Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

February 2025

Dear Christian Friends,

As of February 18, I have been serving as your Pastor for one year. Again, I wish to thank you for the privilege and honor of serving you, the redeemed and precious children of God, with God's gifts of grace, mercy, and peace.

For several months now, we have been studying the Book of Revelation on Wednesday mornings. In this newsletter article, I would give you a snapshot of what we have been learning about the end times, our Lord's Second Coming, and our future in paradise. Recently, we explore chapter 19, including this description of the Church Triumphant in heaven,



6 Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

"Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory,for the marriage of the Lamb has come,and his Bride has made herself ready, it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

9 And the angel said[a] to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

These verses give us a description of the third of three women mentioned prominently in Revelation.

The first woman pictured in chapter 12 is a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, with a crown of 12 stars, and the one who gave birth to the male Child. She represents the Church on earth, also called the Church Militant.

The second woman pictured (in chapters 17-19) is a harlot clothed in purple, arrayed in gold and precious stones, who sits on the beast with seven heads and ten horses, and bears the name "Babylon." She represents all that is anti - Christian Church here and now.

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The third woman (pictured in chapters 19-22) is the Bride of the Lamb, who is clothed in wedding garments of pure and shining linen. She represents the people of God in heaven, also called the Church Triumphant.

May God keep us steadfast in His Word, as we wrestle in these end times not with flesh and blood, but with the very forces of darkness. The devil and his angels are strong and clever, but our God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and present everywhere. We fight our battles here and now, knowing that the eternal victory is ours in another time and another place.

Together in Christ, Pastor Larry J. Gríffín

Upcoming Sermon Themes

Midweek Sermon Series Theme - How Deep the Father's Love

- March 5 / Ash Wednesday Christ Abounding in Steadfast Love
- Wednesday, March 12 Christ Betrayed
- Wednesday, March 19 Christ Arrested
- Wednesday, March 26 Christ Denied

Lenten Sunday Sermon Series -On the Way to the Cross

- Sunday, March 9 Tempted, Yet Able to Resist
- Sunday, March 16 Sad, Yet Focused
- Sunday, March 23 Disappointed, Yet Patient
- Sunday, March 30, Broken Hearted, Yet Hopeful