

Theme: Isaiah promised the people of Israel a new name, given by the Lord, with the promise of redemption and restoration. When we are in Christ, we are a new creation!

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

- 1. Have you heard of Camp Concordia? Have you been, or do you know anyone who has been?
- 2. What is something that you restored, that was amazing once it was? Or is there something you wish you had restored?
- 3. Names are important! Have you ever gone by another name? Have you ever wished you had another name?

In the Word: Isaiah 62:1-5

- 4. In verse 2, we hear that Zion will be called by a new name. What does it take for God to give His people a new name?
- 5. There is significance in names. What is the significance of the new name that God gives to His people?
- 6. One of the main focuses for Camp Concordia this year is the theme of new creation. How have you been made new and given a new name?

7. What is something you took away from Pastor Fouts' message? Is there anything that stood out to you that you hadn't thought of before? Is there anything that you are really going to hold onto?

Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)

- 8. You have been made a new creation! That has happened through the death and resurrection of Jesus. What does it mean that you are a new creation, and how does that affect how you live?
- 9. Do you know of anyone you could encourage to go to Camp Concordia? It is a great place with awesome opportunities for kids starting as early as 1st grade. How might you encourage someone to go, or share the information about Camp Concordia?

Prayer: Thank God for the new creation that you are in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Thank God for the new creation that you've been made in Baptism. Ask God to help you share the joy, love, and hope of being made new. Ask God to give you courage to boldly proclaim your faith. Thank God for places like Camp Concordia and the ways they serve our congregations.

Next Week: "This Day is Holy"

Ezra reminds the people after they wept from hearing God's law that they need not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is their strength. That is true for us too which makes this day holy!