

January 14, 2023

# THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST



## The Lamb Wins

### Pastor John and his Churches — Part 1

Message Text: Revelation 2

#### 8:30 am Worship

Call to Worship

*"Crown Him with Many Crowns,"*

#62 Red Hymnal

*Sanctity of Life Sunday*

Melinda Gardner, APPLE PCC

*"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us,"*

#294 Red Hymnal

Message: Pastor Kirk Militzer

*"In Christ Alone,"* Music in Bulletin

Benediction

#### 10:30 am Worship

*"Your Name is Holy"*

Call to Worship

*"Lord, I Need You"*

*"Is He Worthy"*

*Sanctity of Life Sunday*

Melinda Gardner, APPLE PCC

Message: Pastor Kirk Militzer

*"There is One Gospel"*

Blessing

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***We are a church family eagerly responding to Jesus  
as He transforms our world.***

— [c3ec.org/vision](http://c3ec.org/vision)

**Bethesda Lutheran Brethren Church**

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## BURDENSOME "HOLINESS"

Holiness is my performance for God (and for others who might be watching).

I can dress myself up, but I feel like God knows the truth. I look pretty ugly to him, not at all holy.

I try to work on being holy, but it's hard and I fail all the time. I feel as if Jesus is looking down on me, impatient, and constantly disappointed in what he sees.

I want to go to heaven, so I guess I better work on holiness.

Being holy is first of all about measuring up to external rules others will notice and approve of.

I feel a need to define holiness in ways that make it doable on my own, so I end up compromising with morality and worldly idols—and trying to hide those compromises.

My holiness is mostly limited to a physical set-apart-ness. It's about what I may watch, where I may go, whom I may be with, etc.

Holy living is chiefly about withdrawing from the culture around me in an attempt to stay pure.

## BEAUTIFUL HOLINESS

Holiness is God's beauty-making project in me (which I get to join in on). "May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through" (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

Praise God! I know that in the past, at the cross, Jesus died for my sin and God declared me holy. *Holy* is my identity before God—who I really am. "You were washed, you were sanctified" (1 Corinthians 6:11).

Praise God! I know that in the present God is actively working in my life, patiently teaching me to live like the holy person I am. What a privilege! What loving care! "We all... are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Praise God! I know that in the future, when this life is over, God will make my holiness complete. Holiness now is hard, but I work at it because I'm eager to live like a citizen of heaven, bound to feast with Jesus. "When Christ appears, we shall be like him" (1 John 3:2).

Being holy is first of all an attitude of my heart. "Create in me a pure heart, O God" (Psalm 51:10).

Jesus is my captain in my fight for holiness, so I take on all holy-living challenges and dare to expose all kinds of sin in my life. "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7).

My holiness goes deeper, becoming a character set-apart-ness. It's about how I love, rejoice, repent, trust God, put myself last, etc. "Set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12).

Holy living is chiefly about reaching out to others and sacrificially loving them in an attempt to display the beauty of Jesus. "Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart" (1 Peter 1:22).

# ***The Revelation of Jesus Christ***

## ***Pastor John and his Churches — Part 1***

### **Revelation 2**

#### ***The structure of each letter to each church***

P\_\_\_\_\_ E\_\_\_\_\_ P\_\_\_\_\_ \*

Overcome is used in Rev. 6:2 (twice); 11:7; 12: 11; 13:7; 15:2; 17:14; 21:7

1. Ephesus church - the test of leaving your first love ( vs. 1 – 7)

R\_\_\_\_\_ R\_\_\_\_\_ R\_\_\_\_\_

2. The church in Smyrna — the test of s\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8–11)
3. The church in Pergamum — the test of c\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12–17)
4. The church in Thyatira — test of h\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 18–29)

#### ***How does this relate to disciples of Jesus?***

##### **► Be mentored**

- First love leaver — Saul — 1 Samuel 9–13
- Suffer — Polycarp — [www.christianity.com/church/church-history/timeline/1-300/polycarp-11629601.html](http://www.christianity.com/church/church-history/timeline/1-300/polycarp-11629601.html)
- Compromise — Samson — Judges 13 -16
- (anti) Holiness — Jezebel 1 Kings 16–21; 2 Kings 9

##### **► Meditate** on Burdensome Holiness vs Beautiful Holiness

##### **► Watch a Movie:** *The Pilgrim's Progress*

Go to: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksu-zTG9HHg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksu-zTG9HHg)  
Or use the QR Code at Right



# Prayer Focuses for this Week

## Across the Street

**THIS WEEK:** *Pray for those who have been touched and impacted by the tragedy of abortion. May we care and love those who have experienced this reality.*

*Pray that the Lord would pour out His Spirit as our Elders meet next weekend for their annual retreat. .*

## Prayer for our Schools:

**THIS WEEK:** *Pray for students and faculty at McKinley Charter School.*

## Around the World

**THIS WEEK:** *Continue to pray for Matt and Christina Smith as Matt searches for a job and the family tries to figure out where God is calling them next.*

**Other things to pray for:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## January Daily Prayer Notes from LBIM

Daily Prayer Notes from Lutheran Brethren  
International Mission. Download: [LBIM Daily Prayer  
Notes](#)

If you'd like a printed copy of this month's  
Daily Prayer Notes, please e-mail the office, and  
we'll send one out to you. ([office@c3ec.org](mailto:office@c3ec.org))



# KIDS SERMON NOTE SHEET

JANUARY 14, 2024

CAN YOU FIND EACH OF THESE CITIES ON THE MAP?

- \_\_\_\_\_ EPHEBUS
- \_\_\_\_\_ SMYRNA
- \_\_\_\_\_ PERGANUM
- \_\_\_\_\_ THYATIRA
- \_\_\_\_\_ SARDIS
- \_\_\_\_\_ PHILADELPHIA
- \_\_\_\_\_ LAODICEA

CIRCLE THE ONES PASTOR KIRK READS ABOUT TODAY.



CIRCLE ANY WORDS THAT YOU HEAR:

PRESENTS

EXAMINES

PROMISES

REMEMBER

REPENT

REPEAT

MAKE A TALLY MARK  
EVERY TIME YOU HEAR  
PASTOR KIRK SAY THE  
WORD "CHURCH":



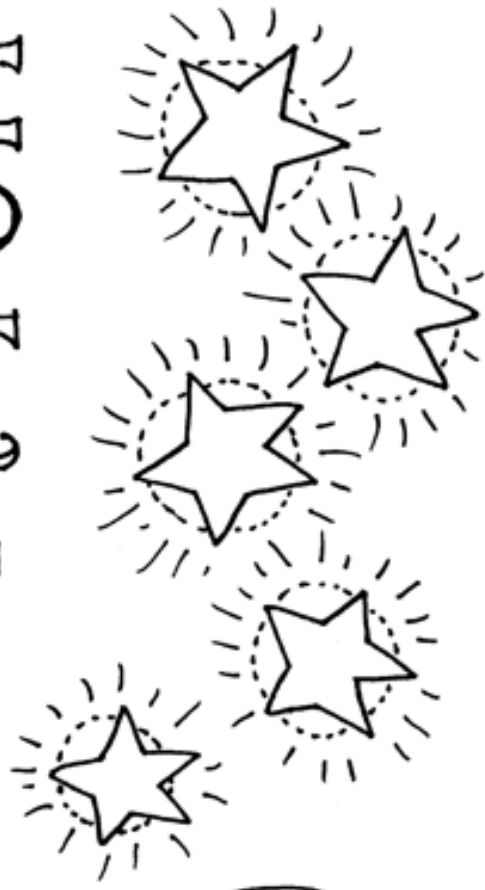
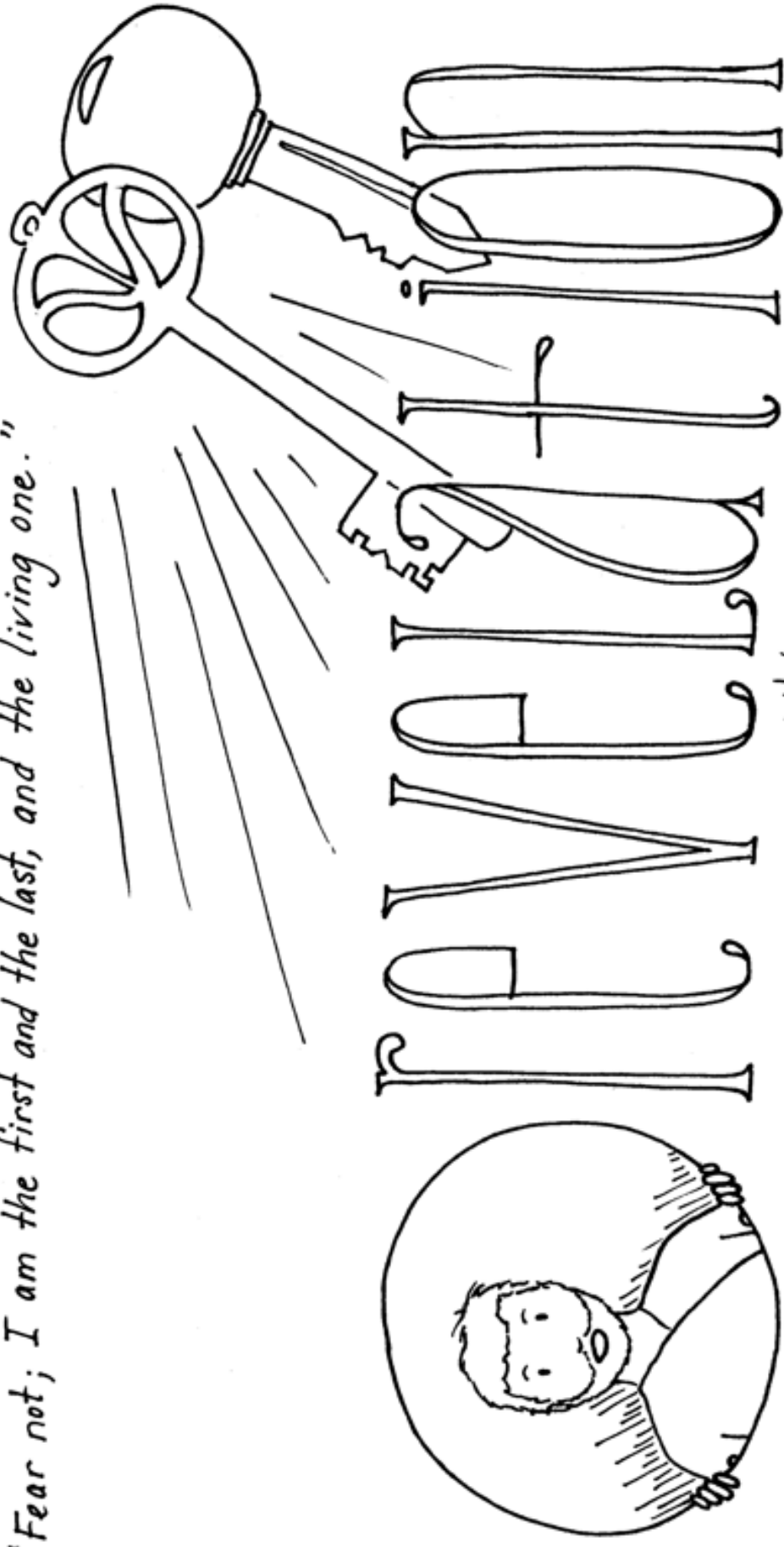
TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

LET'S THINK ABOUT THE BIG WHO.  
WHAT'S IS ONE PROMISE GOD MAKES IN THIS  
PASSAGE?





*"Fear not; I am the first and the last, and the living one."*



*Mandy Groce '17*

[ministry-to-children.com](http://ministry-to-children.com)

# Sunday Gathering Notes

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Worship Service: \_\_\_\_\_

What grade are you in: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you prepared to be with God and community today? I feel . . .

- ☐ Great! I'm ready to be here!
- ☐ Neutral. I'm here, and that's fine.
- ☐ Distracted. I have a lot of things on my mind.
- ☐ Like I'd rather be someplace else. I'm not in the mood.

Who is giving the sermon today? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the sermon text for the message? \_\_\_\_\_

List the main points of the message or attach the fill-in-the-blank statements from the bulletin.

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One part of the service that made a special impact on me today was:

- ☐ Music or Song
- ☐ Prayer Time
- ☐ Scripture Reading
- ☐ The Sermon
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Why? (Describe how this part of the service impacted you) \_\_\_\_\_

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How is God inviting you to trust him from the worship service? \_\_\_\_\_

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How have you been encouraged in your relationship with God today?

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How is God inviting you to apply something you heard today to your life?

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What verse could you re-read, memorize, or carry with you this next week?

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How can we pray for you this week? \_\_\_\_\_

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# Online Study Resources

Here are some resources that we think can help you grow in your relationship with God:

**RightNow Media:** The cost is covered. It's like a Netflix of Bible Studies with content for kids, students, and adults. Create your account with this link: [www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/bethesdalutheran](http://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/bethesdalutheran)

**Bible.com:** <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans> — YouVersion — lots of versions of Scripture, lots of reading plans

**Biblegateway.com:** <http://biblegateway.com> — Another website with lots of versions of Scripture, study helps, and reading plans

**Daily Quiet Time from IVP:** <https://www.ivpress.com/daily-bible-study> — A daily Bible study resource from InterVarsity

**Devotional Life:** <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/topics/devotional-life> — Devotional resources from The Gospel Coalition

**The Gospel One Chapter at a Time:** <https://www.paultripp.com/bible-study> — A resource from Paul Tripp Ministries.

**The Bible Project:** <https://bibleproject.com> — Great teaching videos and study ideas to help you learn more about what the Bible says.



(Links in this PDF are live. Click on them to open a URL.)

**Our Weekly E-mail:** [c3ec.org/weekly-newsletter](https://c3ec.org/weekly-newsletter) — One of our main ways of communicating with you. E-mails go out on Wednesday afternoons.

**Our Website:** [www.c3ec.org](https://www.c3ec.org) — You will typically find a link to our YouTube channel as well as sermon notes and kids' sermon notes at the top of our main page.

**ChurchCenterApp:** [Download at the App Store for iOS](#) or at [Google Play for Android](#) devices — Find weekly services, event sign-ups, our church directory, and do online giving. Previous sermons are also available on the app.

**Streaming Services:** [blbc.online.church](https://blbc.online.church) — This is our website for live-streaming all our worship services. You can access bulletins, resources, participate in live chat or live prayer, and view previous services here.

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/BethesdaLBC](https://www.facebook.com/BethesdaLBC) — Announcements, updates, and other ministry resources.

**Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/bethesdalutheran\\_ec](https://www.instagram.com/bethesdalutheran_ec) — Music and encouragement, mostly from Aaron!

**YouVersion Bible App:** [www.youversion.com/the-bible-app](https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app) — A popular Bible application offering dozens of translations as well as devotionals and reading plans. You can also connect with others through the app.