Definitions Uncovered: Blessings are Cursed; Curses are Blessed



SHINING MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH Bozeman, MT

The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany – February 13th, 2022

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Lutherans believe that the gospel is not only the good news that Jesus has saves sinners, but also a power God uses to create and strengthen faith in Jesus.

HYMN #768 How Firm a Foundation 1 How da Ο firm а foun tion. saints 2 "Fear I not! am with Oh. be you. 3 "The soul that on Je sus has leaned "When 4 through fi ery tri _ als your path 5 all "Through - out their life _ time my peo 0 of the Lord. Is laid for your dis not mayed; For I am your for pose I will not. Ι re shall lie, My all suf way grace ple shall prove My sov' reign, e ρ faith in his ex cel lent Word! What God and will still give you aid: I'11 will not. de sert his foes. That to fi cient shall be sup ply. The your ble nal, change love, And ter un а ρ 0 e ø more can he say than to you help strength en you, you, and cause though all hell should deav soul, en flames will hurt I not you; on when shall their then, gray hair tem 0 he has said Who the un to Up you to stand, held by my ĽÎI to shake, nev or er, no Your dross ly de sign to con Like ples а dorn, lambs they shall Sav ref have fled? _ ior for uge right ni tent hand. eous, om po nev er, no nev er for sake! sume and your gold to re fine. still my shoul ders be borne." on

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray:

O God of power and might, you know that we live in the midst of many great dangers, and in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Give us strength and protection to support us in all peril, and carry us through all temptations; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



| HYMN OF PRAISE #446 | I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus |
|--|--|
| | |
| I I am trust - ing I am trust - ing | you, Lord Je - sus, Trust - you for par - don; At you for cleans - ing In you to guide me; You you for pow - er; You |
| ing on - ly you, your feet I bow, the crim - son flood, a - lone shall lead, can nev - er fail. | Trust - ing you for For your grace and Trust - ing you who Ev - 'ry day and Words which you your - |
| full sal - va - tion, ten - der mer - cy made me ho - ly hour sup - ply - ing self shall give me | Free and true. Trust - ing now. By your blood. All my need. Must pre - vail. |

6 I am trusting you, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall. I am trusting you forever And for all.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5-8

⁵This is what the LORD says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the LORD. ⁶That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives. ⁷"But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence

is in him. ⁸They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.



Blessed is the man

who does not walk in the counsel of the <u>wick</u>ed* or stand in the way of <u>sin</u>ners.

- But his delight is in the law <u>of</u> the LORD,* and on his law he meditates <u>day</u> and night.
- He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in <u>sea</u>son* and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does <u>pros</u>pers.

Refrain

- Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,* nor sinners in the assembly of the <u>right</u>eous.
- For the LORD watches over the way of the <u>right</u>eous,* but the way of the wicked will <u>per</u>ish.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son^{*} and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,^{*} is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

VERSE OF THE DAY

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written, that we may believe That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

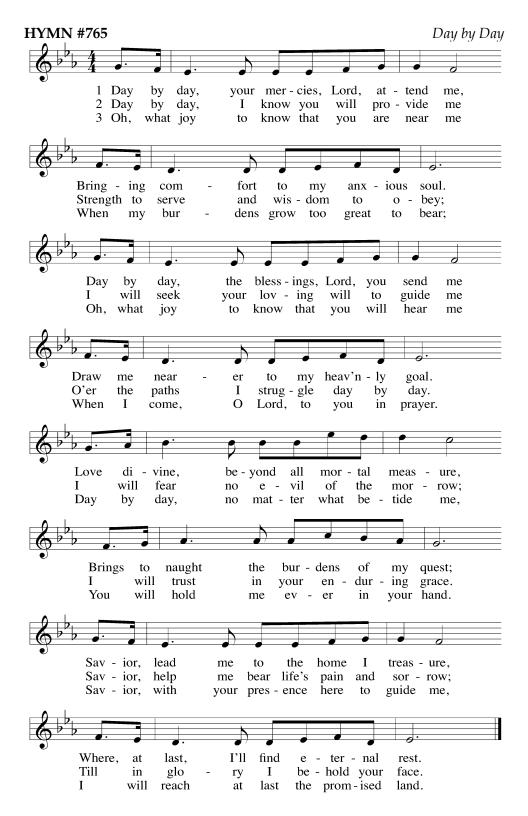
GOSPEL

Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, ¹⁹and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all. ²⁰Looking at his disciples, he said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²²Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. ²³"Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort. ²⁵Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.



SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **M:** Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.
- C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.
- **M:** You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.
- C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.
- M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.
- C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.
- **M:** Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.
- C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where

there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- **M:** We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.
- C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

- M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.
- C: Amen.



OFFERING

Our offerings are an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church's work.

> You can place your offering in the plate in the entryway, or through our <u>secure online giving site</u>.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Serving Us This Week (February 13th – 19th) Cleaners: Linn, Joecks, Jessen, Hutchinson

Serving Us Next Week (February 20th – 26th) Cleaners: Giese, Pruitt, Sonntag

This Week at Shining Mountains:

| Today | 8:30 am 9:40 am 10:30 am | Divine Worship Sunday School & Adult Bible Class Divine Worship |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Monday, Feb. 14 th | 9:30 am | Mornings with Mommy |
| Tuesday, Feb. 15 th | 9:00 am | Little Lambs |
| · | 1:00 pm | Basic Bible Christianity |
| Wednesday, Feb. 16 th | 12:00 pm | Basic Bible Christianity |
| | 6:30 pm | Youth Catechism Class |
| Thursday, Feb. 17 th | 9:00 am | Little Lambs |
| | 6:15 pm | Meal & Basic Bible Christianity |
| Saturday, Feb. 19th | 9:00 am | Counseling |
| Sunday, Feb. 20th | 8:30 am | Divine Worship w/ Lord's Supper |
| - | 9:40 am | Sunday School & Adult Bible Class |
| | 10:30 am | Divine Worship w/ Lord's Supper |
| | 11:45 am | Potluck |

Potluck NEXT Sunday - February 20th

Next Sunday, after the 10:30 Service, we will have a Potluck Meal. The fellowship committee will provide the meat, but you are invited to bring a dish to pass. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway.

Mid-week Lenten Services - 6:30 PM

First of all, thank you to all of you who filled out a survey over the past two weeks – either online or a paper copy. We had great response – 24 replies. The numbers are in, and an overwhelming majority said they prefer a 6:30 worship time with Soup supper from 5:45-6:20 pm. Our first service will be **Wednesday**, **March 2**nd. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

If you'd like to see the results, scan this code and it will take you to graphs complete with ALL the votes (both digital and paper).



May Leora Holcomb

This past Friday, May Leora Holcomb was welcomed into God's family through the waters of baptism in a private service. She is the daughter of Cody & Meghan Holcomb. Please keep May in your prayers that Jesus would keep her close to him all her days!

Special Mission Offering - Haiti

Our first quarter special mission offering for 2022 is **Branch Lutheran Schools in Haiti**. This WELS affiliated mission brings clean water, food, shelter to countless kids, many who are orphans. Most importantly, in a country where Voodoo is supreme, they share the life-giving good news of Jesus every day in classroom & church. In one of the poorest countries in the world, the LORD is doing amazing things with gifts small and large. For more info, grab a sheet in the entryway next to the *Special Mission Offering* basket.

UPCOMING DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR

Mid-Week Lent Services – March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th + Apr. 6th Easter for Kids – Saturday April 9th Maundy Thursday – April 14th Good Friday – April 15th Easter Sunday – April 17th



THEME OF THE DAY - DEFINITIONS UNCOVERED: Blessings are Cursed; Curses are Blessed

When someone is new to something, there is a period of orientation. For example, when someone takes up a new game or sport, they need to first learn the rules. Likewise, when someone is a new disciple of Jesus, a period of orientation follows. It's necessary, because by nature we assume that Jesus' kingdom works the same way the world works. The truth that is uncovered this week is that the principles on which Jesus' kingdom runs are the exact opposite of the principles of the world. That which the world considers to be a blessing can often be a curse. And that which the world calls bad, God always uses for the good of those he loves.



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