

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 17, 2021

#### A WORD FROM PT

It is always a good spiritual exercise to pay particular attention to those elements of the faith, taught in Scripture, that cut against the grain of our own sensibilities. Otherwise, if we only are enthusiastic concerning those teachings that we already agree with, we have no way of knowing if we are humbly trusting God's Word. It is when God's word challenges our sensibilities that we have a chance to learn to trust God.

Keep in mind the very first temptation in the Garden of Eden. The serpent challenges our first mother, "You will not surely die [if and when you eat the forbidden fruit]. For God knows that

when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Gen 3:4-5). Then Eve "saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes..." (v. 6). There was nothing that she could see that indicated danger in the forbidden fruit. It was simply the reliability of God's Word that she had to go on, but the serpent had successfully placed doubt of the same in her mind.

Lately I have been trying to discern some of the deceptions of the age we live in, especially some of the more subtle ones, ones to which I am susceptible. What good is it doing me to rail against the falsehoods I believe my-

self more immune to?

Two deceptions have come to the fore. The first is the excessive individualism of our age. Of course, it is good to avoid the socialism and collectivism that emphasizes an abstract group over actual persons. But created in God's image we are meant to be a part of a community! And not a theoretical one, but an actual family, neighborhood, town, etc. Most importantly we are meant to be a functioning member of the body of Christ.

Next week I will speak of the deception of seeking comfort, convenience, and ease – a spiritually lethal mix.

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

**What is the significance of Christ the King Sunday?**

The Festival of Christ the King marks the end of the long season after Pentecost, and it anticipates the day when Christ will return and be revealed to everyone as

the rightful ruler of the world. The appointed lessons for the day make it clear that at the end of the age Christ will come in power and great glory. Previous to this we have known his gentle rule. We have known King Jesus as the one who shed his blood to

free us from the grips of sin and death. But when he comes again in glory he will come to judge the living and the dead. There will then be no doubt as to who the sovereign of the cosmos is!

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Wednesday, 11/17**

6:30pm Showing of The Chosen at Holmen Area Community Center

**Friday, 11/19**

6:30am Men's Breakfast

**Sunday, 11/21** Christ the King Sunday

8:00am Choir Practice  
9:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion

10:15am Coffee Fellowship  
10:45am Confirmation Class

**Tuesday, 11/23**

7:00pm Thanksgiving Divine Service

#### KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

- *Christ-Centered*
- *Mission-Driven*
- *Traditionally-Grounded*
- *Congregationally-Focused*

**LCMC** (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

**NALC** (North American Lutheran Church) ([www.thenalc.org](http://www.thenalc.org))

## THIS AND THAT...

We are hosting a public showing of **The Chosen** Season One on Wednesdays at the Holmen Area Community Center. There are eight episodes that will be shown on consecutive Wednesdays with the exception of November 24, the week of Thanksgiving. The viewing and discussion will start at 6:30pm and end no later than 8:30.

Early next week we will gather for a worship celebration of Thanksgiving. The special Divine Service of Thanksgiving will be on Tuesday, No-

vember 23, at 7pm.

The continued **livestreaming** is for those who cannot otherwise attend in person! It is a good outreach tool and a way for shut-ins to connect.

Don't forget **Food Donations** for the Onalaska Food Basket!

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of November is to Didi and Serafina Panzo, the missionaries we

sponsor through the World Mission Prayer League.

Heidi Traver is scheduled to clean the church the week of November 21. And the Hanson family has volunteered to clean the church on the week of December 19.

The showing of **The Chosen** affords you an excellent opportunity to witness to your neighbor. Ask if they would be interested to watch the series, and invite them to attend with you!

# GIFT of GRACE

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8*

## HUMOR DEPARTMENT

### Celebrations

#### Birthdays

Nov 11..... Sam Schoonover  
 Nov 22..... Merl Wangen  
 Nov 28..... Heather Roll  
 Nov 29..... Sydney Hanson  
 Nov 30..... Cyndi Molstad  
 Dec 1 ..... Brad Benrud  
 Dec 8 ..... Sarah Kernan

#### Anniversaries

### Jeff Foxworthy on Wisconsin

If you have worn shorts and a parka at the same time, you might live in Wisconsin.

If you have either a pet or a child named 'Brett', you might live in Wisconsin.

If your town has an equal number of bars and churches, you might live in Wisconsin.

If you have had a lengthy telephone conversation with someone who dialed the wrong number, you might live in Wisconsin.

If you know how to say Oconomowoc, and Manitowoc, you might live in Wisconsin.

If every time you see moonlight on a lake, you think of a dancing bear, and you sing

gently, "Frommm the land of sky-blue waters," you might live in Wisconsin. (*Does Foxworthy know that the Hamm's ad is more appropriate for Minnesota? I am guessing he might not live in Wisconsin...*)

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

**11/21** Christ the King Sunday  
**Asst Minister:** Mike Meunier  
**Reader:** Nikki Hanson  
**Crucifer:** Hanson family  
**Acolyte:** Hanson family  
**Ushers:** Dan Molstad  
**Counters:** Dan M/Tom R  
**Comm Asst:** Connie Meunier  
**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow  
**Fellowship:** Leslie D/Connie M  
**Livestreamer:** Jeremy Schoonover

**11/28** First Sunday in Advent  
**Asst Minister:** Jeremy Schoonover  
**Reader:** Naomi Rislow  
**Crucifer:** tbd

**Acolyte:** tbd  
**Ushers:** tbd  
**Counters:** Connie M/tbd  
**Comm Asst:** Karri Bjornstad  
**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg  
**Fellowship:** Heidi Traver  
**Livestreamer:** tbd

**12/5** Second Sunday in Advent  
**Asst Minister:** tbd  
**Reader:** tbd  
**Crucifer:** tbd  
**Acolyte:** tbd  
**Ushers:** tbd  
**Counters:** tbd  
**Comm Asst:** tbd

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow  
**Fellowship:** tbd  
**Livestreamer:** tbd

**12/12** Third Sunday in Advent  
**Asst Minister:** tbd  
**Reader:** tbd  
**Crucifer:** tbd  
**Acolyte:** tbd  
**Ushers:** tbd  
**Counters:** tbd  
**Comm Asst:** tbd  
**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg  
**Fellowship:** tbd  
**Livestreamer:** tbd

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church  
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Services held at 9am at:  
 642 Western Avenue  
 A block north and then  
 a block west of King Furniture