<u>Imperial Splendors/Oberammergau Tour October 2020</u>

Hosted by Rev. Stewart Marshall, Trinity Lutheran Church, Pine Bluff, AR

In 1633 the Black Plague rampaged through Europe, killing thousands. For months, the small village of Oberammergau managed to keep the dreaded disease at bay, mainly because of its remote location in the Bavarian Alps. Eventually the epidemic struck the nearby town of Ettal. The people of Oberammergau, however, controlled the spread of the disease by keeping close watch and preventing strangers from entering their village. Alas, late one evening, a villager who had been away, homesick for his family, strolled back into the town unknowingly brought the plague to his people. Within a few months, 84 villagers had died.

In July of 1633 the survivors gathered and made a solemn oath to God: if He spared them from further deaths, they would perform every ten years a day-long play depicting Jesus' death and Resurrection. According to the story passed down through the generations, God heard them and there were no more deaths. In 1634, the townspeople performed their *Passion Play* for the first time. Eventually their vow was adopted by their children and their descendants. To this day, the villagers of Oberammergau have kept their promise virtually unbroken.

This passion play is still considered one of the best and a once in a lifetime experience.

I am hosting a tour in 2020 to see the passion play, but also some of the splendor of the eastern European cities. It is a 12-day tour, with departure from Memphis. The tour is all inclusive except for one meal each day. For a complete itinerary please use the link below to see a day by day description of the complete tour.

Please contact me if you would like more info. Rev Stewart Marshall 870-592-9404, trinityowr@gmail.com

http://www.ittworld.com/tours/imperial-splendor-including-oberammergau/

