

Called by Christ to Serve
St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & Lighthouse Preschool
Aberdeen, SD ***July 2022***

The Overturning of Roe vs. Wade

Considering the Supreme Court's recent ruling on abortion, I thought it would be appropriate to publish Synodical President Rev. Matthew Harrison's response in lieu of our ongoing series on stewardship. Pastor Bobby

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24).

Today is a monumental day, a day on which we simultaneously rejoice, pray, give thanks, lament, repent and weep. The Supreme Court reversed *Roe v. Wade* and returned the responsibility for protecting life to the states. "*Held*: The Constitution does not confer a right to abortion; *Roe* and *Casey* are overruled; and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives" (SCOTUS, *Dobbs v. Jackson*, 1).

"[The Lord] has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate" (Lk. 1:52).

Today is also the Church's feast day, the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ. These two events are a happy convergence.

Today we celebrate the birth of the one who, before he was born, leaped in joyful Spirit-inspired confession when his mother met the mother of his unborn Lord. Today we take comfort in our Lord's unborn forerunner and in the unborn Savior. We also rejoice at the resounding victory for life in the United States. Many of us long doubted it would ever come. The Lord has had mercy upon us, even us, sinners all, even in these times.

Today we continue to speak out against the evil of abortion, which many will continue to practice and advocate in states bent on death. Many who have been misled by the father of lies and the culture of death greet this day with weeping and gnashing of teeth. Today we continue to sing that the Lord "has visited and redeemed his people" (Luke 1:68).

Today we pray for unborn children who remain unprotected in many states. Today, in many places, the abortion industry continues to kill unborn children and welcomes those from states where such killing is illegal. Today we take comfort that by the Lord's hand "we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us" (Luke 1:71).

Today we repent of our own lack of love for the least, the last and the lost, for mothers in need and families facing crises. Today we celebrate God's gift of the one He sent to "go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins" (Luke 1:76-77).

Today we recommit to love all, unborn and born. Today we receive the sunrise from on high, "to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death" (Luke 1:79).

Today we proclaim: Repent and believe the Good News that Jesus Christ, conceived by the Spirit, formed in the womb and born of the virgin Mary, died and rose for sinners. That includes all of us. Today we give thanks for John who preached repentance and pointed to the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29).

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Today we lovingly invite all to listen to Jesus' call, "repent and believe in the gospel" (Mk. 1:15). If you have caused an abortion, the taking of life, there is forgiveness in Jesus! Don't be hardened in sin or advocate for more sins. Today you have hope in the One whose way John the Baptist prepared. Jesus is for sinners. Come join the rest of us forgiven sinners! Jesus is for you! You need not have a bad conscience! Repent and believe the Good News of God's love for you in Jesus.

Today we lament that the U.S. Supreme Court continues to deny the unborn the legally recognized right to life. Even though *Roe v. Wade* has fallen, states can still allow the killing of unborn children. Today we pray that more unborn will leap for joy in the womb, as St. John did.

Today, even as we rejoice, we weep that U.S. policy continues to promote abortion globally.

Today we bend our knees in prayer. O Lord, "let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24). The Lord preceded His Son, our Savior, with a forerunner. We pray that today's decision points ahead to the day when every state advances the cause of life and expands protections for unborn children.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Matthew C. Harrison

President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Five Loaves Supper



July 6th at 5:15 pm. Menu: Hamburgers, hotdogs and more. You may bring a salad or a dessert.

Prayer Service



A Prayer Service is scheduled for Sunday, July 10th at 12:30pm.



**Lighthouse
Preschool**

Lighthouse Preschool is accepting registrations for the 2022-2023 school year. Forms are available at the church office.

JULY USHERS:

EARLY:

Larry Jung, Head Usher
Cora Burrer
Landal Leonhardt

LATE:

Kenny Kilber, Head Usher
Norma Kilber

Check It Out!

Our youth had a fantastic time at Camp Minneboji this summer where we learned that we are God's masterpiece (Eph. 2:10)! Throughout the week, the campers began to understand that we are fallen human creatures, redeemed by Christ, who paint a portrait of Jesus through what we say and do. They experienced many learning activities in Bible study, played a lot of games, sang songs, and worshiped our Lord. Arnold's Park was a crowd favorite as well!



Events and Information

- The National Youth Gathering is July 9-13
- Youth Group is from 5-7 pm on July 24
- Please keep the youth in your prayers this summer as we travel and grow in the faith given to us by Jesus Christ!

**St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)
& Lighthouse Preschool**

**Rev. Samuel Bobby (605) 415-5578
Rev. Jacob Smith (586) 556-6077**



Every Sunday:

**Divine Service @ 8am
Bible Study @ 9:30 am
Sunday School @ 9:30 am
Divine Service @ 10:45 am**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
3 Coin Banks	4 NO Worship Service Church Office Closed	5	6 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10am Bible Study 5:15 Five Loaves Supper	7 9am Good Cheer Cr 6:30 School Board Meeting NYG	8 NYG	9 NYG
10 12:30 pm Prayer Service NYG	11 6:15 Worship Service NYG	12 NYG	13 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10 am Bible Study NYG	14 NYG	15	16
17	18 6:15 Worship Service	19	20 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10 am Bible Study	21 7pm Rural Gospel Initiative meeting	22	23
24 5-7pm Youth Group Food Cart	25 6:15 Worship Service 7pm Church Council Meeting	26	27 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10 am Bible Study	28	29	30
31	NYG = National Youth Gathering in Houston, TX					