

Dear Members, Friends, and Guests of Desert Hills Lutheran Church,

Friday, August 14, 2020

Fridays have been my 'cave day' for years. I stay in my office until I have a sermon written. Now I'm doing that a week ahead. I recorded this weekend's sermon yesterday on Thursday and so today I write a sermon for next week. I've never done this routine before, but it seemed the best way to proceed. Next week we will be recording the sermon on Wednesday to give Troy more time to edit and put the service together.

The text for next week is that moment when Jesus asks the disciples who people say that he is. They respond basically that most everyone thinks he is a prophet. Then Peter speaks up and says, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." I don't know what I'm going to say about it, but the question is the center of three of the four Gospels, and it is the question that is ultimately and eternally the most important question of our lives: who do we think Jesus is? How we answer makes all the difference in the world.

Next week we will start our soft opening of the church building. We will begin classes for sixteen new members. I'm absolutely thrilled with that number. It feels like we are coming out on the other side of this pandemic. The Wednesday Bible Study begins again at 9:30 am. As the soft opening continues, I'm hoping that the evening classes will begin also.

Next week we will most likely be announcing our new administrator. We had excellent people apply.

Time to get back to my cave day. A final reminder that we will celebrate communion and so if you care to join, have bread/wine/grape juice/cracker ready to online hear the good news of God's forgiveness and promises of grace.

Blessings,

Pastor Martin