Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

December 3, 2023
First Sunday in Advent



2606 Chimney Rock Road—Hendersonville, NC 28792
Church Phone 692-7027 Preschool Phone 698-5900

Church E-mail: mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com Website: www.mtpisgahlutheran.com

Church Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM M-TH 9:00 AM—1:00 PM on Friday



We are delighted to have you worship with us today. May this hour of praise and celebration be one of spiritual renewal. Please join us for worship at any time and sign the red Record of Fellowship pad in the pew. To inquire about membership or other information, please call the Church Office: 692-7027 or email us at mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER



Holy Communion is celebrated at all services every Sunday and on special festivals. This Sacrament is the means by which Jesus Christ, the bread of life, gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. In this Meal, Jesus forgives our sins, gives us victory over death and Satan, and delivers his eternal salvation to us. Since this is the true body and true blood of Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and wine, we do not treat this sacrament lightly; rather, we receive it with great reverence and gratitude

to our merciful Savior. Moreover, St. Paul writes: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself (1 Cor. 11:27-29)." An order of self-examination is located on pages 329-330 of your hymnal.

To ensure that all who participate in this sacrament receive this sacred gift as the blessing it is intended to be and not to their condemnation, this congregation, with Christian love and in accordance with Holy Scripture, practices closed communion with those who have been instructed and share our public profession of the Christian faith in all its articles. We therefore ask our guests who wish to commune to speak with the Pastor before the service.

We provide both the common cup and individual cups. The individual cups in the center of tray are alcohol free for those with medical requirements that prevent them from receiving alcohol. Wine, however, is the preferred means to receive the blood of Christ, if and when possible, since wine is what Jesus used to institute this sacrament. Likewise, we use unleavened bread, as our Lord did. Gluten-free hosts are also available for those with medical needs. Please alert the Pastor or an Elder of any needs.

Rev. Jonathan Christensen - Pastor mplc.pastor@gmail.com Office: (828) 692-7027 ex.402

Cell: (920)530-8606

Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church & Preschool

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Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God In memory of Harold Zell our husband and father by Marjorie Zell & Susan Greco

	Serving Today	
Pastor Jonathan Christensen		Robert Hamrick, Organist
	Craig Es	scude, Choir Director/Cantor
	8:00 AM	<u>10:45 AM</u>
Elders	Paul Mincer	David Maloney
Lectors Ushers	Rick Sanborn	Leah Ryel
Greeter	Jackie Fry	Nona Schmook
Altar Guild	Eleanor Claycomb	Debbie Leger
		Michele Escude`
		Debby Zagone
Serving	g Next Week Decembe	er 10
	8:00 AM	10:45 AM
Lectors	Paul Mincer	Debby Zagone
Ushers		
Greeter	Jackie Fry	Nona Schmook

Acknowledgments

The order of Matins from Lutheran Service Book (Modified to include the Lord's Supper) Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV* Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

The Order of Matins (Modified)

Prelude

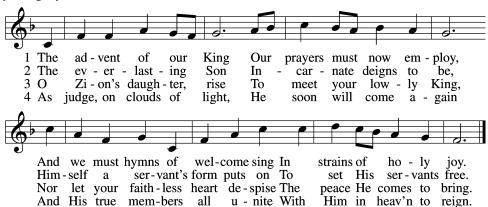
The Advent of Our King

Ema Lou Diemer Bernard Wavne Sanders

Stand



331 The Advent of Our King

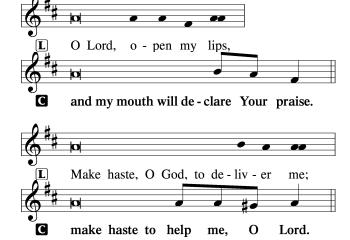


Before the dawning day
 Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
 The sinful self be put away,
 The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Invocation

- $label{P}$ In the name of the Father and of the $lap{+}$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

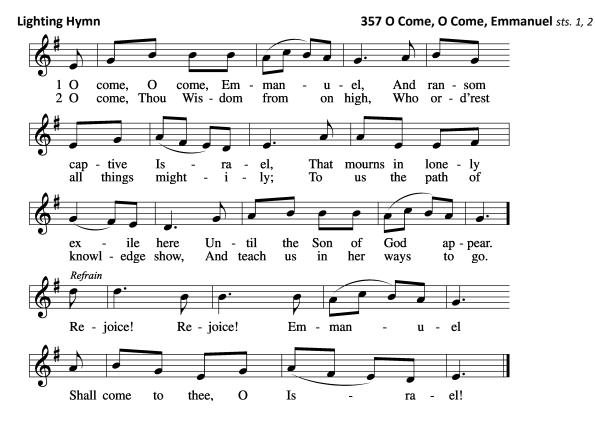




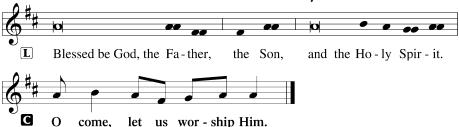
Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Psalm 85:7

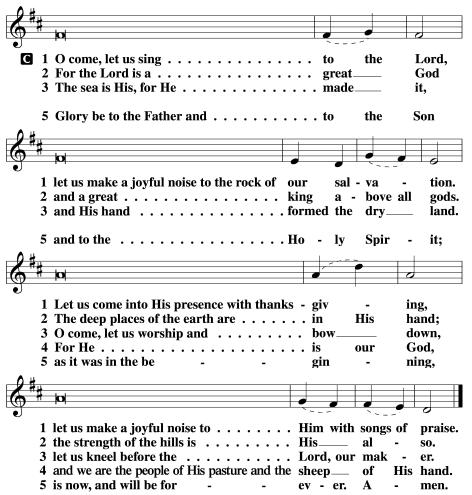
- P Alleluia. Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
- and grant us your salvation. Alleluia.

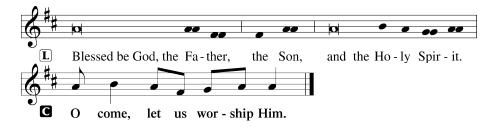


Psalmody



Venite LSB 220





Collect of the Day

- P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Readings

Sit

Old Testament Isaiah 64:1–9

L A reading from Isaiah, chapter 64.

¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence—² as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. ⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C Thanks be to God.

Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:3–9

L A reading from 1 Corinthians, chapter 1.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in

the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand



Psalm 80:1–7; antiphon: v. 7 Tone E

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

²Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Ma- | nasseh,* stir up your might and come to | save us!

³Restore us, O God;*
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁴O LORD | God of hosts,*

how long will you be angry with your | people's prayers?

⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears* and given them tears to drink in full | measure.

⁶You make us an object of contention for our | neighbors,* and our enemies laugh a- | mong themselves.

⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;*
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

Gospel Mark 13:24–37

L A reading from Mark, chapter 13.

²⁴[Jesus said:] "In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

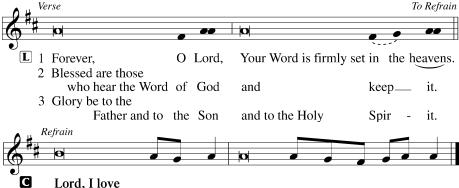
²⁸"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²"But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not

know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."

- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

Responsory LSB 221



the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

Apostles' Creed

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

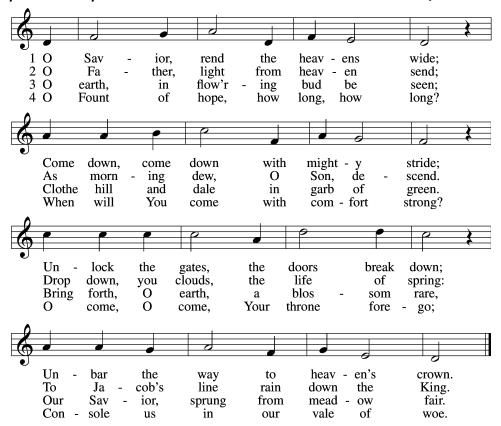
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the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

355 O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

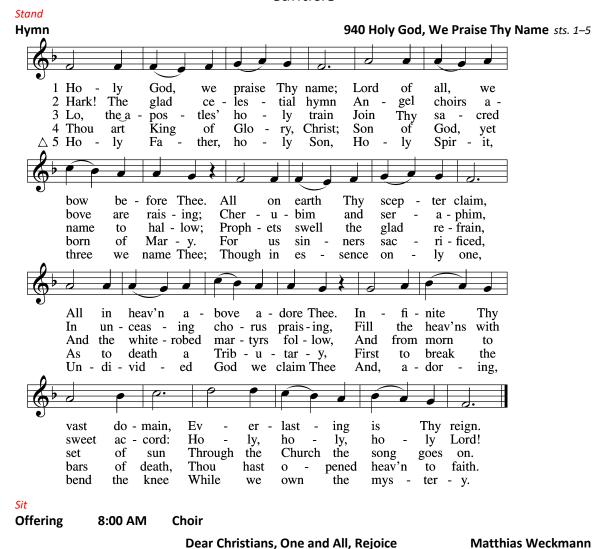
Hymn of the Day



- O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,
 When will our hearts behold Your dawn?
 O Sun, arise; without Your light
 We grope in gloom and dark of night.
- Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;
 Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
 O come, lead us with mighty hand
 From exile to our promised land.
- 7 There shall we all our praises bring And sing to You, our Savior King; There shall we laud You and adore Forever and forevermore.

Sermon

Canticle



D . .

Prayer Stand

Kyrie

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

LSB 227

Prayer of the Church

The Following is sung at the end of each petition:



Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious Lord, sustain Your saints to the end as we enter another Church Year. Encourage the preachers of Your Word and all who hear, that the testimony about Christ may be confirmed among us as we wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. O Lord, hear my prayer.

- And let my cry come to You.
- P Give boldness and faithfulness to Matthew, our Synod president; Bill, our district president; Howard, our circuit visitor; and all pastors in Christ. Renew the faith and quicken the love of all Christians, that we may be enriched in all speech and knowledge. O Lord, hear my prayer.
- And let my cry come to You.
- P Heavenly Father, grant Your blessing to all marriages and keep all husbands and wives faithful to each other. Guide them as they care for the children entrusted to them. Bestow Your loving care upon all children who have suffered abuse or neglect, as well as upon all who open their homes to children in foster care. O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C And let my cry come to You.
- P Almighty God, behold our nation and its leaders and protect our armed forces, taking them under Your care and blessing. O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C And let my cry come to You.
- P Visit us in Your compassion, O Lord. Deliver the sick from their infirmity, the troubled from their afflictions, the grieving from their sorrow and the dying from their fear. May all who cry to You receive grace according to Your will. O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C And let my cry come to You.
- P Merciful Lord, Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, entered Jerusalem to shouts and cheers of joy. Grant that we may be stirred by the Word and Sacraments to rejoice anew, now and at His second advent. O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C And let my cry come to You.

- Gracious Father, You have made us glad to enter into Your presence to hear the good news of our Savior and receive Your gifts. Preserve Your Church against all her enemies, and lead us to walk in Your ways and to follow Your paths, that when Jesus returns in His glory we may welcome Him with glad hosannas; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Exhortation LSB 290

- P I will go to the altar of God,
- to God my exceeding joy.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Sit

Confession of Sins

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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 God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
- C Amen.
- P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?
- C Yes.
- P Let it be done for you as you believe.

Absolution and Blessing

LSB 291

- 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

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in → peace.
- C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

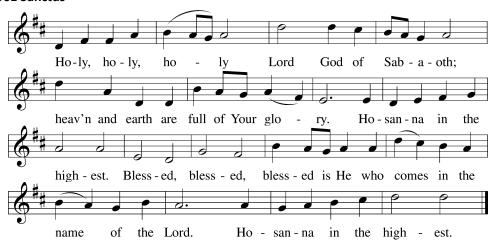
Preface LSB 160

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

961 Sanctus



LSB 162

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. 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. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- Amen.
- In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

The Words of Our Lord LSB 217

P 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 ⅓ 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 +1 blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 163

- ealso P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

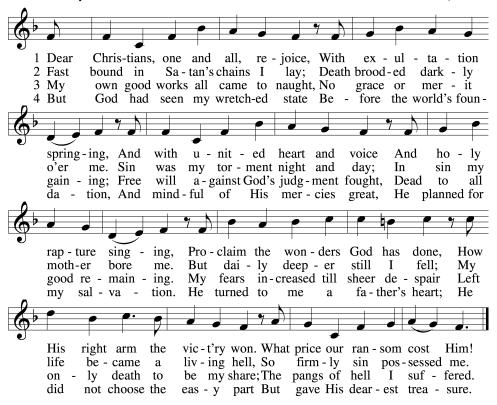
Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.



556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



- 5 God said to His belovèd Son: "It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever."
- The Son obeyed His Father's will,
 Was born of virgin mother;
 And God's good pleasure to fulfill,
 He came to be my brother.
 His royal pow'r disguised He bore;
 A servant's form, like mine, He wore
 To lead the devil captive.

- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I Myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And where I am you may remain; The foe shall not divide us.
- "Now to My Father I depart, From earth to heav'n ascending, And, heav'nly wisdom to impart, The Holy Spirit sending; In trouble He will comfort you And teach you always to be true And into truth shall guide you.
- "Though he will shed My precious blood,
 Me of My life bereaving,
 All this I suffer for your good;
 Be steadfast and believing.
 Life will from death the vict'ry win;
 My innocence shall bear your sin,
 And you are blest forever.
- "What I on earth have done and taught
 Guide all your life and teaching;
 So shall the kingdom's work be wrought
 And honored in your preaching.
 But watch lest foes with base alloy
 The heav'nly treasure should destroy;
 This final word I leave you."

Distribution Hymn

333 Once He Came in Blessing



Dismissal

- 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.

Stand

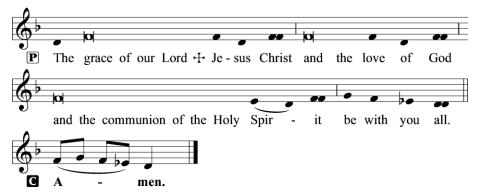
Post-Communion Collect

- P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Benedicamus LSB 228



Benediction LSB 228





332 Savior of the Nations, Come



- 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.
- 7 From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night. Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

- 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.
- △ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
 Glory to the Son, our king,
 Glory to the Spirit be
 Now and through eternity.

Postlude

Savior of the Nations, Come

Georg Friedrich Kauffman

<u>Free Bale of Hay:</u> We have a free bale of hay looking for a good home. Can be used for animal feed or bedding, or to put over new grass seed, or to insulate plants against the cold weather. It is outside, to the left of the Fellowship Hall door by the church Main Entrance turnaround.





Thanksgiving Dinner at the Fellowship Hall was well attended by 38 people including church members, guests and preschool staff. Thank you all for coming! We had enough food to feed an army! No one left hungry.

Thank you to everyone who help to set up, cook food, celebrate eating together, and cleaning up after our wonderful meal. Thank you for the Haiti donations.