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Salvation Sent to Us as the Bread of Life

November 29, 2023



First Midweek
of Advent

WELCOME, GUESTS!!! We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

ORDER OF SERVICE: EVENING PRAYER (SERVICE OF THE LIGHT) – C.W. PG. 54

ADVENT SEASON –With Advent, the colors turn purple for the royalty, representing the hope and anticipation of our King who comes through the manger. Jesus came to accomplish our redemption. He comes today in the means of grace to distribute that redemption; He will come again on the last day of our resurrection. The candle lighting focuses our attention on Jesus, our brother, and the light of the world.

The wreath is in a circular garland to represent life in eternity. Each of the four candles represents a thousand years from the promise to the fulfillment of the prophecy. The lighting of the first candle is the "Prophecy Candle," remembering the prophets who foretold of Christ's coming. The second candle is the "Bethlehem Candle," representing the love of Christ to come to the manger. The third candle is the "Shepherds Candle" this is the pink candle reminding us of the shepherd's joy. The fourth candle is the "Angels Candle," embodying the peace of the message brought by the angels. The center candle is the "Christ Candle," it is the center candle and depicts the life of Christ and the purity he has brought into the world. We remember Isaiah's words, "though our sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow."

****CANDLES ARE LIT DURING THIS OPENING HYMN****

OPENING HYMN:

#2

SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME

****Please Stand during Final Verse****



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the
3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child Of the
4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came And as -
5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, Praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O
Spir - it of our God Was the Word of
vir - gin un - de - filed, Though by all the
cend - ed to the same, Cap - tive lead - ing
God the Son, our King, Praise to God the



heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.
God made flesh, Wo - man's off - spring, pure and fresh.
world dis - owned, Yet to be in heav'n en - throned!
death and hell— High the song of tri - umph swell!
Spir - it be Ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt.
Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.



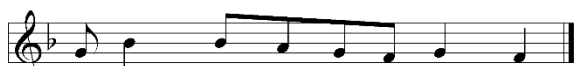
M: O Lord, o - pen my lips.



C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



M: Has - ten to save me, O God.



C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word and receive our hymns of thanks and praise through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

EVENING PSALM:

PSALM 141

C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift-ing
up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

FIRST LESSON:

DEUTERONOMY 8: 1 – 10

Be conscientious about carrying out the entire body of commands that I am giving you today so that you may thrive and increase and you may go in and possess the land that the Lord promised by oath to give to your fathers. Remember the whole journey on which the LORD your God led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you and to test you, in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. So he humbled you and allowed you to be hungry. Then he fed you manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known before, in order to teach you that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. The clothes you wore did not wear out, and your feet did not swell these forty years. So know in your heart that just as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God

disciplines you. Therefore you are to keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by revering him.

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of gullies filled with water, a land with springs and groundwater that flows out into the valleys and down the mountains, a land with wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees for oil, and honey, a land where you can eat bread and not be poor, where you will not lack anything, a land whose rocks are iron and from whose mountains you can mine copper. Then you will eat, and you will be filled, and you will praise the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

PSALM OF THE DAY:

PSALM 96

Refrain



Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord a new song.

Psalm tone



Refrain

Sing to the LORD, praise his name;*
proclaim his salvation day after day.
Declare his glory among the nations,*
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.
Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;*
tremble before him, all the earth.

Refrain

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;*
let the sea resound, and all that is in it;
let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.*
Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy;
for he comes to judge the world in righteousness*
and the peoples in his truth.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Jesus answered them, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: You are not looking for me because you saw the miraculous signs, but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not continue to work for the food that spoils, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval." So they said to him, "What should we do to carry out the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God: that you believe in the one he sent." Then they asked him, "So what miraculous sign are you going to do, that we may see it and believe you? What miraculous sign are you going to perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, just as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus said to them, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the real bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

"Sir," they said to him, "give us this bread all the time!"

"I am the Bread of Life," Jesus told them. "The one who comes to me will never be hungry, and the one who believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have also seen me, and you do not believe. Everyone the Father gives me will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me: that I should lose none of those he has given me, but raise them up on the Last Day. For this is the will of my Father: that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life. And I will raise him up on the Last Day."

SEASONAL RESPONSE

The Lord will come again in glory. The Spirit and the Church cry out: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

HYMN OF THE EVENING:

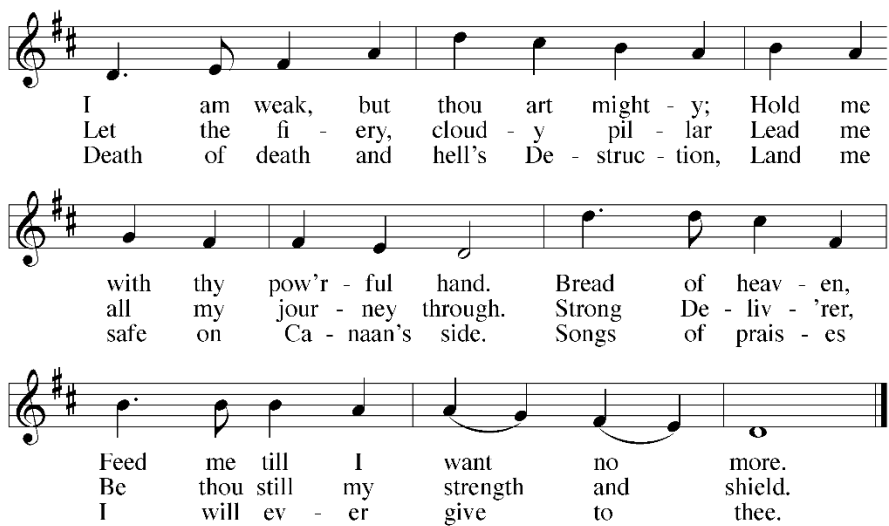
#331

GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah,
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan,

Pil - grim through this bar - ren land.
 Whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;
 Bid my anx - ious fears sub - side;



I am weak, but thou art might - y; Hold me
Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar Lead me
Death of death and hell's De - struc - tion, Land me
with thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong De - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es
Feed me till I want no more.
Be thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to thee.

Text: William Williams, 1717–91, abr.: tr, Peter Williams, 1722–96, st. 1; William Williams, st. 2-3.
Tune: GUIDE ME (87 87 47) George W. Warren, 1828–1902.

SERMON:

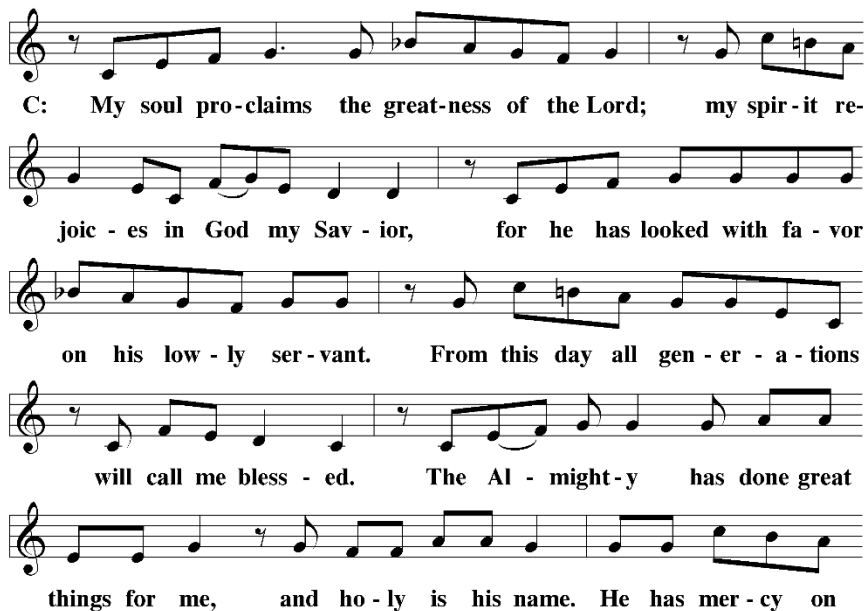
SERMON TEXT

SONG OF MARY

We Need the Living Bread

DEUTERONOMY 8: 2 – 10

MAGNIFICAT



C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-
joic-es in God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor
on his low-ly ser-vant. From this day all gen-er-a-tions
will call me bless-ed. The Al-might-y has done great
things for me, and ho-ly is his name. He has mer-cy on

those who fear him in ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion.

He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat - tered the proud in their con - ceit. He has cast down the might - y from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.

He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers, to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

EVENING RESPONSIVE PRAYER

In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:



For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



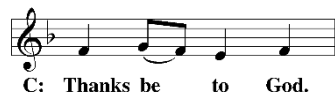
For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



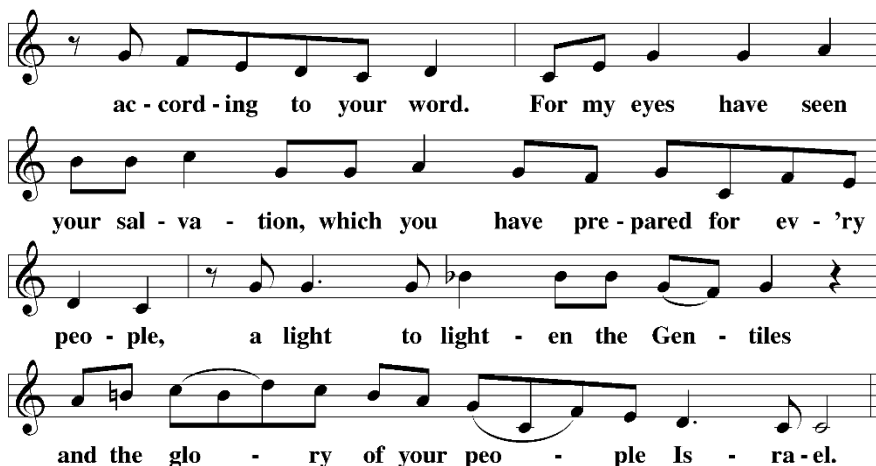
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SONG OF SIMEON

NUNC DIMITTIS





ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen
your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry
peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

BLESSING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God and the fellowship of the Holly Spirit be with you all.

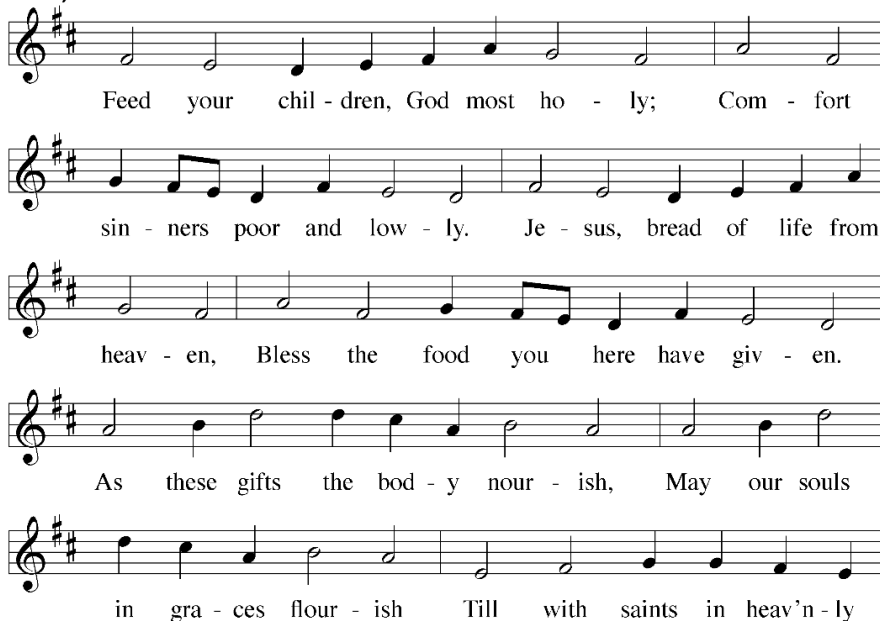


C: A - men.

HYMN OF THE EVENING:

#316

FEED YOUR CHILDREN, GOD MOST HOLY



Feed your chil - dren, God most ho - ly; Com - fort
sin - ners poor and low - ly. Je - sus, bread of life from
heav - en, Bless the food you here have giv - en.
As these gifts the bod - y nour - ish, May our souls
in gra - ces flour - ish Till with saints in heav'n - ly



Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
Tune: SCHMÜCKE DICH (LM D Trochaic) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662, alt.

What We believe:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Cookie Exchange – Tammi will host our annual cookie exchange on Saturday, December 2, at 6 pm. You make or buy your favorite cookie to exchange (a half dozen for each guest + a half dozen to taste, and the leftovers come to church). This party is open to all, so invite a friend. Please RSVP Tammi today, email at Tammi.emmons67@gmail.com or text her at 541-699-7634.

Advent Services – Our focus of our Advent Services “The Father’s plan of salvation is sending His Son; His Son comes as...” We will consider:

November 29 – Deuteronomy 8 “We needed the living Bread”

December 6 – Jeremiah 2 “Our thirst Quenched by the Living Water”

December 13 – Isaiah 9 “The light overcomes the darkness.”

Christmas Eve – Jeremiah 23 “Our shepherd leads us”

Christmas Day (10:30) – Isaiah 2 “Our King has come”

Our midweek will have a soup supper prior to the service at 6 pm; with the service at 7 pm. Christmas Eve services will also be at 7 pm with cookies and treats afterwards.

Christmas Service Schedule – We will have our Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm. Our Christmas day service will be 10:30 am with no Bible study or Sunday School on Christmas day.

Council Meeting – Our next council meeting is scheduled for 6 pm Friday, December 8, at the pastor’s home. If members of the congregation have any concerns, don’t hesitate to get in touch with a member of the council: Mitch Brayton (president), Mike Hansen (vice-president), Charlie Vandelicht (secretary), Greg Port (treasurer), Gene Baldwin (elder).

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