

**LAST SUNDAY
OF THE CHURCH YEAR
NOVEMBER 22, 2020**

**IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod**



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LutheranMercedes/](https://www.facebook.com/LutheranMercedes/)**

**Rev. Ed Weber,
Pastor**

**956.463.1305
eweber10@aol.com**

**Website:
lutheranmercedes.
com**

***Sunday*
9:00 A.M.
Worship Service**

**10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Class &
Sunday School**

**Holy Communion:
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday**

**Website:
Misionemanuel.com**

**Office Hrs, M-F
8 am to 12 pm
CCLI # 2585510**



**“When the Son of Man comes
in His glory, and all the holy
angels with Him, then He will
sit on the throne of His
glory. All the nations will be
gathered before Him, and He
will separate them one from
another, as a shepherd
divides his sheep from the
goats.” (Matthew 25:31-32)**

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR
NOVEMBER 22, 2020

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon.

Next week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Heavenly Father, You care for all people regardless of their wealth or heritage, and You have made me an heir of Your salvation. Strengthen me, that I care for the poor, weak, and lonely, and that all my neighbors may know Your gracious love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

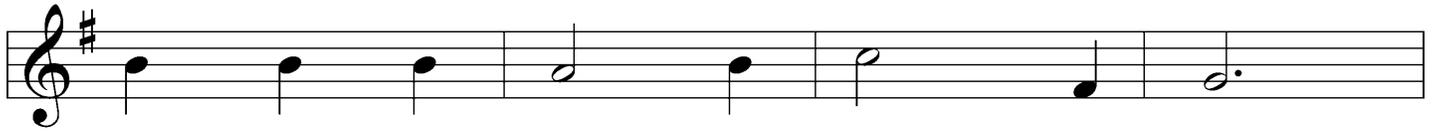
AS WE GATHER - Today is the Last Sunday of the Church Year. This Sunday is traditionally filled with themes of Christ's roles as King and Judge. But consider these words from Psalm 95: "We are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand." We are God's chosen sheep. He is our Shepherd. We follow Him as He goes to seek the lost, bring back the stray, and bind up the injured.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship)

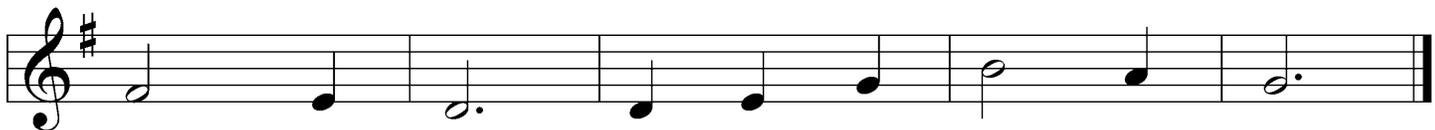
OPENING HYMN *O Jesus, King Most Wonderful* **LSB 554**



1 O Je - sus, King most won - der - ful!
2 When once You vis - it dark - ened hearts,
3 O Je - sus, light of all be - low,
4 May ev - 'ry heart con - fess Your name,
5 Oh, may our tongues for - ev - er bless,



O Con - quer - or re - nowned! O Source of peace in -
Then truth be - gins to shine, Then earth - ly van - i -
The fount of life and fire, Sur - pass - ing all the
For - ev - er You a - dore, And, seek - ing You, it -
May we love You a - lone And ev - er in our



ef - fa - ble, In whom all joys are found:
ty de - parts, Then kin - dles love di - vine.
joys we know, All that we can de - sire:
self in - flame To seek You more and more!
lives ex - press The im - age of Your own!

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Δ INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

△ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (John 20:19-23)

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

△ INTROIT *Psalm 39:4-5, 7-8, 12a; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13*

P Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

C “Lord, make me to know my end, and what is the

measure of my days, that I may know how frail I am.

P Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is as nothing before You; certainly every man at his best state is but vapor.

C “And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You.

P Deliver me from all my transgressions; do not make me the reproach of the foolish.

C “Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry; do not be silent at my tears;

P Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

△ KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



△ GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

△ SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

△ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes

fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24*

(God will search for His sheep.)

11 ‘For thus says the Lord God: “Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day. 13 And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14 I will feed them in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I will feed My flock, and I will make them lie down,” says the Lord God. 16 “I will seek what was lost and bring back what was driven away, bind up the broken and strengthen what was sick; but I will destroy the fat and the strong, and feed them in judgment.” 20 ‘Therefore thus says the Lord God to them: “Behold, I Myself will judge between the fat and the lean sheep. 21 Because you have pushed with side and shoulder, butted all the weak ones with your horns, and scattered them abroad, 22 therefore I will save My flock, and they shall no longer be a prey; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. 23 I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them—My servant David. He shall feed them and be

their shepherd. 24 And I, the Lord, will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 95:1–7a; antiphon: v. 7a*

P For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.

C Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

P For the Lord is the great God, and the great King above all gods.

C In His hand are the deep places of the earth; the heights of the hills are His also.

P The sea is His, for He made it; and His hands formed the dry land.

C Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

P For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *(Children remain seated)*

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 15:20–28*

(The last enemy to be destroyed is death.)

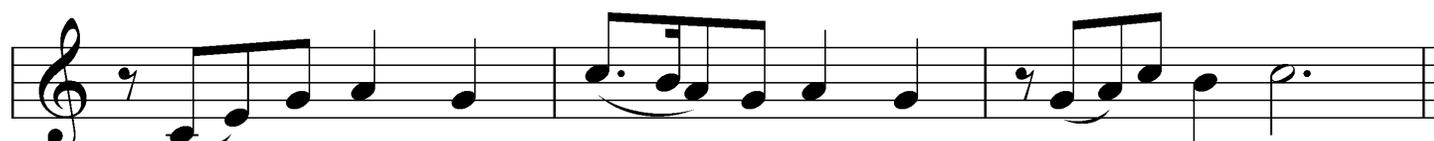
20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But each one in his own order: Christ the

firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Δ ALLELUIA and VERSE



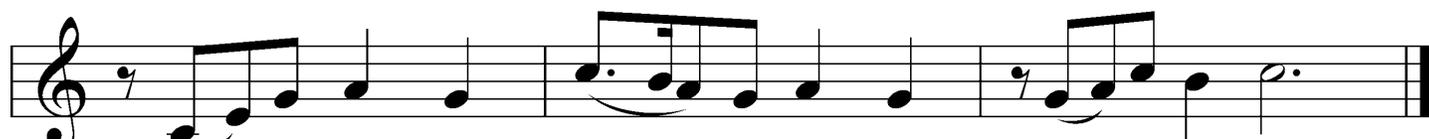
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

△ HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

(The separation of the sheep and the goats)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C Glory to You , O Lord.

31 “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. 33 And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ 37 “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ 40 And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ 41 “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 43 I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ 44 “Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ 45 Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ 46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

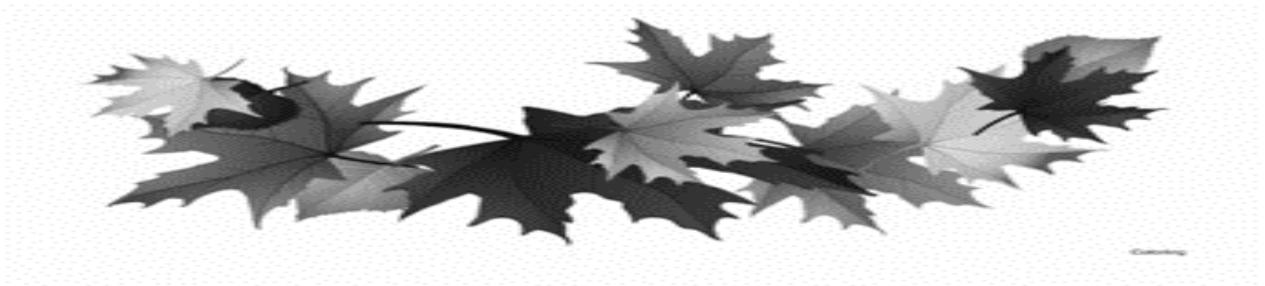
C₁₀ Praise to You, O Christ.

Δ APOSTLES CREED

All I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

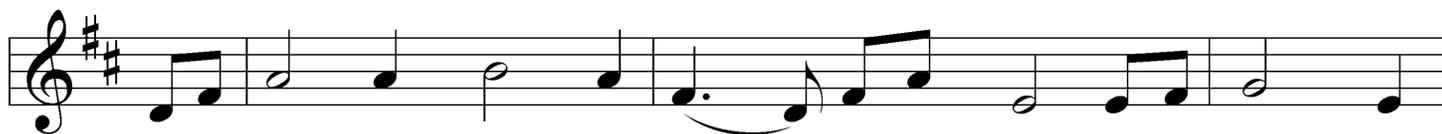
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



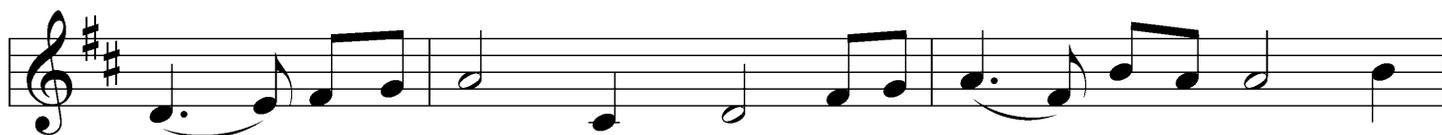
HYMN OF THE DAY

Behold a Host, Arrayed in White

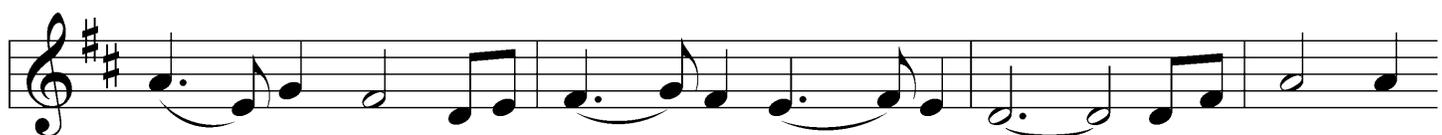
LSB 676



1 Be - hold a host, ar - rayed in white, Like thou - sand
2 De - spised and scorned, they so - journed here; But now, how
3 O bless - ed saints in bright ar - ray Now safe - ly



snow - clad moun - tains bright! With palms they stand; Who
glo - rious they ap - pear! Those mar - tyrs stand, A
home in end - less day, Ex - tol the Lord, Who



is this band Be - fore the throne of light? These are the
priest - ly band, God's throne for - ev - er near. On earth they
with His Word Sus - tained you on the way. The steep and



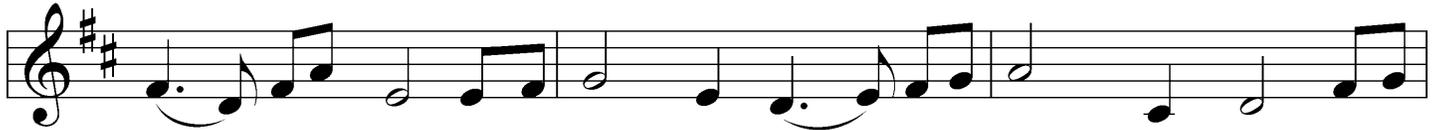
saints of glo - rious fame, Who from the great af -
wept through bit - ter years; Now God has wiped a -
nar - row path you trod; You toiled and sowed the



flic - tion came And in the flood Of Je - sus' blood
way their tears, Trans - formed their strife To heav'n - ly life,
Word a - broad; Re - joice and bring Your fruits and sing



Are cleansed from guilt and shame. They now serve God both
And freed them from their fears. They now en - joy the
Be - fore the throne of God. The myr - iad an - gels



day and night; They sing their songs in end - less light. Their
Sab - bath rest, The heav'n - ly ban - quet of the blest; The
raise their song; O saints, sing with that hap - py throng! Lift



an - thems ring As they all sing With an - gels shin - ing bright.
Lamb, their Lord, At fes - tive board Him - self is host and guest.
up one voice; Let heav'n re - jice In our Re - deem - er's song!

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SERMON *"No Recounts!!"* (Matthew 25:34)

OFFERING *(Please place your offering in the offering plate as you leave.)*



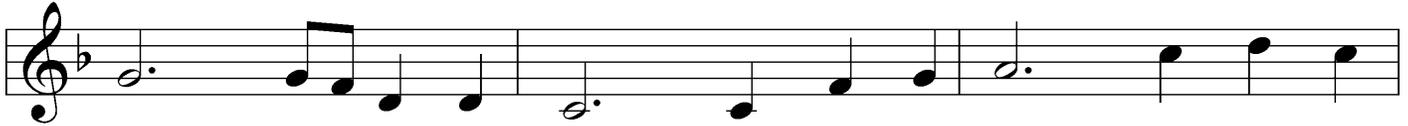
OFFERTORY

The Tree of Life

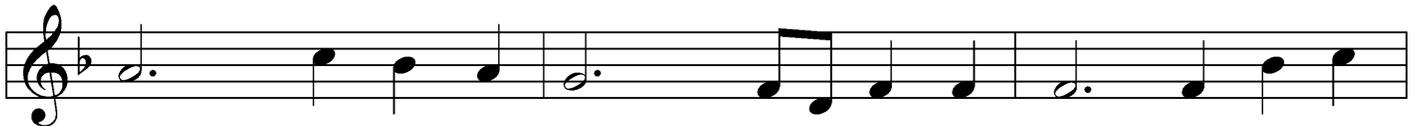
LSB 561



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry good In E - den's
2 The still - ness of that sa - cred grove Was bro - ken,
3 What mer - cy God showed to our race, A plan of
4 Now from that tree of Je - sus' shame Flows life e -



ho - ly or - chard stood, And of its fruit so pure and
as the ser - pent strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -
res - cue by His grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's
ter - nal in His name; For all who trust and will be -



sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this
guile And Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of
seed, The One to fill our great - est need— For on a
lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew An - oth - er tree, of which they
sad - ness when the breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and
tree up - lift - ed high His on - ly Son for sin would
fruit so pure and sweet The Lord in - vites the world to



knew; Its love - ly limbs with fruit a -
death, Its aw - ful poi - son first dis -
die, Would drink the cup of scorn and
eat, To find with - in this cross of



dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.
 played With - in the world so new - ly made.
 dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!
 wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

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△ SHARING OF THE PEACE *"Peace be with you" (John 20:21)*
[using ASL (American Sign Language)]

△ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Dear heavenly Father, You promise to seek the lost. We pray for all those who have wandered away from Your Church. We pray that You would strengthen us to reach out to them, to receive them with open arms and open hearts when they return home. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Give ear to our cry.

P Lord, You promise to strengthen the weak. Send Your strength and courage to all those who need it, to the aging, the lonely, the tired, and the vulnerable. Protect and defend them from the wolves of this world. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Give ear to our cry.

P Lord, You promise to feed Your sheep with good pasture. Raise up faithful servants and shepherds to share the nourishment of Your Word and Sacraments with all Your sheep. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Give ear to our cry.

P Lord, You promise to rescue Your flock from all enemies. Guard and keep us from the enemies of sin, death, and Satan. Lead us away from temptation and always closer to the arms of our Good Shepherd. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Give ear to our cry.

P Lord, You promise to bind up the injured. Bring Your healing to all those who suffer now through injury, illness, and oppression, [especially . . .]. Heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Give ear to our cry.

P Lord, by Your Word You have told us that the last enemy to be destroyed is death. As we await the return of Jesus and the resurrection of the dead, we still grieve and mourn when the enemy of death strikes our friends and family. Be near all those who are mourning the death of loved ones, [especially . . .]. Comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Give ear to our cry.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

△ LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

All Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

△ BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

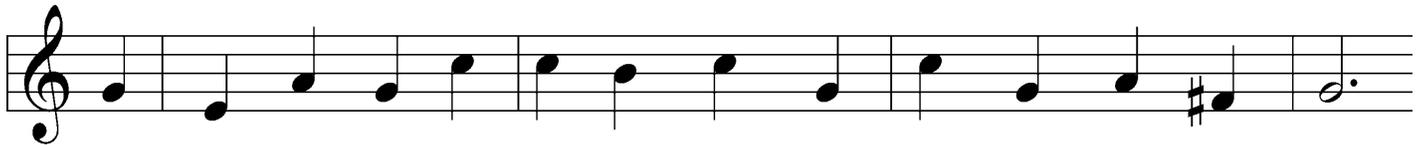
C Thanks be to God.

△ BENEDICTION

P The LORD bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* LSB 733



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad-ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou-sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE



*Portals of Prayer
for October to December 2020 are available in the
Narthrex or office.*

*Adult Bible Class/Sunday School
at 10:30 a.m.*

Pastor Weber leading the class!

*OFFICE will be closed Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26th
and also Nov. 27th.*

Memory Verse Challenge

The LCMS invites everyone to join together memorizing a verse together each week.

This week's memory verse: *Revelation 22:20*

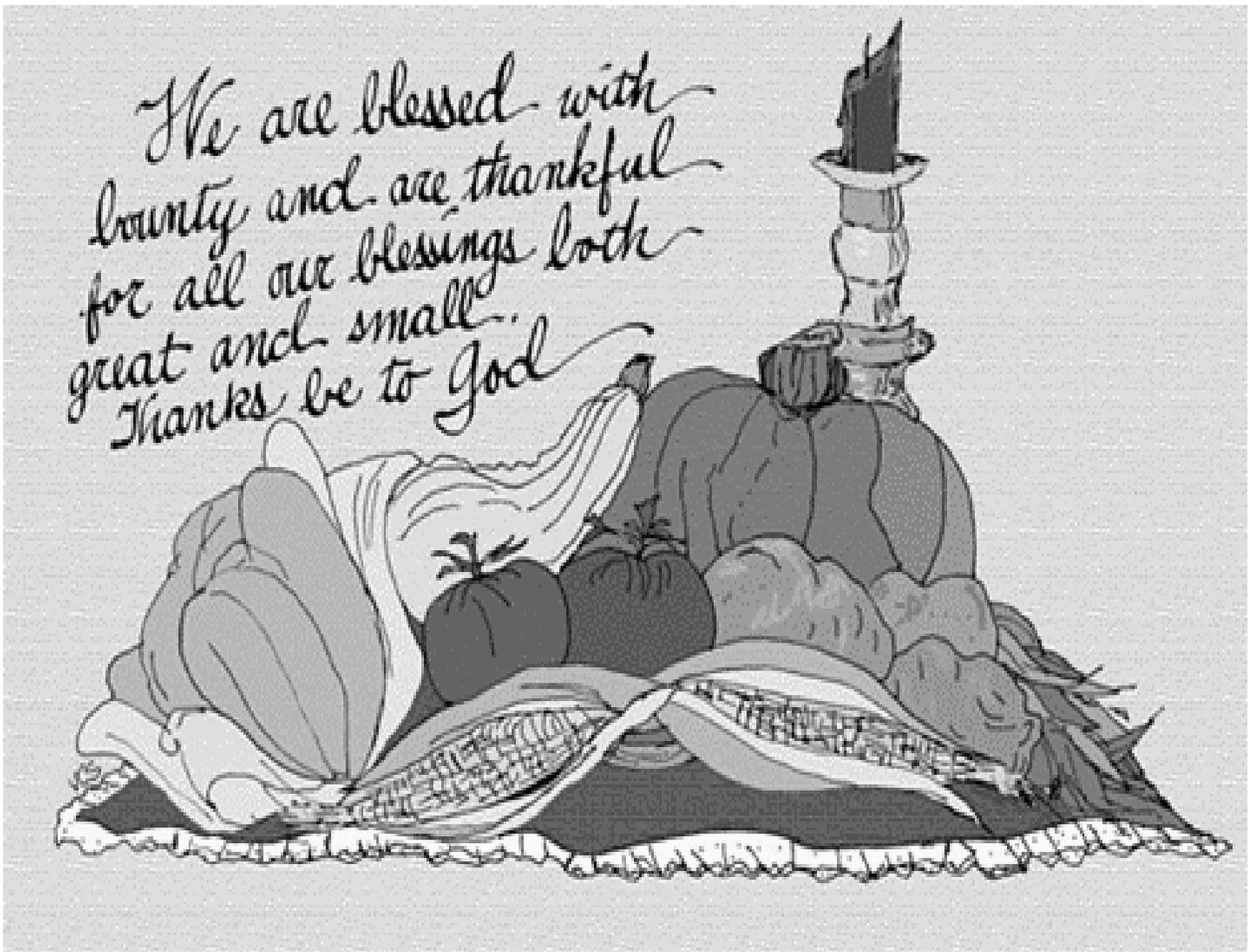
"He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!"

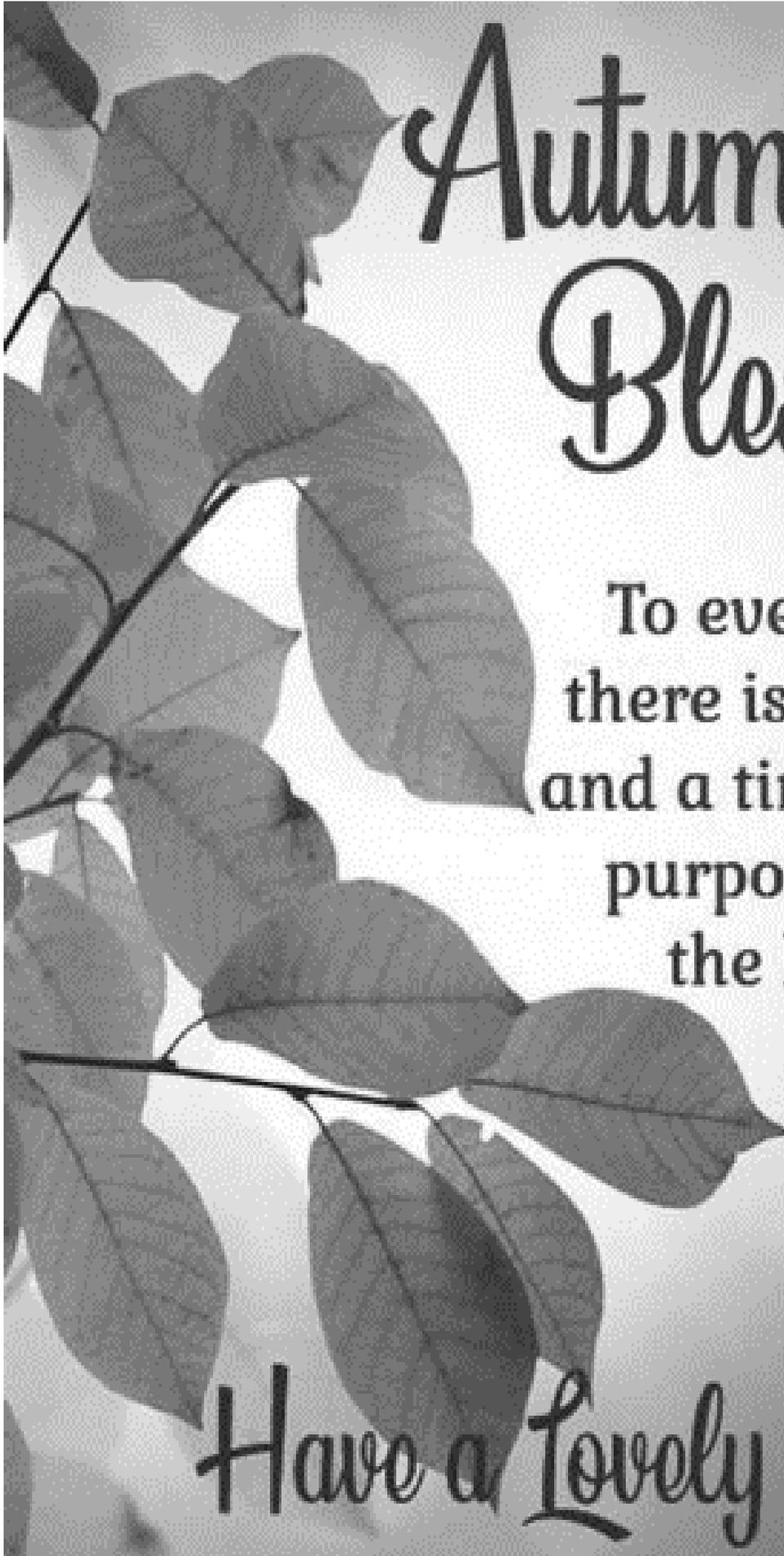
RGV LWML

The RGV Zone **LWML** held their Fall Rally on Sunday, November 8 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom. This virtual gathering was highlighted by the Opening Devotion by Rev. Richardson, of St. John in San Benito.

Doris Pickering, President, presided during the meeting.

Dawn Tighe from St. Paul in Harlingen was elected President for a two year term.





Autumn Blessings

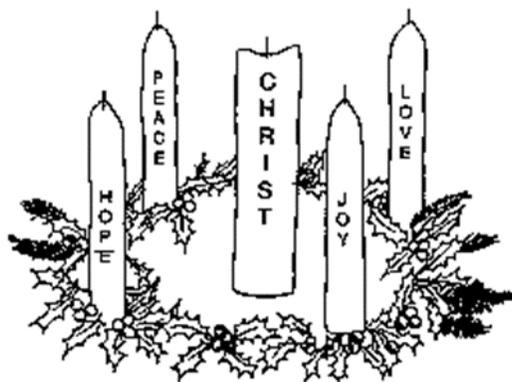
To every thing
there is a season,
and a time to every
purpose under
the heaven

Ecclesiastes
3:1 KJV

Have a Lovely Day

Advent, Christmas, & New Year Activities

Sunday	November 29th	1st Sunday in Advent Service	9:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Wednesday	December 2nd	Midweek 1 Advent Service	Soup Supper 5 p.m. Service 6 p.m.
Sunday	December 6th	2nd Sunday in Advent Service	9:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Wednesday	December 9th	Midweek 2 Advent Service	Soup Supper 5 p.m. Service 6 p.m.
Sunday	December 13th	3rd Sunday in Advent Service	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday	December 16th	Midweek 3 Advent Service	Soup Supper 5 p.m. Service 6 p.m.
Sunday	December 20th	4th Sunday in Advent Service	9:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Thursday	December 24th	Christmas Eve Service	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	December 31st	New Year's Eve Service	6:00 p.m.





Stay safe

Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule		
	November Sunday Servants:	December Servants:
Elder:	Earl Neuhaus	Ken Eilers
Altar Guild:	Loretta Eilers & Suzanne Wehling	Donna J. & Lorri M.
Music:	Bonny Winston	
This Week	Last Sunday of the Church Year	
Usher:	Dan Wehling	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
Next Week	First Sunday in Advent	
Usher:	Don Vogel	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am

By the Cross of Christ, We Enter the Kingdom of Our God and Father

When the crucified and risen Lord Jesus comes to judge the living and the dead, “he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats” (Matt. 25:32). “To those on his right,” who have been crucified and raised with Him through repentance and faith in His Gospel, He will grant the blessed kingdom of His Father (Matt. 25:34). Having been justified by His grace, they live unto righteousness in Him (Matt. 25:35–40). But “those on his left,” who trust in themselves and despise their neighbor, will depart “into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matt. 25:41). Until that day, the Lord searches for His sheep “as a shepherd seeks out his flock” (Ezek. 34:11–12). Through His preaching of repentance, He disciplines the proud sheep and goats, “the fat and the strong,” but through the preaching of forgiveness He rescues the lost, binds up the injured, strengthens the weak and feeds “the lean sheep” (Ezek. 34:16, 20). In this way, He destroys the power of death in the children of Adam by His cross, so that “in Christ shall all be made alive” by His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20–26).

11/15/2020

Sunday Worship	30	
Plate:		\$ 170.00
Envelopes:		\$ 1,333.00
Donation:		
Memorial:		
	Total:	\$ 1,503.00
Bible Class:	14	\$ 16.00

First Sunday in Advent

Readings:

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalms 80:1-7

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 11:1-10 or Mark 13:24-37