat, Angela Haugen, Marlys Haugen, Mike Haack, Roger Peterson, Dale Zingg, Dorothy Kall, Ben Charlson, Monte Branstad, Blanche Durby, Eldora Reil. All prayer requests can be submitted by leaving a message on the church answering system @ 641-567-3733; or call Pastor Steve @ 641-590-7894.

The Lord's Prayer..... page 91
Distribution of Holy Communion
Communion Hymns.....Grey Hymnal #442, 443, 446
Post-Communion Canticle page 92 & 93
Prayer..... page 94
Benediction page 97
Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God!
Closing Hymn, *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* LBW #389
Postlude

Pastor: Steve Bang
Pianist: Sandy Damm
Lectionary: Paris Reimann
Usher: Terry Durby, Ty Durby
Acolyte: Paris Reimann

ter and possess it.

“I will call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants.”

Here ends the reading.

Psalm 119:1-8 (responsively)

L: How blessed are those whose way is blameless,

C: who walk in the law of the Lord.

L: How blessed are those who observe His testimonies,

C: who seek Him with all their heart.

L: They also do no unrighteousness;

C: They walk in His ways.

L: Thou hast ordained Thy precepts,

C: that we should keep them diligently

L: Oh that my ways may be established

C: to keep Thy statutes!

L: Then I shall not be ashamed

C: when I look upon all Thy commandments.

L: I shall give thanks to Thee with uprightness of heart,

C: when I learn Thy righteous judgments.

L: I shall keep Thy statutes;

C: do not forsake me utterly!

Second Lesson: I Corinthians 3:1-9

Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn't talk to you as I would to spiritual people. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in the Christian life. I had to feed you with milk, not with solid food, because you weren't ready for anything stronger. And you still aren't ready, for you are still controlled by your sinful nature. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn't that prove you are controlled by your sinful nature? Aren't you living like people of the world? When one of you says, "I am a follower of Paul," and another says, "I follow Apollos," aren't you acting just like people of the world?

After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God's servants through whom you believed the Good News. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. I planted the seed in your hearts,

and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow. The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. For we are both God's workers. And you are God's field. You are God's building.

Here ends the reading.

Please stand.

Alleluia..... page 83

The Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

Response: *Glory to You, O Lord*..... page 83

"You have heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.' But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell.

"So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.

"When you are on the way to court with your adversary, settle your differences quickly. Otherwise, your accuser may hand you over to the judge, who will hand you over to an officer, and you will be thrown into prison. And if that happens, you surely won't be free again until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery.' But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your hand—even your stronger hand—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for

you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

"You have heard the law that says, 'A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a written notice of divorce.' But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman also commits adultery.

"You have also heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you make to the LORD.' But I say, do not make any vows! Do not say, 'By heaven!' because heaven is God's throne. And do not say, 'By the earth!' because the earth is his footstool. And do not say, 'By Jerusalem!' for Jerusalem is the city of the great King. Do not even say, 'By my head!' for you can't turn one hair white or black. Just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Anything beyond this is from the evil one.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to You, O Christ*..... page 83

The Sermon: Pastor Steve Bang

Title

Hymn, *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*LBW #343

Nicene Creed..... page 84

Prayer

Congregational Response: Hear my prayer.

Sharing of the peace.

Offering

Please stand.

Offertory, *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* 86

Pastor: Let us pray,

Congregation: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving..... page 88

The Words of Institution..... page 89