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# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

### "The End Is Near!"

By Pastor Rick Rostek, Immanuel Lutheran Church

The end is near! Just about everyone has heard someone say this. People have been proclaiming "the end" for many years. World events might lead us to conclude that the end, indeed, is very near. There is war in places like Syria and Afghanistan. Egypt, Israel, Palestine, and other countries continue to be places of high tension. Our own country seems more politicized than it ever has been. Moreover, many false teachers have arisen in the Church who seek to minimize the authority of God's Holy Word and diminish the all-sufficient work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Do these events portend the end of the world?

Perhaps. Certainly, the end is closer today than it was yesterday. Ironically, world events that possibly point to the end times can be of great benefit insofar as they lead us back to God. Didn't Jesus encourage

us to seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33)? The God who clothes the lilies and cares for the sparrows is the One who is truly in control and He cares for us far more than birds

and grass. Yes, God will one day bring an end to the world. Jesus will return to judge the world. Therefore, Jesus tells us, "Keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."

One might ask, "How do we keep watch?" The best way is to focus on what Jesus Christ has done for the people of the world. The bad things that happen in this world are a result of the fall of mankind into sin. Jesus Christ came to reverse this curse by sacrificing His life on the cross for the sin of the world. By remembering Jesus' great sacrifice and placing our faith in Him, we need not worry about the coming of the end of the age. Those who believe will receive an inheritance reserved for the faithful-eternal communion with God in paradise.

The end certainly gets nearer with each passing day. Now is the day of salvation. Put your trust in Jesus Christ and that day will be met with unspeakable joy as Christ receives believers into His eternal kingdom.

**The Ravages of War**  
Photo Credit: stockphoto.com/milkdam

Today all is quiet on the beach at Normandy; waves have long ago washed away the blood and the ominous roar of tanks and guns has given way to the rhythmic roar of the sea. But the memories of these things are forever etched in our history. Wars have begun and ended in many places throughout the world during the last century, yet memories never end for those men and women who were present in the horrors of combat. Memories never end for the families of those who were lost or ruined. This Veterans' Day let us pray that the peace of God that passes all understanding will quiet the hearts and minds that still rage from the ravages of war.

Weekly Scripture Reading						
Ephesians 1.1-23	Ephesians 2.1-22	Ephesians 3.1-21	Ephesians 4.1-16	Ephesians 4.17-32	Ephesians 5.1-20	Ephesians 6.10-24

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society  
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**SUDOKU**

	1		9			5		
4						6		
							9	8
	9	5	7					
2				1	7	3		
	3			4				
7			1	5				
	8			6	2	7		

Level: Intermediate

**Fun By The Numbers**  
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1	7	2	9	3	4	8	5	6
6	9	5	8	1	5	8	5	3
5	4	8	8	5	4	2	7	9
5	8	6	4	6	2	3	1	7
6	3	7	1	7	6	8	5	2
2	1	4	2	3	7	5	6	8
8	8	1	2	4	9	7	5	3
1	7	8	1	8	2	5	3	6
3	8	1	6	9	4	7	5	2

**ANSWER:**

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