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A NOTE FROM PASTOR CARL

THE KINGDOM LIFE OF FAITH

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. (Luke 12:32 ESV) With words of promise, Jesus speaks faith into the life of His disciples. He gives them the very hope they need to live the kingdom life of faith. Today at International Lutheran Church, we are called to trust in Him who gives us the Kingdom through His death and resurrection. Jesus speaks to us and gives us His own promise.

What a blessing to have had the recent opportunity to travel the breadth of the United States this summer. To be honest, I probably packed a few too many shirts. I am, after all, a worrying traveler. And I failed to consider the critical question we all must answer before a long journey, "so what do we need to bring?" Indeed, every adventure requires the right preparation. Knowing just what is "the plan" helps us to know what we will need.

If we are honest, though, our way of preparing for the great adventure can sometimes lead to a life of worry and anxiety even about the simplest things like what we will eat or what we will wear. No doubt these daily necessities of food and clothing are important. But they can also absorb our attention and drain the life out of us with the worry they create, especially if we add to this the enormous list of things our daily lives are filled with that cause us to be afraid of everything. Abram's riches did not offer him any solace. He still needed to know the "big plan." This is why Jesus' words for us today are so important as they actually give us just what we need to thrive in this kingdom life of faith - namely faith and trust in Him!

By sharing with His disciples the examples of the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, Jesus points to the vanity of our worry and anxiety. Like the stars in the heavens, these beautiful testimonies of God's creation speak to God's daily providence and care. And just as Abram was led to put his hope in God's promise by seeing the beauty of the night sky, God has displayed for all to see His commitment to meeting our needs by sending His own Son. Even as our worry and fear cannot add one day to the span of our life, the Father gives us the Kingdom in Jesus' death on the cross. This is why Jesus' words for us today are so important as they actually give us just what we

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 AM

Divine Worship Service (in-person and live stream)

OTHER EVENTS

Go to ilcseoul.org > Upcoming for other events

need to share this kingdom life of faith - namely faith, trust and hope in Him!

When Jesus speaks to us and says, "Have no fear!" He gives us the faith, trust, and hope we need to live in His promise. In Him, our sins are forgiven. In Baptism, the Spirit breathes into our empty lives the life of faith that we need. He makes us dear children of our Father in Heaven, and we are brought into His Kingdom by His grace. In this Baptism we are now clothed in His righteousness, a finer weave than any earthly material as it covers over all our misdeeds. In the Lord's Supper, He feeds us that Heavenly Food that fills us with hope and the assurance that His death was enough to cover all our sin. As we swallow His Word of promise, our fears are swallowed up in the hope He gives us. As we are sent out in peace, the worries that the world, our flesh, and the devil try to throw on our backs are only fleeting attempts to distract us from our Heavenly calling.

The writer of the Book of Hebrews (11:1-16) makes a list of the faithful saints of old to remind us of all of those who have gone before in faith. This list does not end with you and me. We are encouraged to share this Good News with others who still have not heard, have not touched, and have not seen that the Lord is good. In His Spirit we now live the kingdom life of faith, trust and hope so that all can experience the pleasure of God as part of His Kingdom even as we are called to believe His word and trust in His promises today.

Pastor Carl

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unless otherwise noted, you may direct inquiries for any announcement to seoulilc.volunteer@gmail.com, Links to online or live stream events will be included in either the electronic version of *The Messenger* or will be sent out on Sunday morning.

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS

We are already looking ahead to the fall and the many events, activities, and worship opportunities we will have to give thanks and praise to God and to build up our community as a witness of Jesus. More info coming out in these weeks...

'THE TIME OF THE CHURCH'

The Sundays following Pentecost are observed as 'the time of the church.' The color on the altar and lectern, as well the pastor's stole, will be green. These Sundays emphasize growth and give us time to maintain our faith, as always, through the means of grace (God's Word and the Sacraments). We will use green throughout the entire summer and into the fall.

MOST BIBLE STUDIES ON BREAK

Most of Pastor Carl's Bible Studies are on break until late summer / early fall. Sunday Morning Bible Study is back, beginning at 9AM. Sunday Night Bible Study and Wednesday Night Bible Study will resume soon. Announcements will be made regarding the specific dates.

VOLUNTEER LIST CORRECTION

The list for volunteers for worship assistants inadvertently left out the last week of August. Please refer to the new list on the bulletin board, or accessed via the link within the electronic version of The Messenger. Thank you!

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

ONLINE GIVING - NEW ACCOUNT

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN FAITHFULLY MAKING USE OF ONLINE GIVING.

NEW: Please note that we are switching to receive deposits to a new account. The Citibank account is still open, but over these next few months we will be closing that account. Thank you!

KEB HANA 166-890039-91604

READINGS

August 10: 9th Sunday after Pentecost		
ОТ	Genesis 15:1-6	
NT	Hebrews 11:1-16	
Gospel	Luke 12:22-40	

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

If you are interested in serving as a worship assistant, or need to make a scheduling adjustment, please write to seoulilc.volunteer@gmail.com. Thank you

AUGUST 10	10:00 AM
ACOLYTE	Emeth & Genesis
GREETER	Christian
USHERS	Lily & Olivia
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	James
LIVE STREAM	Richard
KITCHEN HELPERS	Rachel & Sung Eun
OFFERING COUNTERS	Yoonsil & Adam