

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**WEEK OF JANUARY 31, 2021**

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Ed Clifford; Ashlyn; Jim Lambert; Chuck Kellogg; Stan & Priscilla Peters; Ken Myers; Jim Cleveland; Mason Salomon

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given today by Tom Green in memory of Donna.

**THE ELDERS AND CHURCH COUNCIL** meet this Tuesday, February 2.

**PR. MULLET WILL BE ATTENDING A PASTORS' CONFERENCE** this coming Wed. – Fri., Feb. 3-5. Pr. Burgland will be preaching for Wed. services and Sem. Woodhouse will be teaching Thurs. Bible Study.

**YOUTH GROUP RETREAT!** Friday and Saturday, February 26-27, for all 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth. Cost is \$20 per person. Feel free to invite friends! See Pastor or Sem. Marks to register or for more information.

**NEWSLETTERS & CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** are in your mailboxes!

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** Old Testament highlights

**THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY:** The Book of Isaiah

**CALENDAR**

Sun. Jan. 31	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion (Septuagesima) 9:00am Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30am Confirmation
Tue. Feb. 2	6:30 / 7:00pm Elders / Church Council
Wed. Feb. 3	11:00am Holy Communion (mask req'd.) 7:00pm Holy Communion
Wed.-Fri. Feb. 3-5	Pastor Mullet @ conference
Thu. Feb. 4	7:00pm Bible Study (Sem. Woodhouse)
Sun. Feb. 7 (Sexagesima)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study / Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation

## FAITH PRAYS

These suggestions can help you and your family stay connected to the church year and focus on what we hear, sing, and pray together on Sunday. Each week reflects on Sunday. Sundays form, shape, and lead us Christians into the week. Pick three days this week to do a short devotion. Each day you might do this:

1. Read one reading and the “Thinking About.” How do the readings fit together? What themes do you see?
2. Sing or read the hymn. Ask Pr. Mullet to borrow a hymnal. You should be able to find it on YouTube if it’s unfamiliar!
3. Pray the Collect of the Day and the Lord’s Prayer.

### THE WEEK OF SEPTUAGESIMA (JAN. 31)

**OT:** Exodus 17:1-7

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 20:1-16

**EPISTLE:** 1 Corinthians 9:24—10:5

**HYMN:** LSB 566

**COLLECT OF THE DAY:** O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### THINKING ABOUT THE READINGS

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1–7). They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them (Matt. 20:1–16). They charged him with being unfair, but in reality he was being generous. For the Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first—those who rely on their own merits—will be last. *“For they were overthrown in the wilderness”* (1 Cor. 10:5). But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock (1 Cor. 9:24–10:5). He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin.