

Pastor Brian's
Mid Week Message
May 5, 2021

"A FORETASTE!"

"Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." (Revelation 19:9)

It's been a busy day. Starting off with Men's Breakfast, then a trip up to Venice for my regular Wednesday morning tennis group. This was the first truly "sweltering" session that we've endured this year. The combination of heat,



humidity, intense sunshine, and a lack of wind was almost too much for us...almost. Which is a good thing because what we felt out there today is but a "foretaste" of what's to come over the summer months into early fall. It's been this hot before, yesterday I measured 96 for the maximum temperature on my home weather station, but I know the heat will be turned up a few more notches soon. But today it was that little boost in the humidity and the lack of a breeze that nearly did us in. When I got home the wind speed that was measured was 2.2mph. According to National Weather Service guidelines anything less than 3mph is reported as calm. There was no "wind chill factor" for any of us today!

Getting back to Men's Breakfast, I tried to prepare myself for what was to come. I ordered, and consumed, 2 eggs and 1 pancake (no syrup). I wanted to maximize my protein intake and get in a few carbs, but not "carbo-load". We had a great time! 11 of us made it and enjoyed a good devotion, good company and fellowship and some very good food. This too could be described as a "foretaste" of the future fellowship and food that will be ours forever in heaven. Revelation chapter 19 speaks of marriage of the Lamb and His Bride (the Church) along with the marriage supper of the Lamb. I'm really looking forward to that one as it will last forever. To me, that has to be heaven! As we gather in worship and are fed with the body and blood of our



Lord Jesus Christ in His Holy Supper, we have a true foretaste of that feast which is to come. The Lord prepares for us a table, even in the presences of our enemies (Psalm 23:5a), which are the devil and his minions, so that we may be fed with the Bread of Life and drink of the cup of Christ's "lifeblood", of righteousness and blessedness. Nourished for our earthly journey and freshly forgiven of all our sins we are prepared to move forward with the mission that God has placed us in this world to carry out. That is, of proclaiming His love in Christ Jesus to all the people who come across our path. Sometimes that might be met with a little "sweltering heat" from those on the receiving end of that message but empowered by the Spirit of God in us and nourished in Word and Sacrament we have all the strength and energy we need to keep on going until He calls us home to eternal rest, and to that eternal feast. There I can have all the eggs and pancakes I want, and syrup too.