



ALCB

In Touch

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ALL
are
welcome
Lutheran
Church
Brussels

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The nature is now turning into manifold colours, the days are getting colder, autumn is upon us. In October the last crops are harvested, the new wine is pressed, and the last bigger agrarian tasks must be done before the (traditional) agrarian year ends in November. It is always the time to think about the Creation and to thank our Creator and Preserver in Heaven for all the good things he provides for our livelihood. The first Sunday in October is therefore “Harvest Thanksgiving”, a special time to give thanks to God for all the crops. Today it is also common and correct to expand our view also to other goods

like our jobs, money, good health care, clothes etc. as Martin Luther explained in the First Article of the Creed: “I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. What does this mean?—Answer: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my limbs, my reason, and all my senses, and still preserves them; in addition thereto, clothing and shoes, meat and drink, house and homestead, wife and children, fields, cattle, and all my goods; that He provides me richly and daily with all that I need to support this body and life, protects me from all danger, and guards me and preserves me from all evil; and all this out of pure, fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all which I owe it to Him to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.” – In addition to that traditional part a public discussion about the environment, especially the climate, is everywhere around us. Also we as Christians are affected and called upon. The Bible tells us also God’s will for His Creation; in Genesis 1, 27b-28 it is said: “God created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” It is also a question of theology what “subdue” could mean and how we do it correctly. But in all important effort for the environment, we don’t need to panic with the world around us because it is also said that God Himself promised (Gen 8, 22): “While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.” In this spirit: Let us give thanks to God for all our livelihood and let us have an open mind for the needs of our environment and help where we can with good ideas and optimistic minds. Stay blessed,

+ Yours Pastor Johannes



Following Services

| Date | Sunday | Time and Place | Topic and Passage for the sermon |
|---------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 29.9. | St. Michael and All Angels | 15:00 in Woluwe | Angels: Luke 10, 17-20 |
| 6.10. | Harvest Thanksgiving | 15:00 in Woluwe | Richly blessed: Isaiah 58, 7-12 |
| 13.10. | 17 th Sunday after Trinity | 15:00 in Woluwe | Having faith: Joshua 2, 1-21 |
| 20.10. | 18 th Sunday after Trinity | 15:00 in Woluwe | Living responsibly: James 2, 14-26 |
| 27.10.* | Reformation Festival | 15:00 in Woluwe | Steadfast in the true faith: Dtn 6, 4-9 |
| 3.11.* | All Saints | 15:00 in Woluwe | Examples in faith: Revelations 7,9-12 |



** Because of the Autumn Holidays (Half Time Break) services may be changed. Wait for confirmation!*

Evangelisch-Lutherse Kerk in België – All Lutheran Church of Brussels

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Review and next plans: End-of-summer picnic
 We celebrated a joyful service, for the first time in the amazing Sint-Jan-Evangelist church (St John the Baptist) in Tervuren and had a nice hamburger bbq under the kiwi-roof in the garden of the parsonage afterwards.



A big “Thank You” to all who joined and brought something for the potluck! As we have a lot of left-over hamburgers in the freezer and because some members couldn’t join this time we plan to have another get-together in the following weeks.



Biblical Pronunciations

You would like to read from time to time in the services but you are not used to the sometimes strange Biblical names and you don’t know how to pronounce them? There is a relief! The App “Biblical Pronunciations” can help you. Try it out!



Please pray for...

- Please pray for...
 - ...open minds and good ideas how to save our environment to preserve our planet also for coming generations.
 - ...new faithful Elders for our ALCB and the beneficiary development of our church.
 - ...our Confirmands on their way to Confirmation.
 - ...for the World Conference of the theological seminaries of our Lutheran Family in the Philippines
- (<https://ilc-online.org/2019/07/31/philippines-to-host-2019-ilc-world-seminary-conference/>)

Our church members with birthday in September:

- ☞ 3.10. Johannes Reitze-Landau
- ☞ 15.10. Emily Palmer
- ☞ 17.10. Andrea Vahrenhorst
- ☞ 28.10. Naïke Shoo



Your birthday is missing? This may be because the church doesn't have your data. In this case please contact the pastor and let him know! The pastor is still busy revising the membership list.

Wanted: Elders for tthe Church Board!

We are still looking for new Elders.....

Focus on Service – the Salutation

In our small series on liturgy elements we will think about the “Salutations” in our service this month. Salutation means “greeting” and they mark a special moment of change in the character of the service. The first, usual Salutation has its place after the entrance liturgy (Opening, Introit, Kyrie, Song of Praise) at the beginning of the “service of the word” or in the part of “proclamation and confession”. During the entrance liturgy, the pastor was part of the congregation and prayed with them. Now, he steps out of the group to become a counterpart to the congregation, who proclaims the Word of God. When he “meets” the congregation, they greet each other. But more than that, it is a kind of assignment and blessing of the congregation. The brothers and sisters call the pastor to step in representation for them to the altar in front of God, therefore they strengthen and bless him. – Another case is the so called “Pax Domini” (The peace of the Lord) in the liturgy of Holy Communion. At this moment directly after the “Words of the Lord” (Words of Institution), we acknowledge that the Lord Jesus Christ is really with us. At this moment the pastor speaks in person of the Lord himself, who greets and blesses us with His peace. Therefore, the correct answer of the congregation is the receiving “Amen.” (And not “Also with you.”, as it is regrettably common in our congregation....)

