



May – First of the Month Letter

“Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.” John 14:12

Dear Blessed Community of Christ Lutheran Church,

Jesus says to the disciples, Jesus says to us that we *will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father*. I don't know about you, but every time I hear these words of Jesus, I want to interrupt Jesus and offer a rebuttal. “Ah, Jesus....really...me...we...are going to do **greater works** than you?”

This passage will be our Gospel lesson the week of May 7, and Greater Works will be our worship theme throughout the month of May. We will explore how with the Spirit's presence and power we, the followers of Jesus, live into great works of love, mercy, forgiveness, acceptance, justice, kindness, and hospitality. It might be both humbling and frightening to consider that Jesus says we will do 'greater works' than Jesus, but that is the promise given to us and the promise we claim.

As we enter May, I always consider this a transitional and liminal month. Students celebrate graduations, the ending of one stage and the beginning of a new time filled with hope, and uncertainty. The calendar might still say it is spring, but here we know that May is the real start of summer as we transition to summer heat.

Here at Christ Lutheran we continue to move forward in this season of transitions. The Call Committee continues their work of discerning the next settled pastor. The writing team has discerned a new mission narrative that will provide definition and direction for CLC as we move into God's preferred and promised future. Your CLC staff is using this time, and I will quote Susan Beaumont for this, “helping people manage their anxiety, embrace the freedom of unknowing, exploring new possibilities and pathways, and resisting the temptation to reorient people before they are ready.” In other words, lean into and embrace the uncertainty of this time and celebrate the yet to be discovered future.

We will conclude May with the great dual celebration of Pentecost and Confirmation on Sunday, May 28. Speaking of greater works, those young confirmands are the very embodiment of God's greater works in our midst.

I pray that throughout this month we may see the greater works that God is doing in and through us for the sake of God's world.

I will see you in worship,

Pastor Scot