

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
4075 HOLLY DRIVE
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL 33410

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Sent with a prayer to:



THE NATIVITY



Carol

Vol. 56 Issue 11 November, 2020

NEWSLETTER OF NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA

WORDS FROM

Pastor Steve

BEING THANKFUL AND HOPEFUL: AN ADVENT DEVOTION PROJECT

In many ways, the last 8 months have been an exhausting haul for us all. But we are resurrection people, which means we are filled with hope despite all that is contrary in this world. Because of God made flesh in Jesus we are made adept at facing our deep longings, injustices and needs as well as those needs of our siblings in Christ. For that, it is only right to give our Lord thanks and praise!

Each of you has a story of thanksgiving, hope or praise. Everyone has one. In fact, you likely have dozens just waiting to be told! There are moments in our lives in which a person, a place, or an event, has made our Lord's presence clearly evident. Let's not keep those stories to ourselves, but instead share them with your faith family. No story is too small. No story is any more, or less than another. This Advent you are invited to share stories of thanksgiving, hope and joy with one another. Here is how we will do it...

Identify the story that you want to share. How does it bring glory to God? How did it inspire hope, thanksgiving, or joy in you and others?

Attribute a scripture passage to it or not. If you are not sure of an applicable passage Pastor Steve can assist you in this.

Get it to Pastor Steve by Friday Nov. 20th. *The sooner the better!* Write, type, email, snail mail, phone call, office visit, home visit, or courier pigeon it to Pastor Steve. All efforts will be made to get your story!

St. John's Lutheran in Lake Park will be joining us in this project of sharing our thanksgivings and hope with one another. What a rich storehouse of love and trust in God we will make for our God! Please prayerfully consider being a part of this project in offering to one another, and most of all our God.

Email: swinsor73@gmail.com
 Phone: 561-622-4998 or Mobile: 727-542-0287
 In Thanksgiving, Hope and Love of Christ,
 Pastor Steve

LET'S PRAY! A TIME OF REFLECTION AND LOOKING FORWARD TO NATIVITY'S FUTURE

Let's continue our conversation with God about Nativity's future of ministry. Have a look at the schedule below for opportunities to pray and listen. Each week we will take an element of our mission statement and pray for the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds to God's will for us. Each prayer time is approx. 20-30 minutes in length. Each session will be made available to you on Zoom.
Celebrating God's Love, Transforming Lives...

Worship

Sunday 11/1 immediately after 9:30 Worship.
 Tuesday 11/3 11AM and 4PM
 Thursday 11/5 11AM and 4PM

Education

Sunday 11/8 immediately after 9:30 Worship.
 Tuesday 11/10 11AM and 4PM
 Thursday 11/12 11AM and 4PM

Fellowship

Sunday 11/15 immediately after 9:30 Worship.
 Tuesday 11/17, 11AM and 4PM
 Thursday 11/19, 11AM and 4PM

Service

Sunday 12/6 immediately after 9:30 Worship.
 Tuesday 12/8, 11AM and 4PM
 Thursday 12/10, 11AM and 4PM

If you cannot make one of these times of pray, you can add to the conversation through a forthcoming on-line survey.

THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE!

For \$20 you can purchase a turkey for the Lake Park Food Pantry at Bethlehem Haitian Baptist Church. The preschool and youth group teamed up to make a tom turkey with fifty \$20 feathers just waiting to be plucked by you! Look for the turkey display at church beginning Sunday 11/8.

OUR Staff

Pastor: Pastor Steve Winsor
swinsor73@gmail.com
 (727)542-0287

School Director: Pia Heiser
pia@pbnativity.com

Office Manager: Kari Donnelly
kari@pbnativity.com
 Cell: 676-7361

Music Director: John Shepherd
jmus19@aol.com
 Cell: 267-6542

Teachers: Dianne Seker, VPK
 & Extended Care
 Lauren Oliveri, PreK 2 & 3
 Theresa Saccone, Teacher Asst.



God's work...

...Our hands

OUR Council

President: Kelly Rogers
 267-1725
kellyrogers379@aol.com

Vice-President: Earl Osborne
 614-937-3392
ewosbor@gmail.com

Treasurer: Carolyn New
 561-236-5401
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Secretary: Breanne Johnsen
 561-972-7036
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Council Members at Large:
 Julius Roehl
 561-493-8873
talkingturkey2@gmail.com

Shonda Staudt
 561-358-2442
cpateach13@gmail.com

OTHER CHURCH Leaders

Prayer Chain: Sandy McClellan
alexandria.mcclellan@gmail.com

Women's Ministry: Ceil Thomas
cjthomas@aol.com

DAYS TO Celebrate

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

11/2	John Steffen	11/27	Paul Stone
11/4	Nancy Steffen	11/28	Carole Rajan
11/6	Sally Krielow	11/30	Michael Keith
11/7	Michael Moore		
11/12	Suzanne Zirot		
11/13	Chad Smith		
11/17	Lois Esselstrom		
11/17	Julius Roehl		
11/21	Daniel Gonzalez		
11/21	Emerson Moran		
11/25	Anthony Greenall		



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

11/6	Kevin & Rachel Rossmeissl Stone
11/8	John & Breanne Johnsen
11/10	Paul & Pia Heiser

If you would like to share your birthday and/or anniversary with the church, please send your information to kari@pbnativity.com.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m. facebook

BIBLE STUDY

9:30 a.m. Tuesdays

BOOK STUDY

All are welcome to a 4-week long book study for four Wed. nights beginning 11/11 at 8PM on Zoom. We will be reading *Dear Church: A Love Letter From A Black Preacher To The Whitest Denomination In The U.S.* This book is a raw, unapologetic but grace-grounded testimony of all the ELCA has to give, and yet all it struggles to live into. Let's wade into these troubling, grace-filled waters of what it means to be the church. This conversation is as timely as ever.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP w/ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN, LAKE PARK

Save the date...Wed. 11/25 Thanksgiving Eve worship at St. John's Lutheran, Lake Park. Details to come...

SANDWICH MAKING REPORT FOR OCTOBER

ON 2ND SATURDAY OCTOBER 10--330 SANDWICHES WERE DELIVERED TO ST. GEORGE'S CENTER IN RIVIERA BEACH. The 6 sandwich kits were assembled by: The Kreidler Family-Jim, & Lauren; Karyn & Lois Howerton, Lauren Oliveri, Misty Mazzaferro & family, Susan, Sandy & Stuart McClellan. and Julius & Linda Roehl. Thank You. Thanks too to Thrivent Financial who support our sandwich making.

Here's how it works. We put into a kit all the ingredients you need to make 55 sandwiches. You pick up the kits Friday at 1 PM (the 2nd Friday of each month), put the sandwiches together at home and return them to Nativity at 9:30 am on (the 2nd Saturday of each month). We deliver them to St. George's, along with healthy granola bars.

If you are interested, you can use the signup genius on Nativity's website. Our next project is Friday and Saturday November 13 & 14th. There is 1 kit left for November. Questions? Call Linda Roehl @561-483-8873, or Julius Roehl @561-632-0442

Saturday, October 17 another 480 sandwiches were made to help feed the needy. Nutritious granola bars were also donated. Helpers were: David Hoecker, Hedy Rossmeissl, Mya & Sarah Jaradat, Pia Heiser, Tom Kuhn, Winsor Family-Pr. Steve, Amy, Lydia, Laurel, & Mara. A big THANK YOU to Nancy & John Steffen for leading that project every month. If you want to help Saturday, November 21 contact Nancy Steffen @ 561-281-4353.

WOMEN! SAVE THE DATE!

Ladies, it is time to return to our Women's Love Circle meeting. Monday, November 16 we will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary where we can social distance. We will have time of fellowship, Bible study and prayer.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Miss Pia as she celebrated her 20th year work anniversary with Nativity on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. She was surprised at Children's Chapel when the children each walked in and gave her a single rose in front of a sign made by Shonda Staudt. A small reception followed Chapel.



Paul, Jacob, Pia & Paul Heiser



HELP NEEDED WITH WORSHIP

There are short easy things that are needed to be done on Sunday mornings before and after worship. Each service needs a person to take temps and check folks in, the communion cups need to be filled before service, offerings need to be put away and the church and bathrooms need to be disinfected between services. If you can help, please sign up on the reception desk.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO

Serve

- Chereck, Donovan** US Navy-Washington, Nephew of Osbornes
- Dodd, Chas** US Army-NC, Nephew of Lauren Oliveri
- Duncan, Kristen** USAF-Salt Lake City, UT, Friend of Glazeners
- Duncan, Tyler** USAF-Salt Lake City, UT, Friend of Glazeners
- Fredericks, Barry Jr.** US Navy-Japan, Nephew of Denise Varlik-Joseph
- Gaines, Drew** US Army-Germany, Son of Shirley Manko
- Glazener, Matt** US Army-Missouri, Brother of Mark Glazener
- Griffin, Joseph** US Air Force-Azores, Nephew of Ralph & Teri Henning
- Malloy, Brian** US Navy-Washington, Cousin of Matt Flynn
- Malloy, Christina** US Army-Hawaii, Cousin of Matt Flynn
- Malloy, Jason** USAF-Turkey, Cousin of Matt Flynn
- Malloy, Tom** USMC-N. Carolina, Cousin of Matt Flynn
- Olson III, Robert A.** Army-Colorado Springs, CO, Friend of the school
- Pittman, Mercedes** US Army-Ft. Carson, CO, Daughter of Harold & Debra Pittman
- Scalise, Frank IV** USMC-Yuma, AZ, Grandson of Dale & Sue Long
- Sioson, Ernie** US Air Force, Salt Lake City, UT, Brother of Ernadel Sioson

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent members please remember to direct your Choice Dollars. They can be directed towards a charity or church of your choice.

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

4075 Holly Drive
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410
(561) 622-4998 or (561) 626-6652
nativity@pbnativity.com
www.nativitylutheranpbg.com

UPCOMING WORSHIP READINGS & HYMNS

We are meeting in person! Nativity is now hosting two Sunday services, one at 9:30 a.m. and one at 11:00 a.m. Please be sure to contact the church office at 561-622-4998 or kari@pbnativity.com to reserve a spot in church before 3pm on each Friday. We are social distancing and that means we have limited seating.

"Live" services can also be found on Nativity Lutheran Church and School's facebook page at 9:30 a.m. Sunday bulletins for online worship can be found on pbnativity.com under "sermons" for you to follow along during the service. Videos of Sunday services will be available within 24 hours on pbnativity.com and anytime after the 9:30 service on facebook.

Sunday, November 1, 9:30 AM Online

Hymn #422, verses 1, 4 & 7

"For All the Saints"

- 1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]

¹Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word." ²The word of the LORD came to him, saying, ³Go from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁴You shall drink from the wadi, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." ⁵So he went and did according to the word of the LORD; he went and lived by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁶The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the wadi. ⁷But after a while the wadi dried up, because there was no rain in the land. ⁸Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, ⁹Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you. ¹⁰So he set out and went to

November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints 9:30a Worship 11a Worship 6:30p MS/HS Youth	2	3 No School	4	5	6	7
8 9:30a Worship 11a Worship	9 10:30a Staff mtg. 6:30p Council	10 9:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew	11 8-9p Book Study via Zoom	12	13 1p Sandwich making pick up kits	14 9:30a sandwich drop off
15 9:30a Worship Budget Meeting 11a Worship 6:30p Youth	16 9:30a Women's Love Circle	17 9:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew	18 8-9p Book Study	19	20	21 9a Sandwich Making
22 9:30a Worship 11a Worship	23	24 9:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew	25	26 Thanksgiving	2	28
29 Advent 1 9:30a Worship 11a Worship	30 10:30a Staff mtg.			No School		

Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." ¹¹As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹²But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." ¹³Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son." ¹⁴For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." ¹⁵She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah. ¹⁷After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill; his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸She then said to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to cause the death of my son!" ¹⁹But he said to her, "Give me your son." He took him from her bosom, carried him up into the upper chamber where he was lodging, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰He cried out to the LORD, "O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I am staying, by killing her son?" ²¹Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried out to the LORD, "O LORD my God, let this child's life come into him again." ²²The LORD listened to the voice of Elijah; the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. ²³Elijah took the child, brought him down from the upper chamber into the house, and gave him to his mother; then Elijah said, "See, your son is alive." ²⁴So the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth."

Luke 4:24-26

²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

Hymn #423, verses 1, 3 & 4 "Shall We Gather at the River"

- 1 Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain

- 6 Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL NINE MONTH RECAP--JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2020

CHURCH	SEPTEMBER ACTUAL	SEPTEMBER BUDGET	SEPTEMBER VARIANCE	YTD JAN-SEPT 9 MONTH ACTUAL	YTD JAN-SEPT 9 MONTH BUDGET	YTD JAN-SEPT VARIANCE
INCOME						
Tithes & Offerings	13,513	18,050	(4,537)	159,455	162,650	(3,196)
Building Use	1,750	1,550	200	16,906	20,000	(3,094)
Other Revenues	210	690	(480)	7,181	7,253	(72)
	<u>15,473</u>	<u>20,290</u>	<u>(4,817)</u>	<u>183,542</u>	<u>189,903</u>	<u>(6,362)</u>
EXPENSES						
Payroll Costs	(12,392)	(13,136)	744	(116,121)	(123,989)	7,868
Other Expenses	(5,244)	(8,548)	3,304	(82,757)	(75,503)	(7,254)
	<u>(17,636)</u>	<u>(21,684)</u>	<u>4,048</u>	<u>(198,877)</u>	<u>(199,491)</u>	<u>615</u>
NET INC (EXP)	<u>(2,163)</u>	<u>(1,394)</u>	<u>(769)</u>	<u>(15,335)</u>	<u>(9,588)</u>	<u>(5,747)</u>

SCHOOL	SEPTEMBER ACTUAL	SEPTEMBER BUDGET	SEPTEMBER VARIANCE	YTD JAN-SEPT 9 MONTH ACTUAL	YTD JAN-SEPT 9 MONTH BUDGET	YTD JAN-SEPT VARIANCE
INCOME						
Tuition Revenue	8,965	16,350	(7,385)	73,933	81,900	(7,967)
Camp/Other Revenues	820	583	237	14,748	8,250	6,498
	<u>9,785</u>	<u>16,933</u>	<u>(7,148)</u>	<u>88,681</u>	<u>90,150</u>	<u>(1,469)</u>
EXPENSES						
Payroll Costs	(7,936)	(10,076)	2,140	(81,152)	(84,578)	3,426
Other Expenses	(1,614)	(2,349)	735	(20,024)	(21,414)	1,389
	<u>(9,550)</u>	<u>(12,425)</u>	<u>2,874</u>	<u>(101,176)</u>	<u>(105,992)</u>	<u>4,815</u>
NET INC (EXP)	<u>235</u>	<u>4,509</u>	<u>(4,274)</u>	<u>(12,496)</u>	<u>(15,842)</u>	<u>3,346</u>

COMBINED CHURCH & SCHOOL

	SEPTEMBER ACTUAL	SEPTEMBER BUDGET	SEPTEMBER VARIANCE	YTD JAN-SEPT 9 MONTH ACTUAL	YTD JAN-SEPT 9 MONTH BUDGET	YTD JAN-SEPT VARIANCE
INCOME	25,258	37,223	(11,966)	272,222	280,053	(7,831)
EXPENSES	<u>(27,186)</u>	<u>(34,109)</u>	<u>6,923</u>	<u>(300,053)</u>	<u>(305,483)</u>	<u>5,430</u>
NET REV (EXP)	<u>(1,928)</u>	<u>3,115</u>	<u>(5,043)</u>	<u>(27,831)</u>	<u>(25,430)</u>	<u>(2,401)</u>

OBSERVATIONS:

CHURCH: YTD Tithes and offerings are behind by \$8,000 (\$3,196 reported through Sept plus \$5,000 which was prepaid for Oct-Dec in June). Payroll expenses have a favorable variance because we budgeted for a part-time bookkeeper which we have not hired. Other expenses are over budget due to legal expenses paid for LOI review.

SCHOOL: The YTD shortfall in Tuition has been covered by Summer Camp Receipts. Both School Payroll and Other Expenses have been lower than budgeted due to the delayed start of school.

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

TREASURER'S REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2020

BALANCE SHEET RECAP OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTS

<u>Assets:</u>	
57,861	Operating Cash
30,824	MIF (Demand Checking)
88,685	Total Bank Accounts
<u>Liability:</u>	
\$ (58,100)	Park National PPP Loan
(17,190)	Mission Investment Fund Loan
(75,290)	
<u>Restricted Fund Balances:</u>	
\$ 4,606	Capital Fund
312	Here, Near, Far Children
1,918	Memorial Fund
1,500	MIF Principal Paydown
529	Morrissey Fund
2,300	Preschool-Continuing Ed
1,950	Youth Fund
\$ 13,115	

2020 CASH FLOW PROJECTIONS

	OPENING OPERATING CASH	CHURCH OPERATIONS (Rev less Exp)	SCHOOL OPERATIONS (Rev less Exp)	MIF Loan Principal Pyt & PPP Govt Loan	CLOSING OPERATING CASH	
JAN	63,215	14,719	5,632	(435)	83,131	Actual
FEB	83,131	(5,290)	4,979	(883)	81,937	Actual
MAR	81,937	(2,857)	2,669	(1,212)	80,537	Actual
APR	80,537	8,879	(2,459)	58,100	145,057	Actual
MAY	145,057	(6,787)	(4,691)	(450)	133,129	Actual
JUNE	133,129	2,990	(10,918)	(448)	124,753	Actual
JULY	124,753	(19,441)	(4,522)	(458)	100,332	Actual
AUG	100,332	(5,385)	(3,421)	(455)	91,071	Actual
SEPT	91,071	(2,163)	235	(458)	88,685	Actual
		(15,335)	(12,496)	YTD INCOME & EXP STMT		
OCT	88,685	(401)	4,509	(450)	92,343	Budget
NOV	92,343	(6,762)	(486)	(450)	84,645	Budget
DEC	84,645	2,770	4,559	(450)	91,524	Budget

3 Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.
Refrain

4 Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Refrain

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn #543 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

1 "Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."

2 "Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story,
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."

3 "Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you,
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

Sunday, November 8, 9:30 AM Online

Hymn WOV #752 "Here I Am, Lord"

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

- 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*
- 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10; 4:1-11

¹Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ²Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me. ³But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD. ⁴But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. ⁶The captain came and said to him, "What are you doing sound asleep? Get up, call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish." ⁷The sailors said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸Then they said to him, "Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" ⁹I am a Hebrew, he replied. "I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." ¹⁰Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them so. ¹¹Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. ¹²He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you." ¹³Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. ¹⁴Then they cried out to the LORD, "Please, O LORD, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you." ¹⁵So they picked Jonah up and threw

Kelly Rogers is up for re-election to a third and final 2 year term at the 11/15 meeting.

Nominating committee is now seeking nominations for council positions.

Holding Your Family Together (book study): 3 couples meeting via Zoom on Wednesdays at 8 pm.

Bible Bagels and Brew meeting at church on Tuesdays at 9:30 am.

Pastor Steve and Pastor Gary from St. John's are going to work on a joint Advent devotional project.

Staff Reports

Office Manager: No items to report this month.

Preschool Report: Pia communicated via email this month as she has been out of office. School Board minutes were sent via email.

Beginning October 1, attendance increased by 6 students. This is an increase in revenue of \$2,750/month.

Pia was able to secure an Early Learning Coalition grant of \$7,980.

Committee Reports

Community Ministry Report: Second Saturday Sandwich Making (cottage style) continues. Thanks to Kari and Pia, a school family also participated, as well as a preschool teacher. A letter will be sent to the preschool families inviting them to participate in this ministry. The shopping problem has been solved, but Julius and Linda are seeking someone to deliver the sandwiches.

NEED 2 THRIVENT CARDS to fund this ministry through the end of the calendar year.

Third Saturday Sandwich making continues under Nancy Steffen's leadership.

Growing Together Garden: Grandpa Straw Hat has experienced some health issues and that in combination with continued hot temperatures has delayed the next steps in the garden temporarily.

School Board: Minutes sent to council.

Other Business

Congregation Special Meeting 10/18

Fall Congregation Meeting 11/15 for council elections, budget approval

Next Council Meeting 11/9 at 6:30 PM

Adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Breanne Johnsen, Council Secretary

MINUTES FROM Council

PENDING APPROVAL

Nativity Lutheran Church Council Meeting, Monday October 12, 2020

Present: Pastor Steve Winsor, Kelly Rogers, Mark Glazener, Carolyne New, Breanne Johnsen, Julius Roehl, Shonda Staudt

Absent and Excused: None

Opening Devotion/Prayer: Pastor Steve Winsor

Previous Month's Meeting Minutes: Reviewed. Motion to approve, seconded and passed on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Written report submitted by Carolyne New

Reviewed the September 2020 financial reports. Tithes and offerings are behind by \$8000. Payroll expenses have a favorable variance as we budgeted for a bookkeeper, but have not hired one. Over budget in other areas (i.e. legal expenses for the LOI review).

School shortfall in tuition has been offset by summer camp receipts, expenses have been lower than budgeted due to delayed start of school.

Letter for the 2021 budget requests and pledges has been sent. Budget committee meeting next week to work on preparing the budget for the meeting 11/15.

Pastor's Report:

Nativity returned to in person worship on 9/20/2020. On 9/27/2020 an 11 AM service was added. Both services have the same content and delivery. 9:30 service is still broadcast on Facebook.

Assistance with both services is needed, please call the office to sign up!

A \$2,000 grant from the synod toward the purchase of technology has been secured.

Council Positions:

On behalf of the council, Pastor Steve extends a heartfelt thank you to Earl Osborne for the love and leadership he brought to Nativity's council for the last 4 years. We look forward to his continued active engagement at Nativity. Many thanks and much love for your time and talent, Earl.

Per constitution guidelines, Mark Glazener replaces Earl Osborne for the remainder of Earl's term. On 11/15 Mark will be up for election for a full 2 year term.

him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶Then the men feared the LORD even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows. ¹⁷ But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you. ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ⁶When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. ⁸Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish." ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

¹But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶The Lord GOD appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh,

that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Luke 18:13

¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

Hymn #798, verses 1-4

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

- 1 "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
- 2 "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?
- 3 "Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
- 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"

Hymn #733, verses 1 & 2 **"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

- 2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

CUDDLE UP WITH A GOOD BOOK

Transportation in Many Cultures by Martha E.H. Rustad

Amazing Airplanes by Tony Mitton & Ant Parker

If I Built a Car by Chris Van Dusen

Terrific Trains by Tony Mitton

Bicycle Book by Gail Gibbons

Freight Train by Donal Crews

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Take a ride around your community together. Find a local map and drive (or ride) down roads that you haven't yet explored. Compare how it is similar to and different from the road near your home. Look for traffic signs and hunt for the letters of the alphabet.

DRIVING ALONG SONG

Sing to the tune of "Skip to My Lou". Create more verses together by replacing the action word and type of transportation then let your child decide where it is going.

***Drive, drive, drive the car,
Drive, drive, drive the car,
Drive, drive, drive the car,
To the supermarket.***

***Fly, fly, fly the plane,
Fly, fly, fly the plane,
Fly, fly, fly the plane,
Fly across the sky.***

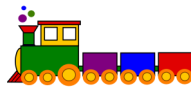
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Fynn Pengue November 3



THIS MONTH'S THEME

This month your child will explore the fascinating world of transportation. They will design a road, traffic signal and bridge. Your child will explore flight in an airplane, a hot air balloon and a helicopter. Then, they'll make a boat and test it in water. They'll count dollars and buy a ticket on the ferry. There are so many ways to go, which way is your family's favorite?



MORE THAN JUST FUN

What is your child's favorite way to play? Play is actually a child's work. Through play, your child is building key life skills. Here are five reasons to play today:

1. Children learn how to share and take turns.
2. When children play, they boost communication skills. They learn to express feelings, use appropriate language and build social relationships.
3. As children play, they encounter many opportunities to problem solve, practice conflict resolution skills and apply logical thinking skills.
4. Gross motor play that encourages safe risk-taking such as climbing, running and jumping, helps enable children to feel more comfortable taking risks in the future.
5. When children participate in free play, they have the opportunity to make choices, plan their time and follow through with activities.

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED CONCEPTS

Letters: Dd, (dog, drum and duck) Jj (jellyfish, jar and jaguar) and Uu (umbrella, underwear and unicycle)

Shape: Triangle

Numbers: 5 and 6

Color: Yellow

Character Trait: Generous

Sunday, November 15, 9:30 AM Online

Hymn #873, verses 1 & 4

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

- 1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

- 4 Still lift your standard high, still march in firm array,
as pilgrims through the darkness wend till dawns the golden day.

Refrain

Isaiah 6:1-8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" ⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Luke 5:8-10

⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

Hymn #809 "Send Me, Lord"

- 1 Send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me, Lord.
- 2 Lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus, lead me, Lord.
- 3 Fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus, fill me, Lord.

Hymn #815, verses 1 & 3 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Sunday, November 22, 9:30 AM Online

Hymn #865, verses 1-3 "Praise, My Soul, the king of Heaven"

- 1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!
- 2 Praise him for his grace and favor to our forebears in distress.
Praise him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!
- 3 Tenderly he shields and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely as his mercy flows.

Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34

¹In the fourth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ²Take a scroll and write on it all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel and Judah and all the nations, from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah until today. ³It may be that when the house of Judah hears of all the disasters that I intend to do to them, all of them may turn from their evil ways, so that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

⁴Then Jeremiah called Baruch son of Neriah, and Baruch wrote on a scroll at Jeremiah's dictation all the words of the LORD that he had spoken to him. ⁵And Jeremiah ordered Baruch, saying, "I am prevented from entering the house of the LORD; ⁶so you go yourself, and on a fast day in the hearing of the people in the LORD's house you shall read the words of the LORD from the scroll that you have written at my dictation. You shall read them also in the hearing of all the people of Judah who come up from their towns. ⁷It may be that their plea will come before the LORD, and that all of them will turn from their evil ways, for great is the anger and wrath that the LORD has pronounced against this people." ⁸And Baruch son of Neriah did all that the prophet Jeremiah ordered him about reading from the scroll the words of the

Early Years

November 2020 • Page 2

Tame screen time

Electronic devices often keep little ones happily occupied, which can make limiting screen time a challenge for busy parents. We asked parents to share their top tips for cutting back, and here's what they told us.

Keep track. "I discovered this idea last year after taking my daughter to an arcade. When we got home, she got four checkers to use as 'game



tokens.' She hands me a token in exchange for 15 minutes of screen time. When she's out of tokens, her screen time is up for the day."

Play games. "The car is the number one place where my child begs to play on my phone. So we started playing screen-free games instead. Our favorite is where we act like storybook characters and have to guess each other's

identities. We might pretend to breathe fire like a dragon or talk in a squeaky voice like a mouse."

Redired. "I found this strategy by accident. My daughter asked to use my tablet because she was bored. I cheerfully replied, 'But it's not tablet time, it's coloring time.' It worked! Now if she asks for too much screen time, I suggest it's time for a different activity. She usually shifts gears without complaint."♥

PARENT TO PARENT

Following directions: A simple strategy

My son Lucas sometimes struggles to follow directions when he does schoolwork or chores. I asked his teacher for advice, and she said that before she gives instructions, she signals students to listen by touching her ear.



So when Lucas left his Legos on the floor, I held my finger to my ear and said, "Please put your Legos in the bin." Lucas laughed and replied, "Mrs. Sanchez does the same thing!" And he promptly did exactly as I asked. Then recently, he had an assignment to draw healthy Thanksgiving foods. I read the instructions aloud, tapping my ear for healthy and Thanksgiving. He listened, then drew foods like turkey and carrots—and no pumpkin pie.

I like having a silent reminder to use, and Lucas is getting better at following instructions.♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote school readiness, parent involvement, and more effective parenting. Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated
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Q & A

Praise that builds self-confidence

Q: I usually just say "good job" when my daughter does something well. Is there a better way to praise her?

A: Everyone wants to hear that they're doing well, and your child is no different. While there's nothing wrong with saying "good job," a more specific compliment tells your daughter exactly what she did well.

If she shows you her completed jigsaw puzzle, you might say, "That puzzle has a lot of pieces—you really stuck with it." Or when she shares a toy with a sibling, you could tell her, "I noticed you were generous by letting your brother play with your favorite train."

She'll feel good about herself—and be likely to find more ways to solve problems on her own or get along with others.♥



ACTIVITY CORNER

Think outside—and inside—the box

Big cardboard boxes can inspire your child to think creatively. Let him try these ideas:

● A box can become a cozy "classroom" for your youngster's stuffed animals. He could "teach" them by reading aloud or showing them how to count.

● Encourage your child to climb inside a box and draw on the "walls" with crayons. Maybe he'll design stars and planets so it looks like an outer space scene.

Or perhaps he'll create an undersea environment with colorful fish.

● Suggest that your youngster decorate the outside of a box. He might draw gumdrops and lollipops to turn it into a gingerbread house or add zigzags to make a race car, for instance.



Tip: No large box? Have your child help you make one. Open several smaller boxes at the seams, and tape them together.♥

Early Years

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREAT START

November 2020

Nativity Lutheran Church & School

Pia Heiser, Director

KID
BITS

Conference time

A parent-teacher conference, whether virtual or in person, lets you share information about your youngster and learn how you can help her. Mention what she likes best about school and what's challenging for her. And ask what you can do that will build on what she's learning.

Dancing flashlight

Here's a fun way for your youngster to explore the beat in music. Together, take a flashlight into a dark room. Play a fast song—can he make the flashlight "dance" to the music? Now play a slower tune while he moves the beam. *Idea:* Have him make colorful beams of light by taping squares of colored tissue paper over the end of the flashlight.

Prevent choking

Little ones don't always chew their food completely, which can lead to choking. Minimize the risk by making sure your child always sits down while she eats. Slice grapes, carrots, and hot dogs in half lengthwise. Also, wait until she's older for hard candies and chewing gum.

Worth quoting

"If you look the right way, you can see that the whole world is a garden." *Frances Hodgson Burnett*

Just for fun

Q: What followed the piglet?

A: Its tail.



I'm an alphabet detective!

Let your child play detective and investigate the alphabet with these fun "cases." He'll practice recognizing letters and their sounds—skills that will help him learn to read.

Note: Have your youngster write each letter, A–Z, on a separate slip of paper to use for these activities.

Mysterious sounds

Put all the letters in a pillowcase. Secretly pull one out, and say a word that starts with the letter, emphasizing its sound. ("R-r-rainbow.") Encourage your child to repeat the word and tell you the first letter. ("R-r-rainbow, R!") Now let him pull out a letter and make its sound for you to "investigate."

Hidden clues

Help your youngster make a "magnifying glass": Cut the center from a small paper plate, tape plastic wrap over the hole, and attach a craft-stick handle. Then, have him gather items



with tiny print (toothpaste tube, gift card, coin). Can he use his magnifying glass to spot every letter of the alphabet? To keep track, as he finds each one he can turn the slip of paper with the matching letter upside down.

Vanishing letters

Ask your child to arrange the letters in ABC order. Next, he should close his eyes while you take away a letter. His mission is to tell you which letter has "disappeared." If he needs help, he could sing the alphabet song as he touches each letter. Play again, and let him make a letter "vanish." ♥

What we're thankful for

Noticing small things to be grateful for each day helps everyone in your family have a brighter outlook. Here's how to start a daily thankfulness routine.

1. Set aside time every day to share what you're grateful for. Perhaps you'll chat at bedtime or during dinner.
2. Have each family member name three things she's thankful for that day—big and little. Your child might say she's grateful for you and for takeout pizza, for instance.
3. Let your youngster make a gratitude notebook. Help her write down what everyone is thankful for each day and illustrate it. *Tip:* Read over past entries together as a reminder of all the positives in your lives. ♥



LORD in the LORD's house. ²¹Then the king sent Jehudi to get the scroll, and he took it from the chamber of Elishama the secretary; and Jehudi read it to the king and all the officials who stood beside the king. ²²Now the king was sitting in his winter apartment (it was the ninth month), and there was a fire burning in the brazier before him. ²³As Jehudi read three or four columns, the king would cut them off with a penknife and throw them into the fire in the brazier, until the entire scroll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier. ²⁷Now, after the king had burned the scroll with the words that Baruch wrote at Jeremiah's dictation, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: ²⁸Take another scroll and write on it all the former words that were in the first scroll, which King Jehoiakim of Judah has burned. ³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Luke 22:19-20

¹⁹Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

Hymn #483 "Here Is Bread"

Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.
Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

Refrain

In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here. *Refrain*

3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified. *Refrain*

Hymn #693, verses 1 & 4

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

1 Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All be safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.
God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.
Gather then thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified, in thy garner to abide.
Come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home! 13

Sunday, November 29, 1st Sunday of Advent

Hymn #250, verses 1 & 3

"Blessed Be the God of Israel"

- 1 Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free
and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David's tree.
So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.
- 3 My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way,
to tell God's people they are saved from sin's eternal sway.
Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and never cease
to drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.

Daniel 6:6-27

⁶So the presidents and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, "O King Darius, live forever! ⁷All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. ⁸Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked." ⁹Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict. ¹⁰Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. ¹¹The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. ¹²Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, "O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?" The king answered, "The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked." ¹³Then they responded to the king, "Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day." ¹⁴When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. ¹⁵Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, "Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed." ¹⁶Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!" ¹⁷A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. ¹⁹Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. ²⁰When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?" ²¹Daniel then said to the king, "O king, live forever! ²²My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before

him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong." ²³Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. ²⁴The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions — they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces. ²⁵Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: "May you have abundant prosperity! ²⁶I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring forever. His kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. ²⁷He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions."

Luke 23:1-5

¹Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ²They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." ³Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." ⁵But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

Hymn #260, verses 1-3

"The King Shall Come"

- 1 The King shall come when morning dawns
2 and light triumphant breaks,
when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.
- 2 Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.
- 3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn when Christ, victorious, rose
and left the lonesome place of death, despite the rage of foes.

Hymn #264, verses 1 & 4

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

- 1 Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

- 4 His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding: *Refrain* 15