



DAILY BREAD

FOR THE WEEK STARTING MAY 23, 2010

A message from the pastor:

Spiritual growth in the Christian faith includes an engagement with the Word of God. All believers, whether life-long Christians or new believers, need to be nourished by God's Word on a daily basis, just as we need to eat food each day for the nourishment of our bodies. For the next six months we at Galilee Lutheran Church will engage the Word together by reading two chapters per week from either the Gospel of Luke or the Book of Acts. Blessings to you as the Holy Spirit works in your heart through the Word, which is the bread of life.

This week's reading: Luke, chapters 1 and 2.

Comments about the assigned chapters:

- Luke wrote "an orderly account" (1:1) of the life of Jesus in his Gospel. While he does not write about every incident in the life of Jesus, he does seek to show how God was present and active in the world through the life of Jesus Christ.
- For more information about the Gospel of Luke, see www.enterthebible.org.
- For the blog conversation on these readings, go to <http://web.me.com/ronald.peterson1/FAITHnrFUTURE/Blog/Blog.html>

Questions for reflection and discussion:

1. Notice the similarities and differences between the foretelling of the births as well as the accounts of the births of John the Baptist and of Jesus. These similarities and differences are keys to understanding who Jesus is.
2. The angel announced the good news that there was "born in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord". *Savior* and *Lord* were also titles claimed by Caesar, the Roman emperor. How do you suppose people at the time of the writing of Luke's Gospel reacted to those titles being ascribed to Jesus? Why or by whom would this be heard as good news?

Suggestions for prayer:

- Give thanks for the teachers, students and presenters in Sunday School and the Forums.
- Pray for Spirit of Truth, a new congregation in St. Paul and affiliated with the ELCA, which has its first worship service on May 23rd.
- Pray for the safety of all those traveling and recreating over the Memorial Day weekend. May all families have a healthy, safe and joyous holiday.