



Life Quotes from Lutherans For Life

Congregational Bulletin Blurbs for January–December 2019

Share the For Life message all year long with Life Quotes!

- Life Quotes are quotations on life issues—many from LFL resources and publications—for use in weekly congregational bulletins. You are also free to use the quotations in your monthly newsletter.
- The quotes are dated but could generally be used any time.
- We ask that Life Quotes be printed as written, in their entirety.
- Life Quotes are available—free of charge—at www.lutheransforlife.org.

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Note: Thank you for using Life Quotes in your weekly bulletin. You may also wish to regularly use the following text to offer hope and help to those hurting from an abortion decision.

Please consider including the following in your bulletins/newsletters:

“Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888.217.8679.”

Free, downloadable Word of Hope ads are available at www.lutheransforlife.org/media/downloads.

January 6 “For Christians, then, ‘too many people’ is impossible. Each additional person affords another opportunity to love and give in the way that brings God Himself the highest joys. And in the neediness of every neighbor more, we encounter and embrace Christ Jesus (Matthew 25:40).” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 13 “If God places such high value on life—all life (John 3:16)—how can we possibly be less concerned? We do love others because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). We speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves (Proverbs 31:8) because when we had no voice, no standing, no defense, Jesus stepped in on our behalf. There is no way we can be less loving.” *Christian Life Resources – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 20 “Sixty million unborn children have died as a result of the Supreme Court’s *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions. However, through the right-to-life movement’s determination to protect mothers and their children, we continue to see evidence that our efforts to educate America about the unborn child’s humanity, and our efforts to enact protective pro-life legislation, are having a tremendous impact in moving our nation away from *Roe*’s and *Doe*’s deadly legacy.” *Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 27 “The most fundamental fact of modern biology is that your body is in a continual state of change and development from cradle to grave. Yet, through all the changes, your identity remains the same.” *Rev. Jonathan Lange, district life coordinator for the Wyoming District LCMS – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 3 “God has given each of us a limited time to be on this earth, a purpose for that time, and people to share that time with. Don’t wait for a near-death experience to teach you the lesson of appreciating to the fullest what God has given you. Life is too short.” *Diane E. Schroeder, former president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 10 “[T]here’s more ... more to life than sensual pleasures, more to love than the shriveled-up version that has captivated our Western imaginations. So today, ask yourself, ‘How am I responding to so great an expression of love as what God has shown us?’ Valentinus’s response was to give up his own life. For us, too, a kind of ‘death’ is required—a death to self, a death to the desires that our culture treats as ultimate. Now of course, guys, none of this lets you off the

hook with your wives. So don't forget the flowers." *John Stonestreet with Roberto Rivera, www.breakpoint.org – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 17 "Life is a gift not to be discarded. It can indeed make us weary when we do our work to proclaim life as valuable, and the world continues to abort babies and write prescriptions for people to commit suicide and minimize the value of life in so many ways. Yet, it is encouraging to know we have the gift of prayer to use to strengthen us, knowing the God of life is always in front of us guiding our way, always behind us holding us up, and always beside us keeping us focused and on the right course." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life regional director of Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 24 "And what about those mothers who acted on their fears and aborted their child? We need to be there for them as well, assuring them of a loving, merciful, forgiving God—reminding them that there is no sin that Jesus did not pay for on the cross!" *Duane Matz, former lay pastor with the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC) and Christian radio announcer. (For those who have made an abortion decision, there is a Word of Hope, Lutherans For Life's post-abortion healing ministry. Call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org.) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 3 "The next time you are burdened with guilt and wondering if God can really forgive you again, look to the cross of Jesus. There He proved His love by giving up His life to pay for your sin. Witness the supreme proof of your forgiveness, which God provided in the resurrection. There He removes all doubts about who He is and what He did for us. We have absolute certainty that we are forgiven and bound for heaven because of Jesus. It's the truth!" *Rev. Jonathan M. Kruschel, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 10 "People with disabilities and their families have much to offer the Body of Christ, but often the Church sees them as needy—as a mercy ministry—not as valued contributing members. Look for ways for each of them to serve, including the person with disability." *Mona Fuerstenau, Bethesda Lutheran Communities – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 17 "To be pro-life is to show that all life is precious, that the community of faith is there to support and help with every child. To be pro-life is to visit the elderly in the nursing home, to give them the dignity that they have as children of God. To be pro-life is to love the mothers, to love these women who are caught by circumstances, to help them with physical as well as spiritual needs." *Rev. Christopher Maronde, pastor of Saint John Lutheran Church, Decatur, Indiana – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 24 "The Virgin Mary's womb became the dwelling place of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the Word by whom all things were made. Within the first month, the heart of the Logos in human flesh was beating, like ours, with electrical impulses, pumping blood through His body, blood He would later shed for our sins. But the full miracle of the Incarnation was not just in seeing the Man in the flesh but much more: in Mary's Son we saw with our eyes real things that are only visible by their effects: divine mercy, love, compassion, faith, meekness, and justice." *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 31 "God is the ultimate Designer. He designed the greatest good the world has ever seen to come from the most heinous evil mankind has ever produced. You are never too stained for God to love. When you are feeling weak and foolish, give thanks to God for that, because that's exactly the kind of person that God likes to use." *Rev. Dan Larsen, pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Wabasso, Minnesota, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Sanborn, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 7 "Jesus came to save us, to show love to us; He came because He is pro-life, pro-eternal life, and He came to give eternal life to you, to me, to those children unwanted by anyone else, to those mothers who have fallen into sin, to the disabled and elderly forgotten by everyone else. Jesus came for you, not to condemn you, but to save you. He came to destroy death with all of its power over us, and His Easter victory, which we will celebrate very soon, is a day of life, eternal life, for all." *Rev. Christopher Maronde, pastor of Saint John Lutheran Church, Decatur, Indiana – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 14 “This Sunday, the church [invites] the world to remember the One who comes into the midst of a very fickle humanity—duplicity, defeat, violence, injustice, pain, and all. He comes near to good and bad intentions, near the ashes of what was meant to be honor, the ruins of attempts on our own. And despite our oscillating thoughts, despite the sin we cannot leave, He invites us into a disruptively different sort of story of defeat. The Son has made his triumphal entry. And yet He comes to bring us the cross, to the one sacrifice that speaks to the world’s pain.” *Jill Carattini, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 21 “When the devil speaks, do not believe the lies. Whether your life be young or old, the deceit of death will enter it. You will walk by caskets. You will lie in a hospital bed. You will hear the devil speak in his native language. His lies will come to you just as they did to me. See through his faulty speech. Recognize his broken narrative. Deny every phony word. Christ calls you a Christian, and the devil’s language holds no truth. When the deceit of death enters your life, listen to the truth Christ speaks on this day ... ‘He will speak again. You will visit family again. She will greet you again. Christ will rise again.’” *Rev. Paul Spaude, Martin Luther College – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 28 “Death is the enemy of the human race—an enemy no one can fight or avoid forever. But God has done a new thing—He has raised Jesus Christ from the dead, never to die again. What other god has done anything like that in all the stories and fables? But wait, there’s more. What god has ever promised to share everlasting life with everyone who trusts in Him? Only the true God. Only Jesus.” *Daily Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 5 “Whoa. What a cool thought! Before your parents ever laid eyes on you, before they fought over whether to name you John Jr. or Steven, God knew your name and He wanted you as his. In fact, it goes back further than you think. Before God even created the very first parents, He knew you were coming someday and He chose you, specifically you, for his team.” *Diane Kerr, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 12 “[I]t does not say that the honoring, serving, and obeying one’s parents is conditional or in response to their earning or deserving it. No, one is to love and cherish them as well as honoring, serving, and obeying them as if they were God Himself ... The good news is that where we have obviously failed, Jesus did not. He not only honored His step-father Joseph and his mother Mary, but also His heavenly Father. He offers you His payment for your sin and a place in God’s family, now and forever.” *Pastor Ricky Jacob, Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Church and preschool, Winnebago – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 19 “Both before and after their births, our children are precious lives belonging to God and redeemed by Him. (Their mothers are, too.) Each of our days is ordained by Him, including the challenging days of motherhood.” *Marie K. MacPherson, author of “Meditations on the Vocation of Motherhood” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 26 “Ascension Day, a holy day falling inconspicuously on a Thursday in May, is the conspicuous declaration that we are not left as orphans. In the same post-resurrection body that He invited Thomas to touch, Jesus invites us to full humanity even today. He ascended with a body, He shares in our humanity, extending His own body even now, promising to return for our own bodies. Christ is preparing a room for us, and we can know it is real because He himself is real.” *Jill Carattini, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 2 “Instead of dreaming of what your spouse will do for you, you should ask yourself, are you willing to serve him or her sacrificially? To paraphrase John F. Kennedy: Ask not what your spouse can do for you, rather ask what you can do for your spouse.” *Pastor Ricky Jacob, Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Church and preschool, Winnebago – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 9 “God’s Word resonates loudly the truth that EVERY life is a human being, SOMEONE created by GOD, and redeemed by the blood of His Son, Jesus Christ, and called into a relationship with God by the Holy Spirit. As Gospel-motivated voices for life, we MUST do our research, measure it against God’s plumb line, and speak up to expose the lies and proclaim the truth—God’s VOICE of TRUTH!” *Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 16 “The good things that fathers do for their children and give to their children are blessings from God, for fathers and mothers are God’s representatives to their children. As disciplinarians they are representatives of His holiness. As providers they are representatives of His goodness and generosity. As teachers of the Gospel they are representatives of His grace. And as representatives not only do they act toward their children on God’s behalf, they also demonstrate to them who their God is and what He is like, for it is His blessings that they bring to their children.” *From the “Lutheran Spokesman” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 23 “People with Alzheimer’s or dementia often tragically lose their short-term memory while the long-term memory continues. They may go back to the memories of the good old days. Those memories can bring peace and happiness. When the Holy Spirit, your perfect memory aid, reminds and re-teaches you everything about Jesus, He removes the bad memories of sin and punishment and fear. He replaces them with joy, confidence, hope, and forgiveness in Jesus. That results in a peace that goes beyond understanding and beyond this life.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 30 “No matter how unpredictable and out-of-control your life feels, Jesus is reigning, and He will continue to reign until the final enemy is under his feet (1 Corinthians 15:25). That doesn’t mean you will avoid the groaning of life in a broken world (Romans 8:22), but it does mean there’s nothing that can separate you from the loving and protecting hand of God.” *Paul David Tripp, pastor, author, and conference speaker – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 7 “Father, You are the Author of life, and we thank You for the gift that it is. Forgive us when we devalue it in any way. Heal our land from the scourge of legalized abortion and turn our hearts back to profound respect for all life. In Jesus’ name. Amen.” *Duane Matz, former lay pastor with the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC) and Christian radio announcer – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 14 “‘Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you,’ says God. Each life, before even coming into existence, God has cast His gaze upon, delighting in having us hear His voice and that we would be led home to Him.” *Rev. Perry Hart, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 21 “When you attend divine worship, remember only one thing is needful, attentiveness to Christ and His Word. He is Lord and Savior, and we live by every word that proceeds from His mouth. Over time, through hard times and good times, winter, spring, and summer, we will grow in Him. The season for fruit will come, a season of refreshment. But first, the hard work of the patient vinedresser.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 28 “May we always think of God’s created children—however they arrive in this world and wherever we find them in the age of this life—as full of value and purpose as God declares us to be. For ‘Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.’” *Rev. Perry Hart, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 4 “[L]et us consider how we can encourage one another, how we can help one another in these times in which we are overcome, how we can spur one another on to love and to good works, how we can gather together, not neglecting one another in meeting together but instead gathering in the presence of God, encouraging one another as we wait for that Day to finally appear.” *Rev. Dr. Tony Cook, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 11 “We are to long for the Lord’s coming and His presence. This longing can be cultivated through the Word and prayer. Immerse yourself in the Psalms. ‘Taste and see that the Lord is good.’ He will fill the hungry with good things.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 18 “Marriage and family, sexuality and procreation reflect the grace of God in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:32). Therefore, sexuality sought outside of marriage or exercised exclusively to gratify self and flesh’s appetites cheaply imitates, poorly substitutes for, and only incompletely apprehends the fullness of God’s blessing for it. Celebrating and engaging in the blessings of chastity, modesty, and even celibacy best protect and prepare the heart patiently awaiting His vocation to marriage. And taking one’s place within the Christian fellowship, whether as spouse or

single, leaves nothing lacking (Mark 10:29-30).” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 25 “The love of Jesus is not a pie-in-the-sky ideal for people He never knew; it was tangible, messy, and ultimately cost him His life. In Jesus, we see heaven on display in the hell of individual lives. If we seek to follow Him, vague ideals about tolerance must give way to flesh and blood reality—loving the all-too-human in front of us.” *Margaret Manning Shull, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 1 “A God who marks His covenanted people is telling them something important about the power of sex and its control and its proper place within the divine-human economy: It comes to us as a gift, to be used for its purposes and no other, and its abuse will sully the soul of man. Its proper use in marriage is a great mystery, a great gift which was given for the protection of all. It doesn’t always work out that way, sadly, but its imperfect practice is no excuse for throwing it all away for what we see today.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 8 “We speak truth and show love in reflection of His own toward us. We respect and protect even the least among us because we have received the same favor freely from Him. We treat both our life and our neighbor’s as privilege to us and treasure to God.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 15 “If you are facing a major decision right now, don’t be afraid! Ask the Lord to guide you and put your trust in Him. If God the Father was willing to guide His own Son’s caregivers this way, He will also guide you when you ask.” *Daily Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 22 “Let us stand firm for the rights of all people, especially for the most vulnerable, defenseless of them all, the unborn children ... The Church has confessed from the beginning that each life is created by God, that human life is the supreme gift of the Creator. Human life is not given unconditionally, but is given under the condition that we will be responsible for preserving it.” *Abbot Tryphon, Vashon Island, Washington – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 29 “Caring for the caregiver is just one more way that we as life-affirming Christians can be the hands and feet of Jesus and serve others as Christ has sacrificially served us.” *Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 6 “As Christians, we know that God loves all His children, even if they are unaware of their redemption in Jesus Christ. As advocates for life, we affirm the preciousness of human life as the key to virtually everything that matters, foundational to who we are and what we do as beings created in God’s image.” *Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz, executive director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C. – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 13 “We cannot claim to see God by His Word, to be followers and to not speak out against the hatred towards His creation that exists today. ‘Pro-choice’ is sitting in God’s throne and making decisions that only He should make. Euthanasia is also the same.” *Rev. Perry Hart, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 20 “No matter how hopeless and weak you think you are, you’ve been provided with all the grace you need to make it to the end. Future grace always carries with it the promise of present grace. God will provide everything you need until you see Him face to face (2 Peter 1:3).” *Paul David Tripp, pastor, author and conference speaker – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 27 “The Reformation properly belongs to the Lord God. He Himself makes and saves all the moments in human history. He alone sustains and claims all the movements in the entire universe. His unconditional love endows each human life with equally infinite value.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 3 “The same God who wonderfully formed you in the womb knows the number of hairs on your head. He will provide for you, and He will give you the strength and courage you need. If we fear God, we need fear no one else. You are not alone.” *Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 10 “In Christ, we are united as One Body, and as humans we are all of one race. Ethnicity should mean nothing for the Christian, and our parishes should demonstrate the truth of the ethnic diversity of the Kingdom of God. If we hold to racist beliefs, we only demonstrate how far we have distanced ourselves from the teachings of our Lord. Can a Christian be a racist? The answer is an emphatic NO!” *Abbot Tryphon, Vashon Island, Washington – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 17 “God’s labor of redeeming—Word become flesh, Christ reconciling the world by dying and rising again—proves all human beings precious ... His indiscriminating grace—not anyone’s age or appearance or ability, wherever we come from and whatever we have done—imparts sanctity and affirms significance to every member of the species homo sapiens.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 24 “May we thank the Lord always for valuing our lives enough to save them. For there is nothing greater to be thankful for today than a Father who spared not even the life of His Son to save ours. And trusting in this most precious work of Christ, we will arrive home again to share in a life that never ends.” *Rev. Perry Hart, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 1 “Here is why Christmas matters ... ‘[H]e too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death ...’ (Hebrews 2:14a). Imagine that. He needed a human body so it could be nailed to a cross. He needed human blood so it could be poured out as a sin offering for the world. For you. And it all started in Bethlehem. What can you say to that but ‘glory to God in the highest!’” *Pastor Mark Jeske, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 8 “The beginning of the Christmas Gospel reminds us of Mary’s condition. She is pregnant, with child ... The growth and development of a baby in the womb from just two tiny cells is a miracle ... After five weeks, the embryo is the size of a grain of rice. It has a brain and spinal cord. After six weeks, the heart is beating and you can see the eyes, ears, and head. After seven weeks, the arms, legs, and nose are visible. After eight weeks, the baby is only two centimeters long, but you can still see its fingers and toes. The perfect alignment and connection of every cell is a wondrous miracle. In the growth and development of every baby, we are participants in God’s gracious miracle of creation and new life.” *Bishop John F. Bradosky, North American Lutheran Church – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 15 “I would suggest that each of us, when we begin our Christmas preparations next year, spend a bit of time remembering those whose festival is not tinsel and toys, presents and packages. Let us ask the Lord to preserve the Savior’s followers who are hated and persecuted because our Lord of life is hated.” *Pastor Ken Klaus, speaker emeritus of “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 22 “Mary, like us, had her problems and her sinful nature to deal with, but in Spirit-worked faith she gave us a wondrous example of living faith, placing her Savior first. As we once more celebrate the day of our Savior’s birth, let us follow Mary’s example in celebrating the Christ Child with faith, humility, and joy! Have a Mary Christmas!” *Daily Devotions, Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life*

December 29 “The celebration of Christmas, the celebration of Epiphany, are celebrations of life, infant life. The salvation of the world, your salvation, began with conception; and the Christ child, your Savior Jesus, passed through every stage of life that you did, including many stages where it is legal to destroy nascent life in our country. Yes, we can adduce many passages from Scripture (and many insights from secular science) to prove that there is no essential difference between the embryo you once were from the child or adult you are today; but the greatest demonstration that all life is sacred comes from Christ Himself, whose journey to the cross began in the womb of Mary.” *Rev. Christopher Maronde, pastor of Saint John Lutheran Church, Decatur, Indiana – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*