



*Helping the
Sermon and Worship
Last All Week Long*

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Kairos Class Description

Participants will explore how the Four Key Faith Practices of caring conversations, devotions, service, rituals and traditions can help bring the proclaimed word home as part of daily faith practices. Pastors and congregational lay leaders will learn how the use of these practices expand the impact of the sermon and enlarge the worship service beyond the church walls. It will bless individuals and households all week long and reach out to those beyond the body of Christ with the love of Christ.



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*Why all week long?
Isn't once or twice a
month enough?*

*Can't we rely on the
Holy Spirit?*

A Guiding Text:

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” (Dt.6:5-9)

A Guiding Text:

“If this were not enough to admonish us to read the catechism daily, God’s command should suffice to compel us. For God solemnly enjoins us in Deuteronomy 6[:7-8] that we should meditate on his precepts while sitting, walking, standing, lying down, and rising, and should keep them as an ever-present emblem and sign before our eyes and on our hands”

“The Large Catechism,” (Kolb and Wenger), 382.

A Guiding Text:

“Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.”

Psalm 1:1-2 (see Joshua 1:8)

A Guiding Text:

“Nothing is so powerfully effective against the devil, the world, the flesh, and all evil thoughts as to occupy one’s self with God’s Word, to speak about it and meditate upon it, in the way that Psalm 1[:2] calls those blessed who ‘meditate on God’s law day and night.’ Without doubt, you will offer up no more powerful incense or savor against the devil than to occupy yourself with God’s commandments and words and to speak, sing, or think about them.”

“The Large Catechism,” 381

A Guiding Text:

“ . . . yet it is highly profitable and fruitful to read it daily and to make it the subject of meditation and conversation. In such reading, conversation, and meditation the Holy Spirit is present and bestows ever new and greater light and devotion, so that it tastes better and better and is digested, as Christ also promises in Matthew 18[:20], ‘Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.’ ”

“The Large Catechism,” 381

A Guiding Text:

“The tempter came and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.’ But [Jesus] answered, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

(Matthew 4:3-4; see John 15:7)

A Guiding Text:

“For not only do we daily need God’s Word just as we do our daily bread; we also must have it every day in order to stand against the daily and incessant attacks and ambushes of the devil with his thousand arts.”

“The Large Catechism,” 381-382

A Guiding Text:

“Let all Christians drill themselves in the catechism daily, and constantly put it into practice, guarding themselves with the greatest care and diligence against the poisonous infection of such security or arrogance. Let them constantly read and teach, learn and meditate and ponder. Let them never stop until they have proved by experience and are certain that they have taught the devil to death and have become more learned than God himself and all his saints.”

“The Large Catechism,” 382-383

The Milestones Ministry Frame

- Five Principles of Faith Formation and Shepherding
 1. Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships-often in our own homes.
 2. The church is a living partnership between the ministry of the home and the ministry of the congregation.

Milestones Ministry Frame

3. Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too.
4. Faith is caught more than taught.
5. If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults who practice the faith with them.

Milestones Frame

The Four Key Faith Practices of Christian Spirituality:

1. Caring Conversation
2. Devotions
3. Service
4. Rituals and Traditions

Milestones Ministry Frame

What are the characteristics of discipleship?

1. Authenticity
2. Availability
3. Affirmation

AAA Christians

*What do you want to see
happen as a result of the
proclaimed word?*

One pastor's answer:

“ . . . to plant the word of God in people's lives in such a way that it informs and shapes their daily lives.”

(Shepherd of Souls: Faith Formation through Trusted Relationships, unpublished manuscript, 2017)

*Who has influenced your life
of faith?*

*What was it about their lives
that influenced you?*

*How can the preached word
help the people who influence
the life of faith of others?*

*How do we engage people with
the word of God during the
worship service and after the
worship service is over?*

*. . . so that we talk about the
word of God and practice it as
in Dt. 6*

*How do we encourage God's
living word to impact our
lives so that we "meditate day
and night" (Psalm 1:2b) on it
and pray it "without ceasing"
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)?*

How do we present God's word in worship so that it goes home with us to shape our "conversations, conduct, and concerns" (M. Luther) the whole week long?

*How do we present God's
word in worship so that we
shepherd souls for a lifetime?*

Stories from

- 1. Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls, IA*
- 2. St. Paul Lutheran Church, Cumberland, MD*
- 3. Zion Lutheran, Lewistown, MT*
- 4. Norway*
- 5. Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Roseville, MN*
- 6. Your congregation*

Options for helping the preached word last all week long:

- 1. Find ways to have people continue the biblical reflection with conversation starters to use during the week.*
- 2. Send people out with prayers and blessings to use related to the sermon.*
- 3. Get people to respond with a show of hands during the sermon.*
- 4. Reference an insert like TFH and encourage people to use it.*
- 5. Start a conversation during the sermon and get feedback as part of the sermon.*
- 6. Introduce faith practices in worship (as part of a children's message?) and call some of the people during the week to see how it is going.*
- 7. Send out E-News with followup conversation starters, prayers, blessings, etc.*
- 8. Reference what you learned during the week in the next sermon.*
- 9. Help people to connect with others (i.e., friends and family) during the week using conversation starters, prayers, blessings, etc. This is especially helpful for grandparents, godparents, mentors and parents of adult children.*
- 10. Honor the home in your preaching as an expression of the church, not just a place to support the congregation as the "real church."*
- 11. Other ideas?*

OCTOBER 1, 2017
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



God instructs, guides, and protects us.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 21:23-32	Parable of the two sons
Monday	Hosea 14:1-8	Return to the Lord
Tuesday	Philippians 2:1-3	Imitating Christ's humility
Wednesday	Isaiah 55:6-13	Turn to the Lord
Thursday	John 15:7-17	Obedying the commands of Christ
Friday	James 1:19-25	Do what the word says
Saturday	Psalm 25	A prayer for guidance and help
Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Show me your paths and teach me to follow; guide me by your truth and instruct me. You keep me safe, and I always trust you.

Psalm 25:4-5 (CEV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord, change our hearts and our minds. Give us a desire for your will and the courage to actually do it. Amen. (Ezekiel 30:31, Matthew 21:29)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, once again we are well fed; thank you for our daily bread. Help us not to moan or grumble; give us hearts both kind and humble. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who exulted our Lord Jesus Christ and who is a work in you, bless you to walk in humble service. (Philippians 2:1-13)



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OCTOBER 1, 2017
HYMN OF THE WEEK
*Savior, Like a Shepherd
Lead Us*



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- What is something you have learned about recently?
- What does it mean to believe in a forgiving God?
- How does God's forgiveness and instruction make a difference in your life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Philippians 2:12-13.

The Christian life is filled with freedom and action. We are saved by grace and yet our way of life is to be filled with good works (Ephesians 2:8-10). There is a both/and perspective to the Christian life: God's gracious work alone saves and the Christian life is filled with good actions that give glory to God and serve the neighbor. In Philippians 2, the Apostle Paul places emphasis on our human commitment in "fear and trembling" to pursue the life of salvation. He then points out that our very will and ability to do so is enabled by the act and desire of God. Why is it important that our life of salvation is directed by the work and will of God? Why is it important that we actively give attention and commitment to the life of salvation given by God in Christ?

End by praying the Lord's Prayer.

SERVICE

Read Matthew 21:28-31. Jesus tells a story about a father with two sons. The father tells the sons to go and work in the vineyard. One says he will but doesn't. The other says he won't but then does. Act out this parable. Talk about what it means to follow through with requests. Tell about a time you said you would do something for another person but did not do it. Receive God's forgiveness for your lack of action and consider how to fulfill commitments in the future.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Read Philippians 2:1-13. In this hymn of praise for Christ's humility and exultation, it states that people should bend the knee at the name of Jesus. In keeping with this text, if possible, kneel when you pray this week.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org



*Taking Faith Home:
Tips for Leaders*

www.milestonesministry.org/toolbox

Go To “Guides”