



Impressions from the summer conference in Gothenburg



After several summers apart, it felt unbelievable to be reunited with the Corpus Christi community, which, to my happy surprise, had grown with many new faces. In addition to Christian fellowship and liturgical prayers, I was uplifted greatly by the theme of the conference. In facing trials and hardships in life, Fear not - instead, turn your eyes to Jesus who calms the storms. (Anni Erkkilä, Finland)



Info about the conference 2023

- Time:** 24th to 28th of July
- Place:** To be announced
- Theme:** To be announced
- Main Speaker:** To be announced

Stay up to date by checking our website: www.corpuschristi.eu

Please keep in your prayers:

- the planning of next year's conference
- an end to the covid crisis
- peace in Europe, especially in Ukraine
- unity in faith and truth amongst Christians
- repentance and renewal in our countries
- workers for the harvest in the Kingdom of God

Already missing your friends from Corpus Christi, or feeling bummed out that you missed this summer's conference entirely? We have great news for you: You do not have to wait until next summer! The Finnish CC working group is excited to invite you to spend the New Year's in Loimaa, Finland on 29/12-1/1: Take out your calendars and book the dates! More information to follow!

Corpus Christi was an experience, that I never had before. As a first time attendant I never expected that I would enjoy it so much. The things that specifically stuck out to me were the great lutheran theology from inspiring speakers and to meet so many young Lutherans with their fascinating stories and churches they originate from. Overall I can recommend everyone to attend, you won't regret it! (Steffen Even, Germany)



With this being my first Corpus Christi conference, I was so amazed by how people from various parts of the world can come together and have the same belief. It was encouraging to meet other siblings in Christ and to know that there are so many great people with whom we share our faith. (Anna Rita Gailite, Latvia)



Bible reading and devotional:

The younger son said: I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. **I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.**' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. **I am no longer worthy to be called your son.**' **But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him.'** (Luke 15:18-22)

The lost son prepares himself, before he returns home. He cannot bring any presents. But he carefully selects every word that he wants to say. And then he also said these very words, 'I am no longer worthy to be called you son.' And he was about to continue speaking, but his father, who had already embraced and kissed him, didn't even listen anymore. Instead he told his servants to prepare the feast of return.

Sometimes even we have to be interrupted when we talk to God. Indeed, we are supposed to confess our sins. Indeed, we should talk heart to heart with God and tell him what deeply bothers us. Indeed, we ought to ask him for guidance. But all of that is not enough. God himself rises to speak and interrupts us, when we are about to say, 'Treat me as one of your hired servants.' The son confessed his sins, but his father had the best robe be brought, as if to say: 'You are clothed with Christ's righteousness. Your sins are forgiven.' He still was starving. And how often had he lamented over this? But now the father, without asking, commanded the most delicious dishes to be prepared. Maybe the son was still anxious and thought: Never ever may I repeat such a decision as I made when I ran away. But the father wanted nothing but this: to celebrate his son's return together with him. To share everything with him. To share the joy of return and the path forward into the future.

Prayer: Our Father, we thank you that you have found us who were lost. Help us not only to speak but also to listen to you. Help us to take to heart your word of forgiveness, your word of salvation from misery, your word of guidance, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Quote from a Church Father: Martin Luther's Preface to the New Testament:

"For Gospel is a Greek word, and means in Greek, a good message, good tidings, good news, a good report, which one sings and tells with rejoicing. So, when David overcame the great Goliath, there came among the Jewish people the good report and encouraging news that their terrible enemy had been smitten and they had been rescued and given joy and peace; and they sang and danced and were glad for it.

So the Gospel, too, is a good story and report, sounded forth into all the world by the apostles, telling of a true David who strove with sin, death, and devil, and overcame them, and thereby rescued all those who were captive in sin, afflicted with death, and overpowered by the devil; He made them righteous, gave them life, and saved them, so that they were given peace and brought back to God. For this they sing, and thank and praise God, and are glad forever, if only they believe firmly and are steadfast in faith.

Now to strengthen this faith, God promised this Gospel and testament in many ways, by the prophets in the Old Testament, as St. Paul says, in Romans 1:1, 'I am separated to preach the Gospel of Christ, which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scripture, concerning His Son, who was born of the seed of David, etc.' To indicate some of these places: — He gave the first promise, when He said to the serpent, in Genesis 3:15, 'I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; he shall tread on thy head and thou shalt sting his heel.' Christ is the seed of this woman, and He has trodden upon the devil's head, i.e., sin, death, hell, and all his power, for without this seed, no man can escape sin, death, or hell."

The New Testament which Luther translated from Greek into German starting in December 1521 was published in September 1522, 500 years ago. Until 1533 Luther's translation was published in 85 editions.

Bible Verse of Encouragement: The Lord said to Paul one night in a vision: Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you. (Acts 18:9-10)

Check out the lectures of this year's conference by Pastor David Preus and past lectures (scroll down):

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