## "AND THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL LIVE BY FAITH" (Habakkuk 2:4)

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### Voices of Faith at Faith

Volume 7: November 20, 2025

To the beloved Faithful Islanders and beyond. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. In this Season of Thanksgiving, we lift up our prayers to thank God for mercies known and mercies showed on us, our loved ones, and God's entire world; Remember: God so LOVED THE WORLD, and we as part of God's world are. We have come this far by faith, even if it's the size of a mustard seed, the smallest of plant seeds.

# GIVING THANKS FOR THE GIFTS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN TO US....

Faith and several congregations in Johns Island the Multitude." This ministry has been ongoing for about two decades, congregations in the area coming together to offer meals for the less fortunate in our community. The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Feeding of the Multitude will be again a drivethrough event on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at Berkeley Electric Cooperative (1135 Main Road, Johns Island). Yes, it's happening this coming Saturday!

Thanks in advance for your support of this ministry.

#### Weekly Bible Study

We are holding Bible Study on Tuesday mornings and evenings (11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.). Come with your questions and answers as we continue to learn from God's Word and each other.

Currently we are deep into the Book of Genesis. Start reading it on your own and put your questions down and send them to me. We will address them in our study and will also share them in this publication.

## CELEBRATING THE NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY SAINTS:



11/07 Jennifer McCarthy 11/08 Jimmy Farr 11/21 MK Ammons 11/23 John "Chris" Brandt 11/30 Ken Herns

Please let us know if we missed your birthday!!!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> FOLLOWING THE

11:00 AM SERVICE. Please plan to attend!



#### **REMEMBERING IN OUR PRAYERS:**

Pastor Josh Knutson's family and his congregations (Christ Community Church, North Charleston and St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Moncks Corner) after his untimely death, Bishop Ginny Aebischer, Mike Shuey, Mikie Floyd, Ken Herns, Rick Hartley, Bobby Webb, Patricia Beruf, Reid Melton, Jay O'Neill, Phil Ammons, Pat Lane, Helena Bradford, Donna Porritt, Nettie Poulnot, Dolores Dukes, Matthew Sharbrough, Trisha Melton, Harry Rakowski.

Please let us know if you have someone we need to include in our prayers.

Lector & Prayer LeaderHolden AmmonsAcolyteHolden AmmonsUshersBobby Bellah & Jim JonesCommunion AssistantWendi AmmonsCommunion PrepDebbie Jones

One of the lessons from our readings in Genesis is lack of accountability and repentance by humanity. I encourage you to read the first five chapters in Genesis.

So, Adam and Eve eat the forbidden tree. Please note: we have a record of God telling Adam, specifically and exclusively, about not eating the fruit in the middle of the garden. From the readings, we get the notion that Adam did pass on the information to Eve. Eve, the master negotiator is talking to the snake and the snake tells her that God forbade the eating of the fruit because He didn't want them to be wise. Oh, she must have thought, we would be smart and be like God. Let's do it!

Please note. While Eve is doing all these negotiations, Adam is by her side, right there, hearing every single word of it. Do you think he

could have pulled Eve away and say that God said, "No" but he went along with the plan. Eve eats the fruit and she shares it with Adam, and he eats it too...a case of you can have your cake and eat it too!!!! Adam could have refused to eat the fruit and snitch on her later. I guess we can say he honored his marriage vows...stay on the same page or else....

God asks Adam why he ate the forbidden fruit and a classic gaslighting response emerges. God you know it is by the woman that you gave to me that made me eat the fruit. We didn't read about Eve shoving the fruit into Adam's mouth, did we? He was just a willing participant. We don't hear the repentance on Adam's side, he feels like it was God's fault after all. Okay, Eve is next in line and when God asks her why she ate the forbidden fruit, she gaslights the snake for tricking her. The two humans are given a chance at repentance but they both blow it by blaming someone else. I wonder what would have happened if Adam and Eve had repented, anyway, they didn't repent!!!

So, it is our story today. We don't like owning up to our mistakes, instead we find ways of pinning the tail on the donkey, not ourselves. Always finding a scapegoat when our mistakes are exposed. God's Word in the Lutheran Tradition is both Law and Gospel. The Law exposes our sinfulness and lack of accountability when necessary. The Gospel embraces us with God's unending LOVE and GRACE that gives us a new beginning each and every day. As Martin Luther said, when we wake up every morning we need to make a sign of the cross on our foreheads, reminding ourselves that God has forgiven us the sins of yesterday and has given us a brand new day to live fully for and in His GLORY!!!!

As one of our special hymns reminds us: Nothing in my hands I bring, simply to the cross I cling.

Peace, Pastor Thulie

#### SOURCES/SAUCES UNKNOWN.....

Now we come to exercise our lungs and allow the release of dopamine and endorphins.....

"I just opened my water bill and my electric bill at the same time. I was shocked."

"If you answer your phone with 'Hello, you're on the air!' most telelmarketers will qquickly hang up...."

"Fuel prices are so high that I went to the car dealership and test drove 3 cars to run my errands. Follow me for more money saving tips."

"Unlike the brain, the stomach alerts you when its empy. African proverb."

"I got called 'pretty' today! Well actually, the full sentntence was, "'You're pretty annoying!' but I only focus on the postivie."

"When I buy a pack of a dozen ribs, I only eat ribs 2,3,5,7, and 11. I prefer prime ribs."

"Look guys. I know I've been bad...ive said and posted things many of you found to be unfavorble. However, with your help and a little bit of encouragement I can become so much worse."

"It's been brought to my attention that I have offended some of you. I apologize, I meant to offend all o fyou."

"I think bees teach us an importantlesson. You may be small. You may be tiny. But when you'rse chasing someone with a sharp object..people will still run from you."