



RIVERSIDE CHURCH

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER, 2023

RIVERSIDE APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH - NEWSLETTER

Luke 17:11-19

Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers

On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

The text above is one of the traditional texts for Thanksgiving, which we will celebrate later this month. In the text, Jesus heals ten people who have leprosy. As they are on their way to the temple to be examined by the priests, they are healed. One of the men who realized that he was healed decided to turn around, and to thank Jesus. After the man thanked Jesus, the Lord asked, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this one foreigner?" Out of the ten people that were healed, only one returned to give thanks to God.

While we might say "thanks" in our earthly lives, this text brings up a sobering question: do we give thanks in our spiritual lives, in our faith lives? Do we thank God for what He gives us? Who would we be in the story? When we confess together the first part of the Apostles' Creed (I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth), Luther notes that we confess this: "I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason, and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against

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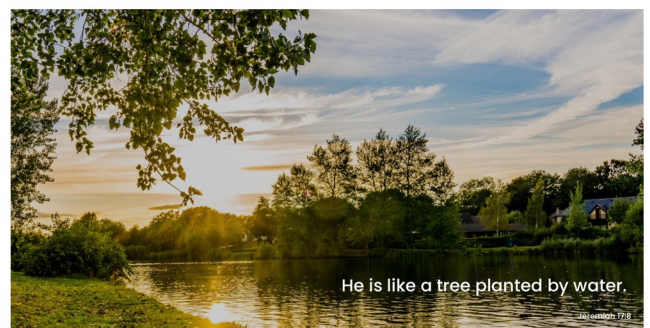
Riverside Apostolic Lutheran Church

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He is like a tree planted by water.

cont. from pg 1

all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.”

It is overwhelming what our God does for us on a daily basis! It is amazing to think that He still does these things for us, even when we don't thank Him. This Thanksgiving and holiday season we can and should give thanks to God for all that He does for us. We can give thanks for all that He does even we don't give Him thanks. Most importantly, We give Him thanks for Jesus, the One Who takes all our sin away.

God's Peace!

Pastor Ray

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

You are cordially invited to our upcoming church services at Riverside Apostolic Lutheran Church in Kennewick on November 17th-19th 2023.

Your presence would mean the world to us as we host the fall meetings of our Central Board.

During their time here we will be having worship services along with a dedication service to welcome our congregation into the community of ALC churches. The Central Board will also be ordaining pastor Ray during this time.

We thank you in advance for your thoughts and prayers.

God's Peace.

Anthony St. Martin, Secretary

PRAYER REQUESTS

Our upcoming services
The lonely during the Holiday season
Health and wellness
Holiday travel mercies
Marriages and families

He is like a tree
planted by water.
Jeremiah 17:8

LOOKING AHEAD

NOVEMBER

Nov. 5th - Daylight Savings Ends

November 11th - Fall Cleaning @ 9:00 AM

FALL SERVICES SCHEDULE:

Friday - Nov.17th @ 7:00 PM

w/refreshments following

Saturday - Nov. 18th @ 7:00 PM Music & Singing w/

Papa Q Pizza & snacks

Sunday - Nov. 19th @ 10:30 AM w/lunch following

Sunday - Nov. 19th @ 2:00 PM

DECEMBER

Dec. 3 - Christmas Program @ 7:00 PM

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve service - 7 pm

Annual meeting agenda items need to be
submitted by December 31st