

# The First Sunday after Christmas December 31, 2023



981 State Highway Z St. Robert, Missouri 65584

# **Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Website: Church Phone: Email: www.felclcms.org (573) 336-4464 office@felclcms.org



Pastor John Perling 573-337-0253 pastor@felclcms.org Skype, Facebook, Twitter

## § A Heartfelt Welcome To Our Guests §

Welcome to Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church (FELC). We're pleased you've come to receive the blessings our Lord gives in the Divine Service. Please help us get to know you and record your attendance by signing the red record of fellowship book as it is passed down the pew and/or the guest book in the narthex. Most Sundays we host refreshments after the service. Please join us downstairs in the Parish Fellowship. This is a great way to get to know the members of the family of FELC.

#### Holy Communion Announcement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Faith in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sin. In joyful obedience to the clear teaching of our Lord Jesus those are invited to His table who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. They show forth His death until He comes. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and so are unable to receive the Sacrament are invited to meditate on God's Word in the distribution hymns and pray for the day when divisions will have ceased.

*How Can We Help You?* We want your visit to be a blessing to you and strive to be as user friendly as possible. Our pastor is also available for pastoral care whether you're here for a week, months, years, or permanently. Faith is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

## Those Serving December 31st at Faith

Organist	Heidi Perling	Asst. Minister	Ron Hinchman
Acolyte		Greeters	
Altar Guild	Lee Phinney	Refreshments	
Ushers		Sermon Title	Chaplain Matthew Mortenson

#### Acknowledgments

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The order of service for today begins on page 184 of the Lutheran Service Book.

# Confession and Absolution

Please rise. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

The Congregation reflects silently on God's Word using the Ten Commandments to examine specific sins committed in thought, word, and deed.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the A Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# Service of the Word

# 333 Once He Came in Blessing



Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534 Text (sts. 2–3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003563 Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain





Salutation and Collect of the Day



Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated.

# **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

The Old Testament Reading for the First Sunday after Christmas is from Isaiah, chapter 61.

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;

my soul shall exult in my God,

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,

and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

<sup>1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,

and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,

until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,

and her salvation as a burning torch.

<sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your righteousness,

and all the kings your glory,

and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.

<sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

- This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



Antiphon He sent redemption to his | people; \*

he has commanded his covenant for- ever.

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,\* in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

<sup>2</sup>Great are the works | of the LORD,\*

studied by all who de- | light in them.

<sup>3</sup>Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,\* and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

<sup>4</sup>He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;\* the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

<sup>5</sup>He provides food for those who | fear him;\*

he remembers his covenant for- ever.

<sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power | of his works,\* in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;\* all his precepts are | trustworthy;

8they are established forever and | ever,\*

to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.\*

Holy and awesome | is his name!

<sup>10</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;

all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.\* His praise endures for- | ever!

<sup>Antiphon</sup> He sent redemption to his | people; \*

he has commanded his covenant for- ever.

Epistle Galatians 4:4–7

A The Epistle is from Galatians, chapter 4.

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse Luke 2:30, 32



P My eyes have seen your salvation; a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.



Holy Gospel Luke 2:22–40

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." <sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup>"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

<sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

<sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.



#### **Nicene Creed**

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

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

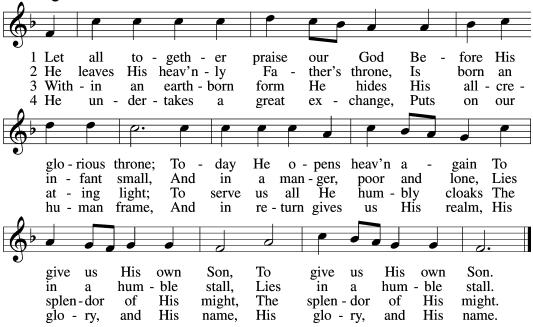
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.





5 He is a servant, I a lord:

How great a mystery!

How strong the tender Christ Child's love!

No truer friend than He,

No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door
To blessèd paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.

△ 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
 Lord Jesus, we adore
 And praise to God the Father yield
 And Spirit evermore;
 We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

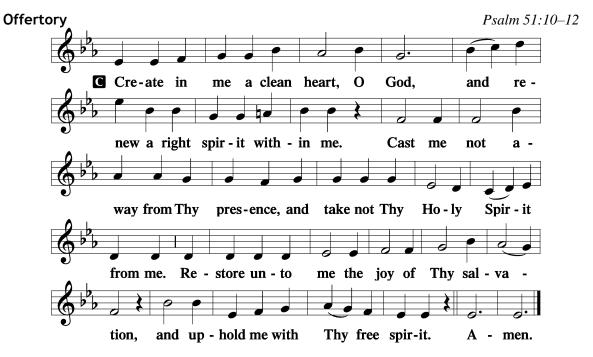
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Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

#### Sermon

- P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C Amen.

Please rise.



Please be seated.

# Offering

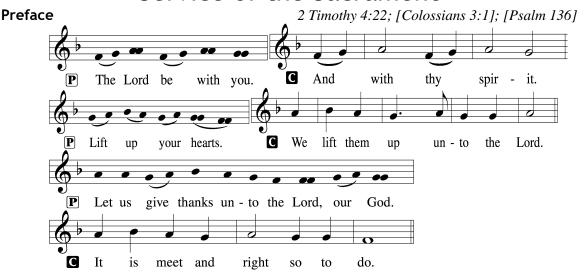
Please rise.

# Prayer of the Church

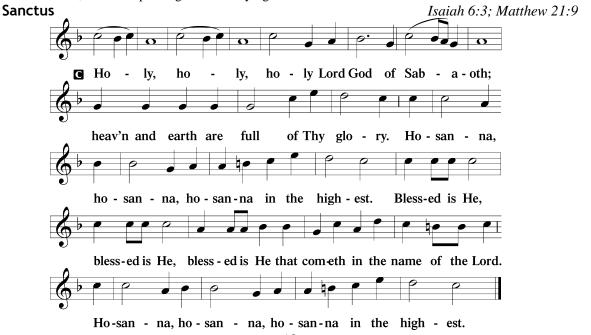
- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For grace to rejoice in Christ's blessed incarnation; in thankfulness that, in the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem us and give us the adoption as His sons and heirs; and to grant us a glad new year, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the Church, that all who have been baptized into Christ may embrace the Christ Child by Word and faith, and so be ready to depart whenever they are called, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

- A For Christian families, that the Father from whom all fatherhood on earth is named would bless them with His promises; for parents, that they would be diligent and find delight in their work; for children, that by God's favor they would grow in strength and wisdom; and for widows, orphans and broken families, that God would comfort them with His mercy and give them joy in the redemption won for them in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For our president, Congress, governor and all our leaders, that justice may prevail and God's people may be free to live at peace with all, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For the lonely, that they would be comforted with the sure and certain knowledge that God will never forsake them, and that within the household of faith they might find family, friends and loving companionship, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- A For the sick and suffering, especially those who desire our prayers, including those listed in our bulletin, that according to God's gracious will, they would be healed; and for those who mourn, that God would fill their hearts with the certain hope of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For those who receive the Lord's Supper this day, that they would behold their salvation in the very body and blood of Christ given for them and, with St. Simeon, be well-prepared to depart in peace according to God's Word, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Lord God, heavenly Father, we here remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Praising His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

# Service of the Sacrament



It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9–13

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.

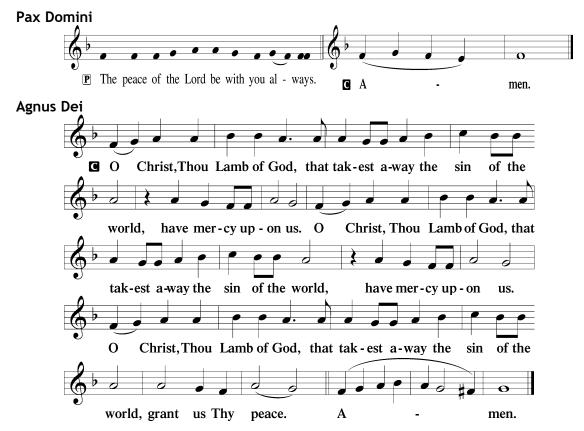
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

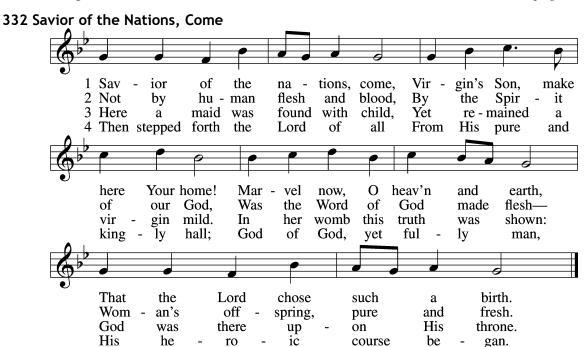
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



#### Distribution

## Communing at Faith

Please see our Communion Statement on page 2.



- God the Father was His source,
   Back to God He ran His course.
   Into hell His road went down,
   Back then to His throne and crown.
- 6 For You are the Father's Son
  Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
  By Your mighty pow'r make whole
  All our ills of flesh and soul.
- 7 From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night. Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.
- △8 Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king, Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973

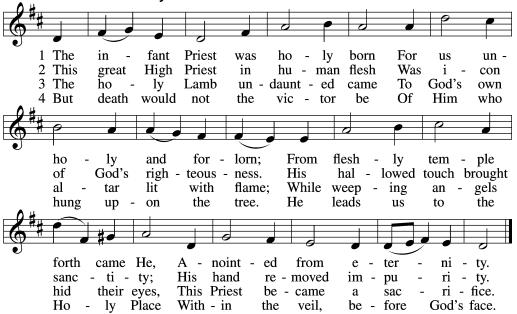
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter

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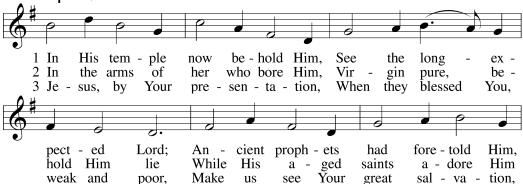
## 624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

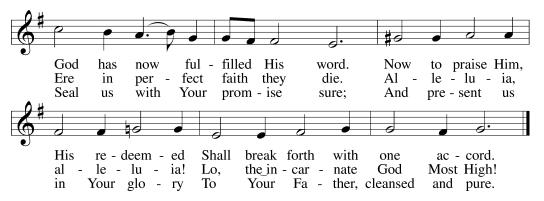


- The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the rail on bended knee Our hungry mouths from Him receive The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat, A priestly food and priestly meat; On sin-parched lips the chalice pours His quenching blood that life restores.
- With cherubim and seraphim
   Our voices join the endless hymn,
   And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
   To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970
Tune: Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, 1778, London; adapt. Edward Miller, 1731–1807
Text: © 1997, 2003 Chad L. Bird. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003563 Tune: Public domain

# 519 In His Temple Now Behold Him



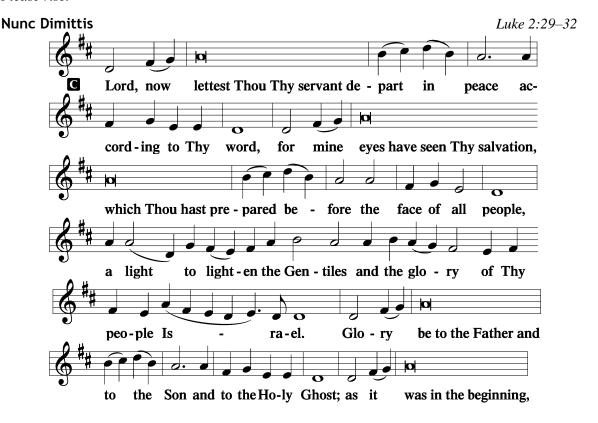


Text: Henry J. Pye, c. 1825–1903, alt. Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart 

  → in peace.
- C Amen.

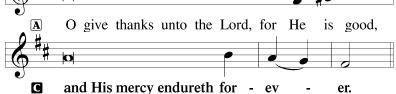
Please rise.





Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1



Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.





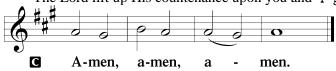


Benediction Numbers 6:24–26

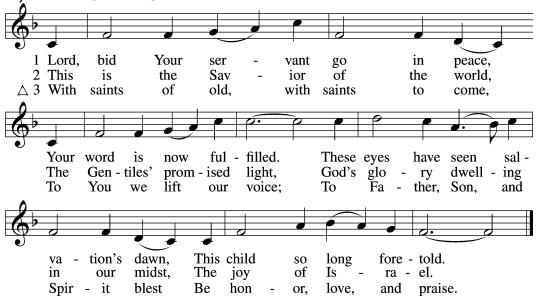
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upo

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.



# 937 Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace



Text (sts. 1-2): James Quinn, 1919-2010; (st. 3): Henry V. Gerike, 1948 Tune: American

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FELC ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN PERSON AND THROUGH ZOOM

Sunday	9:00 AM	Christian Education - Sunday School / The Revelation
	10:30 AM	Divine Service
Tuesday	6:30 PM	Ladies of Faith
Thursday	12:30 PM	Ladies Aid Meeting
Friday	12:00 PM	Greek
Saturday	7:00 PM	Epiphany Service
Sunday	9:00 AM	Christian Education - Sunday School / The Revelation
	10:30 AM	Divine Service

THE STEWARDSHIP BOARD is seeking a volunteer who respects the confidentiality of our voting members, to serve as the Financial Secretary, appointed by the Stewardship board, as member of said board. You don't have to be a current board member but will be appointed. This position oversees the counting of offerings and records the amounts and prepares a quarterly report per individual/family. The estimated time is 2-4 hours a week. Please see the 2011 Church's Constitution, page 32, for a full description of the position.

**JOIN MARTHA STRONG FOR A PAINT CLASS i**n the Fellowship Hall on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. You will be painting this beautiful winter chapel scene. Cost for the class is \$20 which covers all your supplies and snacks. Please let Martha know if you plan to attend.



NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE	2023 AT A GLANCE
Budget for October: \$15,204.00	Year to Date Budget: \$182,448.00
Amount Received: \$19, 729.00	Year to Date Received: \$174,932.96
Amount Over: \$4,525.00	Difference: -\$7,515.04

## **Requesting Prayers** Pray for Our Servicemen and Missionaries we support

†Devin Houser†Franklin LaLonde†Chris MacMurray†Jacob Gan†Anthony Isaac †Laramie Yancey †Geoff Gronewold†

†Nathaniel & Emma Jensen (Kaiserslauten)†

†Michael Parris (China) †Rev. Dr. David Preus & family (Romania)

Cur	rent	<b>Events</b>
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†Pray that we and the nations put away false gods, but know, trust, love, and follow Jesus †Natural disasters recovery †Prayers for Peace and Justice †Prayer for Nation's Leaders and illness; prayer for the Lord to do His will through local, state, and national elections †Health Workers †Educators & Students †All new military visitors and

## **Thanksgivings**

families

†Shelby

†Ethyn & Hanna Boorom – Graham Alexander born July 22 †Dylan & Angie Cleeton – twins born in March †Geoff & Brittany Gronewold – Benjamin born Aug 17 †Anthony & Nicki Isaac – Twins born in April †Nathan & Rebekah Pauls – Eden born May 15 †Samantha

†Free Women's Center **COVID-19 Thanksgivings** 

Clark born August 1

†Colin & Christine Strange –

†Thankfulness for Vaccine

# **Immediate Needs**

†Kenneth Drees †Marcia Euren †George Garber †Peggy Gregor †Mary Jones †Judy Keeth †Dawn Kubinski †Irene Leitgeb †Tim Matthews †JD Mattison †Ingrid Ozee

†Roberta Thornsberry †Jami Turner †Chaya Velasquez †Dave Wainio †Timothy Wolf

†Karl Sutterfield

## Long Term Needs

†Kristine

†Sheri †Ann Marie Boerner (Capps) †The Boettger Family †Barb BonGiovanni †Dan Boorom

†Ray Crosby †Madison Ford †Duane Green †Finnigan Heine †Mary Jones †Liz Joyce †Marge Kohl

†Marie Matthews

†Ken Merrill †Sydney Merrill †Jenny Miessler †Marion Munson †Judy Neff †Lili Osorio

†Dwavne Richard **†Susan Rostad** <sup>†</sup>Helen Rostad †Melvin Rust †Pastor Ben Schumacher

†Ben Paul Schumacher †Mary Smith †Donna Thomas †Becky Vogel †Ron Weaver †Jerome Welliver

†Lisa Weinhold

# **Comfort Facing Death**

†The Family of Allan Brown †The Family of Karen Garber †The Family of Sharon Greene †The Family of Herb Houser

†The Krueger Family †The Family of Marian Kubinski †The Family of Clark Mullins †The Family of Steven Munsie †The Family of Velda Myers †The Family of Renate Phillips †The Family of Gisela Sundell †The Family of Donna Wogan