Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

9:00 am Sunday, November 21, 2021

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

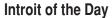
As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation:
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal. Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

♣ = appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross
When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

Greeting And Announcements: The Lord be with you! And also with you!
[Rise] Invocation
In the name of the Father and of the 4 Son and of the Holy Spirit Amen!
The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution
Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
[Kneel]
Our help is in the name of the Lord
O almighty God, merciful Father,
Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 4 Son and of the Holy Spirit

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.





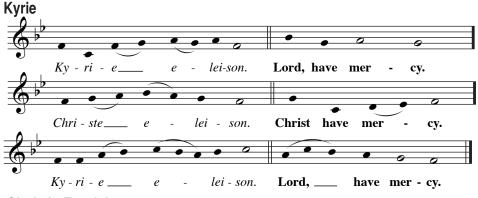
[Antiphon] We are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which | •righteous •- ness dwells __. || "O LORD, | make me know my | end || and what is the measure | of my days __; || let me know how | fleet __ ing I | am!

Verse 1: "Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as | •nothing• be- fore you. || Surely all mankind stands | as a mere__ | breath! || And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait__? || My | hope__ is in | you.

Verse 2: Deliver me from all | my trans- gres- sions. || Do not make me the | scorn__ of the | fool! || Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear | to my cry__; || hold not your | peace__ at my | tears!"

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son_: || and | to the Ho-ly | •Spirit•; || As it was in the be-| •ginning•, is now_, || and will | be for- •ever•. A- | men!

[Antiphon] We are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which | *righteous*ness dwells_. || "O LORD, | make me know my | end || and what is the measure | of my days_; || let me know how | fleet-_ ing I | am!



Gloria in Excelsis

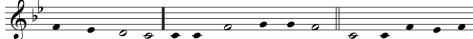




a - mong men with whom He is pleased. We praise Thee, we bless Thee,



we wor-ship Thee, we glo-ri-fy Thee, we give thanks to Thee for



Thy great glo-ry. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God, the Fa-ther Al-



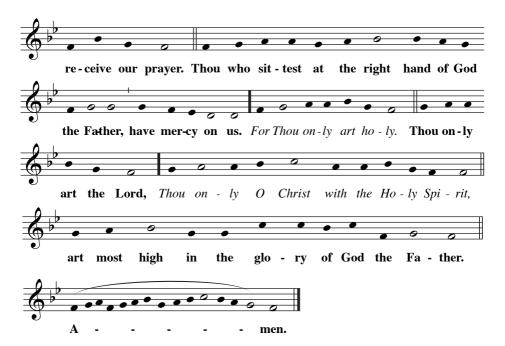
migh-ty. O Lord, the on - ly be-got-ten Son, Je-sus Christ,



OLord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, who ta-kest a-way the



sin of the world, have mer-cy on us. Thou who ta-kest a-way the sin of the world,



Salutation

[Be Seated]

The Lord be with you.



Collect for Last Sunday of the Church Year: Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

+ The Office of the Word of God +



..... Isaiah 51:4-6 Old Testament Reading..... [After the reading] "This is the word of the Lord." "Thanks be to God." Epistle of the Day Jude 20-25 [After the reading] "This is the word of the Lord." "Thanks be to God." [Deacon] Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Alleluia! Al - le - lu ia! Al-le ia! ... St. Mark 13:24-37 Holy Gospel [The Gospel is announced.] [The Gospel is proclaimed.] Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord! Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Confession of Faith (The Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

[Bow] And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life \pm of the world to come. Amen!

[Be Seated]

Hymn of the Day Lo! He Comes Burgundy Hymn 336 Sermon

[Rise] Prayer of the Church

[Be Seated] Offerings, Voluntary ... "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling" .. J. Brahms
[From the German Requiem.]



+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface

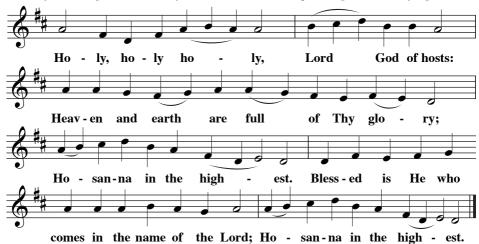


Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



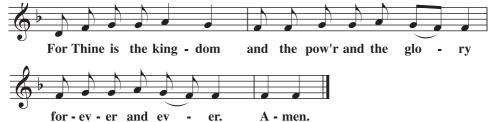
Common Preface, Sanctus

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:



[Kneel] Lord's Prayer

[Pastor chants:] Our Father who art in heaven;but deliver us from evil.

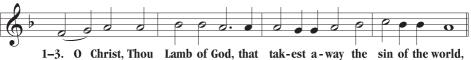


Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Agnus Dei





have mer-cy up - on us.

Grant us Thy Peace. A -

men!

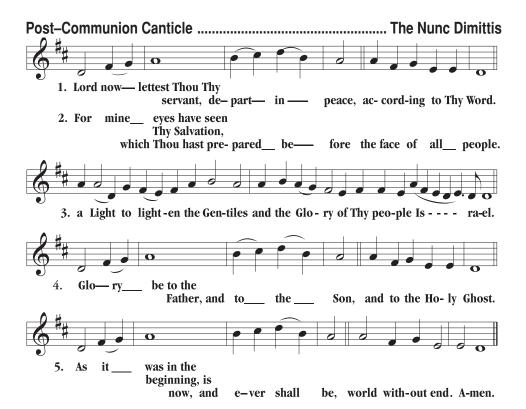
[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns Christ is Surely Coming..... Burgundy Hymn 509

Wake, Awake Burgundy Hymn 516

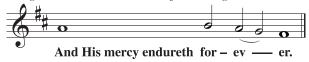
[Rise]

Eucharistic Benediction



Post Communion Rite

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

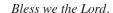


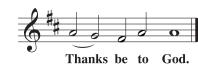
Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



And with thy

The Lord be with you.





Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and Φ give you peace.



spir -

During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers....... Burgundy Hymn 515 Postlude

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Readings for the Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost The Last Sunday of the Church Year

The Old Testament Reading is Isaiah 51:4-6

"Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples: the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath: for the heavens vanish like smoke. the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed."

The Epistle is Jude 20-25

But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

The Gospel is Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said,] "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning—lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."

Hymns for the Last Sunday in the Church Year

LSB336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending Charles Wesley

- Lo! He comes with clouds descending, Once for ev'ry sinner slain; Thousand thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of His train; Alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.
- 2. Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him Robed in glorious majesty; Those who set at naught and sold Him, Pierced and nailed Him to the tree, Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, Shall their true Messiah see
- 3. Those dear tokens of His passion Still His dazzling body bears, Cause of endless exultation To His ransomed worshipers. With what rapture, with what rapture Gaze we on those glorious scars!
- 4. Yea, amen, let all adore Thee, High on Thine eternal throne; Savior, take the pow'r and glory, Claim the kingdom as Thine own. Alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!

LSB509 Christ Is Surely Coming

Christopher M. Idle

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- Christ is surely coming Bringing His reward, Alpha and Omega, First and Last and Lord: Root and stem of David, Brilliant Morning Star: Meet your Judge and Savior, Nations near and far!
- 2. See the holy city! There they enter in, All by Christ made holy, Washed from ev'ry sin: Thirsty ones, desiring All he loves to give, Come for living water, Freely drink, and live!
- 3. Grace be with God's people! Praise His holy name! Father, Son, and Spirit, Evermore the same; Hear the certain promise From the eternal home: "Surely I come quickly! Come, Lord Jesus, come!"

Philipp Nicolai

- 1. "Wake, awake, for night is flying,"
 The watchmen on the heights are crying;
 "Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"
 Midnight hears the welcome voices
 And at the thrilling cry rejoices;
 "Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?
 The Bridegroom comes, awake!
 Your lamps with gladness take! Alleluia!
 With bridal care Yourselves prepare
 To meet the Bridegroom, who is near."
- 2. Zion hears the watchmen singing, And all her heart with joy is springing; She wakes, she rises from her gloom. For her Lord comes down all-glorious, The strong in grace, in truth victorious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come. Now come, Thou Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Hail! Hosanna! We enter all The wedding hall To eat the Supper at Thy call.
- 3. Now let all the heav'ns adore Thee,
 Let saints and angels sing before Thee
 With harp and cymbals' clearest tone.
 Of one pearl each shining portal,
 Where, joining with the choir immortal,
 We gather round Thy radiant throne.
 No eye has seen the light,
 No ear has heard the might Of Thy glory;
 Therefore will we Eternally
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

LSB515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Laurentius Laurenti

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear;
 The evening is advancing, And darker night is near.
 The Bridegroom is arising And soon is drawing nigh.
 Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.

- 2. The watchers on the mountain Proclaim the Bridegroom near; Go forth as He approaches With alleluias clear. The marriage feast is waiting; The gates wide open stand. Arise, O heirs of glory; The Bridegroom is at hand.
- 3. The saints, who here in patience Their cross and suff'rings bore, Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.

 Around the throne of glory The Lamb they shall behold;
 In triumph cast before Him Their diadems of gold.
- 4. Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear; Arise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this benighted sphere. With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see The day of earth's redemption That sets Your people free!

The Last Sunday of the Church Year



Zion Kvangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803260-744-1389

pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is to be the body of Christ gathered at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana to:

- Receive Christ's gifts in baptism, preaching, teaching, and the Eucharist;
- Reach out to those who do not know the love of God in Christ;
- Reveal Christ's love for the world through acts of kindness and mercy toward all.

The Pastoral Ministry At Zion

Senior Pastor Field Worker:

Teachers:

Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397) Erik Saunders, Patrick Jackson

The Teaching Staff At Lutheran South Unity

Sheila Nehrenz, Principal (744-0459) Gene Koch, Yvonne Schwantz, Barry Chrzan,

Danielle Ramsey, Merideth Tourney, Dawn Gill

John Fink, Hannah Maresh, Cathie Wakeland, Natalie Reynolds

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music: Church Office Manager:

Michael Hollman, MM Melvia Culpher

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church and those experiencing persecution around the world
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our fieldworkers Erik Saunders and Patrick Jackson
- + For our nation; for our leaders, our military, including Trevor Manning and James Hall, and our health care workers
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound, including Jackie Schieferstein, Juanita Moore, Everett Beck, Helen Russell, Cheryl Silvers, and Doris Yerger
- + For those who are near death
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Susan Kaiser, Stan Goeglein, Kathy Vlot, Josefa Schapher, Willodean Bates, Kevin Leininger, Julie Ganaway, Paul Dolde, Walt Ostermeyer, Sherry Freeman, Jeff Springer, Gloria Gonzalez, Willie Manning, Lucille Brandt, Connie Meyer, Dick Hollman, Louisa Porter, Louise Petrillo, Marianne Billings, Maurice King, Ron Rastl, Marlow Hogan, and Jenny Hobby
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days, especially Lucille Brandt
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Lloyd & Ruth Grim.
- + For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Divine Service for the Last Sunday of the Church Year. The Cross Bowl is given in loving memory of Lloyd & Ruth Grim by Ed & Janice Grim. The Altar Vases are given in recognition Lucille Brandt 94th birthday celebrated November 15th along with the life and length of her days by Charlene Young. Please complete an attendance/communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card

<u>CALENDAR</u>

November 21, 2021 thru November 27, 2021				
SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church	
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Study	Bauer Hall	
	10:30 AM	Junior Catechesis	Conference Room	
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (little ones)	Assoc Pastor's Office	
MON.	5:30 PM	CEA Board Meeting		
TUES.		· ·		
WED.	9:30 AM	Men of Zion	Conference Room	
	5:30 PM	Wednesday Divine Service	Church	
THURS.	9:00 AM	Thanksgiving Day Matins	Church	
		Thanksgiving Day — Office Clos	ed	
FRI.	9:00 AM	Decorate church for Advent — as	Throughout Zion	
		much as we can	Ğ	
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church	
		November 29, 2024		
		November 28, 2021		
SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church	
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Study	Bauer Hall	
		No Junior Catechesis		
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (little ones)	Asst Pastor's Office	

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Dr. Voelz is gone this week. Thanks to George Lange for teaching today's Adult Bible Class. Dr. Voelz should be back next Sunday to continue the study of the Gospel according to St. Mark. Junior Catechesis meets in the Conference Room. Sunday School for the little ones meets in the Associate Pastor's Office in the office area.

THANKSGIVING is this Thursday. Come to Matins at 9 AM before enjoying the rest of the day. **NOVEMBER 30**TH is giving Tuesday. All gifts given to Zion on this day will be used where they are needed the most here at Zion.

DATABASE SYSTEM: some changes have been made to the envelope numbering system in our database. Please see Julie Ganaway for your new number and envelopes.

WE BEGIN a new church year next Sunday. Thanks to Rev. Richard Lammert for preaching for me (we'll be in Illinois). The First Sunday in Advent is November 28; and don't forget about Advent midweek services at 7 PM with an Advent meal at 5:45 PM.

FOOD CO-OP INGATHERING: the table is set and we are asking you to contribute to the CTS Food Co-op during the months November and December. These food items and gift cards are helpful to assist the students and their families enjoy their holiday season. We will collect these items from now until Wed., Dec. 15th. As usual, a brown paper bag and list will be supplied.

COVID-19 UPDATE AT ZION: Please read this update if you want information on COVID. I'm not making oral comments regarding COVID unless some protocol needs changing. Allen County remains in orange on the State's coronavirus website with a two-metric score of 2.5, up from last week and both metrics still going up. The website reports a county positivity rate back over 10% at 11.1% today (and rising), and weekly cases per 100,000 residents of 383. As more people are infected, district hospitalizations can be expected to rise, and so they have. ICU bed usage for COVID has not seen a big spike, yet. Average number of daily deaths due to COVID is at 1 today. The Delta variant infects most people at 95.2% of the positives. The percentages of breakthrough infections, hospitalizations, and deaths continue to increase slowly. They're now 1.842%, 0.038%, and 0.019%, respectively. Vaccines remain the best way to get this pandemic under control, especially for the most vulnerable: those 65+, those with other health issues. Vaccines are available for children 5+ (Pfizer only for 5-17), and boosters are available for all three authorized vaccines if you're eligible. Visit www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/ for your eligibility and to schedule your vaccine or booster.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE This week's memory verse is good for Thanksgiving. We're most thankful to God for our salvation: Psalm 96:2— "Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day." Last week's verse was John 1:1-3.

RIGHT TO LIFE OF NORTHEAST INDIANA will train you to have compassionate, helpful, winsome interactions with people going into Planned Parenthood. Sidewalk Advocacy is not a protest, but rather is helping men and women outside Planned Parenthood find ethical alternatives to meet their needs in our community. This one-day training is great for your life team or group that has wanted to put their pro-life passion into action and save lives in Northeast Indiana. Contact allison@ichooselife.org or call 260-471-1849 to schedule training for yourself or group.

ALL FOR ONE will be holding an open house on December 4 from 2-5 PM. You may attend so you can see what's happening in the old school building. And learn how to support All for One Production's growth and fulfill their mission.

CLHS: will be holding their annual "Christmas at the Embassy" Concert, "Go Tell It: Jesus Chris is Born," on Sunday, December 12 at 4:00 p.m., at the historic Embassy Theatre. Tickets will be on sale beginning Nov. 12 at the Embassy Box Office and Ticketmaster. Tickets are \$17 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. No reserved seats.

THE CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH MEN'S CLUB will once again be selling Christmas trees and wreaths this year to help fund the church and school. The tree lot is located at the Church-School, 4245 Lake Avenue. Sales begin on Sat., Nov. 20th. The lot will be open 2 - 8 PM weekdays, 9 AM to 8 PM Saturdays, and Noon to 8 PM Sundays.

For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a "Royal Priesthood." God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests PRAY -- They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests TEACH -- They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests OFFER SACRIFICES -- They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

Morning Prayer	DAILY LECTIONARY	Evening Prayer
Mark 13:24-37	Last Sunday of the Church Year	Isaiah 51:4-6
Revelation 19:1-21	Monday	Daniel 2:24-49
Revelation 20:1-15	Tuesday	Daniel 3:1-30
Revelation 21:1-8	Wednesday	Daniel 4:1-37
Revelation 21:9-27	Thursday	Daniel 5:1-30
Revelation 22:1-21	Friday	Daniel 6:1-28
1 Peter 1:1-12	Saturday	Isaiah 1:1-28

THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

[Daily] O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Let us pray:

[S] For the joy of the Resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; for diligent preaching and hearing of God's Word of Law and Gospel; for our pastors; for the teachers and students of our Sunday School; for our Bible Class leaders and their students; for our catechumens; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[M] For workers; for the unemployed; for farmers; for seasonable weather; for businesses small and large; for our leaders, federal, state and local; for the economic welfare of the nations on earth; for peace in our world; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[W] For fathers, mothers, and families; for those adults who must rear their children alone; the teachers and students of Lutheran South Unity School and Concordia Lutheran High School; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[T] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the Word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our synod president, and Daniel, our district president; for those who have not heard the Gospel; for the fruitful use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen!

[F] For the preaching of the Cross; for those persecuted for the sake of Gospel; the confession of the orthodox Lutheran faith in our community; Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer. Amen!

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life's earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Your hear our prayer, Amen!

The Our Father [Daily]

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

First Sunday in Advent

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Jeremiah 33:14-16



What Doctor Luther Says:

About the Hidden God But the Clarity of Scripture
The distinction I make ... is this: God and the Scripture of God are two things ...

That in God there are many things hidden, of which we are ignorant, no one doubts—as the Lord himself says concerning the Last Day: "Of that day no one knows but the Father" [Mark 13:32], and in Acts 1[:7]: "It is not for you to know times and seasons"; and again: "I know whom I have chosen" [John 13:18], and Paul says: "The Lord knows those who are his" [II Tim. 2:19], and so forth. But that in Scripture there are some things abstruse, and everything is not plain—this is an idea put about by the ungodly Sophists, with those lips you also speak here, Erasmus; but they have never produced, nor can they produce, a single article to prove this mad notion of theirs. Yet with such a phantasmagoria Satan has frightened men away from reading the sacred writings and has made Holy Scripture contemptible, in order to enable the plagues he has bred from philosophy to prevail in the Church.

I admit, of course, that there are many texts in the Scriptures that are obscure and abstruse, not because of the majesty of their subject matter, but because of our ignorance of their vocabulary and grammar; but these texts in no way hinder a knowledge of all the subject matter of Scripture. For what still sublimer thing can remain hidden in the Scriptures, now that the seals have been broken, the stone rolled from the door of the sepulcher [Matt. 27: 66; 28:2], and the supreme mystery brought to light, namely, that Christ the Son of God has been made man, that God is three and one, that Christ has suffered for us and is to reign eternally? Are not these things known and sung even in the highways and byways? Take Christ out of the Scriptures, and what will you find left in them?

The subject matter of the Scriptures, therefore, is all quite accessible, even though some texts are still obscure owing to our ignorance of their terms.

Luther's Works, 33:25-6.



Order Your Poinsettia Plants for Christmas 2021!



PLEASE PRINT

NAME
DEDICATION
8 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$38 each \$
6 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$16 each \$
4 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$8.50 each \$
General Donation \$
Pick up plant after Christmas Day Service
Give plant to a shut-in

Return this form to the church office by **December 19th** to have your dedication printed in the bulletin.







It's time.

And it's a new time

It's a time to make things right

There is new leadership at Concordia Lutheran High School. And thanks to an anonymous challenge gift from a member of Zion, we are given an opportunity to continue an effort to make things right and remove a long-standing debt of Zion's and make things new between Zion and CLHS



At our August Congregational Assembly, the group assigned \$10,000 to a long-standing \$72,082.67 debt owed to Concordia Lutheran High School. This debt was incurred over a number of years more than a decade ago and has remained a liability for our congregation and a sore in our relationship with Concordia Lutheran High School. August's meeting was a step in the right direction in making things new.

Now, our congregation has been challenged with a fantastic opportunity. Generous donors have challenged us with a \$10,000 match to continue our work in removing this debt. Contributions made to this project from September 1 through November 30 will be matched up to \$10,000. We are greatly thankful for this challenge and look forward to how we step up to meet this challenge to make things right with Concordia Lutheran High School.

Use the special contribution envelopes marked "Debt Elimination Challenge" to make your gift toward eliminating this debt to CLHS.

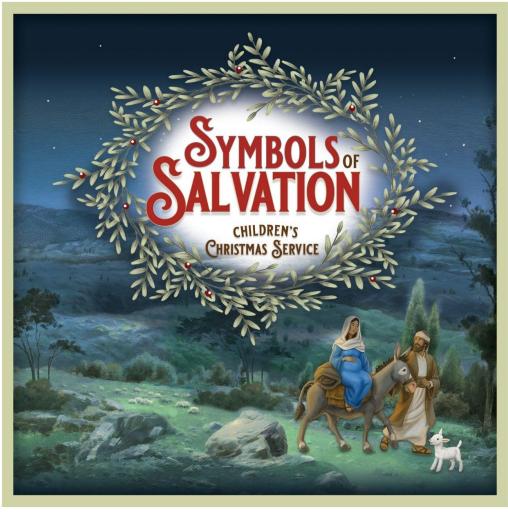
YOU ARE INVITED TO:

Christmas Service

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14TH 7 P.M.

MOUNT CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1819 RESERVATION DRIVE-across from Miami Middle School



Join us as the students share the message of Christmas through symbols, scripture, and song.

LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!

Please pray for these students/staff:

Kayden James Ben Mann

Ivan Martinez Jabron Jordan-Hardy

Avari Cassell Lill Doughty
Donald Washington Khang Ye Hein

Max Lassen Mrs. Gill

Jared the Comfort Dog Visit

Jared the Comfort Dog visited our school Thursday morning. Jared is a trained LCC (Lutheran Church Charities) K-9 Comfort Dog that works out of Holy Cross in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He serves every day in the community in which he is placed. Jared is a friend who brings a calming influence and allows people to open up their hearts and receive help for what is affecting them. See Jared's Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/JaredComfortDog/







Just who is Ms. Susan Mittelstaedt? This special lady is an office assistant and substitute teacher. She retired after 43 years of teaching in Missouri, Texas, and Indiana. Her last years of teaching full time were with Lutheran South Unity School where she was the fourth grade teacher. Now she does many things for the school and is at the school almost every day. She loves the school and the students. She is also a member of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church.

Ms. Mittelstaedt was originally from Ohio. Concordia University, Nebraska, was where she received her Bachelor of Education degree with music as her major. She later received her Masters of Education degree in

reading also from Concordia University, Nebraska. She has a great love for cats. She fosters kittens for adoption. Another love she has is music and singing. She sings in the church choir and the Bach Collegium choir as well as plays handbells. Her final love is for reading, especially Historical Fiction.

Words of wisdom from Miss Mittelstaedt: After Religion and learning about Jesus, Reading is the most important skill for students of all ages. If you can't read, you can't follow directions or read interesting material for all the other subject areas.

Let the Children Come

Thank you to all who attended and helped make the evening enjoyable! We appreciate everyone's continued support.

Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.". — Matthew 19:14