



# The Messenger

## International Lutheran Church

www.ilcseoul.org

| August 30, 2020

| Issue #712

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR CARL

### ON THE ROMAN ROAD: GENUINE LOVE!

**"Let love be genuine..."** (Romans 12:9ff ESV). Last week we saw how Paul's talk about God ended in praise to God. Today, we focus on the implication of this theology of grace for our lives as followers of Jesus. Romans 12 and following is the practical application of the Gospel of the One who loved us with genuine love. God grant us His Spirit to live just such a genuine life of genuine love. Amen!

Here at International Lutheran Church, we have been on a journey through Paul's first century presentation of the Christian faith to the community in Rome. Our sermon series *On the Roman Road* comes to an end this morning as we address the never-ending need for this message to be shared, prayed and lived in our lives. In chapter 12 and following, Paul lays out the real-life application of our lives in Christ. Our faith in Jesus is lived out each day in relation to others. With the words, "Let love be genuine," Paul summarizes what he has to say as we consider our lives in relation to our sister or brother in the faith, the community in which we live and the ruling authorities in our lives.

Fake things are not new. You may have even experienced first-hand the emptiness and pain of something fake. Since our first parents' fall into sin, we have been trying to cover the fact that we lost something we didn't even know we had - a genuine relationship with God Himself. Their sin and ours has shamed us in such a way that we would rather "fake it" than face our true inner being. Only One was willing to be stripped of all His genuineness - to become what He was not so that we would be made to be something we could never be. His name is Jesus. While our world rages and fumes in frustration, He put Himself in our place that we could join Him in His. That is real love. That is genuine. This is why, in Paul's letter to the church in

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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., 9/2      Bible Study  
(to be available online livestream)

Corinth, he would dedicate a whole chapter to essentially the same message, 'Now let me tell you of the most excellent way - the way of love' (1 Corinthians 13). When the devil, our true and genuine enemy, riles against us to get us to hate and only think of striking back, Jesus' death and resurrection calls to us and invites us into a new way of thinking, a new way of living. Paul does not imagine this to be a simple or easy task. It is certainly not for the faint of heart. But in letting our love be genuine, in letting the Spirit take control of our lives and our response to how others treat us, we are the ones who are truly loved. His love becomes the sole factor to our lives and our trust in Him grows.

No doubt you have or will be disappointed in either yourself or those around you at some point in your life. Do not despair. We will never be disappointed in Him who gave His life for us in love so that our love would be from and to Him, through and through, genuine. Let your love be genuine as He sends you into this world today. Amen!

*Pastor Carl*

## ONLINE SERVICES ONLY

Due to recent government restrictions, we will not be able to gather for worship at the sanctuary at this time. Please join the worship service online. Access to the service will be found on the ILC website ([www.ilcseoul.org](http://www.ilcseoul.org)), Facebook, and through a YouTube link that will be sent out on Sunday morning.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TO BEGIN SOON

September 6th will be *Education Sunday* at ILC. We will be praying for the teachers and the educational ministry that are part of ILC. Please pray for our teachers and students as well as our Christian Education ministry and all those who support it.

If you have children and are interested in Online Sunday School (or if you would be willing to help with this new and developing ministry at ILC), please email ILC Volunteer at [seouilc.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:seouilc.volunteer@gmail.com).

**ILC will have a Zoom Christian Education Kick-off on Sunday, September 6 from 10:00-10:45 a.m. Watch for further announcements.**

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS / BIBLE STUDIES

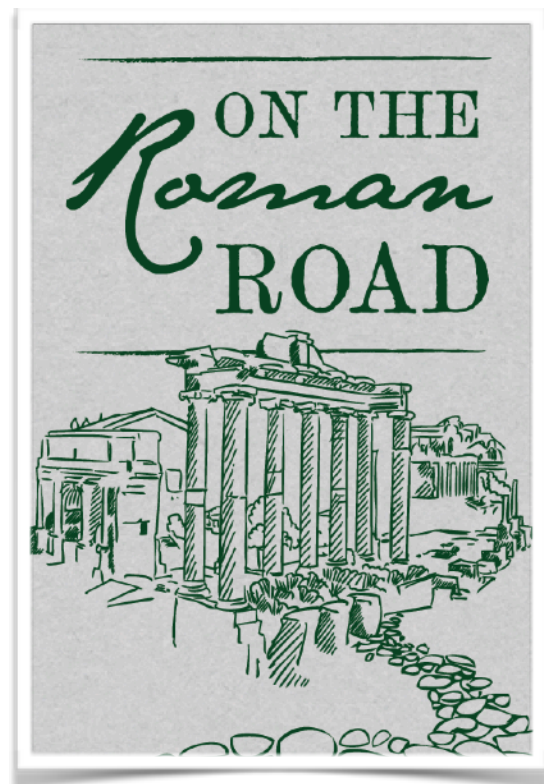
When restrictions ease, Pastor Carl is planning to begin another class focusing on the Bible-based teachings and confessions of the Lutheran faith. Please contact him ([seouilc.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:seouilc.pastor@gmail.com)) if you are interested.

*Virtual Bible Studies take place throughout the week:*

**Sunday nights at 7:00** - *The Biblical Foundation of the Lutheran Practice of the Lord's Supper*

**Wednesday nights at 7:00** - *A Home, a Family, a Place of Worship*

**Friday mornings at 10:00** - *Women's Bible Study*



## 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

### August 30: Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

OT	Jeremiah 15:15-21
NT	Romans 12:9-21
Gospel	Matthew 16:21-28

### September 6: Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

OT	Ezekiel 33:7-9
NT	Romans 13:1-10
Gospel	Matthew 18:1-20

## FLOWERS

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.