## Augustana Lutheran Church

102 Jonathan Blvd. N., Chaska, Minnesota 55318 Worship: 9:30 AM with Bible Class following the service

**Trinity 6** July 31, 2011

Volume 7, Number 36

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The Higher Righteousness Required by Christ

Sermon Matthew 5:20-26

Pastor Diers

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS in the name of Jesus Christ! Augustana Lutheran Church confesses and practices the full truth of God's Word, a heritage passed down to us by Luther, and confirmed in the public confessions of our church. We believe that the Bible in all its parts is inspired by the Holy Spirit, error-free, and the only source of divine revelation and absolute truth. If you have any questions about such Bible doctrine, or about our congregation, please direct them to Pastor Diers.

### General Prayer

O thou, from whom all goodness flows, holy art thou, and holy is thy Name; heaven and earth are full of thy glory; all the stars, the mysterious infinity of the universe, all energies and forces, the sea and the clouds, are to thee thy servants, and to us the messengers of thy wonder and might.

We thank thee, O Father, that we have a more sure word of truth in the Holy Scriptures wherein thou givest us the testimony the holy prophets and apostles which thou hast placed on their lips. Grant that by this testimony, we might know thee as our only God and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

O thou best Gift of heaven, who in thy birth didst take upon thyself our flesh, and who in thy death didst take upon thyself our sins, give us thy Word and Truth, that our sins may be crucified with thee unto death, and that we might be raised to newness of life. Enable us by thy power to crucify the lusts of the flesh, and to evermore walk in newness of life.

O Spirit of the living God, who hast built and sustained the Church, by thy gracious power quicken her in faith and life. Grant that her people may bring unto her altars all the fruits of righteousness and show forth the praises of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Give the Light of life, O Lord God, to the nations of the earth, that they may put away sin, acknowledge thy Son Jesus as Lord and Savior, and walk before thee in obedience and faith. Endow our own country with leaders who honor and promote all works of righteousness, and citizens who obey thy will.

Bless all who stand in need of thine mighty aid. Especially do we entreat thee for our sick and all who may be in bodily or mental anguish. Grant unto them the balm of thy love, and show them what great things thou hast prepared for all who love thee. O God, Creator, King, and Spirit, help us now in the days of our flesh to lighten every place in life to which thou hast called us with thy Word and Truth, and in the time of our death preserve us for thine eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ, thine only-begotten Son, our Lord. Amen.

#### Announcements

Augustana's Annual Church Picnic is today, immediately following Divine Service and Bible Class, at Meadow Green Park on Pontiac Lane in Chanhassen.

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# Augustana Lutheran Church

Pastor Martin Diers

Pastor Bruce King

Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone

The Sixth Sunday After Trinity July 31, 2011



#### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Ruth 1:1-17

Now it came to pass, in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem, Judah, went to dwell in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech, the name of his wife was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion — Ephrathites of Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to the country of Moab and remained there. Then Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left, and her two sons. Now they took wives of the women of Moab: the name of the one was Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth. And they dwelt there about ten years. Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died; so the woman survived her two sons and her husband. Then she arose with her daughters-in-law that she might return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had visited His people by giving them bread. Therefore she went out from the place where she was, and her two daughters-in-law with her; and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each to her mother's house. The LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. "The LORD grant that you may find rest, each in the house of her husband." Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. And they said to her, "Surely we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Are there still sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands? "Turn back, my daughters, go — for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, if I should have a husband tonight and should also bear sons, "would you wait for them till they were grown? Would you restrain yourselves from having husbands? No, my daughters; for it grieves me very much for your sakes that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me!" Then they lifted up their voices and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. And she said, "Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, And there will I be buried. The LORD do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me."

#### **EPISTLE LESSON Romans 6:3-11**

Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

#### GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:20-26

For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' "But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire. "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, "leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. "Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. "Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny.

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