

Briefings

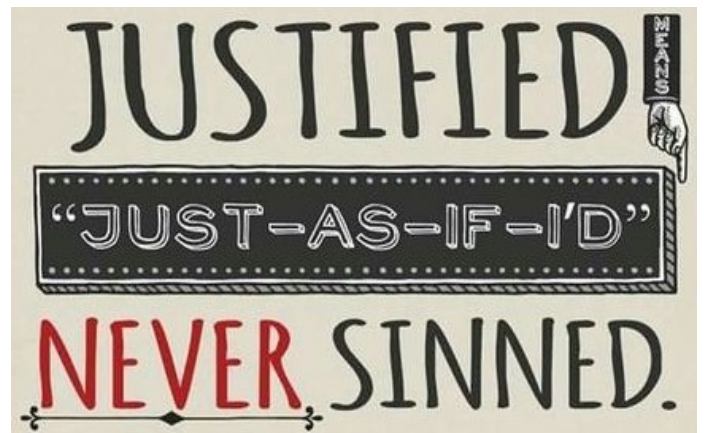
Pilot Knob Lutheran Church

January 2022

Volume 141

Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

Paul begins the practical application of the theology he talked about in the previous chapters. In verse one he mentions God's mercy. We might think of mercy as pity, to feel sorry for someone. God's mercy has to do with his activity through Jesus' finished work on Calvary and his resurrection which brings about our justification, that is, God viewing us as justified: sin paid for, forgiven, and being seen as innocent. Because God has done this, (his mercy), we are to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice in response to his mercy. The world would view this the opposite: that we need to sacrifice in order to obtain his mercy. Not so! Because we've been granted his forgiveness and are justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves to God for his service and worship. Here again, we see that God does it all, our so-called good works accomplish nothing. Our good works can never achieve God's mercy or favor.



What is also an oxymoron is a living sacrifice. To the first century Jew the sacrifice of an animal for a sin offering would surrender its life unto death. But we are to be a living sacrifice. Implicit in the living sacrifice is the surrender of not only our physical body being used for God according to his moral principles but also our mind, will and spirit. It is our inner most being that is expressed through our physical body. To put it another way, there isn't any part of our being that is exempt from being an offering of worship to God.

What does a sacrifice of worship look like? Any time or any way we don't follow the world's values and priorities that conflict with scripture, we offer a sacrifice of worship. For example:

- *Psalm 101:3a I will not look with approval on anything that is vile.*
- *Ephesians 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*

When we protect our eyes and words it's a sacrifice of worship because we are not allowing our mouths or eyes to be used for selfish and immoral means. Also, to forgive one who does not deserve it nor asks for it, as the world would encourage us to withhold forgiveness, is a sacrifice of worship.

Worship is not restricted to Sunday morning, but is a way of everyday life. Whatever 2022 brings, we are called by God to live in such a way that we honor God and point people to Jesus.



Pilot Knob Lutheran Church
2391 330th St
Forest City IA 50436
pilotknob.org

JANUARY
2022

Dear Friends

One of my favorite Christmas songs is Do You Hear What I Hear....

Do you see what I see? Thank you so very much to all those who have helped us replace the many, many burnt out light bulbs throughout the church. It was a huge project that turned out to be more complex than I would have imagined, and it is great to have that completed.

Do you hear what I hear? The speakers that were not working have all fixed. The sound in the sanctuary sounds so much better. We have a new keyboard replacing the piano that could not be fixed to sound right. We are blessed to have Val and Sheryl put so much time and talent into our weekly music.

Do you know what I know? We are also very blessed at Pilot Knob Lutheran Church to have generous parishioners who allow us to replace things like furnace and air conditioning units. We are also looking to give the kitchen a little facelift. The paint needs a touch up and we are hoping to put a splash guard on the wall behind the stove and sink to keep that area a little cleaner. When spring arrives, we will continue the plan to trim back the overgrown trees in the cemetery and freshen up the landscaping around the church.

Listen to what I say. I hope you all got to spend some precious time with your family this Christmas season. I was blessed to be able to visit my daughter in Arizona. My one request while I was there was to go to church on Christmas Eve. Tanya got to experience her first candlelight service and was very moved by it. Does this mean she will attend regularly? I don't know, but I hope she will listen to what I say, when I say Jesus is the light. Remember, our job is to plant the seeds.

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year. It is my honor to serve as your counsel chairperson.

Cathy Caldwell

Meet Your Neighbors



PROFILE OF JEFF AND DONNA EDELEN

2107, 310TH St., Forest City, IA 50436

Jeff and Donna became friends when they worked together at a convenience store. Donna had graduated high school and Jeff was in his senior year. Jeff entered the army after graduation but they remained in touch with each other while he was away. When he came back they started dating, were eventually engaged, then married on October 10, 1987 in Forest Lake, MN.

The Edelen's have three children: Dillin and Alyssa Edelen (grandchild – Evelyn Rose), Forest Lake, MN; Cody and Sammy Edelen, Clarion, IA; and Jake Edelen, Crystal, MN.

Both Jeff and Donna are retired.

Donna's favorite scripture is Psalm 46:10 – "Be still and know that I am God."

Jeff's favorite scripture is Psalm 23:4 – "Yea, though I walk through the valley of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Donna's favorite hymn is IN THE GARDEN –HE WALKS WITH ME

Jeff's favorite hymn is THE LORD'S PRAYER

When asked if they could travel anywhere in the world, all expenses paid, where would they go. Donna would go to Ireland as it is part of her heritage; Jeff would go to Canada hunting or fishing.

Jeff's hobby is hunting and fishing. Jeff says his favorite place to hunt and fish is the next one.

Donna likes to garden and can the food they grow to use throughout the year. She also likes to read and work on small projects to make their home more inviting.

Jeff and Donna were invited to Pilot Knob Lutheran Church by Cathy Caldwell. "We could feel the Holy Spirit moving in the church; Pastor Bob is an awesome preacher. His sermons are fantastic. We always head home with something to think about and have learned something new. The people in the church are so friendly and welcoming."



January Sermons & Scriptures

• January 2, 2022

Second Sunday after Christmas

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: Flight to Egypt

OT Lesson: Genesis 46:1-7

Epistle Lesson: 1Peter 4:12-19

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:13-23

• January 9, 2022

First Sunday after Epiphany

Morning Worship Service and Holy Communion

Sermon: Sacrifices

OT Lesson: 1Kings 8:6-13

Epistle Lesson: Romans 12:1-8

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:41-52

• January 16, 2022

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: A Wedding in Crisis

OT Lesson: Exodus 33:12-23

Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 5:22-33

Gospel Lesson: John 2:1-11

• January 23, 2022

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Morning Worship Service

Sermon: A Dreaded Disease

OT Lesson: 2Kings 5:1-15a

Epistle Lesson: Romans 1:8-17

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 1:8-13

• January 30, 2022

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

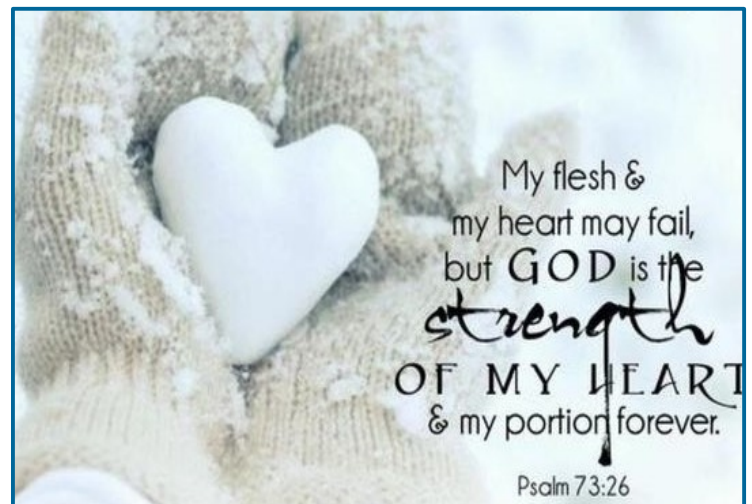
Morning Worship Service

Sermon: Run from God

OT Lesson: Jonah 1:1-17

Epistle Lesson: Romans 8:18-23

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 8:23-27



January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Year's Day
2 Greeters: Tony/Lydia Reader: Shelly	3	4	5 Bday: Randy Stensrud	6 Quilting- 10am	7	8
9 Communion Sunday Greeters: Jim/Kayla Reader: Matt Sunday School- 10:15am	10	11 Deacons- 5:45pm Council- 6:30pm	12 Confirmation- 4:30pm	13	14	15
16 Greeters: Billy/Angie Reader: Don Sunday School- 10:15am	17 Bday: Don Elbert	18 Ladies Bible Study-9:30am WOL Bible Study-2pm	19 Confirmation- 4:30pm	20 Quilting- 10am	21	22
23 Greeters: Jesse/Rachel Reader: Jeff Sunday School- 10:15am	24	25 Bday: Marcus Pedelty	26 Confirmation- 4:30pm	27	28	29
30 Greeters: John/Shelly Reader: Nick Sunday School- 10:15am	31					