

## KEEPING A HOLY LIFE

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 17, 2022

Genesis 18:1-10a [10b-14]

Psalm 27: 1-14

Colossians 1:21-29

Luke 10:38-42

Monday, July 11

Exodus 18:1-12

Colossians 1:27—2:7

Psalm 119:97-104

Thursday, July 14

Esther 2:19—3:6

Acts 1:15-20

Psalm 138

Tuesday, July 12

Proverbs 9:1-18

1 John 2:1-6

Psalm 119:97-104

Friday, July 15

Esther 3:7-15

Acts 2:22-36

Psalm 138

Wednesday, July 13

Deuteronomy 12:1-12

John 6:41-51

Psalm 119:97-104

Saturday, July 16

Esther 4:1-17

Luke 8:22-25

Psalm 138

**Prayer of the Day** – Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; that You may hear our petitions. In all things, help us to ask for what will please You; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

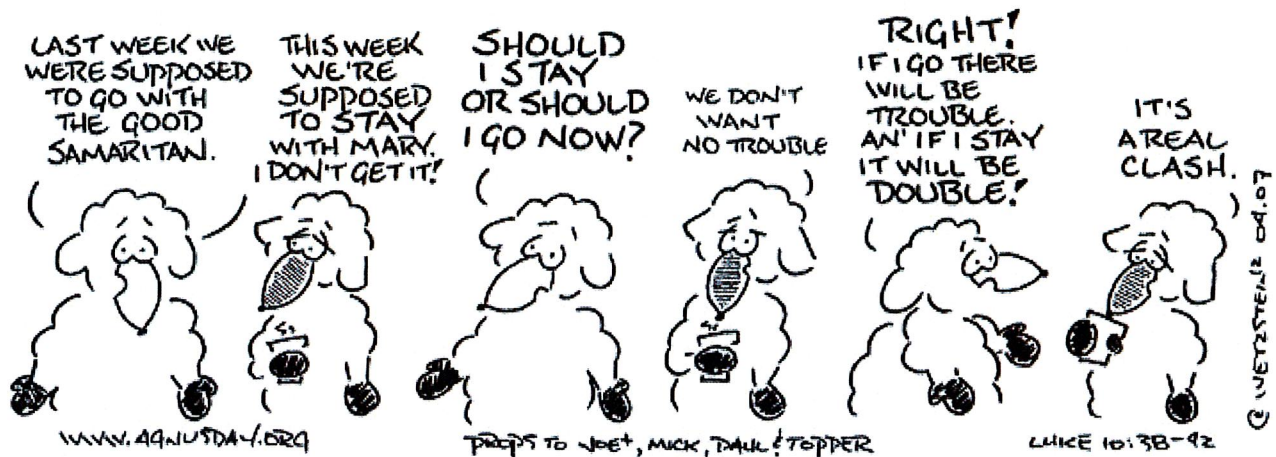
**Readings for next Sunday:** 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 24, 2022

Genesis 18:20-32

Psalm 138

Colossians 2:6-19

Luke 11:1-13



**Listening for the Promise**  
**Weekly Devotional**  
**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – July 17, 2022**

*“But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary.” -Luke 10:41-42b*

Martha isn't your typical sinner we find throughout the Gospels. She's not a tax collector that steals money from others. She doesn't lie, as far as we are aware. She's not a murderer or adulterer. She's a worrier. Who doesn't worry about something? Why is that so bad? Well, when we worry, it demonstrates a lack of trust in God. Jesus commands us not to worry: "I tell you, do not be anxious about your life" (Matt. 6:25). So if God tells us not to do something, and we do it anyway, we're disobedient to God. This form of sin is easily brushed under a rug. We try to downplay the significance of it. But as is often the case with sin, one sin leads to another. Martha isn't just worried. She's worried and anxious about many things, like getting housework done and being a good hostess. In addition, she despises God's Word in this account. That might seem harsh, but it is true. Martha is upset with Mary because Mary is listening to Jesus. Our brokenness would expect Jesus to pat Mary on the back, encouraging her, thanking her for her service. But he admonishes her instead! And he says that Mary is the one doing what's most important. Martin Luther's Small Catechism addresses the Third Commandment: "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy." Luther goes on to explain, "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise his Word and the preaching of it, but acknowledge it as holy, and gladly hear and learn it." Mary takes a break from work, and we all need to. Otherwise, overworking can lead to burnout. But Sabbath is more than just taking a break." Sabbath is resting in God's Word. So Mary sits at her Lord's feet and listens. But Martha works and worries. Not only that, she complains to Jesus about her sister (see Lk. 10:40b). Martha is upset that Mary is listening to God's Word. Jesus responds, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary" (Lk. 10:41-42). One thing is necessary. We are all guilty of being like Martha. We work too hard, worry too much, and yes, at times, we despise God's Word. May we acknowledge God's Word has holy, and gladly hear it and learn it. When we do, we find that God gives us strength to endure another week of work and worry.....

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