

**SHARING THE FAITH: WEEKLY EMAIL DEVOTION
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 9, 2010**

Readings for May 9, Sixth Sunday of Easter:

REVELATION 21:10, 22 – 22:5

¹⁰And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

22 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 ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Faith Questions:

1. What kind of a place do you think John, the writer of Revelation, is writing about in this text? Is this place in the past, present, or future? Why? Where is it located?
2. John writes about the "tree of life" in chapter 22 verse 2. Where else in the Bible do we read about a tree of life? What kind of connections can you draw between the tree of life in Revelation and that other tree of life?
3. Do you think you will get to heaven one day? What will it look like? Who will you find there?
4. We have not yet fully arrived at the Kingdom of God mentioned in this text. However, we do catch glimpses of the Kingdom in our daily lives every now and then. Where have you seen the Kingdom of God breaking into your life recently? How does that happen?
5. Where do you see the community of believers called Trinity Lutheran Church working to bring the Kingdom of God to earth today? In what areas would you like to see Trinity working more toward the Kingdom?

Let us pray:

Holy God, we are a Kingdom people. Help us to remember that your name is on our foreheads. Help us to work together to bring more of your Kingdom to earth in our daily

lives, through our ordinary activities. And when the Kingdom breaks through, help us to be aware of it and to thank you for it.

For whom else, and for what else, shall we pray? (Insert your own prayer here)
Amen.

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