



Salem Lutheran Church

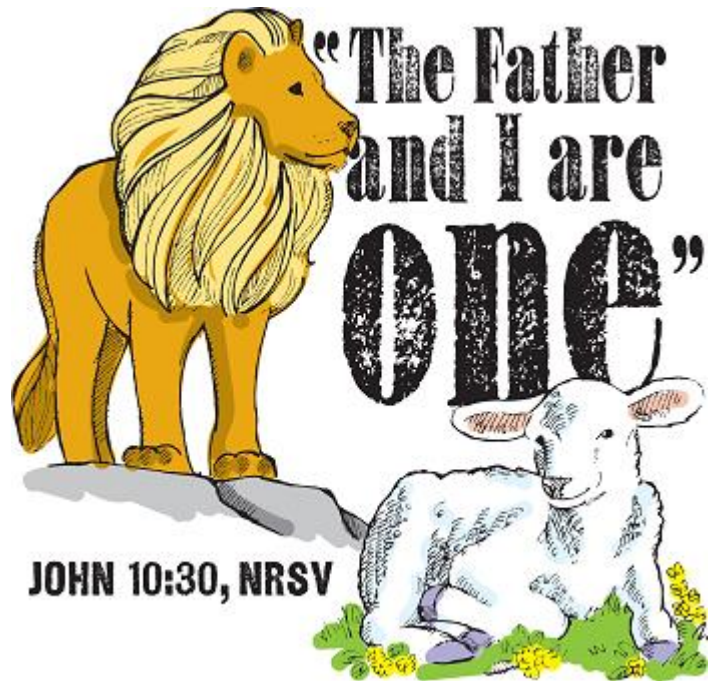
shalom - salaam - salem - peace

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Participant

*4th Sunday of
Easter*

*May 8, 2022
9:30 AM*



The Reverend Marjo Anderson, Pastor
marjoanderson@aol.com
203-982-3441 (cell)

Karl Kraft, Office Manager
salemsec123@sbcglobal.net

3160 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604
Telephone: 203-336-3300;

www.salembridgeport.org
www.facebook.com/salembridgeport
YouTube – Salem Lutheran Church, Bridgeport CT

Welcome

There is something more than life: there is LIFE, the ABUNDANT LIFE that Jesus offers, the TIMELESS LIFE that is not about living forever someday, but living in the forever of NOW! This is the life Jesus lived. It's the life Jesus died for. It's the life Jesus promises us. It's the life Dorcas in Joppa found. It's the life those "who have come out of the great ordeal" experience in the Revelation vision. It's the life that is available to us whenever we die to self and are raised to a life that is simply beyond description. A life marked by the love of Jesus and the power of the Spirit, a life filled with thanks and praise, a life overflowing with love and joy.

Flowers this morning are given by Joan Smith Crossman in memory of her mother, Winnie Smith, and in Honor of all the wonderful mothers of Salem.

A Happy Mother's Day to all mothers worshipping with us and to the mothers of everyone worshipping with us this morning! Today is Good Shepherd Sunday and a good time to reflect on how mothers can and often are "good shepherds" to their children

Salem is still recommending masks, especially for singing. We know that some are only comfortable coming into a place where people are masked, and we want to provide an environment where everyone feels safe. Case numbers are rising and the latest variant is even more contagious than Omicron and its successor. While the current variants may cause only mild symptoms in most people, those who are older and who have underlying conditions remain at risk for more serious illness, including long covid. We will continue to re-evaluate based on what happens with the pandemic and what the latest advice is concerning singing protocols.

The Color of Compromise: Sacred Conversations on Race and the American Church. The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport's Raising the BAR (Becoming Anti-Racist) team invites you into sacred conversations in a safe space to talk about the history of race and the American Church. Though the series will span 11 weeks, each session covers a distinct topic, so you're welcome to attend as many as you wish. Guided by the book *The Color of Compromise*, a video series by its author, Jemar Tisby, and the CCGB's capable and dedicated team of facilitators, the series moves chronologically from America's colonial past to today's Black Lives Matter movement. *The Color of Compromise* is not about shaming or blaming but rather opens our eyes to a history hidden, unknown, or ignored by White Christians and calls us to take seriously what the Bible teaches about human dignity and equality. As members of the whitest denomination in the US, this is an opportunity for those of us at Salem to learn and grow. The next two sessions will cover "Understanding Liberty in the Age of Revolution and Revival" (May 12th) and "Institutionalizing Race in the Antebellum Era" (May 19th). For more information or questions about Raising the BAR programming, please contact Paula Coccozza at Paulacoccozza@ccgb.org or online at <https://ccgb.org/rtb> or speak with Pastor Marjo, Sandra Brown, Nancy Headford, Bill Winter, or Tom Larson.

The next breakfast and faith discussion will be held on May 14th at Grace Lutheran Church, 150 Chapel Street, Stratford, at 8:00 (7:00 to help cook).

Gathering

GATHERING MUSIC He Shall Feed His Flock from The Messiah by G. F. Handel

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd
and He shall gather the lambs with his arm, with his arm.
And carry them in his bosom
and gently lead those that are with young
Come unto Him all ye that labour.
Come unto Him, ye that are heavy laden
and He will give you rest.
Take his yoke upon you and learn of Him
for He is meek and lowly of heart
and ye shall find rest unto your souls

*Text & Music by George Frideric Handel
This song is in the Public Domain.*

The performances are by:

HARMONIOUS CHORALE – GHANA

*Harmonious Impressions on G.F Handel's work, A BEAUTIFUL CHRSTIMAS 2 #ABC –
Video: Take2Films; Audio: Mido Productions; Stage/Lights/Production: Iam Adinkra
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQDG3D7PLo0> [6:13]*

*Regula Mühlemann, Weihnachtskonzert für den Bundespräsidenten ZDF 2017
Neue Philharmonie Westfalen Rasmus Baumann, Leitung;
Wallfahrtskirche St. Marien - Marienbasilika Kevelaer
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUIO5rse8zM> [5:17]*

*Collegium 1704, Václav Luks
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsoEg6h6EXc> [4:00]*

Please note that here we go live on Facebook.

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

The Lord's My Shepherd

As long as you are masked, you may sing softly.

**The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.**

**My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill,
for thou art with me and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.**

**My table thou hast richly spread
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.**

**Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forever more
My dwelling place shall be.**

*Text : Psalm 23 from the Scottish Psalter (1650),
William Whittingham and others;
Meter 8 6 8 6 (C M)*

Music: CRIMOND by Jessie S. Irvine, Arranged by David Grant

Word

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES: Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay". So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up". Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS: Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Word of God! Word of Life!

Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE REVELATION TO JOHN: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows”. Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God! Word of Life!
Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS: John 10:22-30 *You may stand if you so desire.*

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly”. Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. The Father and I are one.”

Word of God! Word of Life!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Please be seated.

Pastor Marjo

You may stand if you so desire.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith together.

**We believe in God who created us and all that is,
who loves us and desires our love in return.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form, he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
& every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God our Creator.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit who calls us into relationship with God,
who gathers us in relationship with the whole human family,
who enlightens our minds, enlarges our hearts, and enables our bodies,
and who sanctifies us by helping us to grow in faith and hope and obedience to God's will.**

**It is this Triune God – the three in one and one in three – whom we worship and adore
and to whom we offer all that we have and all that we are. Amen**

PURPOSE STATEMENT

As members and friends of Salem Church, let us remind ourselves who we are:

**We are a community of Christian disciples called by the Holy Spirit.
In response to God's transforming love, we share our joy through praise and service.**

May it be so!

Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

So they can be heard online, these petitions will be offered by the leaders at the microphones.

Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus.
Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things.
We pray for our mission partners, especially today for GROUP Workcamps.
We pray for Salem members & their families, especially those celebrating birthdays this week:
Nancy D'Andrea, Bev Marshall, and Ray Lansing.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Feed your people at the table of creation.
Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy,
especially those making difficult journeys.
Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day.
Accompany those yearning to be mothers.
Help us to heal from broken family relationships
and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation,
especially Barbara, Bernedette, Bill, Christiane, Dolores, Frank, Grace, Iris, Jocelyn, Jonathan,
Linda, Moses, Steve, and all we name in our hearts.
Set people in their path who can provide the care they need,
and wipe away every tear from their eyes.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire the words of prophets and saints
who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding.
Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation,
from all tribes and peoples and languages.
Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are invited to offer your own prayer petition at this time, either silently or aloud.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

Thanksgiving

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you said, “Give and it will be given to you...
for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

**Give us the confidence to cheerfully give
our tithes and offerings of time, talent and treasure to your work in this place,
trusting that you will provide abundantly for all our needs.
We pray this in the power of your Spirit. Amen**

OFFERING INVITATION

Please be seated.

In response to God’s grace,
it is our joy to return to God our tithes and offerings.
We are grateful for your generosity,
-which not only is an exercise of and witness to your faith,
but which funds our ministry together here at Salem.



If you are a member of another congregation,
we encourage you to give to your home congregation first,
but invite you to contribute to our ministry also
so that we can continue to take our worship online
as a witness to the power and love of the amazing God we serve.
Simply go to the menu on our website at SalemBridgeport.org and click “donate”
or scan the QR code here in our Sunday worship program
with a QR reader on your smart phone which will take you to that page.

OFFERTORY SONG You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

(as found in the newest ELCA worship book, All Creation Sings # 954)

As long as you are masked, you may sing softly.

- 1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer of the way you took and gave.
You, the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.**
- 2 Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might upon the cross,
shining in eternal glory, beggared by a soldier's toss,
you, the everlasting instant; you, who are both gift and cost.**
- 3 You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side.
You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our pilgrim guide.**
- 4 Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and vict'ry; worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.**

*Text: based on Matthew 7:13-24, 10:34, 17:1-9, 27:28-30, Luke 9:28-36, 23:32-43,
Philippians 2:6-11, Hebrews 1:3-13, Revelation 5:11-14, 11:15
by Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993; Meter 8 7 8 7 8 7*

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Reprinted / Streamed with permission under OneLicense # A-727372

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS, THANK YOU AND BLESSING

Here ends our Facebook live stream.

Meal & Dismissal

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

You may stand if you so desire and make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known & from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for all people, and for Christ's sake God forgives all who truly repent of their sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

COMMUNION

Please be seated.

God be with you!

And also with you!

Open your hearts!

We open them to God and one another!

Let us give thanks to the God of all!

It is right to give God thanks & praise!

In the night in which he was betrayed....

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed.

Blessed be God, who is our Bread; may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen

The body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you.

*During communion, you may take your communion elements during worship
or hold on to your kit until you get home.*

If you take the elements inside the church, open the kit over the pew to prevent spilling on the carpet.

After the service, please dispose of your own kit either in a waste receptacle at church or at home.

The body & blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you & keep you in divine grace! Amen!

CLOSING SONG

He Leadeth Me

(as found in the ELCA worship book, This Far by Faith # 151)

As long as you are masked, you may sing softly.

**1 He leadeth me: oh, blessed thought! Oh, words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

Refrain

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me.
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.**

**2 Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

Refrain

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me.
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.**

**3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me.**

Refrain

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me.
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.**

**4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vict'ry's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me.**

Refrain

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me.
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.**

Text: based on Psalm 23, 139:10 by Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918, alt.;
Meter L M D

Music: HE LEADETH ME by William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868
The Text and Music are in the Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, follow the Shepherd, and find LIFE in his name!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Psalm 23

Verse 1

The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still still waters His goodness restores my soul

Chorus

And I will trust in You alone And I will trust in You alone
For Your endless mercy follows me Your goodness will lead me home

Descant

I will trust I will trust in You I will trust I will trust in You
Endless mercy follows me Goodness will lead me home

Verse 2

He guides my ways in righteousness And He anoints my head with oil
And my cup it overflows with joy I feast on His pure delights

Verse 3

And though I walk the darkest path I will not fear the evil one
For You are with me And Your rod and staff Are the comfort I need to know

CCLI Song # 1585970

Text: based on Psalm 23 by Stuart Townend

Music: Stuart Townend

© 1996 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Getty Music Hymns and Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

Reprinted / Streamed with permission under CCLI License # 11092038

*Performance by pupils at the Kings Music Department, Canterbury,
from their homes during the Coronavirus lockdown 2020, 6/21/20
as found at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlIhI2cs1EI> [3:44]*

Announcements

Welcome to WONDROUS WEDNESDAYS! On Wednesday we have 3 wonderful opportunities to live into our mission of Encountering God, Building Relationships, and Changing Lives. The links are all on the calendar on our website at SalemBridgeport.org under the Resources Tab.

*** First, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month through June, we begin with a Morning Bible Study 9:30-11:00 on zoom, led by Grace Dukenski.** There is time for sharing before we launch into our study of the book of Romans, and time for prayer at the end.

*** Every Wednesday at 12:00 noon we meet on zoom for prayer.** You can pray out loud if you want, or you can simply ask others to pray for you or for the concerns on your mind or heart. The more we talk with God and the more we listen to God, the more God is able to work through us. And the more we pray TOGETHER the more the power of prayer is multiplied.

*** And finally, every Wednesday at 6:30 pm we conclude with an Evening Bible Study 6:30-7:30 on zoom, led by Pastor Marjo and Jeanette Harris.** Join this diverse and interesting group of people for a study that is not simply informational but transformational. We continue our study of the book of Acts, concluding at 7:15 with a brief service of Holy Communion. This past week we looked at the beginning of the 3rd chapter and talked about God's power to heal, why miraculous healings sometimes happen and then sometimes don't, and how we are to live in the light of miracles and in the lack thereof.

Please join Jeanette Harris and Genesis Gospel Café at the next Inner-View Chat'n'Chew, Saturday May 21st at 11:00 am. Details forthcoming.

Let's stay connected! Much of Pastor Marjo's and Salem's Office Manager, Karl's work can be done from their homes, but generally Karl is here on Thursdays to take care of tasks that cannot be accomplished remotely, and Pastor Marjo is happy to meet with you in-person here should you so desire. If we can help in any way, please know that you can call Salem's church office at 203-330-3300 and leave a message and your message will be picked up remotely and your call returned. **Please also do not hesitate to call or text Pastor Marjo at 203-982-3441. She would be MORE THAN HAPPY to hear from you!**

Invitation from Joe Bales - As I'm sure you'll remember the Salem Food Pantry ended in early 2020 with the onset of the Covid 10 pandemic. It was a very disappointing period for Salem and personally for me as we had created a great community outreach program. While our pantry has been silent a small contingent of Food Pantry volunteers have continued to be involved in meeting the needs of the hunger challenged. Today seven men meet weekly at the Brooklawn Deli for fellowship — followed by picking up food from the Bridgeport Food Bank with delivery to the PTBarnum Food Pantry. The group consists of Dr. Peter Mitchell, Fred Schaefer, Bert Andren, Ray Anderson, Tom Larson, Charlie Beaver and myself. **YOU** are welcome to join us and as in the past we welcome your support through monetary contributions. Your donation should be directed to Feed The People Food Pantry, c/o Roberta Marson, 240 Hanson Avenue, Bridgeport, Ct 06605. Contact Joe Bales at 203-434-6308 for additional information.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church, died around 1416

Sunday, May 8, 2022

When she was about thirty years old, Julian (or Juliana) reported visions that she later compiled into a book, *Sixteen Revelations of Divine Love*, now a classic of medieval mysticism.

The visions declared that love was the meaning of religious experience, provided by Christ who is love, for the purpose of love.

Victor the Moor, martyr, died 303

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Also known as Victor Maurus, this native of the northwest African nation of Mauritania was a soldier in the Roman Praetorian Guard.

Under the persecution of Maximian, Victor died for his faith at Milan.

Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church, hymnwriter, died 1760

Monday, May 9, 2022

When he was 22, a group of Moravians asked permission to live on Zinzendorf's land. He agreed, and eventually worldwide Moravian missions emanated from this community. Zinzendorf participated in these missions, and is also remembered for writing hymns characteristic of his Pietistic faith.

Matthias, Apostle

Saturday, May 14, 2022

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot.

He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry.

Formerly commemorated on February 24,

Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.

CREDITS

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS005794.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989,

Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.