

8-29-21

Reminders

There are many things in life that we don't really forget, but we may go a long time without thinking about them. It's probably different things for different people. It may be car maintenance, furnace filters, permit or license renewals, birthdays or anniversaries. It's not that we don't know about them. We could mark the right answer if someone gave us a test. We just don't bring them to mind real often.

For some of these things we set some sort of reminder (or the car does it for us). With a little bit of effort and know-how, we can use our phones to make sure none of them get forgotten. Some folks still write things down on a paper calendar, which works great as long as you maintain the habit of actually looking at the calendar every day.

The memorial we're celebrating today predates both smart phones and paper calendars. This is one Jesus set up Himself around 2000 years ago. I'd say it's pretty effective, too, because it is still accomplishing its intended purpose. We participate in the Lord's Supper to proclaim and remember His death as He sacrifices His own life to pay the full penalty for the sins of the world. The elements are simple: bread and juice. The meaning behind them is far from simple or insignificant, though. The event we remember was the culmination of God's plans to save His creation, set in motion when creation began. The wisdom and intricacy of how events were woven together to accomplish God's purpose is truly unfathomable. The degree of love and mercy demonstrated in Jesus' death on a cross is truly stunning. His victory over death is even greater than that.

Today, we bring all of this to mind. We don't deserve to receive such mercy, but we have and we will.

Prayer:

Precious Father, Thank you for the sacrifice Jesus made and for this time when we specifically bring it to mind. Thank you for choosing to love us, when we are so undeserving. Thank you for forgiving our sins, and for paying the penalty for them Yourself. Please bless the bread and juice that remind us of Jesus' body and blood. May we never forget these things or the hope you have given us. We ask that you enable us to keep this memorial in a worthy manner. We confess we're not worthy on our own. Help us all to remain in You. In Jesus' precious and holy name we pray, amen.