

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 25, 2020

#### A WORD FROM PT

The tour of the New Testament begins this week with a consideration of the Four Gospel Accounts: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. People new to the Christian Faith are often surprised to learn that there are four narrations of Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection. And yet, each of the four provides a unique perspective of this special person pointed to in all of the Old Testament.

You may have heard someone tell you that the Gospel Accounts are not actual biographies or histories. Technically, this may be correct. But the claim can be most misleading. In the first place, first century histories and biographies are

not written like modern ones. And even more to the point, even if not straight history the four Gospel Accounts contain reliable historical and biographical information!

The purpose of each one of the Gospels is well summed up in John's Account when he writes, "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (Jn 20:30-31).

The four authors of the Gospels are called "Evangelists", for their intent was to bring the recipi-

ents of their words to saving faith in Jesus. And although there was some liberty taken in the arrangement of the details in their account, their writing was not in the least the manner of mythology, fable, or legend!

Matthew and Luke are the only two that make mention of Jesus' birth, with Luke's giving the fullest account thereof. Mark felt he could relate the good news by starting with Jesus' baptism and his public ministry. And John begins his account with a deep theological reflection. Even if you have a favorite, ponder all four to gain a more complete portrait of the mysterious God/Man who came that we might have life!

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

##### What is the significance of the Season of Advent?

The Church year begins with Advent, a season of preparation that looks toward both Bethlehem and Christ's return at the end of the age. Advent is its own

Season and the rich symbols and themes should be safeguarded and celebrated without being drowned out by the upcoming celebration of Christmas. The first two Sundays in Advent center on the Parousia (Christ's Second Coming). The third Sunday in Advent centers

on John the Baptist as the herald of Christ. And the fourth Sunday often centers on the Virgin Mary in her exalted role in giving birth to God's Anointed One.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

##### Tuesday, 11/24

1:00pm Prayer Gathering  
7:00pm Thanksgiving Service

##### Friday, 11/27

6:30am No-Men's-Breakfast Bible Study

##### Sunday, 11/29 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent

9:00am Divine Service (also livestreamed)  
10:30am Confirmation Class

##### Tuesday, 12/1

1:00pm Prayer Gathering

#### 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...

The New Church Year begins this year in November, with the **First Sunday in Advent** falling on November 29. The Advent Season is in anticipation of Christ's Coming, and is preparatory to the Christmas Season Celebration of Christ's first Advent.

For those able to worship in person, there remains the need to **notify Pastor Tim by email** no later than 4pm on Friday

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** will take the Friday after Thanksgiving off, but then will resume again on December 4.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of November is the Voice of the Martyrs.

Remember to be generous with your non perishable **food donations** as the Onalaska/Holmen Food Pantry is seeing an increase on the demand.

Cole and Anne Warner are signed up to clean the week of December 20. We will need to start a new list for January 2021.

Don't forget to utilize and take advantage of the Congregation at Prayer each week! Use it and consider sending the attachment to family, neighbors, and friends.

# 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 22..... Merl Wangen  
 Nov 28..... Heather Roll  
 Nov 29..... Sydney Hanson  
 Dec 1 ..... Brad Benrud  
 Dec 8 ..... Sarah Kernan  
 Dec 9 ..... Cole Warner

#### Anniversaries

Dec 18..... K & V Gunderson

### Southern Medical Dictionary

**Artery**.....The study of paintings

**Bacteria**.....Back door to cafeteria

**Barium**.....What doctors do when patients die

**Benign**.....What you be, after you be eight

**Caesarean Section**.....A neighborhood in Rome

**Cat scan**.....Searching for Kitty

**Cauterize**.....Made eye contact with her

**Colic**.....A sheep dog

**Coma**.....A punctuation mark

**Dilate**.....To live long

**Enema**.....Not a friend

**Fester**.....Quicker than someone else

**Fibula**.....A small lie

**Impotent**.....Distinguished, well known

**Labour Pain**.....Getting hurt at work

- more to follow next week...

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined, positions filled late in the week)

**11/29** First Sunday in Advent  
**Asst Minister:** Jeremy Schoonover  
**Reader:** Jed Roll  
**Crucifer:** not needed at this time  
**Acolyte:** not needed at this time  
**Ushers:** not needed at this time  
**Counters:** David B/Tom Rislow  
**Comm Asst:** Karri Bjornstad  
**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow  
**Fellowship:** not needed at this time

**Acolyte:** not needed at this time  
**Ushers:** not needed at this time  
**Counters:** tba  
**Comm Asst:** tba  
**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg  
**Fellowship:** not needed at this time

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow  
**Fellowship:** not needed at this time

**12/6** Second Sunday in Advent  
**Asst Minister:** tba  
**Reader:** tba  
**Crucifer:** not needed at this time

**12/13** Third Sunday in Advent  
**Asst Minister:** tba  
**Reader:** tba  
**Crucifer:** not needed at this time  
**Acolyte:** not needed at this time  
**Ushers:** not needed at this time  
**Counters:** tba  
**Comm Asst:** tba

**12/20** Fourth Sunday in Advent  
**Asst Minister:** tba  
**Reader:** tba  
**Crucifer:** not needed at this time  
**Acolyte:** not needed at this time  
**Ushers:** not needed at this time  
**Counters:** tba  
**Comm Asst:** tba  
**Accompanist:** tba  
**Fellowship:** not needed at this time

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