

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA



READINGS for the WEEK of November 10, 2019.

Job 19:23-27a

The book of Job, likely composed by a Jew living in exile in Babylon or later in history, is one of the world's most profound discussions of theodicy: how can we understand the goodness of God in light of the suffering of the innocent? Using an older legend as the book's frame (chaps. 1–2, 42), the poet raises stereotypical religious answers to the theodicy question, some of which are taught in the Bible itself, and the suffering Job rejects each one. All that is left is the mysterious power of God. After a speech by Bildad (18:1-21) comes this excerpt from Job's fifth response (19:1-29). The description of the writing implements suggests permanence. "Redeemer" translates a Hebrew word that designates a close relative responsible for buying release for a person sold to pay a debt. It is unclear whether Job refers to vindication now or after death: the Jewish belief in a communal resurrection of the just comes historically later. Comparison with other contemporary biblical translations shows the difficulty of rendering the Hebrew of what the NRSV casts as skin, flesh, I, and eyes (vv. 26-27).

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

This letter, written either by Paul in the 50s or by a disciple of Paul in the late first century, includes the expectation of apostasy in the stereotypical apocalyptic imagery of what will precede the eschatological end. The author urges the readers to adhere to what they had been taught by Paul. The "lawless one" translates *man of sin*. The excerpts conclude with a historically early reference to the Triune God.

Luke 20:27-38

The Sadducees were a conservative religious group of the priestly aristocracy that held to only the five books of Moses. Levirate marriages (Deut. 25:5-10) intended to continue the family line of the dead brother. Because the resurrection was not included in the five books of Moses, the Sadducees did not believe in it. By contrast, Pharisees believed in the resurrection of the just (v. 35, "those who are considered worthy of a place in that age") and thought of angels as nonsexual bodily beings. To the Sadducees who did not believe in the resurrection, Jesus quotes Moses (Exod. 3:6). Luke has added the final line, "for to God all of them are alive," to the parallel versions in Mark and Matthew. The early Christians whom Luke addresses shared some of their beliefs with the Pharisees, who were the dominant Jewish group after the destruction of the temple in 70 CE.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

We will be highlighting a verse(s) here for memorization that captures the main idea of the month's scriptures – November verse: "O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 118:1)

Weekly Announcements – November 10, 2019

PASTOR'S CORNER

Our Presbyterian friends and neighbors certainly put on a nice chili and soup supper last Saturday night. It was good to see some familiar faces. The play at the East Dubuque High School that evening was very entertaining with one of our young people playing an important part.

After All Saints Worship last Sunday some of our youth, guided by parents, helped a couple with some outside work. It was a beautiful fall day to see our generations working together with care and respect. Yet that afternoon I was surprised to find myself riding in a combine learning about modern agriculture and visiting with one of our farm families.

Once again, I went on a guided tour of the county visiting the beautiful St. John's wedding chapel and seeing other ELCA churches in the area.

I always consider it a privilege to visit in the hospital. If you, your family, a friend or a neighbor would benefit from a visit, please don't hesitate to call.

Pastor Jim

SOCIAL MINISTRY

There will be a Social Ministry meeting today, November 10, 2019 at 9 am (between services).

SHEPHERD'S TABLE MEETING

There will be a meeting for Shepherd's Table members on Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 10 am. Please plan on attending.

OPEN FORUM

There will be an open forum on November 17, 2019 at 9 am. Pastor Denver Bitner from the Synod will be here to answer any questions about the Synod.

TEXT STUDY CORRECTION

The November calendar shows the Text Study group meets at 9 am on Tuesday. It should be the Text Study group meets at 10 am on Tuesday. Sorry if it caused any problems. Thank you.

FEW OLD CHURCH ORGAN PIECES

There are still some pieces left from the old church organ. If anyone is interested in keeping a piece of this history, what is left is in the storage shed. In the near future anything that is remaining will be disposed of.

INSTALLATION OF PASTOR JIM MEHLTRETTER

The installation of Pastor Jim will take place on November 17, 2019 at the 10 am service. Pastor Denver Bitner will be officiating at the installation. Following the service/installation there will be a potluck dinner. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the entryway to write down what you plan on bringing.

MITTENS, HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES NEEDED FOR WINTER

During the month of November we will be collecting new, or gently used, mittens, gloves, hats and scarves. These will be distributed to local schools and food pantries to distribute to children and teens that need them this winter. Preferred gloves are those that are water proof rather than the knitted type, but all types are accepted. The collection box will be in the entry area as you come into church. Thank you!

PASTOR JIM'S CONTACT INFORMATION

His phone number is (563) 599-2096 and his email address is: jamespmehrtretter@gmail.com.

PRAYER MINISTRY

- Steven & Jodi Swanson & Family (our missionary family)
- Troy Cording (Larry & Sue's son)
- Roger Weis & family (Nov. will be the 1st anniversary of his wife's passing)
- Stacy Krug (Jim Krug & Diane Gehrts' niece)
- The Ehrler Family
- Kathy (Ehrler) Gerlich
- Kendall Smith (Hansen's granddaughter)
- Annie Sherwood (friend of the Hansens)
- Gabe Hilby (Heim girl's classmate)
- Ladora Williams
- Paul Hesselbacher
- Liam Petelle (Edie's grandson)
- Rich Schelke
- Caroline Krug
- Men & Women serving our country
- Peace in the World

Attendance – November 3, 2019

8:00 AM – 52, 10:00 AM – 33 Total – 85

Weekly Giving

General Giving \$4960.46

(Budgeted for General Giving - \$4,019.00)

Mission Giving \$ 391.00

Total \$5,351.46

THOSE SERVING US NEXT WEEK **GREETERS/USHERS/READERS:**

-- (8 AM)

Jim & Barb Hansen -- (10 AM)

ASSISTING MINISTER:

-- (8 AM)


Barb Hansen -- (10 AM)

COMMUNION SET-UP/CLEAN-UP: *Barb Hansen*

HOSPITALITY – *Barb Hansen*

TELLERS – *Jim & Barb Hansen*

NOVEMBER, 2019

10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Worship Services with Holy Communion @ 8 am Fellowship, Sunday School & Choir Practice @ 9 am Social Ministry @ 9 am	 VETERAN'S DAY Esther Circle & Mary Circle @ 9:30 am	Text Study at SOTH @ 10 am	ST meeting @ 10 am Shepherd's Table @ 11 am – 1 pm	Office Hours @ 9 am	Pastor's Sabbath	