

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST  
NOVEMBER 8, 2020**

**IMMANUEL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
Missouri Synod**



**703 W 3<sup>RD</sup> Street  
Mercedes  
Texas 78570  
956.565.1518**

**Immanuelmercedes  
@gmail.com**

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

**Rev. Ed Weber,  
Pastor  
956.463.1305  
eweber10@aol.com**

**Website:  
lutheranmercedes.  
com**

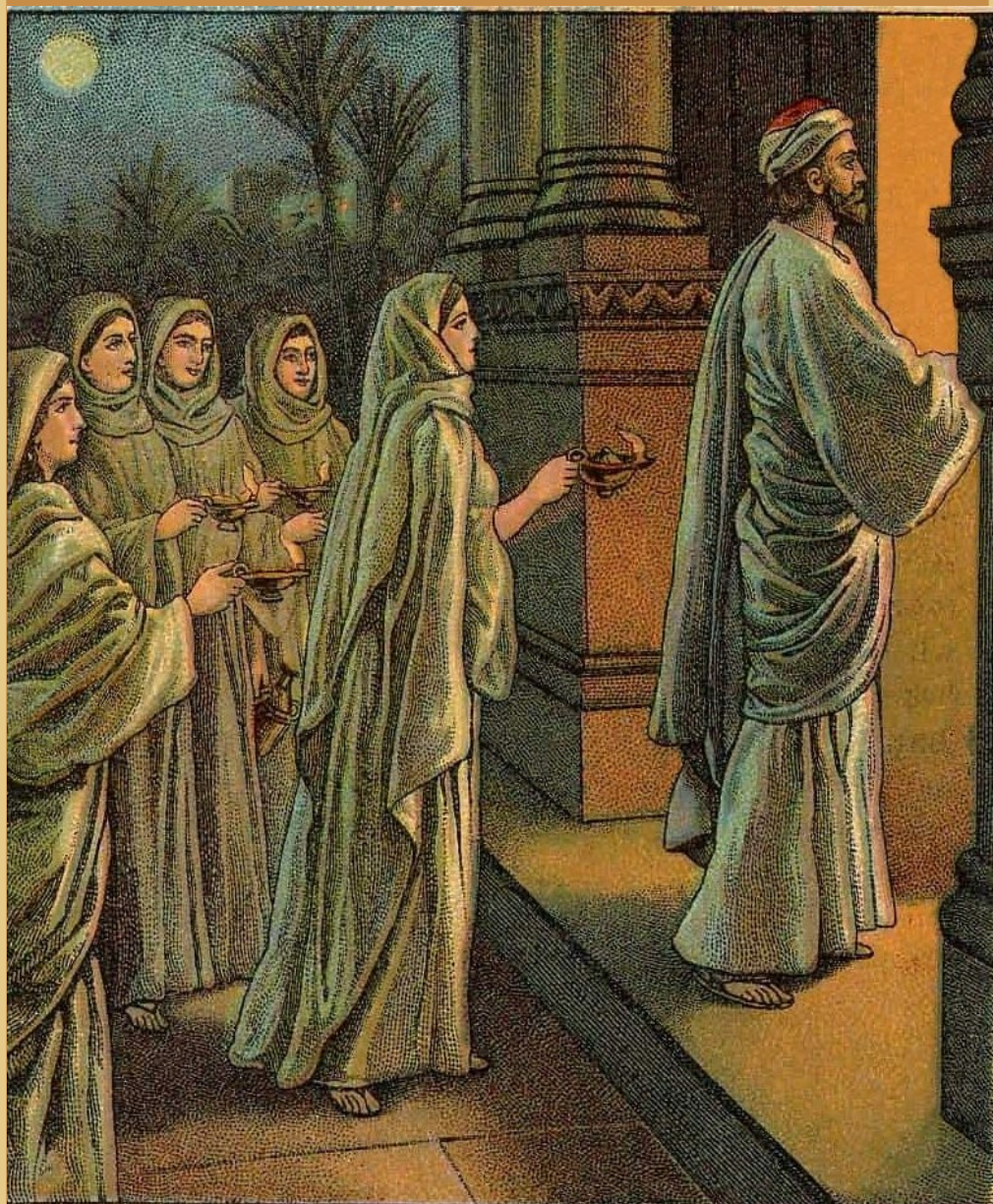
***Sunday*  
9:00 A.M.  
Worship Service**

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

**Holy Communion:  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**Website:  
Misionemanuel.com**

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



**“And while they went to buy,  
the bridegroom came,  
and those who were ready went  
in with him to the wedding;  
and the door was shut.”**

**(Matthew 25:10)**

<p><b>TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> <b>NOVEMBER 8, 2020</b></p>
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**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** - O Lord, encourage me with Your presence in Your Word and Sacraments, that I be strengthened for service to You and our neighbors as I await the return of Jesus, through the same 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** - We hear today these words from the apostle Paul concerning everlasting life: "We will always be with the Lord." Our Lord makes His presence known today in His Word and in the Lord's Supper. You have the assurance that when Jesus returns, you will spend everlasting life in His gracious presence.

**DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR**

**PAGE 203**

**WELCOME**

# PRELUDE

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

## OPENING HYMN

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

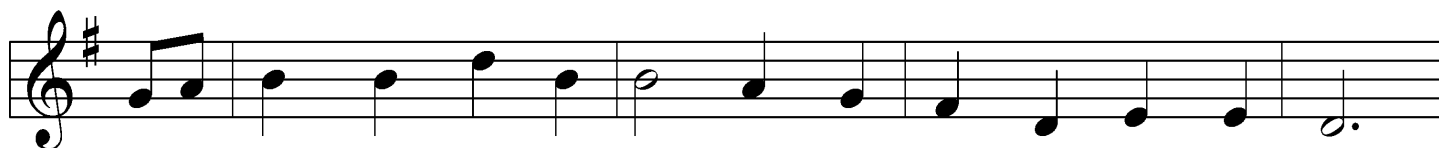
**LSB 515**



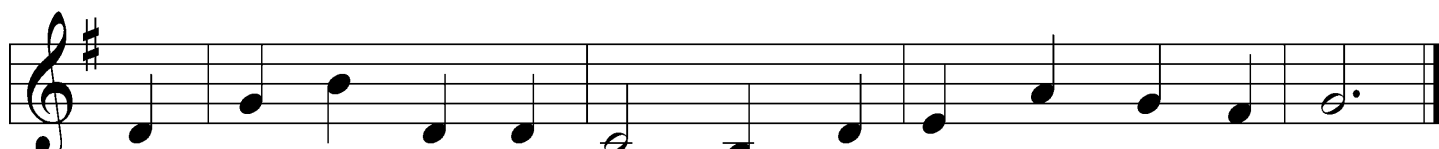
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;  
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride-groom near;  
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f' rings bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



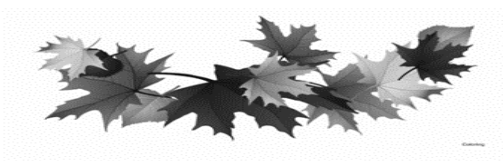
The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.  
Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.  
Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.  
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.  
A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride-groom is at hand.  
In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.  
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!



## Δ INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

## Δ 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 +

**Δ INTROIT** *Psalm 84:1, 9–12; antiphon: v. 3*

P Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young—even Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

**C    How lovely is Your tabernacle, O Lord of hosts!**

P O God, behold our shield, and look upon the face of  
Your anointed.

**C For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

P For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give  
grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those  
who walk uprightly.

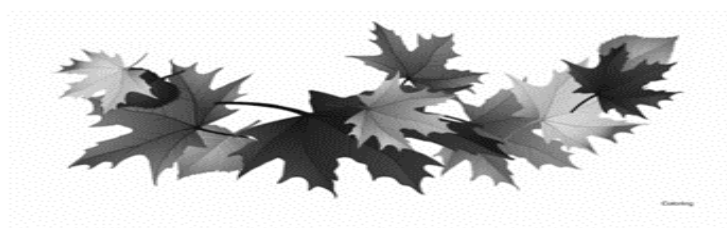
**C O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in You!**

P Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young—even Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

**Δ 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-shipped 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. Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His Bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His

eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**     *Amos 5:18–24*

(The day of the Lord is coming.)

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! For what good is the day of the Lord to you? It will be darkness, and not light. 19 It will be as though a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him! Or as though he went into the house, leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him! 20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light? Is it not very dark, with no brightness in it? 21 “I hate, I despise your feast days, and I do not savor your sacred assemblies. 22 Though you offer Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them, nor will I regard your fattened peace offerings. 23 Take away from Me the noise of your songs, for I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments. 24 But let justice run down like water, and righteousness like a mighty stream.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**     *Psalm 70; antiphon: v. 4*

**P** Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; and let those who love Your salvation say continually, “Let God be magnified!”

**C Make haste, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O Lord!**

**P** Let them be ashamed and confounded who seek my life; let them be turned back and confused who desire my hurt.

- C Let them be turned back because of their shame, who say, “Aha, aha!”**
- P** Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; and let those who love Your salvation say continually, “Let God be magnified!”
- C But I am poor and needy; make haste to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay.**
- P** Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; and let those who love Your salvation say continually, “Let God be magnified!”

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** *(Children remain seated)*

**EPISTLE** *1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

(We will always be with the Lord.)

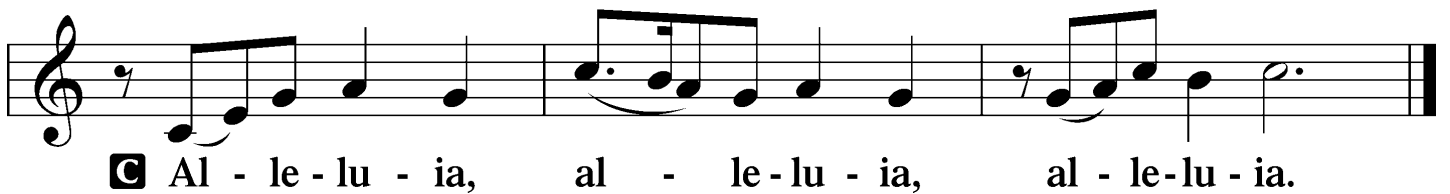
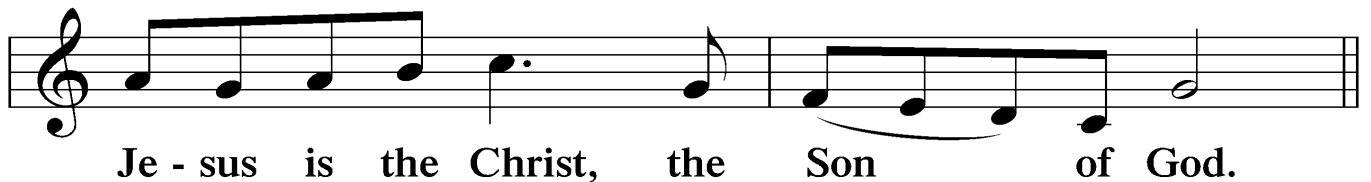
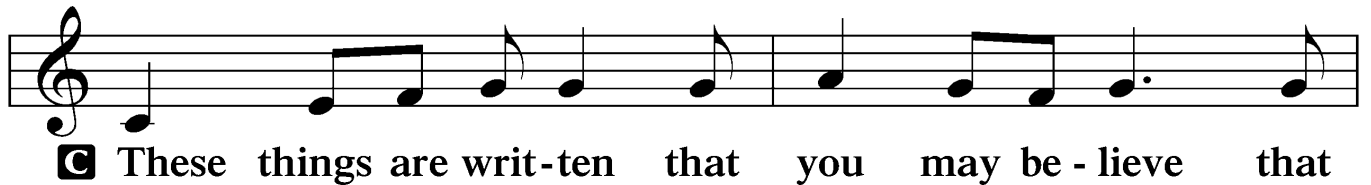
13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**



## Δ ALLELUIA and VERSE



## Δ HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 25:1-13*

(The parable of the ten virgins.)

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

**C** **Glory to You , O Lord.**

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 But while the bridegroom was

delayed, they all slumbered and slept. 6 “And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ 7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9 But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. 11 “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ 12 But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ 13 “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

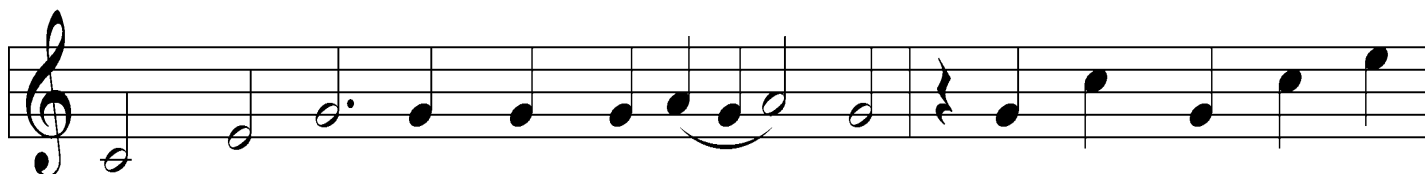
## Δ APOSTLES CREED

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

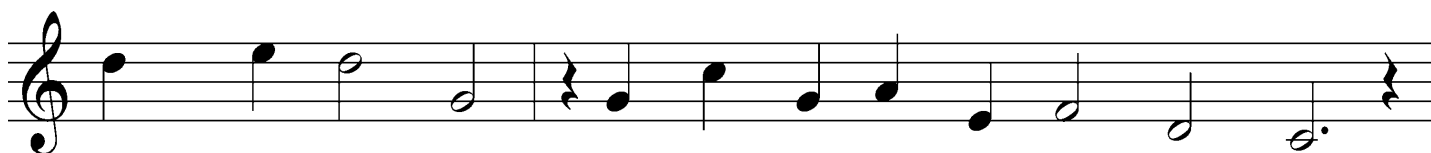
**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God 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 *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying* **LSB 516**



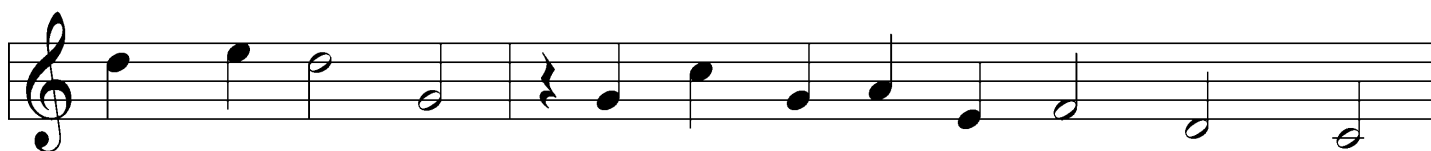
1 “Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing,” The watch - men on the  
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with  
 10 3 Now let all the heav’ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



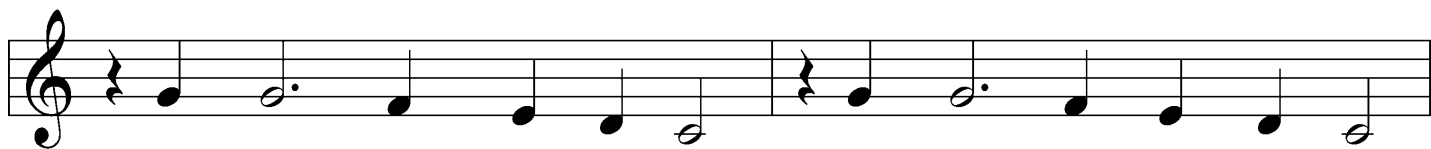
heights are cry - ing;      "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem,      a - rise!"  
joy is spring - ing;      She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
sing be - fore Thee      With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es      And at the thrill - ing  
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious,      The strong in grace, in  
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal,      Where, join - ing with the



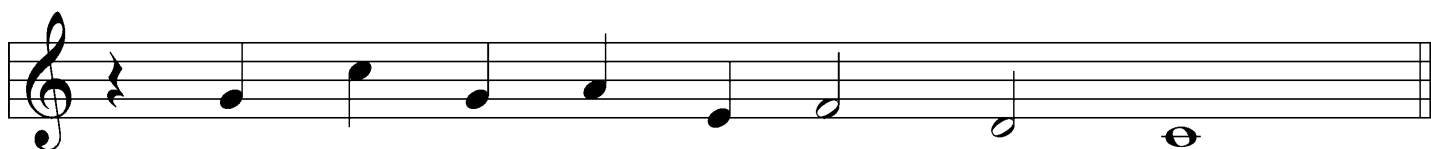
cry re - joic - es:      "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?  
truth vic - to - rious;      Her star is ris'n, her light is come.  
choir im - mor - tal,      We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake!      Your lamps with glad - ness take!  
Now come, Thou Bless - ed One,      Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,  
No eye has seen the light,      No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia!      With brid - al care      Your - selves pre - pare  
Hail! Ho - san - na!      We en - ter all      The wed - ding hall  
Of Thy glo - ry;      There - fore will we      E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."  
To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.  
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

**SERMON**     *"Ready or Not, Here Comes the Bridegroom."*  
(Matthew 25:10)

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

**OFFERTORY**                      *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*                      **LSB 780**

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;  
When I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O  
Lord, hear my prayer; Come and lis - ten to me. O

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

**Δ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, through You all things were made. You have entrusted us with the care of all creation. Embolden us to be good and faithful stewards of all that You have made until You return to dwell with us again. For until Your return, we pray,

**C** **come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

**P** Lord Jesus, in Your incarnation and birth You deigned to dwell among us, even as an infant. Bring comfort to all

those who are living through the challenges of infertility and miscarriage. Bring them Your healing, and give them wisdom as they seek to do Your will. For until Your return, we pray,

**C    come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

P    Lord Jesus, in Your earthly life You suffered much at the hands of lawless men. Be with all those who suffer now through abuse, illness, or injustice, [especially . . .]. Heal them according to Your will. For until Your return, we pray,

**C    come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

P    Lord Jesus, by Your death and resurrection, You destroyed death forever. While we look forward to the resurrection, each human being still faces earthly death. We bring before You all those who are mourning the death of loved ones, [especially . . .]. Comfort them with Your presence and the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. For until Your return, we pray,

**C    come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

P    Lord Jesus, be present in Your Church. Give us faithful pastors, teachers, musicians, administrators, and other church workers, that we walk together with You, bringing Your Gospel to all nations. For until Your return, we pray,

**C    come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

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.

**Δ   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**

***[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]*** 13

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.

## Δ BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

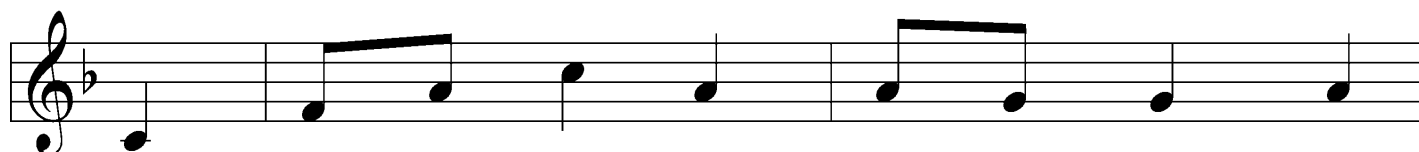
C Thanks be to God.

## Δ BENEDICTION

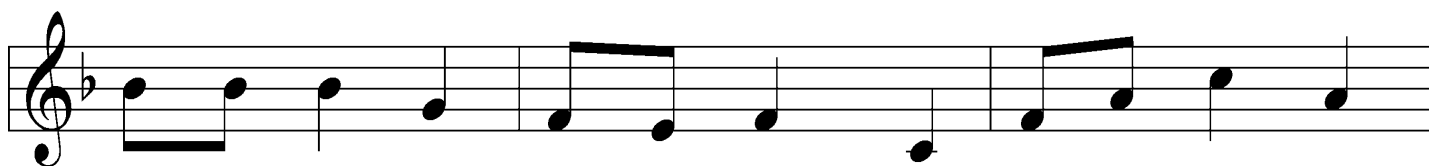
P The LORD bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

## SENDING HYMN      *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*      LSB 576



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than  
 2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I  
 3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup -  
 4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh,



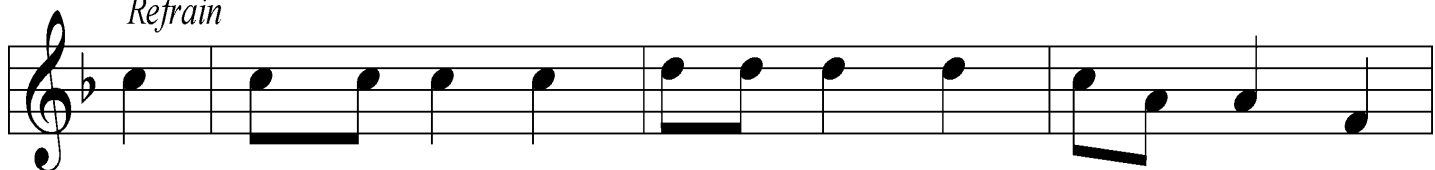
Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my  
 rest on His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and  
 port me in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly  
 may I then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



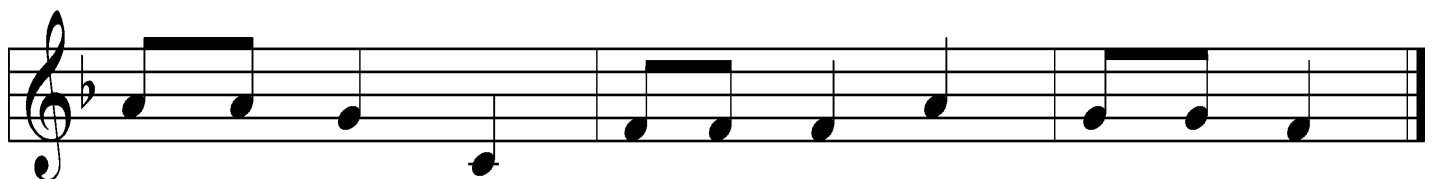


own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

*Refrain*



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

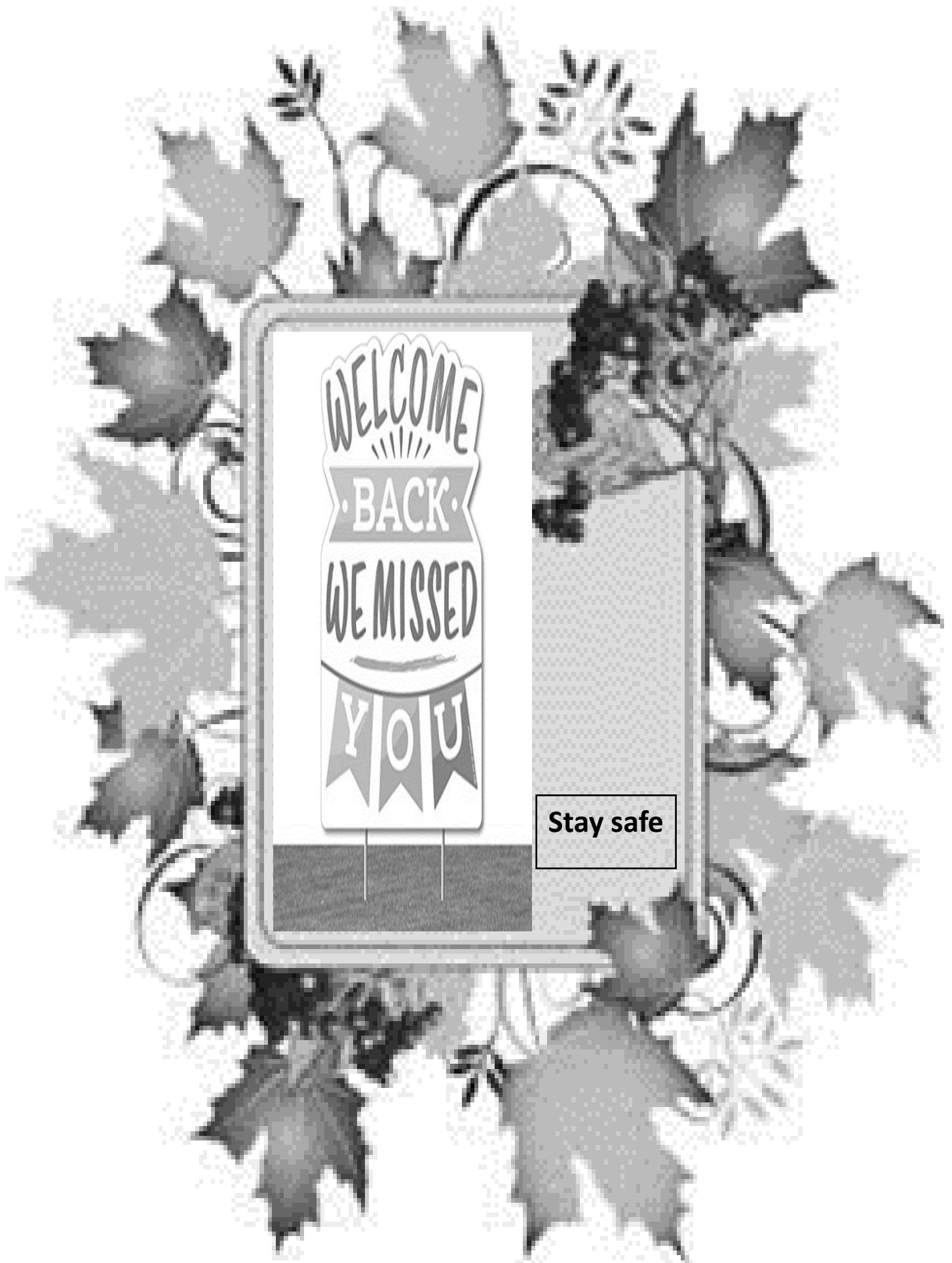
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## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God!

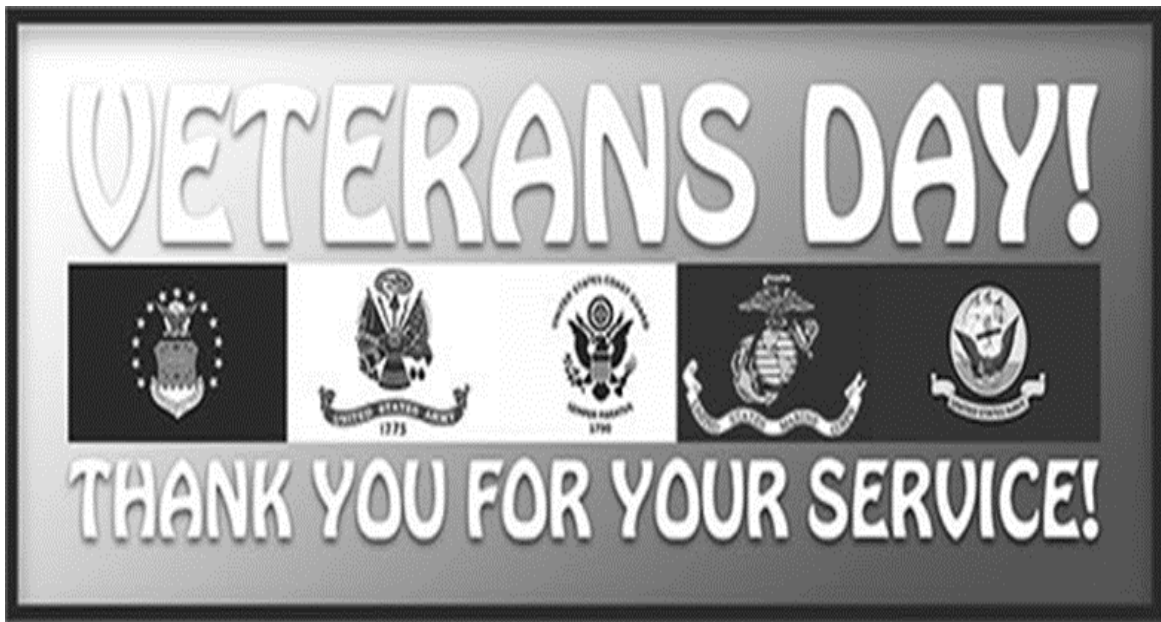
## POSTLUDE





*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!*



*Wednesday, November 11th*



### ***Members***

- 1 Carolyn Green
- 10 Vivi Garcia
- 11 Rafael Reyes
- 22 Ken Eilers
- 24 Shirley Weber
- 26 Rose Ann Cisneros
- 29 April Perez

### ***Immanuel Lutheran School***

- 8 Daniela Herrera
- 17 Isabella Cavazos
- 20 Kati Anzaldua
- 25 Mercedes Perez

### ***Winter Texans***

- 5 Vera Voss
- 23 Donald Glock



### ***Winter Texan***

- 27 Jerry & Ivadell Stevenson

## ***Memory Verse Challenge***

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

**This week's memory verse:** *John 6:40*

*"For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. "*

*(Due to lack of space in the bulletin last week)*

**Last week's memory verse:** *Hebrews 12:1 — All Saints' Day*

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. "*

<b>Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule</b>		
<b>November Sunday Servants:</b>		
Elder:	Earl Neuhaus	
Altar Guild:	Loretta Eilers & Suzanne Wehling	
Music:	Bonny Winston	
<b>This Week</b>	Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost	
Usher:	Ken & Bob Eilers	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
<b>Next Week</b>	Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost	
Usher:	Don Vogel	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am

## The Gospel Prepares Us for Our Heavenly Bridegroom's Coming

The Day of the Lord is “darkness, and not light” (Amos 5:18, 20) for all who trust in their own righteousness and piety. The Lord will not accept their “burnt offerings and grain offerings,” nor will He look upon their “peace offerings” (Amos 5:22). Instead, He desires a heart of faith that trusts in Him, which lets “justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream” (Amos 5:24) in love for the neighbor. In order for the “lamps” of our lives to burn brightly with such love, we must be filled with the “oil” of forgiveness through faith in our Bridegroom, Jesus Christ (Matt. 25:1–4). Therefore, as we await His coming, wisdom directs us “to the dealers” (Matt. 25:9), that is, to the ministers of His Gospel. Thus, we wait upon the Lord, and we “encourage one another with these words” (1 Thess. 4:18). Waking or sleeping, we are prepared to meet Him when He comes “with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God,” and “we will always be with the Lord” (1 Thess. 4:16, 17).

<b>11/1/2020</b>		
<b>Sunday Worship</b>	<b>30</b>	
Plate:		\$ 82.00
Envelopes:		\$ 2,005.00
Donation:		
Cemetery		\$ 150.00
Memorial:		
	<b>Total:</b>	\$ 2,237.00
<b>Bible Class:</b>	<b>17</b>	\$ 14.00

***Twenty-fourth Sunday after  
Pentecost Readings:***

*Zephaniah 1:7-16*  
*Psalms 90:1-12*  
*1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*  
*Matthew 25:14-30*