



The Footsteps of Paul

November 23

The Footsteps of Paul: Mykonos and Santorini

A Bible Study at St. John Lutheran Church

Mykonos

Mykonos is known as “The Island of the Winds” and is famous for its iconic windmills and the vibrant Little Venice neighborhood. It boasts as many as 1,500 churches, including the unique Panagia Paraportiani. According to myth, the island’s rocky landscape was formed by the petrified bodies of giants killed by Hercules, which also gives it the meaning of a “rocky place.”



Santorini

Santorini is named after Saint Irene of Thessalonica, a Christian martyr of the 4th century. The island was formed by a massive volcanic eruption that occurred around 3,600 years ago, and it is still an active volcano. It is famous for its white buildings with blue doors and domes, unique wines, and the famous Akrotiri archaeological site. The island contains 1,236 churches.

Did the Apostles ever travel to these islands?

How did the Gospel reach them?

Why would these communities build so many chapels?

Do you think the church meets too little or too often?

Would you be open to another weekly morning prayer service?

What responsibilities do you have when it comes to your spiritual life?

Why do many people have a disconnect between life and faith?

“I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins. I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most.” – Individual Confession and Absolution, LSB, 292

Acts 2:42-47

To what did the early church devote themselves?

What was the rhythm of their spiritual lives?

“Come to the church! You can do that on the strength of your human freedom. You can leave your house on Sunday and go to hear the preaching. If you do not do it, then you willfully exclude yourself from the place where faith is possible. In this the Lutheran confessions show that they know there is a situation which enables faith and one in which faith is not possible.” - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Psalm 119:9-16

What is unique about Psalm 119?

How do we store up God’s Word?

What does meditation look like to the Hebrew Psalmist?

Psalm 119:33-40

What does the Psalmist desire God to do for him?

How does the Psalmist view God’s rules?

From what does the Psalmist desire to turn his eyes?

What practices might these passages suggest?

Psalm 119:104-105 Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.