

THE SHEPHERD'S LOVE

New York Mills Apostolic Lutheran Church • 315 Main Ave South • New York Mills, MN 56567 Vol 3 No. 4

From the Pastor's Desk

October 2023



"Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way."
Matthew 22:15-22

Have you ever been in a lose-lose situation? An instance where whatever choice you make the outcome will be negative. In our text Jesus was in such a situation. The pharisees got together and planned out how they would entrap Jesus. They sought to entangle him in his words, to trip him up. Their plan hinges on a group of people called the Herodians. The Herodians were basically a competing political party. They both called for the independence of Israel. But they disagreed on who should lead. The Herodians wanted the line of King Herod back on the throne while the Pharisees wanted to go back to the Kingdom of David.

least the pharisees would gain more support in their campaign against Jesus. If Jesus says "no, it's not lawful" he would have at the very least been imprisoned by the Romans for sedition. He's in a lose-lose situation. Jesus knows their hearts, he knows their plan and this seeming difficult situation is actually no big deal for him at all. He asks them whose image is on the coin. At that time their money was like crude versions of our coins, they had an image of Caesar on them. Jesus simply tells them to "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." This answer was perfect. Not only did it keep the Roman side of the trap happy but it also mollified the Herodians.

When the Pharisees send their disciples to Jesus with the Herodians they're doing it for a very specific purpose. They want to trap Jesus between the Romans and the Herodians. When they ask Jesus "Is it lawful to pay tribute to Caesar?" If he says "yes it's lawful". The Herodians would be extremely upset and at the very

By pointing out that taxes were due to Caesar because of the nature of his rule over the land and his image on the coins, he appealed to their sense of duty toward a king.

Prairie Cemetery Cleanup

Saturday, October 7, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Lunch will be provided

If you can help or have questions,

Contact Jim Keskitalo at

218-849-1381

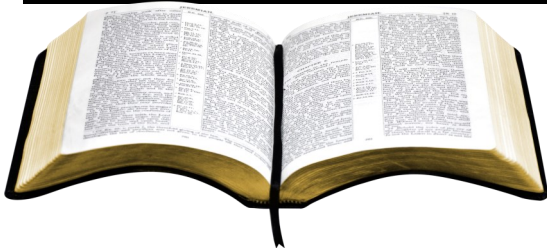
Thanks!

Operation Christmas Child Shoe

Box packing will be coming in

November.

More details to follow.



Con't from page 1

After all, the Herodians would support paying taxes to a potential future King Herod. The real beauty of this answer is that Jesus not only ends up defusing the lose-lose situation, but he also offers a stinging rebuke to the Phari-see's. By saying "render unto God the things that are God's" he's showing what the phari-see's are lacking. They aren't rendering to Jesus the things that they should.

I think we can take extreme comfort in the wisdom of our Lord. "*Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's*" this is apt advice for us to follow now. We need to find a way to pay due respect to Caesar while also honoring our Lord.

God's Peace,

Nicholas Kandoll

Nathaniel Niles, the author of "*Precious Promise*" was a New York City lawyer who commuted by train from Morristown, New Jersey, every day. One day he had bought his newspaper and was prepared to read it. But he couldn't get Psalm 32:8 out of his mind. In the King James version, Psalm 32:8 simply says, "I will guide thee with mine eye." A beautiful promise. Niles looked for a blank piece of paper, but he didn't have any with him, so he took his newspaper and started scribbling in the margin. By the time the train pulled into the station in New York City, he had completed the song!

*Precious promise God hath given to the weary passerby,
On the way from earth to heaven, "I will guide thee with Mine eye."*

CHORUS

*I will guide thee, I will guide thee, I will guide thee with Mine eye,
On the way from earth to heaven, I will guide thee with Mine eye!*

*2. When temptations almost win thee, and thy trusted watchers fly,
Let this promise ring within thee, "I will guide thee with Mine eye."*

CHORUS

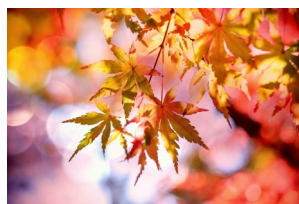
*3. When thy secret hopes have perished in the grave of years gone by,
Let this promise still be cherished, "I will guide thee with Mine eye."*

CHORUS

*4. When the shades of life are falling, and the hour has come to die,
Hear the trusty Pilot calling, "I will guide thee with Mine eye."*

CHORUS

Hymn No. 497 in Hymns and Songs of Zion



Lord. Give me faith

To live from day to day

With tranquil heart to do

My simple part

And with my hand in Thine,

Just go Thy way

Lord, give me faith

To trust, if not to know

With quiet mind in all this

Thee to find

And, child like, go where Thou

Wouldst have me go.

Love, give me faith

To leave it all to Thee

The future is Thy gift

I would not lift

The veil Thy love has hung

'twixt it and me.

John Oxenham

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther wrote this hymn by reflection on Psalm 46. The psalm is one of trust and thanksgiving when facing impending danger (the historical background is the invasion of Israel by Sennacherib during the reign of Hezekiah 2 Kings 18:13-19:37).

The psalm begins by proclaiming knowledge and trust in God:

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." (Isa 46:1)

It speaks of courage in the face of natural disasters (Psa 46:2-3) and God's presence with His people and His care for them (Psa 46:5,7).

It speaks of the heathens raging and God's mighty power to defend His people (Isa 46:6, 8-9) as well as their need to stop striving and let God fight for them:

Psa 46:10 *Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.*

The psalmist then ends with the same thought with which he began — God's presence and the comfort that is found in Him:

Psa 46:11 *The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.*

The Five Solas of the Reformation offer a prescription to Christians about how to live life, walking in the Spirit as children of God and as Christ's body the Church. All Christians should understand and commit to the truths of these Five Points.

Sola Scriptura — Scripture Alone

The Bible is God's Word and it is the final authority over all (including church tradition and interpretations). The Bible is inspired, inerrant and infallible. It is a living Book, preserved by the One who wrote it. It is the only Book that, when you are reading it, the Author is present to teach you.

Sola Fide — Faith Alone

Our justification comes through faith and without any contribution of our good works.

Sola Gratia — Grace Alone

Salvation is a gift of unmerited favor (grace) given by God. Simply put, God gives us by His Divine love and kindness what we do not deserve and have not earned.

Solus Christus — Christ Alone

This could not be more clear. It's all about Jesus! He lived the life we could not live and He died the death that we should die. He alone mediates between God and man. The penalty for our sins was paid by Christ alone through His substitutionary atonement on the cross. And, by His grace we are forgiven.

Soli Deo Gloria — Glory to God Alone

If we get the first four solas right, the last one follows and God is glorified. Salvation is by Grace Alone, through Faith Alone, in Jesus Christ Alone, who is the Word (Scripture Alone) and from whom all Truth proceeds. Oh, what a magnificent gift of God!

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

We are Justified...

...by grace alone (*sola gratia*) through faith alone (*sola fide*) for the sake of Christ alone (*solus Christus*), a truth revealed to us in Scripture alone (*sola Scriptura*), for God's glory alone (*sola gloria*)

Church Board Members

JIM KESKITALO – CHARIMAN; DICK CARLUND - VICE-CHAIRMAN; MARC TUMBERG - SECRETARY; ROSS KESKITALO - TREASURER; TOM MURSU; JACOB AHO; DARWIN ROBERTS

Church Information

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Church: 218-385-2166

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.-noon

Church Website
www.nymalc.org
View live or archived services

Federation Website
www.apostoliclutheran.org

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If you want to be added or removed from our mailing list please contact me. All newsletter items to be considered can be emailed to me at the above address by the 20th of each month.

Echoes of Mercy
Radio Broadcast
920 AM KWAD

Sunday mornings
English at 8:05 am

Sponsored by
New York Mills, Spruce Grove
and Menahga Apostolic
Lutheran Churches

Sunday school @ 9:15

Worship @ 10:30

If you choose to watch the services online and would like to donate to the church please send checks to:

Louise Amberg-Jokela

206 South Broadway #107 New York Mills, MN 56567.

Thank you to everyone that has taken the time to send contributions. It is greatly appreciated!

Meals/potluck, will be served on the

first Sunday

Group 10 Oct 1

Group 7 Oct 15

Group 8 in Nov

The serving group will make the main dishes for potlucks (unless announced otherwise) and others are asked to bring salads or desserts.

There is a sign up sheet for Sunday coffee in the dining room.



NYM Emergency Food Shelf

FOR EMERGENCY HELP CALL NYM

CULTURAL CENTER 218-385-3339

CONNIE WARNER

218-385-2853 (work)

218-385-3669 (home)

TERESA MUCKALA

763-843-3269

KAY TOUGAS

218-298-0272

ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL

LOCATION:

400 S WALKER AVE

NYM MN

FOOD SHELF HOURS

HOURS 9-NOON & 4:30-6:30

October 30, 2023

*November 20, 2023

*December 18, 2023

January 29, 2024

February 26, 2024

Usage limit 1 time

per month

* 1 week early due to holidays.