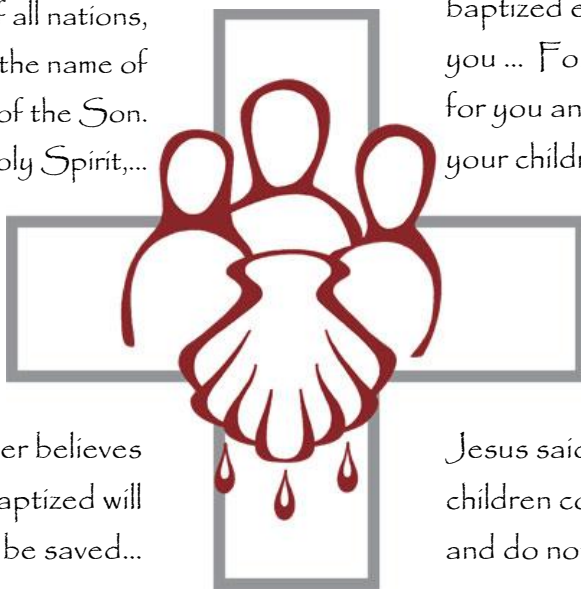


WELCOME TO EMMAUS LUTHERAN!

Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of
the Father and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit...

Repent and be
baptized every one of
you ... For the promise is
for you and for
your children...



Whoever believes
and is baptized will
be saved...

Jesus said, "Let the
children come to me,
and do not hinder them..."

THE GIFT OF BAPTISM

Elaine Jo Bohnke

Sunday, December 31, 2023



GOD'S DIVINE SERVICE TO US:

The Time Has Fully Come for Redemption and Purification through Jesus Christ, Our Lord

"When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son," born of the woman, *"to redeem those who were under the law"* (Gal. 4:4-5). Therefore, *"according to the Law of Moses,"* Mary and Joseph *"brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord"* (Luke 2:22). There He was received and taken up into the arms of Simeon, who was righteous and devout, *"waiting for the consolation of Israel"* (Luke 2:25). Simeon praised God and blessed the parents by confessing the cross for which this child was appointed. *"At that very hour,"* old and faithful Anna, who had watched, prayed and worshiped in the temple for so long, came up and *"began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem"* (Luke 2:38). The Lord causes *"righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations"* (Is. 61:11). We also *"greatly rejoice in the LORD,"* because this child has clothed us *"with the garments of salvation,"* covered us *"with the robe of righteousness"* and called us *"by a new name"* (Is. 61:10; 62:2).



WELCOME! What a blessing to gather together to worship the One True God! The Lord will bless your worship as he brings His gifts to you through Word and Sacrament. May we all respond with prayer, praise and thanksgiving. **We invite you to prepare for worship in silence and prayer.** Remembering your Baptism, you are encouraged to make the sign of the cross when you see this symbol ✝ in the bulletin. **If you are a guest, Pastor Olsen would love to meet you and we ask that you sign our Guest Book located in the front hallway.**



WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN: Worship is a time for the entire family to be together to hear the Word of God, for faith comes by hearing (Rom. 10:17). Therefore we encourage parents and children of all ages to sit together in the service. Understanding it is difficult for little ones to sit for long periods, ***Totes for Tots*** activity bags are available as you enter church (by the information table) for children to use during the worship service. Each bag contains books and quiet toys. Please return the bags and their contents after the worship service. Thank you! A ***Cry Room*** is also available in the Preschool/Mrs. MacKenzie's room (east hall), where you can listen to the worship service.

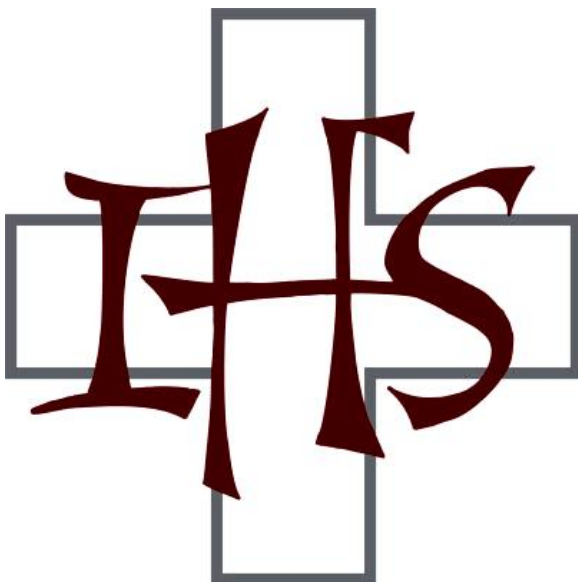
DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WORSHIP SERVICE? If it is your first time, some things may seem foreign. Worship does not come naturally we have to learn it. It does not come on the first try; the first hour in a foreign country the language and customs may be foreign. The liturgy is the special activity of the baptized people of God. It has its own special language like we do in our workplaces. It has its own customs like we do in our families. Every Sunday we learn more of worship and faith. The liturgy is where God reveals Himself to us and gives us His gifts. Here we learn who He is and how to respond to Him. The words of worship come from the Scriptures and its form has been used for 2,000 years. So don't worry if it all seems strange. You learn by practicing - join us each week!

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the House of the Lord...'" Psalm 122:1



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

RESTROOMS are located on each side of the sanctuary. There is a baby changing table located in the girl's locker room on the west side. We also have a **Family Restroom** (handicap accessible & baby changing station) located at the southwest corner of the building, just outside the Church Office.



MATINS

Pg 219

Prelude

Welcome

Matins Service

Today we receive our Lord's gracious gifts through the Order of Matins.

The word "Matins" comes from a Latin word meaning "of the morning."

Matins is a service of prayer that is used by the church only in the morning.

Opening Hymn

594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap-tized
 2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap-tized
 3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap-tized
 4 Death, you can - not end my glad-ness: I am bap-tized



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,
 in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er:
 in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,
 in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's
 Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y
 I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the
 To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in



trea - sures man - y? I have one worth
 con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
 font I've trav - eled, All your might has
 dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance



more than an - y That brought me sal -
 did re - lease me In a dear for -
 come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your
 bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the



va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!
 giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?
 tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!
 strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.

The theme here is "Baptized into Christ," which carries so many blessings. Today Elaine receives them all!

(Romans 6:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Titus 3:4-7)

- 5 There is nothing worth comparing
 To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
 Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
 I am baptized into Christ;
 I'm a child of paradise!

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Tune: Public domain



✠ Holy Baptism ✠

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

Matthew 28:78b-79; Mark 76:760; 7 Peter 3:27

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

P How is she named?

R *Elaine Jo Bohnke*

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of the candidate while saying:

P Elaine Jo Bohnke, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ☩ forehead and upon your ☩ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P = Pastor

L = Liturgist/Lector

C = Congregation

P Let us pray.
 Almighty and eternal God,
 according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving
 world through the flood,
 yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing
 Noah and his family, eight souls in all.
 You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea,
 yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground,
 foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism.
 Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son,
 our Lord Jesus Christ,
 You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood
 and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Elaine according to Your boundless
 mercy
 and bless her with true faith by the Holy Spirit,
 that through this saving flood all sin in her,
 which has been inherited from Adam
 and which she herself has committed since,
 would be drowned and die.

Grant that she be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the
 Christian Church,
 being separated from the multitude of unbelievers
 and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a
 joyful hope,
 so that, with all believers in Your promise,
 she would be declared worthy of eternal life;
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (501)

C Amen.

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

The pastor addresses the sponsors.

P Is it your intention to serve Elaine as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C Amen.

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

Mark 10:13-16 NKJV

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The pastor places his hands on the head(s) of the candidate(s), and the congregation joins in praying:

C 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.

Matthew 6:9-13

P The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even ✠ forevermore.

C Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

The pastor addresses the candidate and asks the following questions:

P Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

R Yes, I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

R Yes, I believe.

P Do you believe 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?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you 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?

R *Yes, I believe.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of the candidate while saying:

P Elaine Jo Bohnke, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ☩ everlasting.

C **Amen.**

The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

P In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our sister in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

C **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

Congregation please stand.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Elaine the new birth in Holy Baptism and made her a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as she has now become Your child, You would keep her in her baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure she may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (503)

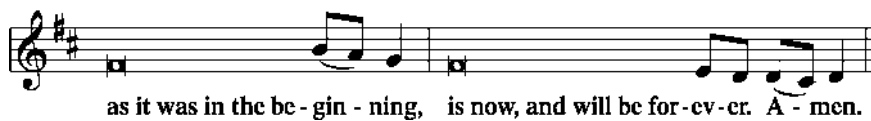
C Amen.

P Peace ☩ be with you.

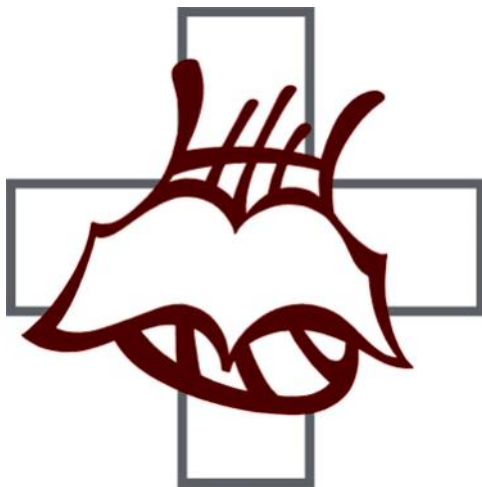
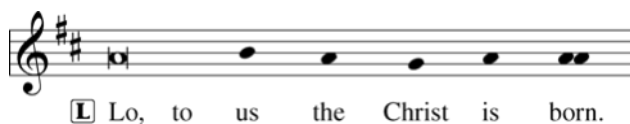
C Amen.

All return to their places.



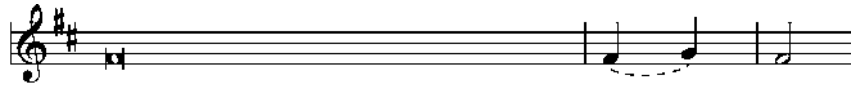


+ PSALMODY +

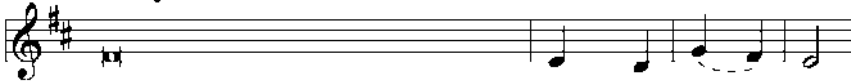


Venite

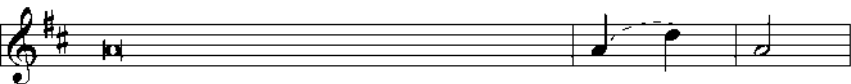
Psalm 95:1-7



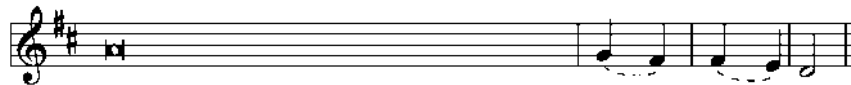
- C** 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
 2 For the Lord is a great God
 3 The sea is His, for He made it,
 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
 3 and His hand formed the dry land.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
 4 For He is our God,
 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
 2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
 5 is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men.

Venite is Latin for "oh, come" and is sung at the beginning of the Matins service

Antiphon



- L** Lo, to us the Christ is born.



- C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.

An antiphon is a refrain-like verse from Scripture.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 111

- P** He sent redemption to his people;
 he has commanded his covenant forever.

A Psalm is a Greek word which is taken from the Hebrew words meaning "praises" and "prayers."

C Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,

in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

P Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.

C Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

P He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

C He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

P He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

C The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy;

P they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

C He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his
covenant forever.

Holy and awesome is his name!

P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who
practice it have a good understanding.

His praise endures forever!

All: **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.

P He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.

The fear
of the LORD
is the beginning
of wisdom;



all those
who practice it
have a good
understanding.

Psalms 111:10, ESV

Hymn of the Day

519 In His Temple Now Behold Him



1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -
 2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -
 3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,



pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,
 hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him
 weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,



God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,
 Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us



His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.
 al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
 in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

Text and tune: Public domain

*The Purification of
 Mary and the
 Presentation of Our
 Lord.
 (Luke 2:22-38)*

+ READINGS +

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:10–62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Summary:
*We rejoice over the
 gifts this Christ
 Child brings!*

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Summary:

Through the redemptive work of God's Son, we are brought into the Family of God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40

²²And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

Summary:

May the Lord grant you such a lasting faith as Simeon and Anna to one day see the Lord face to face.

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting

and prayer night and day. ³⁸ And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.


[L] O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory: Common


Psalm 119:89; 26:8; Luke 11:28

Verse To Refrain



L 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep— it.
3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.

Refrain



Lord, I love
the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

We respond to the Word of God with an acclamation of praise.

The Sermon: The preacher proclaims God's Law and Gospel for the hearers.

Sermon



+ CANTICLE +

Benedictus ~ Song of Zechariah

Luke 1:68-79

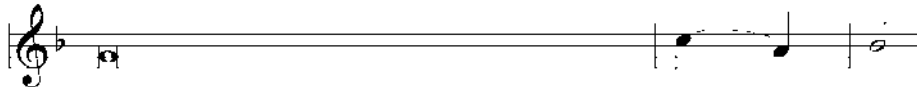
The Benedictus is Zechariah's song of praise following the birth and naming of his son, John the Baptist.



- 1 Blessed be the Lord God of Is - ra - el;
 2 as He spoke by the mouth of His holy proph - ets,
 3 to perform the mercy promised to our fa - thers,
 4 being delivered from the hand of our en - c - mics,
 5 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
 6 through the tender mercy of our God;
 7 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



- 1 for He has visited and re - deemed His peo - ple
 2 who have been since the world be - gan:
 3 and to remember His ho - ly cov - e - nant,
 4 might serve Him with - out fear,
 5 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare His ways;
 6 when the day shall dawn up - on us from on high
 7 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
 2 that we should be saved from our en - e - mies
 3 the oath that He swore to our father. A - bra - ham,
 4 in holiness and righteousness be fore Him
 5 to give knowledge of salvation to His peo - ple
 6 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
 7 as it was in the be gin - ning,



- 1 in the house of His ser - vant Da - vid,
 2 and from the hand of all who hate us;
 3 to grant us that we,
 4 all the days of our life.
 5 in the for - give - ness of their sins,
 6 to guide our feet in - to the way of peace.
 7 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Offering

The offering will not be collected during the worship service this morning. Please place your offering in one of the collection plates located at the back of the sanctuary. Extra offering envelopes are available on the hymnal cart. If you would like to contribute electronically, please sign up at www.emmausfortwane.org and click on "Give Online" or use Vanco Mobile, available from the App Store. Thank you for your support of the ministry at Emmaus!

+ PRAYER +

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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

We present our gifts to God to symbolize the offering of ourselves to the Lord, saying thank you to God, and showing we trust Him to supply all our needs. Romans 12:1.

Prayer is one of the marks of the congregation gathered in worship, according to Acts 2:42.

Kyrie is from the Greek and is a direct address to God, meaning "Lord, have mercy."

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer Jesus taught to His disciples and to us in His Word (Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4).

Collects



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Psalms 102:1

A Collect is a precisely written prayer that "collects" the prayers of the people.

Collect of the Day

P O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

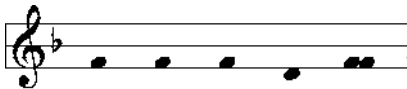
The Prayer of the church includes prayers that what has been heard may be taken to heart and that God would take care of our needs.

Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; 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



L Let us bless the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

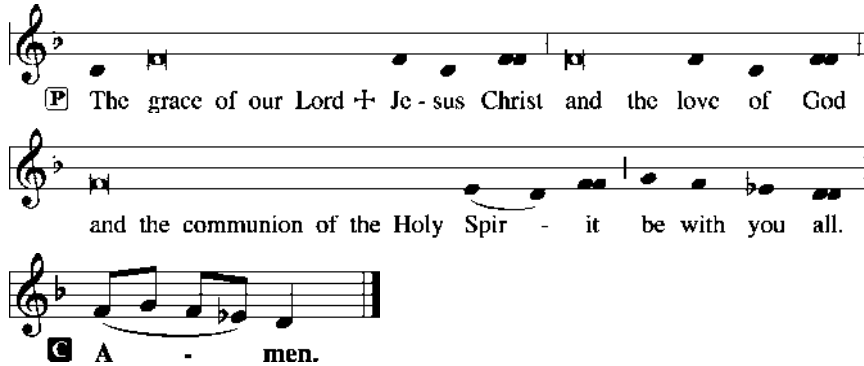


C Thanks be to God.

Benedicamus is Latin for "bless we [the Lord]," a concluding response.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

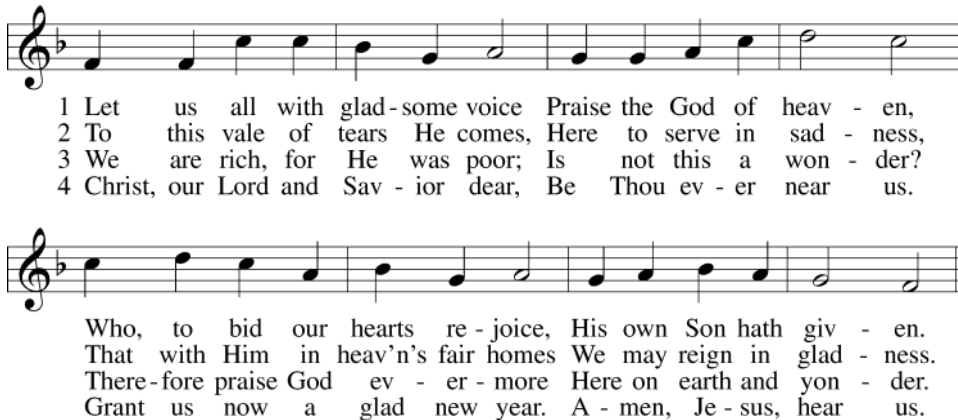


P The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.
C A - men.

The Benediction is God's blessing for the congregation given through the pastor at the very end of the service.

Closing Hymn

390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice



1 Let us all with glad-some voice Praise the God of heav - en,
2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sad - ness,
3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, Be Thou ev - er near us.
Who, to bid our hearts re - joice, His own Son hath giv - en.
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.
There-fore praise God ev - er more Here on earth and yon - der.
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

This 17th century Christmas hymn serves us after we have received the very body and blood of Christ, to remind us what we have been given.

(Galatians 4:4-7; 1 Peter 1:8; Psalm 118:15; Romans 5:10-12)

Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

Dismissal

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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Participating in Today's Service

Officiant: Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III

Acolyte: Nikos Spanos

Elder: Mr. Jesse Steinbacher

Organist: Mrs. Joann Olsen

MISSION OF EMMAUS LUTHERAN:

Empowered by God's gift of never-ending love in Word and Sacrament and responding to the forgiveness won for us by Jesus Christ on the cross, the mission of the family of Emmaus Lutheran is to

COURAGEOUSLY CONFESS CHRIST

through worship, life together, teaching and service.

UNITY ✚ FAMILY ✚ FAITHFUL ✚ EDUCATION ✚ CONFSSIONAL

This Week at Emmaus

Sunday, December 31

1st Sunday after Christmas

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service
Our Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes will
not meet today. Classes will resume next
Sunday, January 7th.

Monday, January 1

New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

Monday - Friday

January 1 - 5

NO School

Sunday, January 7

The Baptism of Our Lord

9:00 a.m. Divine Service - Holy
Communion

Acolyte: Trapper Durlacher

Elder: James Heeren

Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes

Sunday School Nursery:

Hunter Durlacher, Esther Spanos



COURAGEOUSLY CONFESSING CHRIST

8626 Covington Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Phone: 260-459-7722 FAX: 260-459-7766

Church: www.emmausfortwayne.org

School: www.emmauslutheranfw.org

Check out our YouTube Channel:
Emmaus Lutheran Fort Wayne



The Ministry of Emmaus is eager to serve you!

Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III, *Pastor*

Home: 260-267-5180

revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org

Darlene Heeren, *Church Secretary*

Timothy LaCroix, *Music Director*

Karen Detwiler, *Family Care Coordinator*

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



Bible Readings for Next Sunday:

Psalm 29; Genesis 1:1-5; Romans 6:1-11; Mark 1:4-11.



Weekly Word & Prayer

We encourage you to take this insert home with you and use it as part of your family or individual devotions.

**LUTHER'S
SMALL
Catechism**

Catechism Review

The Lord's Prayer

The Seventh Petition

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.



A Reading from the Book of Concord, Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration Article III, The Righteousness of Faith

Controversy has arisen among some theologians of the Augsburg Confession about the righteousness of Christ or of faith, which God credits by grace, through faith, to poor sinners for righteousness.

One side contends that the righteousness of faith, which the apostle calls God's righteousness, is God's essential righteousness. They say this is Christ Himself as God's true, and essential Son, who dwells in the elect by faith and moves them to do right. And so He is their righteousness.

Against this, others have held and taught that Christ is our righteousness according to His human nature alone.

In opposition to both these groups it has been unanimously taught by the other teachers of the Augsburg Confession that Christ is our righteousness not according to His divine nature alone, nor according to His human nature alone, but according to both natures. For He has redeemed, justified, and saved us from our sins as God and man, through His complete obedience. The righteousness of faith is the forgiveness of sins, reconciliation with God, and our adoption as God's children only on account of Christ's obedience. Christ's obedience alone—out of pure grace—is credited for righteousness through faith alone to all true believers. They are absolved from all their unrighteousness by this obedience.

(paragraphs 1-4)

[Condensed quotations from the Lutheran Confessions from Concordia: the Lutheran Confessions, ©2005, 2006 by Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. All rights reserved.]

“LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR”

Christmas I/New Year's Eve – Christmas – and a new year – offers opportunity for the joys of looking forward. Simeon and Anna exemplify and inspire faith that finds strength and celebration in anticipating. The Heavenly

Father who escorted us thus far will also usher us ever onward. Neighbors facing surprise pregnancies or suffering terminal diagnoses need to know. For their sake, please do not keep silent (Psalm 62:1)!

Life Thoughts in the Church Year are designed to help pastors and congregations see the church year through the lens of the sanctity of human life. *Life Thoughts* are based on the appointed readings from *Lutheran Service Book*. www.lutheransforlife.org.

Remember in Prayer this Week

FCG Hospitalized/Sick/Recuperating

Luke Riley Children's Hospital, Indianapolis: **Layla Stockinger**

Moses Parkview - Columbia City: **Dave Kendall**

Mark LLV at Inverness: **Wini Fritz**

Deborah Ashton Creek: **Carol Rose**, for rehab

Ruth **Beverly Baals**, experiencing health related issues

Matthew **Sue Behny**, as she continues to recover

Ruth **Marti Evans**, as she continues to experience health issues

Moses **Eric Hoffman**, recovering from surgery

Mark **Bonnie Robbins**, continuing to experience health issues

Ruth **William G. Schmidt**, as he continues to recover at home

Joseph **Karen Sollberger**, continuing to experience health problems

Ruth **Kathy Veit**, recovering from a cornea transplant

Faith Ells, (26 years old), friend of Barbara Cox, undergoing cancer treatment

Garret Griffey, nephew of Ron & Sandy Crismore, who was seriously injured in an accident on September 6th

David Knoll, cousin of Karen Detwiler, undergoing cancer treatment

Eliana Miller, friend of Karen Detwiler, doing better and taking a break from cancer treatment

David Munson, friend of Lisa Kanning, who is recovering at home.

Lisa Reece, friend of the Rosenkoetters, cancer has progressed, prognosis not long-term

Janet Shady, Ron Crismore's sister, hospitalized with COVID

Baptized Today

Elijah **Elaine Jo**, daughter of Cameron & Kristen Bohnke. Sponsors: Cody & Grace Schrepferman, Noah & Rachel Dunsmore

Mary Bradburn Family; Gilliom Family; Dave Greener; Shirley Kanning; Morgan Family, Lois Richter,

FCG Kenneth Scrogham, Lee Toussaint, and the Younghans Family.

Pray for

For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

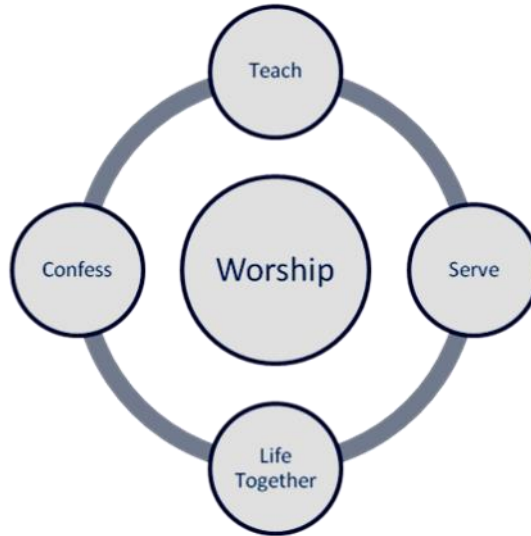
Serving in the Armed Forces: **James Rockrohr**, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving in the U.S. Marines; **Paul Rockrohr**, brother of Theodore Rockrohr, serving as Chaplain in the U.S. Navy; and **Travis McGehee**, who has returned from training.



EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES

For the week of December 31, 2023

DONE IN LOVE



SERVING THE LORD

THANK YOU - God has richly blessed us with many gifts in our congregation! Among the most blessed is one another. Thank you for working together, side by side as the Body of Christ, to serve the Lord and our neighbor.

NURTURING THE FAITH

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Our Sunday School and Bible Classes will not meet today. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7th.

DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS

Higher Things Reflections - The Baptism of Our Lord - Saturday the Week of Transfiguration (1/7 to 2/17/2024) booklets are available as you leave from the table in the front hallway. Please feel free to pick up a copy and take one for a friend. Daily Reflections are provided by Higher Things. www.higherthings.org.

Portals of Prayer - We have the devotion booklets for January—March 2024. Please feel free to pick one up from the table in the front hall.

LIFE TOGETHER

Worship Attendance

Sunday, December 24

Morning Worship: **95** Christmas Eve: **117**

Christmas Day: **56**

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES - Envelopes are available to pick up from the table in the front hallway.

PRESCHOOL AIDE NEEDED - Emmaus Lutheran Preschool, 8626 Covington Road, is in need of an afternoon aide for the remainder of this school year. Hours are Monday thru Friday, 12:30-4:30 p.m. If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, please contact Joann Olsen, Preschool Director, at jolsen@emmauslutheranfw.org or 260-459-7722, ext. 1012.

SUBSTITUTES FOR TEACHERS & AIDES NEEDED - If you or someone you know would be interested in substituting for a teacher or a classroom aide, please contact Mrs. Spanos for more information, 260-459-7722, ext. 1002.

VIDEO MESSAGES FOR LAYLA & PAUL - One of the suggestions that was made at the meeting for ways to help the Stockinger family was to make and send video messages to Layla and Paul while they are away. We are still scheduling times, so be sure to sign-up at the table in the front hall.. You can share a favorite Bible verse, say a prayer, tell a joke, sing a song, etc. See Margie Crabtree or Amanda Heeren, if you have any questions or would like to schedule a time to video your message.



PRAYER REQUESTS - Did you know...You can share your prayer requests or praises by clicking “Prayer” on the Emmaus homepage at emmausfortwayne.org.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4:6

EMMAUS FACEBOOK PAGE! - Emmaus has a new Facebook page. Follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089549997428&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

or scan the QR code to view the page!

If you have any event photos please send them to either Kirsten Bohnke

EMMAUS FY 2023-2024 OFFERINGS & TITHES NEEDED	
Offerings Needed Weekly Beginning July 1, 2023	\$6,894.00
Offerings Rec'd Since Last Sunday	\$7,460.60
Electronic Offerings Rec'd Last Week	\$1,363.70
Budgeted Overage (Shortfall)	\$1,920.30
Budgeted Offerings Needed YTD	\$179,244.00
Envelope Offerings Received YTD (includes Electronic Offerings) **	\$173,352.84
Budgeted Overage (Shortfall) YTD	(\$5,891.16)
LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS/OBLIGATIONS & INITIATIVES	
Mortgage Balance	\$1,024,646.67
Concordia Lutheran High School Congregation Assessment Balance	\$38,562.50
Bell Tower Funds Raised (target \$107,650.00)	\$107,650.00
Sanctuary Fund/Foundation	\$304,082.95

at kirsten.bohnke@gmail.com or Paul Stockinger at paul_stockinger@yahoo.com



WAYS TO HELP EMMAUS:

Kroger Community Rewards This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. It's easy! Here's how:

1. Go to Kroger.com and set up an account (if you don't have one) or log into your account.
2. Under your account options select "My Account."
3. Scroll down the page and select Community Rewards" (left side of screen).
4. Under "organization Name" enter "Emmaus Lutheran School and Church" or use "organization Number" BF171.

Advantage Recycling

We are accepting empty printer ink cartridges, old cell phones, and laptops. This helps keep those items out of the landfill and helps us as we will receive payment from the recycling company. Items can be placed in the box located inside the west entrance to the gym/sanctuary from the front hall. Monies from this program will be used for school supplies.

PROJECT CONNECT BOOOKLETS

Lutheran Hour Ministries 'Project Connect' booklets combine a subject matter expert's practical guidance on a variety of topics that pose real-life challenges to us, within a Christ-centered, Law and Gospel context ... What a powerful combination! You can find a variety of these booklets in the circular rack just inside the entrance to the sanctuary. This week's featured brochure:


"The Christmas Journey" - This kid-friendly booklet is about God coming to us as the Christ Child of Bethlehem. This tiny volume will give parents and kids a memorable look at what God has done for each of us on Christmas morn.

GREETING CARDS - \$1.00 EACH - Our Women's Guild has just replenished our supply of new Dayspring cards on the carousel at the back table. Stop by before or after service and browse all the many categories and choices. Just refilled are beautiful "thinking of you" and "praying for you" cards which are perfect for our Care Groups, family and friends. ALSO, If you want unique, blank notecards, how about our Emmaus cards at \$6.00 for a 12 pack? They are designed by Bill Schmidt and are perfect for ANY occasion. We all love to receive cards and notes. Take the time to do it, and share your love and prayers.

ELECTRONIC GIVING - Please be sure to set up your electronic giving on the Vanco Mobile app. You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app. Just select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation. If you have questions or need assistance with our new mobile app, please stop by the church office or call us at 260-459-7722. We also have an info sheet that shows how to make gifts with the app available from the table in the front hall.

WEEKLY SHUT-IN VISITS - If you are physically unable to attend the Sunday morning worship service, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a bulletin, the News & Notes, as well as a copy of the sermon. (We deliver on Mondays). Please contact the church office, 459-7722 and press "3". *Dave & Joan Kendall.*

MEMBER CALLER - We have set up our account for the new service to call all our members. Please add the phone number of **855.248.7295** to your caller id or your phone address book and entitle that contact as the Church Call so that it will be identified properly on your caller id. If your phone number has changed or you need to add an additional number for your household, please see Darlene so that she can update the call list.



Emmaus Lutheran School's Annual
Dinner, Silent and Live Auction, Dancing

Our annual auction is in the planning stages and we need volunteers. There are going to be a lot of different areas to help out with. Those areas include ticket sales, fundraising, decorating, prep work with the auction items, setup, assisting at the event, and take down. Whether you are able to help for a day, a few hours, or to be a supporter of the event we can't do this without you!

Interested in joining the committee?

We would love to have you join us!
signupgenius.com/go/20F044EA9AE23A1FE3-annual#/

GENERAL

DEADLINE FOR EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES: Please submit information to the Church Office by Noon on Wednesday to be included in Sunday's publication.

ROYAL MESSENGER NEWSLETTER - The December 2023/January 2024 issue of The Royal Messenger is available to pick up in the front hallway for those who have requested a printed copy. **The deadline for submitting information for the February/March 2024 issue is Monday, January 29th.** Please send any info on upcoming events to the church office by e-mail to: dheeren@emmausfortwayne.org. Thank you!

OTHER

ISSUES, ETC. LUTHERAN RADIO IN EXILE...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can tune into interviews on subjects like "Answering Tough Questions About the Christian Faith: Common Objections", "Bad Uses of the Law of God", "Signs and Symbols in the Church" and more. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

WORSHIP ANEW is broadcast weekly on Sundays at 7:00 a.m. on NBC's Channel 21.2, 8:00a.m. on MyTV - Frontier 9, Digital 21.3 and Comcast 2 52; 11:30 a.m. on WINM-TV 12/38 - TCT; and 4:00 p.m. Sunday and 10:00 a.m. Monday on Comcast 55 and Frontier 25 [PA]. Today's program: ***At Home with Jesus*** - Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple. Simeon and Anna greeted Him with joy. For many, being in church is a source of great joy. Worship Anew seeks to bring that joy to those who are unable to attend church. Text: Luke 2:22-46. Speaker: Rev. Paul Shoemaker.

CROSS CONNECTIONS - S.O.S. at Cross Connections: The Biblical counseling ministry at Cross Connections has a Serve our Servants fund (S.O.S) that provides free counseling for all active duty military, police, fire, and EMT personnel and their families. If you or somebody you know would benefit from these services please speak with pastor or call Cross Connections at 260-373-0213 to learn more.

NIPSCO ENERGY ASSISTANCE - Beginning December 1, income-eligible customers, seniors, active military and veterans experiencing financial difficulty paying their gas utility bill may apply for additional NIPSCO energy assistance programs. Available programs include NIPSCO Hardship, SERV (Supply Energy Resources to Veterans) and SILVER (Seniors in Indiana Low-Income and Vulnerable Energy Resource) that will allow customers to receive a one-time benefit of up to \$400 per year if they qualify. To see the full list of requirements for SERV and SILVER, customers should visit NIPSCO.com/IncomeEligible. There, customers may also apply for the appropriate program by completing and submitting an online self-attestation form and uploading documentation, if required. Applicants should allow 30 business days for the form to be received and processed. If program requirements are met, a one-time credit will be applied to the applicant's NIPSCO gas residential utility account.

WORSHIP ANEW - Job Posting for Donor Database Specialist:

Join an amazing ministry team at Worship Anew as the Donor Database Specialist. Worship Anew is a ministry, headquartered in Fort Wayne, IN, that reaches thousands of people each week across the nation and around the world with its weekly television program. The ministry is currently growing and produces a daily devotional, Hope-Full Living, a care package ministry, and is striving to be the foremost provider of resources for aging adults. The ministry is seeking a part-time Donor Database Specialist to be responsible for all database entry, reporting, and upkeep. This position also assists with viewer requests and performs other administrative duties as needed. This candidate needs to have

database skills, and be proficient in Microsoft Office, especially Word and Excel. They must possess strong customer service skills. We are seeking someone with an Associate degree or 2 years equivalent experience in related field or area. This person must have a basic understanding of the church teachings and how Worship Anew fits into it. Knowledge of Lutheran Church Missouri Synod principles and values is a plus. They must be supportive of the ministry's values and have a passion for the ministry's work with a genuine commitment to the fulfillment of the organization's mission. To apply, please contact Worship Anew at (260) 471-5683.

FORT WAYNE LUTHERAN We have copies of the current issue of The Fort Wayne Lutheran available at the table in the front hallway as you leave today. The issue is also available online at www.myfwl.org for those who have computer/internet access.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY MAGAZINES - We have copies of the magazines from both Ft. Wayne Campus and St. Louis campus available from the Information Rack. These publications provide information on what's happening at our seminary campuses. Please feel free to pick up a copy.

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Christmas Break: Classes will resume on Monday, January 8th.