

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 18, 2020

A WORD FROM PT

We are ready this week in our excursion through the Bible to step over the bridge from the Old Testament to the New Testament. And as we do so, I want to emphasize the continuity between the two Testaments.

It is a misconception to assign God's Law to the Old Testament, and God's Gospel to the New. Likewise, the Hebrew Scriptures are not all about judgment, while the New Testament is all about God's amazing promises and His salvation.

Speaking of the Gospel, which is the pronouncement of good news, that heralding was consistently given throughout the Old Testament. As but four examples, we start with the

mention of the "seed of the woman bruising the head of the Serpent," in Genesis 3. Again in Genesis 26, we read of the seed of Abraham being a blessing to all the families of the earth. And in 2 Samuel 7 the promise is made of a coming King of the line of David to establish an eternal kingdom. Then, finally in Isaiah 53 we read of the Suffering Servant who would atone for our transgressions and iniquities.

To be sure, the Gospel proclamations in the Hebrew Scriptures are rather cryptic and the full contour of what they point to yet to be filled in. But they are unmistakable promises of good news! Each of the four

examples was pointing to Jesus! Likewise, we will not find God's Law and the threat of punishment lacking in the New Testament. Some of the harshest words of God's judgment come from the lips of our Lord Jesus Himself.

There are a number of ways to divide the New Testaments 27 Books. I will use a threefold division. The first is historical and includes the four Gospel Accounts and the Book of Acts. The second is the 13 letters of the Apostle Paul plus the Sermon to the Hebrews. And the final is the 7 Catholic (general) letters and the Book of Revelation.

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

Tuesday, 11/17
4:00pm No Prayer Gathering

Friday, 11/20
6:30am Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Sunday, 11/22 Christ the King Sunday
9:00am Divine Service (also livestreamed)
10:30am Confirmation Class

Tuesday, 11/24
1:00pm Prayer Gathering
7:00pm Thanksgiving 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)

THIS AND THAT...

As the Church year winds up with the last few Sundays in the long Season after Pentecost, the theme turns to the **Coming of King Jesus** at the end of the age. Christ the King Sunday is November 22. The new Church Year starts with the First Sunday in Advent on Sunday, November 29.

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

Our **Thanksgiving Service** with Holy Communion will be held on Tuesday, November 24 at 7:00pm

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** is meeting regularly at 6:30am on Fridays.

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.

Heidi Traver and Lisa Cash are signed up to clean the week of November 15. And Cole and Anne Warner have the week of December 20.

Don't forget to utilize and take advantage of the Congregation at Prayer each week! Use it and consider to 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 11..... Sam Schoonover
 Nov 22..... Merl Wangen
 Nov 28..... Heather Roll
 Nov 29..... Sydney Hanson

Anniversaries

Dec 18..... K & V Gunderson

Church Football Terminology

Quarterback Sneak - Church members quietly leaving during the invitation.

Draw Play - What many children do with the bulletin during worship.

Halftime - The period between Sunday School and worship when many choose to leave.

Benchwarmer - Those who do not sing, pray, work, or apparently do anything but sit.

Backfield-in-Motion - Making a trip to the back (restroom or water fountain) during the service.

Staying in the Pocket - What happens to a lot of the money that should be given to the Lord's work.

Two-minute Warning - The point at which you realize the sermon is almost over and begin to gather up your children and belongings.

Instant Replay - The preacher loses his notes and falls back on last week's illustrations.

Sudden Death - What happens to the attention span of the congregation if the preacher goes into "overtime."

Trap - You're called on to pray and are asleep.

End Run - Getting out of church quick, without speaking to any guest or fellow member.

Flex Defense - The ability to allow absolutely nothing said during the sermon to effect your life.

Blitz - The rush for the restaurants following the closing prayer.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

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

11/22 Christ the King Sunday
Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow
Reader: Karri Bjornstad
Crucifer: not needed at this time
Acolyte: not needed at this time
Ushers: not needed at this time
Counters: Hannah S/Cheryl R
Comm Asst: Connie Meunier
Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: 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

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: not needed at this time

11/29 First Sunday in Advent
Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover
Reader: Jed Roll
Crucifer: not needed at this time

12/6 Second 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

12/13 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
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
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