



The Messenger

International Lutheran Church

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR CARL

ON THE ROMAN ROAD: RECEIVING THE WORD!

“But you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”” (Romans 8:15b ESV). The Word of God does not return void and lifeless, but instead springs up and grows in ways that we would never have imagined. We see this in the words of childlike trust that Paul plants in us. Here the Word springs forth our new life in the Spirit as we are planted in Christ and we receive the Spirit that connects us to our loving Heavenly Father who receives us both now and in eternity!

We have been growing a community garden here at International Lutheran Church this summer - the ILC *Hallelujah Garden*. We are just starting to get to taste some of the results of all the labor that everyone is putting into this group project. As you might imagine, a lot of work goes into the summer garden. Besides preparing the soil, there is the planting, watering and weeding that needs to be tended to daily. Without care, the weeds and vines tend to take over and the plants wither in the sun. As this is our first garden in Korea, we are still learning about what really grows well here. The tomatoes and peppers have been delicious!

The letter to the Romans is an inspired and inspiring letter written to encourage and plant faith into the lives of those who receive its message. Paul is planting in our hearts the good news of our Savior's life, death and resurrection so that we would be planted into Jesus. In and through the Spirit, we are brought to faith. This faith does not remain still and lifeless but takes root and grows as it calls out to God with childlike faith and hope. Paul uses many metaphors to describe this action by God to make us His own. Here in chapter 8 he says that

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9, 10, 11 *Socially Responsible Services* (three separate sessions; 40 minutes each; pre-register)

ANYTIME Worship Service
(to be available online prerecorded)

7:00 p.m. Bible Study (regularly scheduled at 9:00 a.m.; to be available online livestream)

THIS WEEK

Wed., 7/15 Bible Study
(to be available online livestream)

we are “adopted” and made to be God’s children in and through Jesus. This adoption is such that we are now heirs and co-heirs with Christ! Our new life and new identity in Christ is the fruit of the Spirit of God. Through the Spirit that raised Christ from the dead, we are made alive and now grow in and through Him. In the Spirit our hearts call out to our God, “Abba, Father!”

As we join in worship today and gather to receive His Word planted in our hearts, either online or through one of our *Socially Responsible Services*, together we call out in response to the love of our Father knowing that He has received us for Christ’s sake as His own children!

Pastor Carl

COMING AND GOING

A special blessing to those within our community who have already left or who will be leaving soon. May God go with you as you move on to new places of work, study, and life.

Do you know anyone coming to Seoul? If someone from your work, school or family is coming, let us know and we would be happy to reach out to them. We pray for the individuals and families who will be relocating to South Korea and look forward to finding ways to serve them.

THANK YOU, AGAIN! TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS

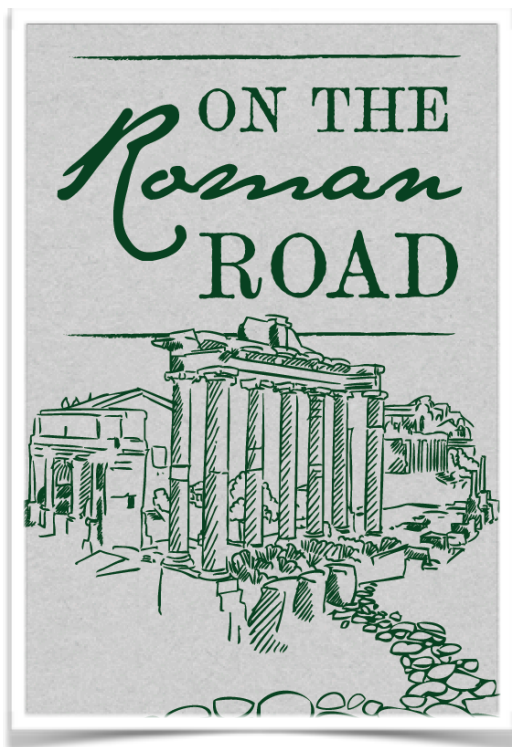
Pastor Carl would like to once again send a special *thank you* to all who have been assisting with the online and *Socially Responsible Services* - greeters, readers and singers. If you would like to participate in any way, please let us know at seoulilc.volunteer@gmail.com. Taking care of all of these tasks is truly a group effort. Thank you!

LIVE AND ONLINE SERVICES

Please register if you plan to attend ILC's *Socially Responsible Services*. We will continue to use our current online service format as the principal form of corporate worship. Please watch *The Messenger*, the ILC Facebook page, and the ILC website for future updates and changes.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Pastor Carl's summer sermon series is based on our readings of Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome. If you have the time, you might find it helpful to read the NT lessons in advance of the Sunday service. May God bless our growth in the message communicated through Romans.



CHURCH OPERATIONS CONTINUE

Though we are not meeting in person, church operations still continue and to that end we encourage you to make use of offering your tithes and gifts via online giving. Giving in this way will be recorded for your personal end-of-year giving statement.

If you are unable or do not wish to give electronically, you may hold your offerings until we resume our normal worship schedule.

Thank you for your role in keeping ILC's ministry ongoing.
CITIBANK 260-00497-243-01

READINGS

July 12: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

OT	Isaiah 55:10-13
NT	Romans 8:12-17
Gospel	Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

July 19: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

OT	Isaiah 44:6-8
NT	Romans 8:18-27
Gospel	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

FLOWERS

DONATE FLOWERS TO A LOVED ONE

If you would like to purchase flowers for beside the altar in order to honor or gift to someone, the cost is ₩35,000 for a potted arrangement that can be taken away after the last church service. Place the donation in an offering envelope and write your name and 'for flowers for (date)' on the envelope. Place in the offering plate.

For further instructions or assistance, write to seoulilc.volunteer@gmail.com.



7/12: from Martin and Sun