



**HOLY REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**35660 CEDAR BLVD**  
**NEWARK, CA 94560**

*Oct 20, 2021 Devotion*



[CHECK OUT OUR TRI-CITIES ELCA E-NEWSLETTER!](#)

**HRLC Church Office**  
**Telephone:**  
**510-793-1911**

Our Staff & Volunteers:  
Pastor: Barbara Caine  
Music Director: Dot W  
Pastor Emeritus: Robert W  
Office: Penny Y  
Pianist: Fredric Z  
Tech Team: Jay S; Kristin B  
Council Pres: Kristin B

HRLC Zoom Meeting ID:  
510-793-1911 Password 35

*Announcements:*

- In-Person AND Zoom Sunday Worship every Sunday morning with Communion at 10:00AM

**Devotion by Pastor Barbara**  
**Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, Newark**

**A Bit of History - The Luthers During a Pandemic**

This week, we celebrate the 504<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Happy Reformation! Did you know that Martin and Katy Luther dealt with a deadly viral pandemic, too? In August of 1527, when their oldest child, Hans, was 2 and Katy was five months pregnant with their second child, the Bubonic Plague came to their hometown of Wittenberg, Germany. Yikes! You can imagine the fear and panic that ensued. 25 million people, in Europe alone, had died of this disease during the 1300s, but in the 1500's a new variant developed. Sound familiar? As you can imagine, fear and misinformation ran riot. People began fleeing Wittenberg in droves.



Katy and Martin Luther chose to stay and help. "Herr Katy," as Martin affectionally called her, was described by a contemporary as, "healthy, strong, frank, intelligent and high-minded." I would add practical and capable, as she proceeded to set up a ward on their estate to take care of those who were left behind while Martin continued to minister to and advise others, with familiar sounding advice.

He wrote:

Therefore I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine, and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance infect and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely, as stated above. See, this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God (Luther's Works, v. 43, p. 132).



- Sunday school 11AM  
in-person and via Zoom

### **Coming Soon!**

Virtual Christmas Pageant  
on December 12th! Email  
Pastor Barbara at  
holyredeemer@hrlc-  
newark.org for more  
information or to sign up,  
or call pastor at  
209-985-1340.

For ZOOM Instructions:

Personal ID # is the church  
phone number 510-793-1911  
and the password is 35. Be  
sure to text Pastor Barbara  
(host) if you're having trouble  
getting online! (209) 985-1340.

- Remember our email  
prayer chain. Send an  
email to  
enshaffer@sbcglobal.c  
om to request or offer  
prayers.
- Look for a devotion  
each week in your  
email.
- Note: We are having  
technical difficulties  
with the Giving venue  
on our website. Please  
send your donation or  
check to HRLC at  
35660 Cedar Blvd.,  
Newark, CA. 94560, or  
drop it in the mail slot.

So sorry for the inconvenience!

### **Other Announcements:**

See the Tri-cities ELCA E-  
newsletter above for more  
announcements

The small Luther family did not contract the disease and, for Katy and Martin, their nightmare ended shortly before their daughter Elisabeth was born in December of 1527 as the disease had run its course.

I am grateful that we have such a heritage of faith and practicality. We, too, have been called to be careful and to help, and to be helped! As we begin to spend more time in each other's company, it is still important to follow Martin's advice, to wash our hands, keep a distance to keep our neighbor's safe, but it is also important to (safely) come back together, because that is what people of God do, if necessary on Zoom or outside, but regardless, through thick and thin, we are together in the presence of Christ!

In Christ,  
Pastor Barbara



### **About Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, Newark:**

Our Mission is to be a Christ-Centered, Inclusive  
Community by:

- \* Reaching out to all,
- \* Sharing the word of God in service and love,  
and
- \* Encouraging, nurturing, and empowering  
ALL for ministry.

### **HRLC Every Sunday Morning:**

We have resumed In-Person Worship with safety

protocols while concurrently worship virtually via Zoom, 10:00AM. For those who feel more comfortable worshipping via Zoom, the login & passcode are as follows:

ZOOM INFO - Zoom Meeting ID 510-793-1911  
Password 35

Zoom Coffee Time with Pastor Barbara and friends - Following Live Worship

We welcome all people at the Lord's Table, regardless of age, gender, background, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or prior religious experience.

Music Ministry - A celebration of Christ through music. If you are interested in playing a musical instrument, sing, hand bells, or joining the Sunday morning worship team, please let us now. Currently on hiatus due to the pandemic.

Sunday School & Youth Group- Sunday mornings for all ages. Bible stories, sing songs, play games and make fun crafts! Adults are welcome. In-person Sunday school and via Zoom, 11:00AM.

Confirmation - Confirmation classes at Holy Redeemer are scheduled from September through June for junior high & high school students. Contact Pastor Barbara or telephone the church office for more information.



**Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church of Newark  
"Sharing God's Love With All"**

**35660 Cedar Boulevard  
Newark, CA 94560  
Phone:(510) 793-1911**

**church website: [www.hrlc-newark.org](http://www.hrlc-newark.org)  
church office email: [office@hrlc-newark.org](mailto:office@hrlc-newark.org)  
pastor's email: [pastor@hrlc-newark.org](mailto:pastor@hrlc-newark.org)**

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