

**6/29/18**

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

If you've ever seen a helicopter rescue, you'll agree, it's remarkable! The victims are stranded on an ice flow or trapped on a sinking vessel. They are stuck and often moments from perishing, but then from the skies comes the sights and sounds of rescue—the helicopter rotors bussing in the sky, the rope dangling from the chopper to the place of danger, the para-rescuer ready to slide down the rope and save the day. It's an emotional event and an amazing sight when a rescue takes place.

And that's just for strangers. It's emotional to watch when you don't know any of the people involved. But imagine if it was you being rescued! Imagine what the scene looks like with you standing in the place of danger! You are the one in peril. You are the one moments from destruction. You are the one being saved. It's a whole lot more moving when you are the one who is being rescued.

But you don't have to imagine being rescued, you were rescued. Maybe not by a helicopter, but you have been rescued. We all have. We were drowning in a sea of sin and unbelief. We were moments away from destruction when a rescuer came from above. He came down to us, not on a rope, but in a baby's flesh. He saved us, not by strapping us to a stretcher, but by strapping himself to a cross. He rescued us by defeating sin, and he conquered death with his resurrection.

God spared us from something worse than flood or fire or storm, he saved us from sin. He saved us by coming down to our earth, and he promises to take us to be with him in

heaven. The one who came down will return so we can go up to everlasting security and joy and peace with him in glory.

*I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me. O LORD, you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down into the pit.*

***Psalm 30:1-3***

All praise and glory to the one who rescued us, our Savior God!

***Prayer:*** *Thank you, Lord God, for seeing our peril and for answering our pleas. Thank you for saving us from sin and death and for promising us your guidance, your protection, your glory in heaven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

(WELS E-Devotion, Adapted)

...See you in worship.

Keep looking up because the Lord is always looking down – Psalm 121

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