

March 17, 2024

GOD'S TIME AND OUR PATIENCE

Text: "...whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago." Acts 3:21 (ESV)

It was an evening in May of 1976. It was the night of the seminary Call Service when all the graduates would first hear where they were going to serve. In a way, it represents everything you worked for over the past 4 years (or, in my case, 12 years!). Since they distribute the calls alphabetically A-Z, I had to wait a while for them to get to my name. It was a case when waiting was HARD! Finally, they got to me: "Ronald Weidler – Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Carlisle, Iowa." Iowa? I'd never been to Iowa! It sounded very rural. I was born and raised in Chicago! Holy Cross had no school. Since my wife and I both had extensive experience in Lutheran Schools, I had requested a call with a school. How was any of this going to work out? In a word, it all worked out WONDERFULLY! Space does not allow me to share how wonderful it all was. God just proved again He knows what He's doing.

In our text, Peter says God has set a date in time when Jesus will come back to "restore all things." And Peter adds this fact was known and prophesied "by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago." Earlier in v.18, he also says in just the same way the Old Testament prophets had known of and foretold the coming of the Messiah/Savior. The only thing is, God had not revealed WHEN the Christ would be born. He has not told us WHEN the End will be. We have to wait --- just like we're waiting for Him to send us a new Senior Pastor. WAITING CAN BE HARD! But don't get discouraged. HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING!

We pray: "Lord, we need patience!" Like everything else, give it to us when You know best! Amen.

Pastor Ron Weidler