

# Sign Post

**May – June,  
2026**

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Sign Post is online at  
[www.iowaeastdeaf.org](http://www.iowaeastdeaf.org).  
It is the newsletter for:

Word of God Lutheran  
Church for the Deaf  
1515 29th St. NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

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*Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23:6*

*One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple. Psalm 27:4*

*I rejoiced with those who said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”  
Psalm 122:1*

Do you have a favorite place to go? You might have many favorite places, depending on what you are doing. To eat, you might have a favorite restaurant, or it might be at the kitchen table at home or at a friend’s house. Your favorite place to rest might be on a soft couch or under a shade tree outside. Or maybe you remember a place you used to hang out as a child and that brings back special memories.

King David had a special place that he loved to go – the house of the Lord. He wrote each of the Psalms above. He was glad to go to the Lord’s house and more than anything, he wanted to live in the Lord’s house all the days of his life, even forever.

Why? Two reasons come to mind. First, relationship. To live in the Lord’s house means to be with the Lord. That is what we look forward to as Christians, to live with Jesus always. As Paul said in Philippians 1:23, he wanted to leave this world and be with Christ, because that is much better than life in this world.

When two people get married, they are excited about getting to spend the rest of their lives together. No one in love wants to move apart and never see each other again. Jesus saved us and made us His people. He wants to live with us and we want to live with Him. The good news is that we don’t need to wait for heaven to be with Christ. (But like Paul said, heaven will be much better!) We can be with Him now and that happens in His house, in church. When we meet for worship, He promised that He is there with us. Jesus said, “Where two or three come together in My name, there am I with them.” (Matthew 18:20)

*Continued on p. 2*

## **The House of the Lord** (continued from p. 1)

Second, we are eager to go to the house of the Lord because we want to grow in our relationship with Jesus and with each other. We get to know Him through His word. It does us no good if we make up ideas and stories about Him. If we want to know Him, we need to see what He says about Himself. That happens in church, in worship, where God gives us His word.

Also in worship, He forgives our sins. That reminds us how much He loves us and values us as His children. Then we can be confident in trusting Him and learn how to love and forgive each other. God's gifts of His word and forgiveness make us grow in our relationship with God and also with each other. God's house is where that happens.

We agree with David and are glad to go to the house of the Lord! Keep your eyes on Him and continue to come together to grow in His word as His people.

Pastor Eckert

## **Prayers**

Please remember these in your prayers:

- ✦ Thank God for His forgiveness and salvation that make us His people, His word that gives us that good news and faith, and for worship in His house where He gives us all of those gifts.
- ✦ Jesus said wars and rumors of wars will continue until the end of the world. But war causes much death, destruction and suffering, so we pray for peace in all of those places at war now. Pray for the innocent people who suffer in war and pray for our troops as they serve.
- ✦ As we remember Memorial Day, thank God for the men and women who gave their lives to protect us and our nation.
- ✦ Ask God to bless people with health: Norma Jean Mangrich, Kent Kischer, Jay Oelberg, Lisa Oelberg, Delbert and Connie Neely, Janet Weber, James Weber, Curtis Bethurum, Kathy Anderson, JoAnn Mitchell, Chris Wrage, Ricky Moore, Paula Slavin, Nancy Griffin, and many family members and friends.
- ✦ Pray for Calvary Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Des Moines as they work with Iowa District West to plan the future of the deaf ministry there.
- ✦ Pray for men studying to become pastors and women studying to become deaconesses for the deaf. We thank God for Nola Gray and Peggy Gott who recently received calls as deaconesses to Redeemer Lutheran Church in Olathe, Kansas, to serve the deaf there. They will finish their studies this summer.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.

# Dive Into God's Word

## Memorial Day

As a nation, we take time on Memorial Day and Veterans' Day to honor our veterans and those who gave their lives in defending our country and our freedoms. There are actually dozens of days throughout the year that recognize and honor our military. As citizens of the U.S., it is right for us to thank them and honor them for their service.

But what about as Christians? Is it right for Christians to be in the military? Is it right for Christians to go to war and fight and kill and destroy? Some churches say that is wrong and Christians should only work for peace and never sign up for the military. Other churches say it is okay. What is the answer? We don't want opinions. We want to know what God says.

In 1526, Martin Luther wrote a short book named, "Whether Soldiers, Too, Can Be Saved." Many soldiers at that time were worried that they couldn't be saved because they were in the business of fighting wars and killing people. Luther wrote this book to show what the Bible says. Now we will also see what God's word says about this.

Luther said we need to think about two things – the work and the man. We will think about the work first.

Read Romans 13:1-4.

1. Who created governments?
2. What does God say about our relationship with the government?
3. What job did God give the government to do? How does this include soldiers?

Read Matthew 22:21.

4. Jesus is talking about two different kingdoms. What are the two kingdoms?
5. Which kingdom or kingdoms do you live in?
6. How does a Christian soldier live and serve in both kingdoms?

Now we will look at what kind of man a soldier (or any Christian) should be. Read 1 Peter 2:13-17.

7. Verse 17 says we (and Christian soldiers) should do what?
8. Can we or a soldier use our Christian freedom, or our work, as an opportunity to do evil?

Read Luke 3:14.

9. Soldiers asked John the Baptist what they should do. Did John tell them it was wrong for them to be soldiers and they should quit?
10. What did John tell them they should do?

Luther also gave much advice to Christian rulers. Christian soldiers can serve and go to war, but rulers should not be quick to go to war. There are very few wars that are necessary. Their main job is to protect their people.

## Answers to Dive Into God's Word, p. 3.

Read Romans 13:1-7.

1. God created government.
2. God created government for our good. So He wants us to honor and obey the government. We must obey them, pay taxes, and honor them.
3. The government is God's servant to punish people who do wrong. That is what it means that the government "bears the sword." In the past, soldiers fought in wars and they were also the police. Today, both police and soldiers have a responsibility to punish people who do wrong.

Read Matthew 22:21.

4. The two kingdoms are God's kingdom and the kingdom of this world. God's kingdom is the church, all people who belong to Jesus, and He is our King. The world's kingdom includes nations and their governments.
5. You belong to both kingdoms. You are a citizen of the United States, and you are a Christian and a citizen of heaven.
6. A Christian soldier is a Christian, he belongs to Jesus. As a U.S. citizen and soldier, he also lives in the kingdom of this world. In his work, he serves his government.

Now we will look at what kind of man a soldier (or any Christian) should be. Read 1 Peter 2:13-17.

7. We should honor everyone, love fellow Christians, fear/honor God, and honor the emperor (that means honor the king or honor our government leaders).
8. No. We all know about corruption, when a person in power uses their power for themselves, such as a leader accepting bribes or using their authority to make themselves rich. A Christian will not do that. A Christian will not use Christian freedom to do evil, and we will not use our job to wrongly get things for ourselves.

Read Luke 3:14.

9. No. John didn't tell them to quit. It was fine for them to be soldiers.
10. John told them they should do their job the right way. Don't take money from people. Don't threaten them, don't falsely accuse people. Accept their pay and don't complain about it. Again, they can be soldiers. But they should be good soldiers and not use their position to wrongly hurt others or benefit themselves.

## May

- 9 Janet Weber
- 13 Norman Wilson  
Curtis Sparks
- 24 Barbara Barnes
- 26 Becky Eiben



## June

- 8 Matthew Brown
- 8 Linda Jackson
- 12 Beverly Brown
- 13 Tom Eaton, Sr.
- 29 Jonah Legg
- 30 Robert Gruhn

# May 2026

					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  3:00 QC – Worship
<b>3</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  6:30 WL – Kenya Presentation	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  3:00 QC – Worship	<b>9</b> 10:00 DU – Bible Study
<b>10</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  3:00 QC – Worship
<b>17</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  7:00 WL – Worship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  3:00 QC – Worship
<b>24/31</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  3:00 QC – Worship

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday worship at 3:00 p.m.  
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 - 29<sup>th</sup> St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday, Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 QC – Quad Cities. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1705 E. Locust St., Davenport. Every Saturday, Worship at 3:00 p.m.  
 WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday special presentation at 6:30 p.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m.  
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Study at 10:00 a.m.

# June 2026

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  7:00 WL – Worship	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10:00 DU – Bible Study  3:00 QC – Worship
<b>7</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  ILDA – Florence, Kentucky	<b>12</b>  ILDA – Florence, Kentucky	<b>13</b>  ILDA – Florence, Kentucky
<b>14</b>  ILDA – Florence, Kentucky Worship services in Iowa only online.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  7:00 WL – Study	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  3:00 QC – Worship
<b>21</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  3:00 QC – Worship
<b>28</b> * See below for worship and Bible study times.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				

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# The Day of Pentecost

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Pentecost is the day when God sent the Holy Spirit for the church. That is what we normally say happened on Pentecost. But Pentecost was also the first day that the apostles preached the good news about Jesus for everyone. The Holy Spirit gave them the courage and words to do that. That is why the Holy Spirit came. As Jesus said, the Spirit didn't come to talk about Himself; the Spirit came to lead people to Jesus. Acts 2:29-36 is part of Peter's sermon about Jesus. Find the underlined words.

E T I A R A D N S P S G R E G  
G A E T L O D R O L O N D R P  
D L J N I S I E G I L I E S C  
L E H E A V E N S F S E A R V  
H O L Y S P I R I T D E O N I  
V O T I B R O T H E R S T F E  
S R T S A K A G S D S O A D S  
G I J E I N I I H U H T Y I P  
B E H E S R M N S P H L F E H  
O E D G S O H U G E I S T I D  
N D E I R U B C R M D P S V Y  
I A D P V I S N A T I O N R E  
I I L U L O E F V D V K A I D  
T L T I E C N S E D A E D E L  
E E P A S H G E D O D I S I I

“Brothers, I can tell you in plain words that our early father David not only died but was buried. We know where his grave is today. He was one who spoke for God. He knew God had made a promise to him. From his family Christ would come and take His place as King. He knew this before and spoke of Christ being raised from the dead. Christ's soul would not be left in hell. His body would not be destroyed. Jesus is this One! God has raised Him up and we have all seen Him.

“This Jesus has been lifted up to God's right side. The Holy Spirit was promised by the Father. God has given Him to us. That is what you are seeing and hearing now! It was not David who was taken up to heaven, because he said, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right side, for those who hate You will be a place to rest Your feet.”’ The whole Jewish nation must know for sure that God has made this Jesus, both Lord and Christ. He is the One you nailed to a cross!”

Peter's sermon was NOT like this.

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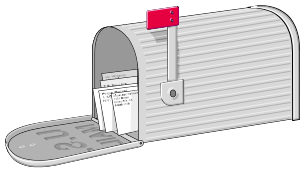


10-09-2003

TODAY'S SERMON IS TITLED "I JUST WALKED IN 15 MINUTES LATE, SAT IN THE BACK ROW, AND BOY AM I EVER EMBARRASSED"

Word of God Lutheran Church  
for the Deaf  
1515 29th St. NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Postal Carrier: Have a great day!

