

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"The Lord is With Us"

By Pastor Rick Rostek, Immanuel Lutheran Church

The Psalmist confidently proclaims in Psalm 46, "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress." Even in the midst of the earth giving way, mountains falling into the sea, raging nations, and tottering kingdoms, "The Lord of hosts is with us."

On Memorial Day weekend, we remembered those who have gone before us: family members, friends, and especially those who died in service to our country. And while many of the memories are fond and even joyful, our joy is often tempered by the fact that they are no longer with us.

We miss the wisdom of parents. We lament the passing of a sibling who died too young. We agonize over the loss of a child. We might even get angry knowing that war has taken the life of a dear loved one. Yet these are the cold realities for many of us. Thinking back on their lives, we might feel as if our world is crumbling and the ground is giving way beneath our feet. Still,

there is hope: "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."

The Psalmist encourages the people to "behold the works of the Lord." For the ancient Israelites, they may have looked back to the escape from Egypt and the parting of the Red Sea.

Or perhaps they remembered when they entered the Promised Land, fulfilling the covenant made with Abraham.


In our day, those events in the lives of the Israelites point to an even greater fulfillment of the promise to Abraham: the coming of the

Messiah into the world. God promised that all nations would be blessed through Abraham, and in Jesus, that blessing has come to pass. Jesus died for the sin of the world so that whoever would believe in Him would have forgiveness and everlasting life. This is the greatest "work of the Lord" and it's a blessing and a promise that is offered to all people.

Many have died in that faith and are now with Jesus this day. For the survivors, faith in Jesus brings the hope of a reunion with those who have died in the faith. One day Christ will return to gather in the faithful to be with Him forever. That fact can give us joy even in the midst of sorrow.

We give thanks to God for lives of those who have gone before us even as we pray for faith as we live out our lives. Meanwhile, we remember that in the midst of things that we cannot understand, "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."

Reflections



Graduation...is it a beginning, ending, or a stop along the way? Graduation is a beginning of life as a young adult, of new friendships, of higher education or a fulfilling occupation.

Graduation may also bring endings...to familiar surroundings and comfortable routines, to old friendships; a setting aside of childlike fears and second hand ideas.

Perhaps, graduation is a significant stop along the way, a preparatory pause, a fork in the road, a step on life's ladder. Indeed, the word itself means a gradual transition ...a time to remember the past, to ponder the present, and to dream of the future.

Whatever graduation means to you, feel proud of your accomplishments, and praise God for providing you with strength and guidance. Worship Him regularly, so that you may continue to receive His direction during this most meaningful time in your life!

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|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| Exodus 19.1-25 | Exodus 20.1-21 | Exodus 23.20-33 | Exodus 24.1-18 | Deuteronomy 29.1-29 | Deuteronomy 30.1-20 | Deuteronomy 31.1-29 |

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROBERT F. MINDRUP

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, May 28, June 4, 11, 2010.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
In the Matter of the Estate of ROBERT F. MINDRUP, Deceased No. 2009-PR-32

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Bradley Danielson, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Executor of the Estate of Robert F. Mindrup, Deceased, praying that his acts be approved; that his account be settled and allowed; that the will be construed and the estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; that fees and expenses be allowed; that

the costs be determined and ordered paid; that the administration of the estate be closed; that the Executor be discharged and that Bradley Danielson be released from further liability.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO FILE your written defenses thereto on or before the 21st day of June, 2010, at 10:00 o'clock A.M. of said day, in said Court, in the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Bradley Danielson, Executor
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Attorneys for Petitioner

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