



The Messenger

International Lutheran Church

www.ilcseoul.org

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Issue #703

A NOTE FROM PASTOR CARL

ON THE ROMAN ROAD: FREEDOM FROM THE LAW TO THE SPIRIT!

“So that you might belong to another” (Romans 7:4 ESV). Today at International Lutheran Church we celebrate *Sending Sunday*. Each year at this time we are blessed to send our members into His mission field with our prayers and blessing as some of them move to new assignments, schools, jobs and communities around the globe. With these words from Romans 7, Paul unpacks the freedom we have in our life in Christ. Please join us *On the Roman Road* as we see again our mission task before us all to make known the freedom we have in Christ!

We have been reading through the Epistle to the Romans and examining how the Christian life described in the 1st Century is much like the one we live today. The Apostle Paul describes the purpose of our freedom in Christ with these words: “so that you might belong to another” (7:4). In Chapter 7 of Romans, Paul describes our new life in Christ in relation to the Law. Here he shows how we are freed from the power and control of the Law since we have died to the Law in Christ.

What do you do when someone gives you advice? Do you listen? Do you follow it? Many times, we probably consider the source of this advice before we choose to act upon the words of another. If a friend shares a recipe, will we try it? If the doctor gives us a prescription, will we fill it? What about when we read in God’s Word the demands that He has declared? Do not steal! Do not covet! Paul noted already in Romans 3:20 how we are powerless to fulfill the demands of the Law of God. But this does not mean that the Law has no place in our lives. It is through the Law that we are made aware of sin in our lives and our need of a Savior. While the Law reveals how much sin is alive in our lives, and causes us to die, it is the death of our Savior Jesus that frees us. Yes, the One who fulfilled the Law and yet suffered the

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., 7/1 *Bible Study*
(to be available online livestream)

consequences as a lawbreaker died so that the Law’s power would no longer reign over us and we would be made alive to a new life in the Spirit. The Spirit then works the Law in our lives as we die in and through our baptism into Jesus. We are not bound by the “written code” but by the Spirit that He gives to us. We do belong to Another - not the Law but instead the very Spirit of God who lives in us. In a world that struggles to live together in harmony and peace, God’s Spirit sends us to share this freedom and new life we have in Jesus.

As we join in worship today and gather to hear His Word - both the Law and the Gospel - either online or through one of our *Socially Responsible Services*, we are called to make known this freedom we have in Christ and freely share this freedom in all the world where He sends us.

Pastor Carl

SENDING SUNDAY

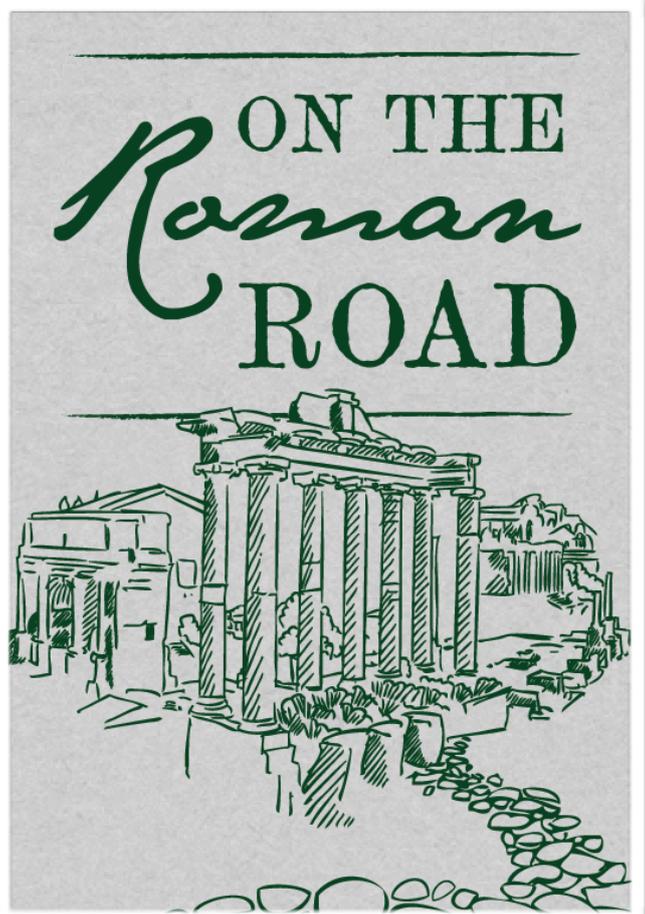
It is the custom of our ILC community to pray for those individuals and families who are moving away. This Sunday (June 28th) we would like to recognize the attendance, involvement, and support of those of you who are leaving Korea soon. If you haven't already done so, please notify the church at seoulilc.volunteer@gmail.com to indicate if you will be departing Korea this summer to live in another country so we can recognize your sojourn here as well.

COVID-19 UPDATE

This Sunday, we continue ILC's *Socially Responsible Services*. **However, we also 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 has begun a new summer sermon series 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.

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READINGS

June 28: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

OT	Jeremiah 28:5-9
NT	Romans 7:1-13
Gospel	Matthew 10:34-42

July 5: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

OT	Zechariah 9:9-12
NT	Romans 7:14-25a
Gospel	Matthew 11:25-30