

(1 John 1:6-2:2, NIV84)

"If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world."

Research has shown that UV rays (Ultraviolet rays from the sun) instantly kill the coronavirus. That means that if we walk in sunlight, all surfaces exposed to the light will be virus free. There is even a new technology being developed that will allow doctors to insert a catheter, conveying UV light, right into the lungs to kill COVID-19. Basically, it's like orthoscopic surgery to remove the coronavirus. That's pretty amazing stuff!

Light is not only good for the body, but also good for the soul. I'm not talking about sunlight, but about the light of the Son. You and I know full well what walking in darkness will produce: guilt, shame, regret, pain, sorrow. These are but a few of the side-effects of sin. If left untreated sin will result in death -- not just temporal death, but eternal death.

Thankfully, God was not content to allow us to languish in darkness. He send Jesus to redeem us and to be our advocate before God's holy throne. "For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6). It wasn't with a special catheter, but rather with God's holy Word that His light now shines in our hearts. Sin is now destroyed and we will live, not just temporally, but eternally! That is amazing grace!

Walking with you in the light of Christ,
Pastor Golm

May 13

We Have a Representative

If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 John 2:1

Does our conscience bother us? Are we afraid to face God? If so would we welcome the opportunity of having someone talk to God for us?

There is someone who is willing and able to do that very thing! The Bible tells us in simple language: "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And he is the propitiation [reconciliation] for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:1-2).

An advocate is a representative, an attorney, one who talks to the judge for us. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is our eternal advocate before the eternal Judge on high. Of him the Bible says: "He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25).

He is the only advocate, the only One who has been divinely empowered to represent the sinner before the court of heaven. St. Paul says: "There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:5-6). Through Christ, and through Christ alone, we have free access to the Father-heart of God.

What a comfort in days of sorrow, particularly when our heart is weighted down with the heavy burden of guilt or shame, to know that we have a representative in heaven, and to know that because he has died for us, he has won for us a place in the Father-heart of God! He is indeed able to save us "to the uttermost".

He lives to bless me with His love, He lives to plead for me above,
He lives to calm my troubled heart, He lives all blessings to impart!

P.S. If you would like to check out Messiah's website, go to:
messiahlutheranchurchandpreschool.com