

ILCW Year-C Lessons for the  Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Old Testament

1 Kings 19:14-21 NIV He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." 15 The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. 16 Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. 17 Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. 18 Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel - all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him." 19 So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him. 20 Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. "Let me kiss my father and mother good-by," he said, "and then I will come with you." "Go back," Elijah replied. "What have I done to you?" 21 So Elisha left him and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his attendant.

Epistle

Galatians 5:13-25 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. 14 The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 15 If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. 16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. 19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Gospel (Sermon Text)

Luke 9:51-62 As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. 52 And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; 53 but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. 54 When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?" 55 But Jesus turned and rebuked them, 56 and they went to another village. 57 As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." 58 Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." 59 He said to another man, "Follow me." But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." 60 Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." 61 Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-by to my family." 62 Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL, USA
6th Sunday of Pentecost(C)  *Christian Discipleship*
June 30th, 2013 † 9:30am



*Woodcut illustration from a 1695 Bible – Luke 9 - The Cost of Discipleship.
Jesus discusses the cost of discipleship with two individuals.
Images of the bird and fox illustrate.*

Courtesy of the Digital Image Archive, Pitts Theology Library, Candler School of Theology, Emory University

<http://www.pitts.emory.edu/dia/detail.cfm?ID=2966>

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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PHONE (863) 859-3400— www.osllakeland.com

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:30 AM

Pastor Andrew Burmeister (863) 430-5859

Organist: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

June 30th, 2013 Pentecost-6(C) † DISCIPLESHIP †

WELCOME to Our Savior! We are happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time, we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. If you are seeking a church home, our pastor would be glad to share information about our church with you and discuss membership at your convenience. Come and worship with us again! Thank you.

ORDER OF SERVICE *(See insert.)*

PLEASE NOTE: The service folder insert has been written so that it may be used more than once. If you prefer to use the hymnal, see **page 5**. Please leave the service folder insert with an usher or on table after the service. Thank you. May the Lord bless your worship!

Service		
Opening Hymn	278 (5v)	Delay Not, Delay Not, Oh Sinner
Hymn of Day	421 (5v)	Come Follow Me, the Savior Spake
Sermon	Luke 9:51-62	“Fix YOUR Eyes on...JESUS”
Offering Verses	644 (1v)	Praise God From Whom All Blessings...
Sending Hymn	424 (6v)	My God, My Father, Make Me Strong
Closing Hymn	50 (3v)	Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

PROPERs for (TRINITY5=)SIXTH SUNDAY of PENTECOST-C ☪ JUNE 30

INTROIT: Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice; You have been my Help. Do not leave me or forsake me, O God of my salvation. The Lord is my Light and my Salvation; Whom shall I fear? ...from Psalm 27

COLLECT: O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our heart such love toward You, that we may love You above all things, and lead us, by faith to Your eternal promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever, C: ♯ A - -men.

GRADUAL: Behold, O God, our Shield, and look on Your servants. O Lord God of hosts, hear our prayer. Alleluia! Alleluia! The king will joy in Your strength; and in Your salvation he will rejoice greatly. Alleluia! ...from Ps.48

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: *(printed on the outside back page of the bulletin)*

I Kings 19:14-21 The LORD has Elijah find and commission Elisha.
Galatians 5:13-25 Our Christian freedom produce fruits of faith, not evils.
Luke 9:51-62 Jesus resolutely “steals” His face toward Jerusalem.

SERMON Text: (Gospel) **Luke 9:51-62** **THEME: “JESUS’ EYES ON JERUSALEM”**

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Madeline Beck	Patty & Buster Brewbaker
Richard Birkenmeier	Delores (Dee) Kurczewski
Jonathan Jumper (grandson of Elaine Jones)	Jeanette Kubly
Tyler Kirby (nephew of Andrea Sawyer)	Mariah Sawyer
George Wendt (brother of Steve Wendt)	Ann Wentz

Volunteers	This week	Next week
Greeter	(Volunteer)	(Volunteer)
Usher	(Volunteer)	(Volunteer)
Treats	(Volunteer)	Robin Dux

COFFEE will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Everyone is invited to stay! We thank our volunteers for serving today. We are **IN NEED OF SERVERS** for future Sundays. If you can help, PLEASE SIGN UP. Thanks!

Statistics	Last week	Year to date (average)
Sunday Worship	--	37
Communion Attendance	--	30
Sunday Bible Class	--	9
Thursday Bible Class	--	9
Sunday Offering	\$-,---.00	(YTD total) \$-,---.---

Calendar of Events		
Sunday, 6/30	8:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 ff...	Bible Study (still have it) Divine Worship (no Holy Communion) Fellowship time: <i>Treats and Drinks</i>
Tuesday, 6/25	6:00 pm	Catechism Class with Prescott
Thursday, 6/27	6:30 pm	Bible Study at Madeline Beck's
Saturday, 6/29	1:30 pm	Catechism Class with Sawyers
Sunday, 7/7 <i>Pastor will be back July 7th</i>	8:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 ff...	Bible Study Worship (With Holy Communion) Fellowship time: <i>Treats and Drinks</i>

Congregational Notes

Please contact our Elders with any concerns about church matters: **Jim Vanesky 644-7807, John Weber 853-5458 & Don Wienke 863-815-8892.**

Schedule Notes - Month of July

(Since **June 16th**) Pastor has been away for two weeks (June 16 - July 2). Pastor Andy **returns this Tuesday July 2nd** to resume work.

(From Pastor Andy) **Thank you** very much to **Leroy Dux, Don Wienke, John Weber & Jim Vanesky** for pitching in leading worship, delivering sermons (& conducting Bible study) during my absence. Thank all of you members for your dedication and faithfulness. Good to be back serving you now during these summer months.

(TRI-5) Pent.6C Luke 9:51-62 "FIX YOUR EYES (ON JERUSALEM)" 06.30.13

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God, our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Amen.

INTRODUCTION What's so special about a one particular place? What makes **one town** any more special than **another town**. Now, if you're asking someone about their **hometown**, there you may get some pretty strong opinions about why their town *is special*.

So, **What's so special about JERUSALEM?** Why is Jerusalem so special that **it's the one and only place** Jesus is going to go? We read in our Gospel, "*Jesus set his face toward Jerusalem.*" Jerusalem was the place where He would be "taken up," that is, **be Crucified bearing the sins** of the world on this shoulders, and be raised to life on the third day, and be taken up to the right hand of the Father. **All for you and for your salvation.** And so He goes forward resolutely, with His eyes fixed on the target **Jerusalem** - the place of sacrifice, where God had caused His Name to dwell.

That's what makes Jerusalem so special. Jerusalem is special for Jesus. And, Jesus is special for us. So, this morning let's consider

Theme: JESUS fixed His eyes on JERUSALEM. YOU fix yours on JESUS.

The Samaritans we hear about here would have nothing of it. Their place of worship was not Jerusalem but a different **town called Gerazim**. They had their own notions about where God was to be worshipped and where sacrifices were to be made. Jesus, Why bother with Jerusalem when you can go to **our town**?

We might say that a modern-day version of that might be, "Why should I bother going to Our Savior church with the preached **Word** and **Sacraments**, and with that crazy congregation and all those boring, difficult hymns, when I can either go to any one of Lakeland's other (bigger) churches, **or** sit at home with my Bible and have it my way? Surely it doesn't matter so long as I **believe in God!**"

But here, **Jesus sets His face** toward Jerusalem. There is only **one place where the Lamb could be sacrificed**. God said so. There were **no alternatives**, no convenient options, **no having it your way**. When it comes to forgiveness, life, and salvation, it's only **God's way** ... or **no way** at all.

To get from Galilee to Jerusalem, one had to go through Samaria. There was no option there either. All roads led through Samaria. Jesus sent His disciples as His ministers on ahead of Him to make preparations. Get the people ready for the coming of Jesus. He had come for Samaritans too, like remember that "sassy" Samaritan woman He once met at the well, the one who had had **five** husbands and was now shackled up with number **six**? She too was included in Jesus' **mission that takes Him to Jerusalem** ... and it takes Him there **by way of Samaria**.

The Samaritans wanted nothing to do with Jesus, because His face was set toward Jerusalem. They wanted Jesus **on their own terms**, and so **they get no Jesus at all**. Remember this the next time you are tempted to try to have Jesus "your own way." He is entirely for you, but only in the way He gives Himself to you. You may want another Jesus or another way. You may think you know better, or what is best for you, **but you don't**. If we follow our own heart and plan in the way of salvation **we'll be wrong every time**.

The Jesus that goes to Jerusalem is **the crucified and risen One**, the same One Who says "*Go and make disciples by baptizing and teaching,*" Who says, "*Take and eat, this is my Body and my Blood given and shed of you,*" Who says, "*the sins you forgive are forgiven.*" He is the One present in His Church, which is His Body, by way of His Word and His Body and Blood. Any other Jesus who comes by any other way is **NOT the One** who died and rose to save you, no matter how "righteous" he may seem, no matter how "good" he may make you feel.

Remember, **the Samaritans rejected JESUS; He did not reject THEM**. His going to another village is only in response to their refusal to welcome Him because He was going to Jerusalem. **James** and **John**, those "**Sons of Thunder**," as Jesus nicknamed them, wanted to call down fire from heaven to consume those Samaritan ingrates. They thought, "*Give them Heck, Jesus.*" Give them **the old Sodom and Gomorrah treatment**. That'll teach them.

Ever **catch yourself saying the same thing?** "*He'll get heck for that.*" Or, "*She'll burn for what she did or said.*" Even those who don't believe in hell believe that what goes around comes around. We're talking about that (un Christian, "My Name is Earl") **philosophy of karma**.. James and John **presume** the authority to judge and the power to call down fire from heaven, though Jesus never gave them such authority. "*Judge not, and you will not be judged,*" He warned them. "*Condemn not, and you will not be condemned.*" That doesn't mean that we close our eyes to the sins of others and ignore it, or that we don't judge sin to be sin. It means that **we don't judge the sinner**; that is for **God alone to do**.

Jesus instead **rebukes James and John**. Luke doesn't tell us what He said to them, and so it's none of our business really. The way of **any** of Jesus' disciples is the way of the Cross, the way of Jerusalem, **not** to call down judgment or fire and brimstone on other people.

So, **Jesus set His face toward Jerusalem**. This was **His to do alone**. Jesus alone is faithful in His mission, ...the **whole** way. Only He is able to claim this. Perfect, sinless, holy, doing the will of His Father, Who sent Him not to condemn **but to save the world**. With the world in mind, He looks toward Jerusalem.

There were (and always) **are** those who would follow Him, **not knowing where He was going or why**. One man said, "*I will follow you anywhere,*" not knowing that Jesus was going to Jerusalem to die.

But Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes, birds have nests, the Son of Man doesn't even have a pillow on which to lay His head." The One who made heaven His home is **homeless** on the way to the Cross. And He is **so that you might have an eternal home** with Him. Another said, "Let me first bury my father," - an honorable task. But Jesus says, "Let the dead bury their own," (WOW. Those seem like some harsh words.) But, burial is not the concern of Jesus ; **Resurrection is**. He is going the way of death and burial Himself, so that He might raise the dead in His Resurrection.

Another says, "I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say goodbye to my family." But **Jesus says**, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." **You can't plow a straight line looking back over your shoulder**. Any farmer can tell you that. Lot's wife became a pillar of salt in the desert, a monument to those who would **look back from the way of salvation**. Jesus fixed His eyes on Jerusalem, on the Cross that was set before Him. He did not look back at what was, **but looked AHEAD to what was to come**.

And, Jesus has to go this road to Jerusalem **alone**. Yes, He is surrounded by disciples, but the way is His alone. **The Cross is His alone**. The **salvation** of the world is **His alone**. He put His hand to salvation's plow and died for the joy set before Him, the "joy" of **saving you from sin, death, the devil**. To save you from the judgment of the Law, He endured the Cross and scorned its shame. For the joy of your salvation, to have you as His own, **His fixed His gaze on Jerusalem**.

CONCLUSION What makes Jerusalem so special? - For you and me, **nothing**. **Jerusalem was special for Jesus - JESUS is what's special for us**. Your gaze is fixed **not** on Jerusalem, **but on Him, on Jesus**. There is nothing for you to see in Jerusalem and nothing there for us. **We fix our eyes on Jesus**, the plower and perfecter of your faith. He has brought you out of slavery to sin and death into freedom. He has rescued you from the works of the flesh to yield the fruits of the Spirit, as **Galatians** says: *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-discipline*. **True freedom**. Freedom **won by a Cross** and a tomb. Fix your eyes on **that** freedom.

Fix your eyes on Jesus **in your Baptism**, washing away your sin, renewing your life. ... Fix your eyes on Jesus **in His Lord's Supper**, giving you those gifts of His Body and His Blood, the fruits of His Cross. Fix your eyes on Jesus, who by His Blood and His perfect life and death makes you fit for His kingdom. ... (Simply) **Fix your eyes on Jesus**, who fixed His eyes on Jerusalem **TO SAVE YOU**. *In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

Now, the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus to life everlasting. Amen.

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL, USA
6th Sunday after Pentecost  (5th Sunday after Trinity)
SERMON: "Fix Your Eyes"  June 30th, 2013 9:30 am



Woodcut illustration from a 1695 Bible – Luke 9 - The Cost of Discipleship. Jesus discusses the cost of discipleship with His followers.