



Be patient...
until the
coming of
the Lord.

JAMES 5:7

Luther Memorial Church & School

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As We Gather

Sometimes life requires the astonishing patience of Job. Like him, we are to rejoice in the midst of affliction, be grounded in repentance under the cross of Christ, and hope relentlessly in His resurrection, that we might see “the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful” (James 5:11). In the promise of the Gospel, therefore, “be patient” and “establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand” (James 5:7, 8). Like St. John the Baptist, whatever your own kind of prison or suffering may be, call upon Jesus and receive the strength of His Word from those He sends to you. For as “the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up,” so is the Good News of Jesus preached to you also (Matt. 11:5). He comes and restores the fortunes of Zion, His Holy Church, so that “sorrow and sighing shall flee away” (Is. 35:10).

[Today’s hymns are printed on pages 9-12 of the bulletin.]

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

TLH 64 – Jesus, Thy Church with Longing Eyes

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- P** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- C** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**
- P** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.
- C** Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis

Glo-ry to God, we give you thanks and praise; Of
Lord Je-sus Christ, the Fa-ther's on-ly Son, You
A-lone, O Christ, You on-ly are the Lord, At
heav'n-ly joy and peace on earth we sing. We wor-ship
bore for us the load of this world's sin. O Lamb of
God's right hand in maj-es - ty most high: Who, with the
You, to You our hearts we raise, Lord God, al -
God, Your glo-rious vic - t'ry won, Re - ceive our
Spir - it wor-shiped and a - dored, With all the
might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray...
... for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 146

- P** Praise the LORD!
- C** Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- P** I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
- C** I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- P** Put not your trust in princes,
- C** in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
- P** When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;
- C** on that very day his plans perish.
- P** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
- C** whose hope is in the LORD his God,

- P** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,
- C** **who keeps faith forever;**
- P** who executes justice for the oppressed,
- C** **who gives food to the hungry.**
- P** The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
- C** **The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**
- P** The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
- C** **but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**
- P** The LORD will reign forever,
- C** **your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:2-15

² Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴ And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written, “ ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear.



Alleluia

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu - ia! These words are
writ - ten that we may believe that Je-sus is the Christ, the
Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu - ia!

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I 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. Amen.

Hymn

TLH 58 (1, 4-5, 7, 9) – O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee



⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹ Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.



On Patience

I. Examples of Patience

II. Your Patience

Offertory

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
 Spir-it from me. Re store to me the joy of Your sal -
 va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Offering Hymn

WS 788 (1)

Lord, You love the cheerful giver
Who with open heart and hand
Blesses freely, as a river
That refreshes all the land.
Grant us, then, the grace of giving
With a spirit large and true
That our life and all our living
We may consecrate to You.

General Prayer

The 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.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C Amen.

Hymn

TLH 651 – Be Still, My Soul

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TLH 64 – Jesus, Thy Church with Longing Eyes

L. M.

Rev. 1: 7

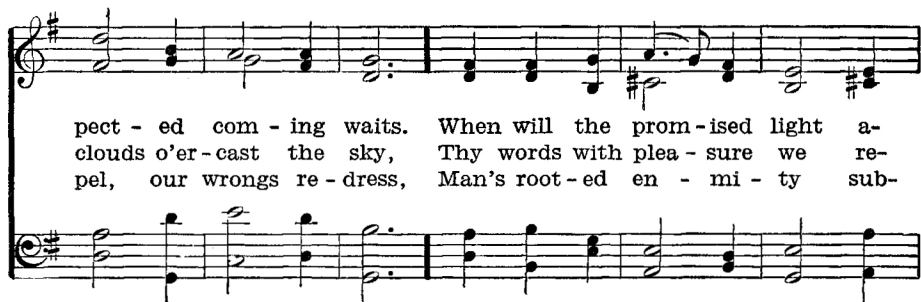
William H. Bathhurst, 1881, ab.

O Jesu Christ, mein's

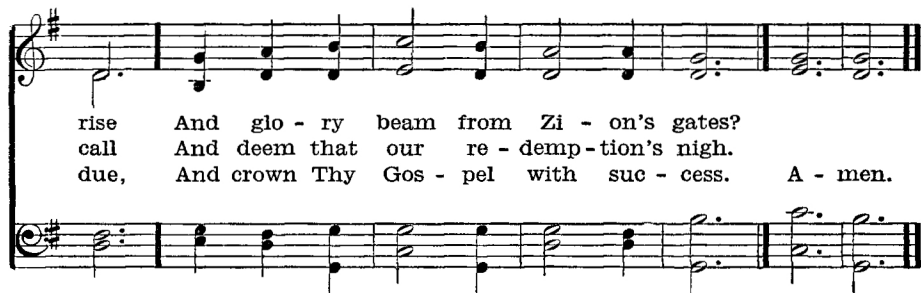
"Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch," 1676



1 Je - sus, Thy Church with long - ing eyes For Thine ex -
2 E'en now, when tem - pests round us fall And win - try
3 Come, gra - cious Lord, our hearts re - new, Our foes re -



pect - ed com - ing waits. When will the prom - ised light a -
clouds o'er - cast the sky, Thy words with plea - sure we re -
pel, our wrongs re - dress, Man's root - ed en - mi - ty sub -



rise And glo - ry beam from Zi - on's gates?
call And deem that our re - demp - tion's nigh.
due, And crown Thy Gos - pel with suc - cess. A - men.

4 Oh, come and reign o'er every land;
Let Satan from his throne be hurled,
All nations bow to Thy command,
And grace revive a dying world.

5 Teach us in watchfulness and prayer
To wait for the appointed hour
And fit us by Thy grace to share
The triumphs of Thy conquering power.

TLH 58 (1, 4-5, 7, 9) – O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee

Matt. 21 : 1-9

Wie soll ich dich empfangen

Paul Gerhardt, 1653, cento

Tr. composite

7. 6. 7. 6. D.

(SECOND TUNE)

Wie soll ich dich

Johann Crüger, 1653

1 O Lord, how shall I meet Thee, How wel-come Thee a - right?

Thy peo - ple long to greet Thee, My Hope, my heart's De - light!

Oh, kin - dle, Lord, most ho - ly, Thy lamp with - in my breast

To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please Thee best. A - men.

4 Love caused Thy incarnation,
Love brought Thee down to me;
Thy thirst for my salvation
Procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling,
That led Thee to embrace,
In love all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race!

5 Rejoice, then, ye sad-hearted,
Who sit in deepest gloom,
Who mourn o'er joys departed
And tremble at your doom.
Despair not, He is near you,
Yea, standing at the door,
Who best can help and cheer you
And bids you weep no more.

7 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
Let not your souls distress;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
And cover by His grace.
He comes, for men procuring
The peace of sin forgiven,
For all God's sons securing
Their heritage in heaven.

9 He comes to judge the nations,
A terror to His foes,
A Light of consolations
And blessed Hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Thy beams most cheering,
And guide us safely home.

TLH 334 – Let Me Be Thine Forever

Rom. 6: 16

7. 6. 7. 6. D.

Lass mich dein sein und bleiben

St. 1, Nikolaus Selnecker, 1572

St. 2, 3, author unknown, 1688

Tr., Matthias Loy, 1880, alt.

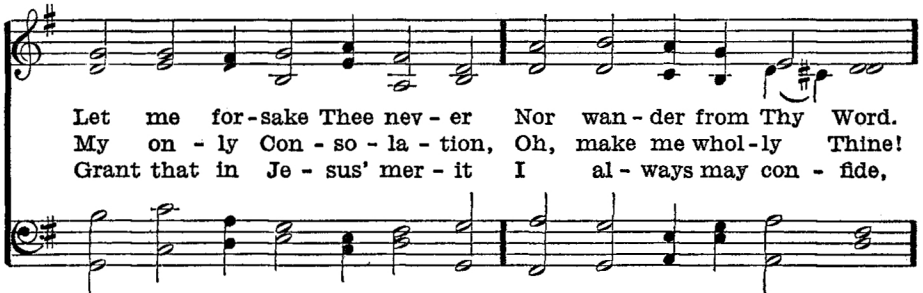
Ich dank' dir, lieber Herre

"Musika Deutsch"

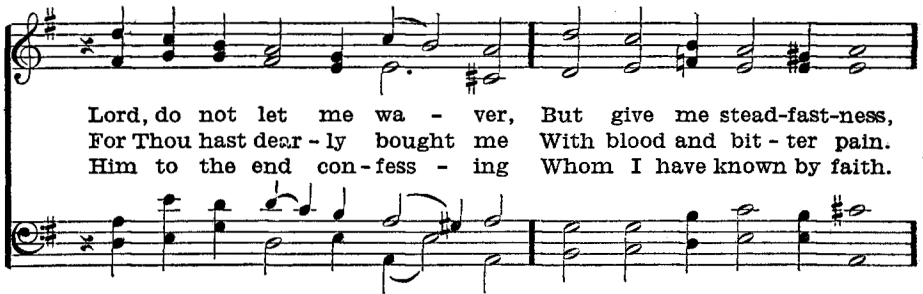
Nürnberg, 1532



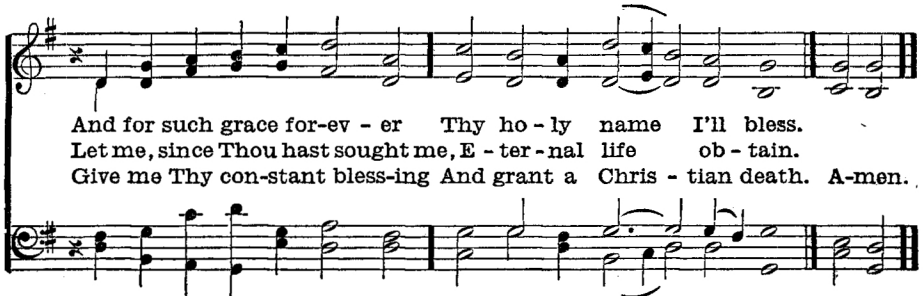
1 Let me be Thine for - ev - er, Thou faith - ful Gbd and Lord;
 2 Lord Je - sus, my Sal - va - tion, My Light, my Life di - vine,
 3 And Thou, O Ho - ly Spir - it, My Com - fort - er and Guide,



Let me for - sake Thee nev - er Nor wan - der from Thy Word.
 My on - ly Con - so - la - tion, Oh, make me whol - ly Thine!
 Grant that in Je - sus' mer - it I al - ways may con - fide,



Lord, do not let me wa - ver, But give me stead - fast - ness,
 For Thou hast dear - ly bought me With blood and bit - ter pain.
 Him to the end con - fess - ing Whom I have known by faith.



And for such grace for - ev - er Thy ho - ly name I'll bless.
 Let me, since Thou hast sought me, E - ter - nal life ob - tain.
 Give me Thy con - stant bless - ing And grant a Chris - tian death. A - men.

TLH 651 – Be Still, My Soul

Ps. 46: 10

10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10.

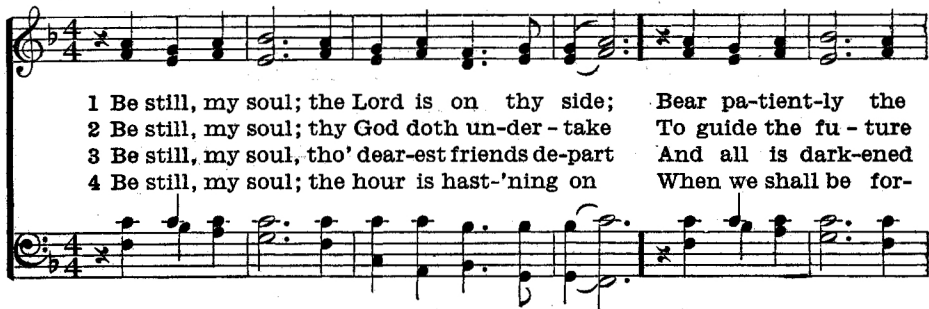
Stille, mein Wille

Catharina von Schlegel, 1759, cento

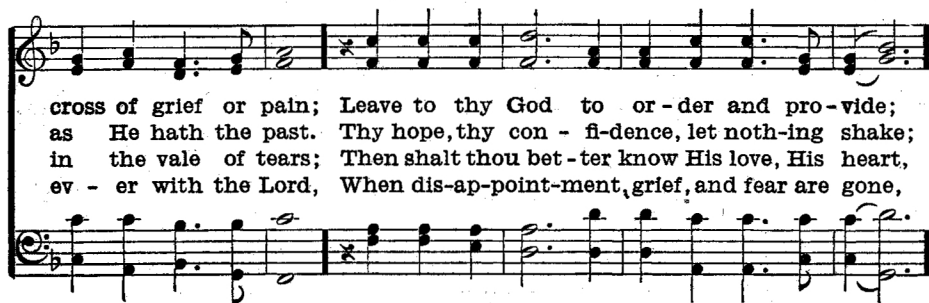
Tr., Jane Borthwick, 1855

Finlandia

Jean Sibelius, b. 1865, arr.



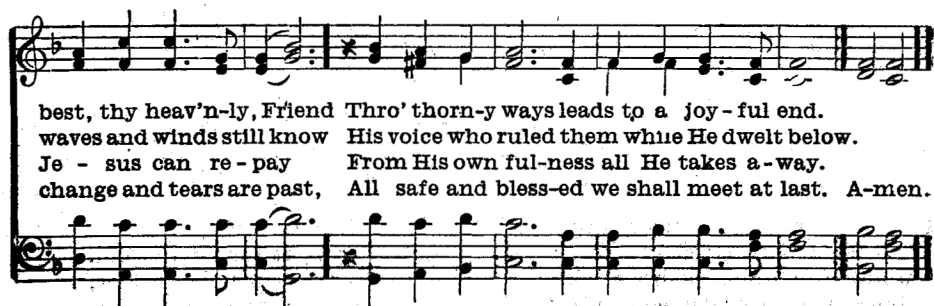
1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side; Bear pa-tient-ly the
 2 Be still, my soul; thy God doth un-der-take To guide the fu-ture
 3 Be still, my soul, tho' dear-est friends de-part And all is dark-ened
 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is hast-'ning on When we shall be for-



cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to or-der and pro-vide;
 as He hath the past. Thy hope, thy con-fidence, let noth-ing shake;
 in the vale of tears; Then shalt thou bet-ter know His love, His heart,
 ev-er with the Lord, When dis-ap-point-ment, grief, and fear are gone,



In ev-'ry change He faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul; thy
 All now mys-te-rious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul; the
 Who comes to soothe thy sor-rows and thy fears. Be still, my soul; thy
 Sor-row for-got, love's pur-est joys re-stored. Be still, my soul; when



best, thy heav'n-ly, Friend Thro' thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
 waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.
 Je-sus can re-pay From His own ful-ness all He takes a-way.
 change and tears are past, All safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last. A-men.

✠ Announcements ✠

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in our Savior's name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will come back and join us again. It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms and hymns that our Scripture-based liturgy offers. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please ask Pastor Sauers.

Upcoming Schedule – Online Calendar @ FDLutheran.com/calendar

December 11	8:30 am	Christmas Eve Practice
	9:00 am	Bible Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
	3:30 pm	Advent by Candlelight
December 13	6:00 pm	Council
December 14	9:00 am	Lakeview Place Worship Service
	10, 11 am	Woodlands Worship Services
	1:30 pm	St. Peter's Place Worship Service
	6:30 pm	Midweek Advent Worship Service
December 18	8:30 am	Christmas Eve Practice
	9:00 am	Bible Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Special Voters' Meeting (Call Meeting)
	12:00 pm	Youth Group Christmas Lunch
	2:00 pm	Christmas Caroling
December 23	10:00 am	Christmas Eve Practice
December 24	6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
December 25	10:00 am	Christmas Day Worship Service

Advent by Candlelight: Ladies, join us for this beautiful afternoon of fellowship today at 3:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Come, relax, and set aside all the worries of the Christmas season as we focus our hearts on Christ.

Special Voters' Meeting: A special voters' meeting has been called for next Sunday, December 18 following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to call a new full-time pastor and possibly a vacancy pastor. Please attend if you are able.

Snow Removal: There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to help out with snow removal this year. Please consider signing up if you are able to help. We bought a new snow blower last year that certainly helps to make the work a lot easier.

Midweek Advent Worship: Our Midweek Advent Worship series this year is entitled *This is My Son*. Just as God's people of old waited with faith in the coming Messiah, so is our Advent anticipation of Christmas. Our hopes and fears are real. They can distract us from God's promises. God's promise was from the beginning spoken to Adam and Eve. Salvation would come through the woman's offspring (Genesis 3:15). But it would not be Cain, the son of Adam, nor Ishmael, the son of Abraham, nor Absalom, the son of David. The true Son of Adam and Abraham and David is the Son of God. Our attention and faith thus direct our hopes and fears to God's Son, in whom we receive adoption as sons and daughters in the family of God.

Wednesday services are at 6:30 pm. We will be participating in a pulpit exchange this year. Here is the remaining schedule of services:

- **December 14** – Ishmael, The Son of Abraham – Pastor Mark Tiefel
- **December 18** – Cain, The Son of Adam – Pastor Sauers

Called Workers' Gift: Monetary gifts to show our thanks and appreciation for our pastor and teacher in their work for the Lord may be placed in the designated box at the back of the church, in an envelope clearly marked in the collection place, or in the black box in the hallway.

ILC Professors' Gift: We would like to thank and acknowledge the work done for our benefit by the professors at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary. This work benefits our own Luther Memorial members, Salome and Joanna Seibel. We encourage you to place your monetary gifts in the designated box at the back of church, in an envelope clearly marked in the collection plate, or in the black box in the hallway.

Christmas Cookies: Luther Memorial packs cookies for our homebound members and other members of the church. If you are able to bring a dozen cookies between December 11-15, that will be appreciated.

2023 CLC Mission Helper Trip: Applications are being accepted for the 2023 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Space is limited for this trip so please apply early. Find more information at: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/>

ILC Building Project: The ILC Building Committee has produced promotional materials for the new ILC Fieldhouse and Fine Arts Center project, which was approved by the 2022 CLC Convention. The Building Committee presentation and brochure are available in our narthex. The PDF presentation can be seen at www.tinyurl.com/ilcbp-pres. An impressive video "walk-through" of the future facilities can be seen at www.tinyurl.com/ilcbp-walkthru. Additional publicity materials will follow, including an online presence and progress reports. Contributions toward this project should be identified as "ILC Building Project."

CLC Call News: Pastor Rob Sauers of Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac, WI, has accepted the call to Immanuel Lutheran, Winter Haven, FL. + Pastor Tim Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD, has received the dual call to serve Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran, Tacoma, WA.

Fruits of Faith – 11/30 & 12/04		Attendance: 11/30 – 37 12/04 – 64	
<u>Luther Memorial Church</u>		<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>	
<i>Budgetary (Regular Expenses)</i>		<i>Budgetary (Regular Expenses)</i>	
\$3,572.00	LM General Budget	\$380.00	CLC General Budget
\$2,923.08	Weekly Need	\$384.62	Weekly Need
+\$648.92	-Under / +Over	-\$4.62	-Under / +Over
\$127,329.61	Year to Date Offerings	\$7,365.00	Fiscal Year to Date Offerings
\$143,230.92	Year to Date Need	\$8,846.26	Fiscal Year to Date Need
-\$15,901.31	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$1,481.26	Fiscal Year to Date (+/-)
<i>Non-Budgetary (Unplanned Expenses)</i>		<i>Non-Budgetary (Unplanned Expenses)</i>	
	LM School		ILC Student Aid Fund
	LM Student Aid Fund		ILC Building Fund
	LM Debt Retirement		ILC Improvement Fund
\$14.00	LM M & I	\$50.00	Mission Development (MDF)
	LM Local Missions/ Outreach	\$35.00	Project Kinship/Orphanage
	LM Building Fund		Fall Mission Festival
\$50.00	LM Ladies Orphan Fund	\$32.00	Miscellaneous

