LCA/NZ PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Reflecting God's Love

To help keep our people and visitors safe, pastors, church leaders and other church workers (both employees and volunteers) must be screened and also take part in the Safe Church training program.

For more details about the training program, visit www.lca.org.au/safechurchtraining or speak to one of your leaders.

If you think a child is at risk of harm ...

- In an emergency, call 000 (Australia) or 111 (New Zealand).
- If it is not an emergency, call your local police and child protection authority.

Report abuse

If you have experienced abuse or have witnessed poor behaviour from someone working for, or connected with, the Lutheran Church in Australia or New Zealand, or if you believe that someone else in the church is at risk, it is important that you let us know.

Phone 1800 644 628 (Australia) 0800 356 887 (New Zealand)

Email complaints@lca.org.au

Post PO Box 519, Marden SA 5070 Australia

Mobile phone text message +61 (0) 438 320 218

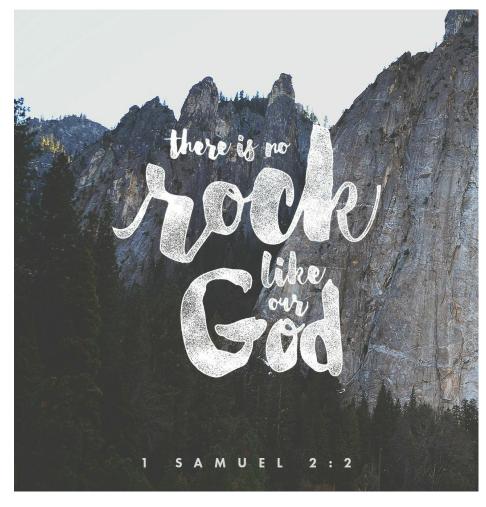




LUTHERAN PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
OF AUSTRALIA MINISTRY SUPPORT

197 Archer Street North Adelaide SA 08 8267 7300 psd@lca.org.au www.lca.org.au/psd







What Is the Tree of Life in the Bible?

The River and Tree of Life - Revelation 22:1-3

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him.

Here the "Tree of Life" is a symbol of Christ Himself, giving immortality. It fulfills the tree of life in Paradise and the other tree of life, the Cross of the Savior, the tree of obedience (1 Peter 2:24), a tree of the curse (Galatians 3:13). But there is no more curse in the Holy City of heaven: a reversal of the curse of Genesis 3:16-19. The fruits and leaves of the tree are completely and universally therapeutic, reversing the effects of the fruit of the tree of disobedience (Genesis 3:6)



PROPER 7

YEAR B

Jesus has power to help in time of trouble.





www.growministries.org.au

Sunday between June 19 and June 25 (if after Trinity Sunday)



Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- 1. Draw a picture or talk about a time you were afraid.
- The disciples were in a boat and afraid of a dangerous storm. They thought they might drown. Did Jesus seem afraid? Why do you think that was?
- 3. How do you reach out to Jesus when you experience storms in life?



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	Mark 4:35-41	Jesus calms the sea.			
М	Job 38:1-11	God's rebuke of Job			
т	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	How Paul served God			
W	Acts 27:13-38	Paul and the storm at sea.			
т	Exodus 14:5-25	Parting of the Red Sea			
F	Joshua 3:7-17	The Jordan River stops flowing			
s	Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32	God saves those in distress			

VERSE OF THE WEEK

"Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" MARK 4:41





PROPER 6

YEAR B

The kingdom of God grows





www.growministries.org.au

Sunday between June 12 and June 18 (if after Trinity Sunday)



Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- 1. What is one way that you have grown over the past year?
- Jesus talked about the kingdom of God growing from a tiny seed into a large plant. What do you think he meant?
- God planted the seed of the kingdom in each of us at baptism. In what ways have you been growing as a child of God?



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	Mark 4:28-34	The use of parables
М	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Israel to return from exile
т	2 Corinthians 5:6-17	Living by faith
w	Proverbs 3:1-12	Trusting in God
т	Hebrews 11:1-40	The meaning of faith
F	Revelation 21:22-22:5	The tree of life
s	Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15	A song for the sabbath day

VERSE OF THE WEEK

so we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-7





Importance of the Tree of Life Today

Our tree of life is Jesus Christ, granting us immortality through His defeat of death on the cross. Because of the ancestral sin of Adam and Eve, we now have the knowledge of good and evil and the free will to choose between the life-giving Christ or the deadly pursuit of selfish passion. Christ resurrected the tree of life by His cross and granted everlasting life to mankind once

again. "Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24) To eat of the tree of life now is to follow Christ by bearing our cross in repentance and love for God.

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God." (Revelation 2:7)

Tree of Life Summary

In conclusion, we can summarize the "Tree of Life" as Jesus Christ Himself! God is the source and support of life, apart from God we only find death.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

"Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)



Something New is Being Born

by Anne-Marie Doecke

In church we are often reminded that we are children of the light and not of darkness. However, the peace that is supposed to come from truly believing this has often eluded me. My sense of my own darkness and incapacities has more times than not, sent me spiraling down into despair; certainly not peace. My melancholic nature can send a shadow over everything I see.

What is giving me peace at present, is to realize that Love can be where we least expect, in situations which we would much rather avoid and in those who are very different from ourselves. Conflict and despair may be the very doorway through which we need to walk for new life to emerge. The status quo may need to crumble and we do not find this easy.

We are often afraid of pain and darkness and want to stand at a distance from it like the Israelites did in Exodus 20, but Moses – the murderer and coward – drew near the thick darkness where Love was (v. 21). The person we least expect enters into what is holier than themselves. Only afterwards, at a distance and as time has gone by are most of us able to see a little of what has been birthed.

I think of Jesus the 'Prince of Peace' heading towards Jerusalem knowing he would surely die. Matthew reports he fell with his face to the ground: "Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will but as you will" (Matt 26:39). This is a little like the Serenity prayer where we pray for acceptance of the things we cannot change. However, we who are recovering addicts of all descriptions would rather say, "I grant myself the ability to do the impossi-



PROPER 5

YEAR B

We are the brothers and sisters of Jesus.





Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- Name some things you appreciate about people in your family.
- Jesus says that everyone who does God's will is his 'brother and sister and mother'. What does it mean to you that Jesus has called you a very close family member?
- 3. How does faith affect our family relationships?



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	Mark 3:20-35	Doing the work of God
М	Genesis 3:8-15	Adam and Eve hide from God
т	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Living by faith
w	Ephesians 6:1-4	Children and parents
т	Proverbs 6: 20-23	Learning from our parents
F	Psalm 103:1-13	A father's compassion
S	Psalm 130	Prayer of lament and hope

VERSE OF THE WEEK

"Whoever does God's Will is my brother and sister and mother."

MARK 3:35





PROPER 4

YEAR B

The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath



(if after Trinity Sunday)



Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- The Sabbath in the Bible was the first day of the week and people were to rest from their work. How do you like to spend a time of rest?
- As Christians, resting also means spending time with God? Do you find time to rest with God regularly? What do you do?



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	Mark 2:23-3:6	Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath
М	1 Samuel 3:1-10	The Lord calls Samuel
т	1 Samuel 3:11-20	Here I am Lord
w	Deuteronomy 5:12-15	Sabbath commemorations
т	2 Corinthians 4:5-12	Jesus acts with compassion
F	Exodus 13:17-22	Crossing the sea
S	Psalm 81:1-10	Sing for joy to God

VERSE OF THE WEEK

We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:8-10



ble, the determination to not change the things I can and the refusal to notice the distortion!"

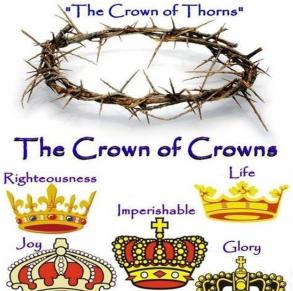
Our theme for Synod is, 'One in the Spirit bound in peace'. We are bound together with Christ on the same journey he was on. Catholic priest Henri Nouwen said our death is our greatest gift. Maybe, as we lean into our dying as a church as we have known it, life and the peace that passes understanding is able to emerge. May each of us join in letting light shine out of darkness (Gen 1:2-4) for something new is being born!



Save the Date: Replenish Women's Retreat

11-13 October 2024 Luther Heights Coolum

Feeling drained from the hustle of everyday life and just need a weekend to stop, unwind and take a break from the chaos Then this weekend is perfect for you! Join us for a picturesque weekend in Coolum on the Sunshine Coast to do as much or as little as your heart desires. Open to women 18+ years. Registration opens soon!



The Six Crowns of Christ

The lyrics of *Crown Him* with *Many Crowns* touch on six different crowns that represent various aspects of who Christ is and what He has done.

Revelation 19: 12

His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.

The Crown of the Lamb Upon the Throne

This first crown signifies Christ's position as the Lamb of God exalted upon the throne in heaven, worthy of eternal praise. "Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne." (Revelation 5:6)

The Crown of the Son of God and Son of Man

The second crown reflects Christ's dual nature as both fully divine and fully human, able to redeem mankind. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." (John 1:1,14)

The Crown of Love

The third crown embodies God's love demonstrated through Christ's sacrificial death to save humanity. "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

Who What How When





More than 870 people sent a bright message of hope from Queensland to children and families displaced by war in Ukraine on Saturday (11 May) through ALWS Walk My Way Ukraine.

The 873 walkers and runners stepped out in the Brisbane event, which – thanks to the help of participants, volunteers, sponsors and other supporters – has so far raised more than \$175,000 to support the people of Ukraine.

Who What How When



A Cashless Society Is Imminent: Here's What We Can Do

Here are the details of how to give via online giving directly into the West-Pac Bank Account:

Banking account BSB 704 942 Account # 52648

 If you would like to remain anonymous when doing online banking use "Unknown" in the Payer Name.



Contact us:

4 Clewley Street, Corinda Qld 4075

PO Box 229 Corinda

Phone: 07 3379 3441

www.stjojhnscorinda.org.au Manse Phone: 07 3372 2555 stjohns.corinda.qld@lca.org.au Pastor Michael Jarick

0481 744 078

michael.jarick@lca.org.au

The Crown of Life

This crown represents Christ's power over death through His resurrection, granting eternal life. "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." (John 11:25)

The Crown of Peace

The fifth crown depicts Christ as the Prince of Peace, reconciling mankind with God. "For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility." (Ephesians 2:14)

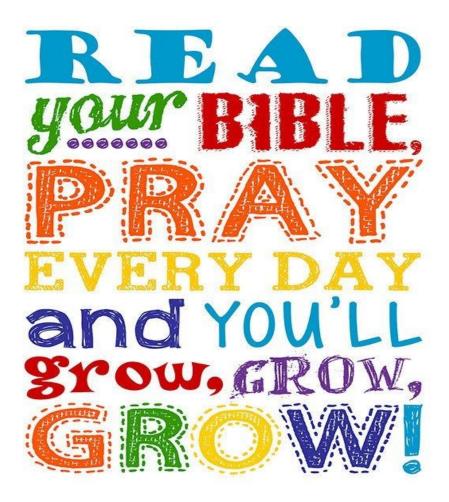
The Crown of Heaven

Finally, the sixth crown exalts the ascended Christ as Lord of Heaven, bestowing eternal life on the redeemed. "After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight." (Acts 1:9)

What do crowns represent in the Bible?

In the Bible, crowns are symbolic of power, victory, honor, and royalty. When Jesus is crowned, it represents His authority and kingship over all creation. Specific crowns mentioned in Scripture include the crown of life (James 1:12), righteousness (2 Timothy 4:8), glory (1 Peter 5:4), and rejoicing (Proverbs 14:24). 1 Corinthians 9:25 refers to an imperishable crown awarded to those who overcome trials. Revelation 19:12 describes Jesus with "many diadems" representing His supreme sovereignty. So crowns in general signify righteous dominion, while Jesus' many crowns point to His infinite reign as risen Lord of lords.

Who What How When



52 Week Bible Reading Plan

	Epistles	The Law	History	Psalms	Poetry	Prophecy	Gospels
Week	(Sunday)	(Monday)	(Tuesday)	(Wednesday)	(Thursday		(Saturday)
1	□ Rom 1-2	☐ Gen 1-3	☐ Josh 1-5	☐ Ps 1-2	☐ Job 1-2	☐ Isa 1-6	Matt 1-2
2	□ Rom 3-4	Gen 4-7	☐ Josh 6-10	☐ Ps 3-5	☐ Job 3-4	☐ Isa 7-11	☐ Matt 3-4
3	□ Rom 5-6	Gen 8-11	☐ Josh 11-15	☐ Ps 6-8	☐ Job 5-6	☐ Isa 12-17	☐ Matt 5-7
4	□ Rom 7-8	Gen 12-15	☐ Josh 16-20	Ps 9-11	☐ Job 7-8	☐ Isa 18-22	☐ Matt 8-10
5	□ Rom 9-10	Gen 16-19	☐ Josh 21-24	☐ Ps 12-14	☐ Job 9-10	☐ Isa 23-28	☐ Matt 11-13
6	Rom 11-12	Gen 20-23	☐ Judg 1-6	Ps 15-17	☐ Job 11-12		☐ Matt 14-16
7	Rom 13-14	Gen 24-27	☐ Judg 7-11	Ps 18-20	☐ Job 13-14		☐ Matt 17-19
8	Rom 15-16	Gen 28-31	☐ Judg 12-16	☐ Ps 21-23	☐ Job 15-16	☐ Isa 40-44	☐ Matt 20-22
9	☐ 1Cor 1-2	Gen 32-35	☐ Judg 17-21	☐ Ps 24-26	☐ Job 17-18	☐ Isa 45-50	☐ Matt 23-25
10	☐ 1Cor 3-4	Gen 36-39	Ruth	☐ Ps 27-29	☐ Job 19-20		☐ Matt 26-28
11	☐ 1Cor 5-6	Gen 40-43	☐ 1Sam 1-5	Ps 30-32	☐ Job 21-22		☐ Mark 1-2
12	☐ 1Cor 7-8	Gen 44-47	☐ 1Sam 6-10	Ps 33-35	☐ Job 23-24	☐ Isa 62-66	☐ Mark 3-4
13	☐ 1Cor 9-10	Gen 48-50	☐ 1Sam 11-15	☐ Ps 36-38	☐ Job 25-26		☐ Mark 5-6
14	☐ 1Cor 11-12	□ Ex 1-4	☐ 1Sam 16-20	☐ Ps 39-41	☐ Job 27-28		☐ Mark 7-8
15	☐ 1Cor 13-14	☐ Ex 5-8	☐ 1Sam 21-25	☐ Ps 42-44	☐ Job 29-30	☐ Jer 12-16	☐ Mark 9-10
16	☐ 1Cor 15-16	□ Ex 9-12	☐ 1Sam 26-31	Ps 45-47	☐ Job 31-32	☐ Jer 17-21	☐ Mark 11-12
17	2Cor 1-3	☐ Ex 13-16	☐ 2Sam 1-4	☐ Ps 48-50	☐ Job 33-34	☐ Jer 22-26	☐ Mark 13-14
18	☐ 2Cor 4-5	□ Ex 17-20	☐ 2Sam 5-9	☐ Ps 51-53	☐ Job 35-36	☐ Jer 27-31	☐ Mark 15-16
19	2Cor 6-8	☐ Ex 21-24	☐ 2Sam 10-14	☐ Ps 54-56	☐ Job 37-38	☐ Jer 32-36	Luke 1-2
20	2Cor 9-10	☐ Ex 25-28	☐ 2Sam 15-19	☐ Ps 57-59	☐ Job 39-40		Luke 3-4
21	2Cor 11-13	☐ Ex 29-32	2Sam 20-24	☐ Ps 60-62	☐ Job 41-42	☐ Jer 42-46	Luke 5-6
22	Gal 1-3	☐ Ex 33-36	☐ 1Ki 1-4	Ps 63-65	Prov 1	☐ Jer 47-52	Luke 7-8
23	☐ Gal 4-6	☐ Ex 37-40	☐ 1Ki 5-9	☐ Ps 66-68	☐ Prov 2-3	☐ Lamentations	☐ Luke 9-10
24	☐ Eph 1-3	☐ Lev 1-3	☐ 1Ki 10-13	☐ Ps 69-71	Prov 4	☐ Ezek 1-6	☐ Luke 11-12
25	☐ Eph 4-6	☐ Lev 4-6	☐ 1Ki 14-18	☐ Ps 72-74	☐ Prov 5-6	☐ Ezek 7-12	☐ Luke 13-14
26	☐ Phil 1-2	☐ Lev 7-9	☐ 1Ki 19-22	☐ Ps 75-77	Prov 7	☐ Ezek 13-18	☐ Luke 15-16
27	☐ Phil 3-4	☐ Lev 10-12	☐ 2Ki 1-5	☐ Ps 78-80	☐ Prov 8-9	☐ Ezek 19-24	☐ Luke 17-18
28	☐ Col 1-2	☐ Lev 13-15	☐ 2Ki 6-10	☐ Ps 81-83	Prov 10	☐ Ezek 25-30	☐ Luke 19-20
29	☐ Col 3-4	☐ Lev 16-18	☐ 2Ki 11-15	☐ Ps 84-86	☐ Prov 11-1		☐ Luke 21-22
30	☐ 1Thes 1-3	☐ Lev 19-21	☐ 2Ki 16-20	☐ Ps 87-89	Prov 13	☐ Ezek 37-42	☐ Luke 23-24
31	☐ 1Thes 4-5	☐ Lev 22-24	☐ 2Ki 21-25	☐ Ps 90-92	☐ Prov 14-1	5 Ezek 43-48	☐ John 1-2
32	☐ 2Thes	☐ Lev 25-27	☐ 1Chr 1-4	Ps 93-95	Prov 16	☐ Dan 1-6	☐ John 3-4
33	☐ 1Tim 1-3	☐ Num 1-4	☐ 1Chr 5-9	☐ Ps 96-98	☐ Prov 17-1		☐ John 5-6
34	☐ 1Tim 4-6	■ Num 5-8	☐ 1Chr 10-14	☐ Ps 99-101	Prov 19	☐ Hosea 1-7	☐ John 7-9
35	☐ 2Tim 1-2	Num 9-12	☐ 1Chr 15-19	☐ Ps 102-104	☐ Prov 20-2	1 Hosea 8-14	☐ John 10-12
36	☐ 2Tim 3-4	■ Num 13-16	☐ 1Chr 20-24	☐ Ps 105-107	Prov 22	☐ Joel	☐ John 13-15
37	☐ Titus	Num 17-20	☐ 1Chr 25-29	☐ Ps 108-110	☐ Prov 23-2	4 Amos 1-4	☐ John 16-18
38	☐ Philemon	Num 21-24	☐ 2Chr 1-5	☐ Ps 111-113	Prov 25	Amos 5-9	☐ John 19-21
39	☐ Heb 1-4	Num 25-28	☐ 2Chr 6-10	☐ Ps 114-116	☐ Prov 26-2	7 Dobadiah	Acts 1-2
40	☐ Heb 5-7	Num 29-32	☐ 2Chr 11-15	☐ Ps 117-118	Prov 28	☐ Jonah	Acts 3-4
41	☐ Heb 8-10	☐ Num 33-36	☐ 2Chr 16-20	☐ Ps 119	☐ Prov 29-3	0 Micah	Acts 5-6
42	☐ Heb 11-13	Deut 1-3	☐ 2Chr 21-24	☐ Ps 120-121	Prov 31	☐ Nahum	☐ Acts 7-8
43	☐ James 1-3	☐ Deut 4-6	☐ 2Chr 25-28	Ps 122-124	☐ Eccl 1-2	□ Habakkuk	☐ Acts 9-10
44	☐ James 4-5	☐ Deut 7-9	☐ 2Chr 29-32	☐ Ps 125-127	☐ Eccl 3-4	Zephaniah	☐ Acts 11-12
45	☐ 1Pet 1-3	☐ Deut 10-12	☐ 2Chr 33-36	Ps 128-130	Eccl 5-6	☐ Haggai	☐ Acts 13-14
46	☐ 1Pet 4-5	☐ Deut 13-15	Ezra 1-5	☐ Ps 131-133	☐ Eccl 7-8	Zechariah 1-7	☐ Acts 15-16
47	☐ 2Pet	Deut 16-19	☐ Ezra 6-10	Ps 134-136	☐ Eccl 9-10		☐ Acts 17-18
48	☐ 1John 1-3	☐ Deut 20-22	☐ Neh 1-4	Ps 137-139	☐ Eccl 11-1		☐ Acts 19-20
49	☐ 1John 4-5	Deut 23-25	☐ Neh 5-9	☐ Ps 140-142	☐ Song 1-2	☐ Rev 1-6	☐ Acts 21-22
50	☐ 2John	Deut 26-28	☐ Neh 10-13	Ps 143-145	☐ Song 3-4	☐ Rev 7-11	Acts 23-24
51	☐ 3John	Deut 29-31	Esther 1-5	☐ Ps 146-148	☐ Song 5-6	Rev 12-17	☐ Acts 25-26
52	☐ Jude	Deut 32-34	Esther 6-10	Ps 149-150	☐ Song 7-8	☐ Rev 18-22	☐ Acts 27-28

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