



Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.
5 Martin Luther Drive, Ft Wayne, IN 46825-4996
Toll free: 888-286-8002
Email: info@worshipforshutins.org
Website: www.worshipforshutins.org

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July 2018

July 1 (Psalm 30:5)

“The Big Picture”

By Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer, Holy Cross Lutheran Church~Fort Wayne, IN

Tough times can seem intense and enduring . . . especially when we’re right in the midst of them. King David certainly experienced his share of difficulties, candidly exposed on the pages of the Old Testament for future generations to see. Yet, his confession of faith shows a profound understanding of The Big Picture – *“Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning”* (Psalm 30:5 ESV).

July 8 (Mark 6:1-13)

“The Carpenter & Credentials”

By Rev. James L. Elsner, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church~Stroh, IN

A driver’s license is a basic “credential” for life in our culture. One credential of Jesus was “carpenter from Nazareth.” But He’s also Master and Friend helping us handle all God wants to give us.

July 15 (Amos 7:7-15)

“How Do You Measure Up?”

By Rev. William Mueller, Suburban Bethlehem Church~Fort Wayne, IN

The Lord commands the prophet Amos to hold a plumb line against His Old Testament people to see if they measured up – to see if they were following His ways. The result was not good. When the Lord holds the plumb line of His Word to measure us, we realize we fall miserably short. But with Jesus, we get a unique perspective.

July 22 (Mark 6:30-44)

“See Jesus with the Crowd”

By Rev. Dr. Walter A. Maier III, Concordia Theological Seminary~Fort Wayne, IN

The Gospel reading presents Jesus with a crowd of people. Seeing Jesus with the crowd, we perceive wonderful truths about Jesus. These truths bring us much comfort.

July 29 (Ephesians 3:13-21)

“Knowing Christ’s Love”

By Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker, Emanuel Lutheran Church~New Haven, IN

We see young love as a couple pledges themselves to one another. We see a mother’s love as she embraces her first-born. The greatest love is the love of Christ that surpasses all.