



The church that cares, our roots are strong

Tree of Life Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, English District

Newsletter

Worship Services
Sunday - 10:00 am
Communion Weekly

Location

2991 E. Thomas Street
Inverness, FL 34453

Mailing Address

2659 E Gulf-to-Lake Hwy #410
Inverness, FL 34450

Phone #352-419-4100
(leave a message)

Pastor

Mark Steinke

President

Ron Hansen

Vice President

Bob Morris

Treasurer

Sharon Hansen

Secretary

Karen Huscher

Trustees

Rich Grable
Sue Grable

Elders

Ron Fullerton
Bob Morris

Christian Education

Kim Carrol
Kim Jackson
Sue Grable

Bible Class

Sunday - 9am

www.treeoflifelc.org

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God”

Rev. 2:7

Pastor’s Message

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:9).

When St. Paul says that “all things work together for good,” (Romans 8:28), he means it. That doesn’t mean if you’re a Christian, you won’t get the coronavirus. That doesn’t mean all of this will go away in the next couple of hours. And it doesn’t mean bad things won’t happen. What it means is that God uses everything for your good, even the awful stuff, especially the awful stuff

And so, he uses the coronavirus not to scare or worry you but to form and shape you, to make you more like his Son Jesus. He gives us all a cross to bear that we might be joined to the One who “bore our sins in his body on the tree” (1 Peter 2:24). The coronavirus is a blessing for us, because it shows us the frailty of our lives and how, in the end, we cannot trust ourselves or anyone else. We are fleeting creatures. We come and we go, and so does everything else in this world.

But Jesus Christ doesn’t. He is the same as he was yesterday, as he is today, and as he will be forever. He died, and yet he lives. He was buried but is raised, never to be buried again. Jesus lives, and nothing can ever change that. He was alive three months ago when no one knew about this virus. He is alive today in the midst of our anxiety and uncertainty. He will be alive six months from now, ten years from now, and forever. He lives. That’s the only thing you can count on.

Government mandates change day by day. The president and governor will continue to give new suggestions and mandates. But the word of the Lord stands forever. His mercy endures forever. We often forget that when things are going easy, when our lives are uninterrupted. But now, everything has come to a screeching halt, and it’s during these moments that God brings us back to reality. You’re not as strong as you thought. This world has an expiration date. One little virus can change everything.

But God has saved the whole world, and so, there’s nothing to fear. *“And take they our life, Goods, fame, child and wife, Though these all be gone, Our vict’ry has been won; The Kingdom our remaineth” (LSB 656:4).*

Dear saints, do not be anxious. Do not worry. You know the end of the story. Jesus lives, and he’s coming back to raise us from death, to deliver us from evil, and to rid us of this fallen world. Things will continue to change, but Jesus won’t. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”

Pastor Steinke