

**Reverend George E. Murdaugh  
2009 Sermon Titles and Themes**

**Oak Road Lutheran Church**

<http://www.oakroadlutheranchurch.org>

**Sermon audio is available on the web at**

<http://www.websermons.org/>

**January 4, 2009**

**Journey of the Magi**

*Epiphany is a season of the Church Year that celebrates the Incarnation of Christ and prepares us for Lent and Easter--the fulfillment of His appearing. Epiphany celebrates that God has kept His promises and has sent His Son into the world to reveal the unfathomable depths of God's Love.*

**January 11, 2009**

**That We Might Walk in Newness of Life**

*Paul teaches in Romans 6 that the believer no longer needs to be bound to sin, but the believer's identification is with Christ in death, burial, and resurrection--I am in Christ and identified with Him.*

**January 18, 2009**

**O Lord, You Know Me**

*Perhaps you have heard of someone, he or she might be famous, but you really don't know them. Ps. 139 teaches us that God's knowledge of us is total; His presence with us is constant; His creation of us is for His purpose; His enemies are our enemies with whom we cannot compromise; and His ultimate work in me is salvation.*

**January 25, 2009**

**Is Real Change Possible**

*Barak Obama was elected and carried into office on the popular hope and belief that he would bring real change to the Office of the President and to the United States. So far, things don't look so good for the kind of change he promised--it's basically the same old, same old. But with God, real change is possible in our lives.*

**February 1, 2009**

**Would Someone Explain This to Me**

*St. Paul uses the occasion of the Corinthian question about meat offered to idols to teach a fundamental point on what it means to be a Christian community where everyone looks out for the opportunity to be a witness that encourages others, rather than use their supposed knowledge to drive others away from the Christ who died for them.*

**February 8, 2009**

**(no sermon audio available)**

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**February 15, 2009**

### **How Can Water Do This**

*How can water turn a Syrian General into a born again believer? How can water do the same thing in our lives?*

**February 22, 2009**

### **Finding God's Purposes in Uncertain Times**

*Perhaps it is time to repent of our proclivity for trying to server both God and Money. After all, Jesus did warn us that we can't do that. It is time to move away from the idolatry of the love money to the worship of the God of Love.*

**March 1, 2009**

**(no sermon audio available)**

**March 8, 2009**

### **Repent and Believe the Good News**

*Just feeling sorry for one's behavior or pledging to do better in the future is not true repentance. Repentance is a much deeper experience stemming from the right understanding of sin as an offense against a Holy God, and knowing that of ourselves we have no remedy for sin.*

**March 15, 2009**

### **We Preach Christ Crucified**

*In our series of messages on the fundamentals of the Christian experience, we take a look now at the full and free forgiveness of our sins by God for the sake of Jesus Christ.*

**March 22, 2009**

### **It Is the Gift of God**

*We discover why renewal is absolutely necessary once we have come to grips with our sin nature through repentance and forgiveness. Because once forgiven, we have to understand who we are so as not to return to who we were in the lost condition of sin.*

**March 29, 2009**

### **A New Covenant**

*Renewal in the Holy Spirit is a matter of the heart. The word of God is full of heart language-- the hard heart of the sinner; the new heart of the believer. The New Covenant heart is the result of spiritual heart transplant surgery performed by God.*

**April 5, 2009**

### **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

*The Holy Spirit plays a vital role through Word and Sacrament to renew our hearts and promote our growth in Christ. These terms communicate this process of renewal: Being born again; Regeneration; Sanctification; and Baptism of the Holy Spirit.*

**April 9, 2009 Maundy Thursday**

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### **Participation**

*The word for participation in the New Testament is koinonia. To understand this important word is to understand the relational levels on which participation takes place: A readiness to share; A sense of equality; and A real unity among the members involved.*

### **April 11, 2009 Easter Vigil**

#### **The 3-B Factor**

*The buzzard, the bat, and the bumble bee--but what about us?*

### **April 12, 2009 Easter**

#### **Why the Word Needs a Living Savior**

*Even while we gleefully shout this day, "He is risen! He is risen, indeed!" much of our world is still in dire need of a Savior. We, too, as all of mankind need a living Savior. Jesus Christ is that Savior of the world, and none of our myths and legends can compete with His work of salvation.*

### **April 19, 2009**

**(no sermon audio available)**

### **April 26 2009**

#### **Let No One Deceive You**

*No one seems to be able to simply tell the truth about anything. It has come to the point where it is actually news when someone merely tells the plain truth. In 1 John 3, the apostle says three things that are of vial interest to us who would embrace the truth about who we are and what we are to do.*

### **May 3, 2009**

**(no sermon audio available)**

### **May 10, 2009**

#### **The Definition of Love**

*L.O.V.E. Long-Suffer, Other-directed, Victorious, and Eternal,*

### **May 17, 2009**

#### **What's Wrong with This Picture**

*In a world awash with all kinds of spirituality, what wrong with this picture of open to everything spiritual?*

### **May 24, 2009**

#### **Why Some People Don't Believe in God and What You Can Do About It**

*So, why don't some people believe in God? They are morons, but not in the sense of non-intellectual, unschooled, stupid ignoramuses (which is how the atheist usually characterizes the believer), but in the very real sense of psychologically and spiritually dull.*

## Reverend George E. Murdaugh 2009 Sermon Titles and Themes

### **May 31, 2009, Living the Faith Boldly**

*The miraculous events of that first Pentecost recorded in Acts 2 is more than just good drama, it points to the path the Church is to take in the bold proclamation of the Gospel.*

### **June 7, 2009 The Trinity--What a Revelation**

*Belief in the Trinity is the basic test of our catholic, that is, universal faith as Christians. That is why we confess the Athanasian Creed. To willingly confess thusly, we say that objectively that this doctrine of the Trinity is fundamental to Christianity.*

### **June 14, 2009 [no recording available]**

A presentation by Dr. Nathaniel Chikkala on the work in Chirala, India.

### **June 21, 2009 God's Call for Fathers**

*Here is some encouragement for dads who are out there, who, by prayer and time in God's Word have been diligently carrying out their God-given vocations of fatherhood.*

### **June 28, 2009 Effective Giving Starts with a Plan**

*Giving with a plan has the advantage of planning to give, and give regularly, generously, and cheerfully: for God loves a cheerful give.*

### **July 5, 2009 Power in Weakness-A Christ Thing**

*We'd all like to be powerful, to be over-comers in our own eyes--victorious is ever adversity. That's the way we walk and talk, but it isn't the Christ thing. Whenever I am weak, St. Paul said, I am strong.*

### **July 12, 2009 Predestined as God's Possession**

*Because of the inevitability of our fate under God's just wrath that St. Paul wrote: "[God] chose us in [Christ] before the foundation of the world..." There is an election, a foreknowledge, a predestination that is greater than any fatalistic worldview that anyone can come up with.*

### **July 26 2009 Of Rainbows and Covenants**

*God set apart the rainbow as the token and pledge of the covenant between Himself and mankind forever.*

### **August 2, 2009 Equipped for the Works of Ministry**

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*St. Paul realized that the hostile world was not going to give a pass to those disciples of Jesus Christ who have failed to be properly equipped for the trail ahead.*

**August 9, 2009**

### **A Plan for Living Counter-Culturally**

*St. Paul offers a kind of counter-cultural admonition in Eph. 4:17 when he advises us, “Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.*

**August 16, 2009**

### **Walk as Children of the Light**

*Comment on the disastrous decision of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to admit homosexuals in committed monogamous relationships to be ordained and service as pastor and bishops in the churches of the ELCA.*

**August 23, 2009**

### **Love and Respect, What a Concept**

*There is a mystery to love that is found only in Christ’s relationship with His Bride the Church. Crack that mystery, and you will know love.*

**August 30, 2009**

### **It’s Warriors That Need Armor**

*St. Paul tells us about the spiritual enemies of our lives and how we are to confront and overpower them in the full armor of God.*

**September 6, 2009**

### **For It Is More Blessed to Give, Part 1**

*Jesus taught that the believer is not to trust in possessions, nor consider material things as treasures. The whole New Testament reflects the principle of giving. The believer, then, will give God first place and will use money in God’s service.*

**September 13, 2009**

### **For It Is More Blessed to Give, Part 2**

*What valid motive is there for giving--why give at all? Let’s get past this tithe thing.*

**September 20, 2009**

### **For It Is More Blessed to Give, Part 3**

*Incentives are a key concept when it comes to considering why we give to the Church.*

**September 20, 2009**

**(no sermon audio available)**

**October 4, 2009**

## **Reverend George E. Murdaugh 2009 Sermon Titles and Themes**

### **Church as a Team Sport**

*As we look at football as an example, how might we understand the Church as a team that is out to win?*

**October 11, 2009**

### **Change Is Not Easy, But Necessary**

*What side of change are you going to be on? We need to be on God's side of change--from complacency in our spiritual life, to seeking first the Kingdom of God and His will in our lives.*

**October 18, 2009**

### **Good News, Bad News**

*The Book of Hebrews 4 has some good news for you. The news is good enough to dispel the everyday bad news you may have to confront.*

**October 25, 2009**

### **We Know What Reformation Was; But do We Know What It Is**

*The Reformation launched by Martin Luther that fateful day at the end of October in 1517 at Wittenberg church, All Hallows Eve, awakened the Church of Jesus Christ to three great truths.*

**November 1, 2009**

### **Sealed and Sent**

*The seal that designates those belonging to God through the blood of the Lamb has three important meanings: 1) the contents under seal are authentic; 2) that which is under the seal is of great importance to the one who ordered it sealed; and 3) such a seal is irrevocable.*

**November 8, 2009**

**(no sermon audio available)**

**November 15, 2009**

### **Confidence in the Blood of Jesus**

*Were you aware that how we worship and commemorate our faith through the liturgy not only follows the ancient formulas of God's OT people from the earliest times, but has been sealed with an eternal offering not made by us?*

**November 22, 2009**

### **Not of This World**

*Is not the salvation question the burning question of our day? It is not possible to pick up a newspaper, or a news magazine, or turn on your favorite news network without seeing some story about how we need to get out of this deep hole we're in. In other words, how are we going to save ourselves from ourselves?*

**November 26, 2009 (Thanksgiving)**

### **Give Thanks in All Circumstances**

*Look at our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters around the world and learn how to be thankful!*

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**November 29, 2009**

### **The Invasion Has Begun Part 1**

*ABC has launched a new series, call "V". The letter "V" stands for "Visitors"--in this case from another planet. In fact there has been an invasion that started millennia ago, and foretold from generation to generation from the beginning of human history. All these predictions have pointed to a single Invader who would come into our world and save us from ourselves.*

**December 6, 2009**

### **The Invasion Has Begun Part 2**

*An invasion has begun. God is invading His creation in a marvelous and unique way as revealed in Malachi 3.*

**December 13, 2009**

### **The Invasion Has Begun Part 3**

*Let's focus on the Invader who is coming to redeem all mankind. Zephaniah chapter 3 calls Him "The King of Israel" and "the Lord your God."*

**December 20, 2009**

### **The Invasion Has Begun Part 4**

*The invasion has begun. God Himself has invaded our world to bring His righteous covenant to life in the Person of the Messiah, His Son, Jesus of Nazareth.*

**December 24, 2009 (Christmas Eve)**

### **Let Your Light Shine before Men**

*If you stop and think about light, the properties of light, the uses of light, our need for light, you readily see how Christmas becomes a celebration of light.*

**December 25, 2009 (Christmas Day)**

### **What's in a Name**

*It would be good to reflect on the nature of God by looking at the names that He gives Himself in the Scriptures.*

**December 27, 2009**

### **Christmas Surprise**

*There is a kind of surprising blessing that God, from His perspective, bestows. His surprising blessing may be so challenging that it doesn't even seem like a blessing at the time. Consider Mary's surprise at the announcement of the angel.*

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