

Pastor to People

Holy scriptures readings for August 23rd, 2026 [Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost]



Isaiah 51: 1-6

[Isaiah 51: 1-6 ESV - The LORD's Comfort for Zion - Bible Gateway](#)

The Lord tells His people that His Christ is coming soon, and He will be justice for them. This is the heart of Christianity and the heart of Lutheran doctrine, that Christ comes to justify His people by dying and rising from death, that the price of sin is paid for. And included in this text is the reminder that the Lord keeps His promise, and that we can find comfort in that fact; so that when He promises eternal life for us we know that it is as good as done

Romans 11: 33-12:8

[Romans 11: 33-12:8 ESV - Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom - Bible Gateway](#)

I mentioned in last week's sermon about a false preacher who taught that the Samaritan woman needed to teach Jesus a lesson. This notion that Jesus needed to be taught anything is foolish at best, for as this text reminds us, the Lord does not need a counselor. No, the Lord who is our creator and redeemer, needs no know to teach and advise Him, He knows all things and how best to love, guard, and keep us all.

Matthew 16: 13-20

[Matthew 16: 13-20 ESV - Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ - Bible Gateway](#)

The Jews had been waiting for the Messiah to come for centuries, however they were waiting for their version of the Messiah, and thus many overlooked Christ. This is text points us again to this fact. For even the disciples knew that the people viewed Christ as a prophet or a great moral teacher. While Christ certainly occupied both offices, He was greater than them. Yet, we come across many people today who view Jesus as nothing more than a good moral teacher, we must fight against this idea by proclaiming Christ as not just teacher but the Messiah the savior of the world.

Rev. David J. Walsh

If you are not able to attend in-person services please mail your contributions to:

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

44 Chapel Road

Kenmore, NY 14217