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Jean Memken  
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- Elder on Duty  
Matt Strauch
- Altar Guild on Duty  
Twyla Hazen  
Mary Ann Zanzie



Sunday School 9:00 am  
Adult Bible Class 9:00 am  
Worship 10:00 am  
(Holy Communion on 1st  
and 3rd Sundays)



**Sunday Morning Worship  
Service  
with  
Pastor Oddi**

KNIM 1580 AM or 95.9 FM  
10:00 am to 10:30 am



## "The Divine Service Part 3"

We are privileged to worship a God who comes to us, who serves, forgives, and teaches us during what we call "The Divine Service." For the next few months we will be looking at "The Divine Service" and its parts. The information for this article is taken from An Explanation of the Divine Service by Rev. Alan Kornacki, Jr. (Unless otherwise noted) This is part 3.

"The high and holy worship of God is faith in Jesus Christ. Such faith is created and sustained by God's Service to us. In the Divine Service, the Lord comes to us in His Word and Sacraments to bless and enliven us with His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation, and we respond to the outpouring of those gifts. God speaks to us, and we speak His words back to Him. These two terms are sometimes called "sacramental" and "sacrificial." God

sacramentally serves us through His word, and we, in turn, sacrificially serve God with our prayer, thanksgiving, and praise."

### Part 3 – The Office of the Word – The Word

*If you recall, we left off last month with the Epistle lesson. Now we move on to the Alleluias, Gospel and the rest of the Office of the Word.*

### The Alleluia Verse

The Hebrew word alleluia (literally, "praise the Lord") is a song of joy and triumph. Used in the context of the Divine Service, it points forward to the reading of the Gospel. It is usually combined with a brief sentence from Scripture to reflect the mood of the day. For this reason, "alleluia" is omitted from the verse during Lent, and an alternate verse may be used.

### The Gospel Lesson

The Gospel lesson is one of the high points of the Divine Service, ranking only below the sermon and the Sacrament of the Altar in importance. As such, it has long been

accompanied by appropriate actions.

The Gospel selection is the clearest proclamation of the theme for the given day. The reading is a selection from the words of the Evangelists, and focuses our attention on the words and works of our Lord. Historically the Gospel has been the text for the sermon in the Divine Service, with the Old Testament or (usually) the Epistle reading being the text for the meditation at the evening Vespers service.

After the reading is ended, the congregation responds, "Praise be to Thee, O Christ," again acknowledging Christ's presence with us in His Word.

### The Nicene Creed

What the Church believes, she confesses with her lips in creeds. The Nicene Creed (from the Latin credo, "I believe") is the Church's reply to God's Word, the public acceptance and confession in summary form of the faith of the whole Church, and a rejection of all the heresies that it condemns.

*(continued on page 2)*





- 12/1 – Pam Shannon
- 12/4 – Pam Shannon
- 12/8 – Nancy Jenkins
- 12/11 – Pam Shannon
- 12/15 – Pam Shannon
- 12/18 – Nancy Jenkins
- 12/22 – Nancy Jenkins
- 12/24 – Nancy Jenkins
- 12/29 – Nancy Jenkins



- 12/1 –Ralph/Marie Walsh
- 12/4 –Merv/Marilyn Bettis
- 12/8 –Bill/Jeanette Whited
- 12/11–Ralph/Marie Walsh
- 12/15–Gary/Pat Bobzien
- 12/18–Karl/Linda Ritterbusch
- 12/22–Bob/Carolyn Henry
- 12/24–Pam Myers
- 12/29–The Riley Family



- 12/1 –Todd Roush  
Jonathon Roush
- 12/4 –Smiley Oltman
- 12/8 –Frank/Judy Leyhe
- 12/11–Terry/Lisa Ewing
- 12/15–Larry Abbott  
Dean Biermann
- 12/18–Lesley Oddi
- 12/22–Michael/Deanna  
Mandrick
- 12/24–Matt Strauch  
Kevin Brunnert
- 12/29–Royce/Jan Duncan



- 12/1 – Chaim Jenkins
- 12/15 – Pastor Oddi
- 12/22 – Jonathan Rogers
- 12/29 – Mary Ann Zanzie

**The Divine Service – Part 3** (continued from page 1)

On Trinity Sunday it is customary and appropriate to confess the Athanasian Creed (TLH p.53; LW p.134). As Paul says, “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Romans 10:10)

**The Hymn of the Day**

Certain hymns have long been associated with particular Sundays and festivals of the Church year. The Hymn of the Day is the principal hymn of the Divine Service, relating the theme of the day. (Example: The Hymn of the Day for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord is “Of the Father’s Love Begotten.”)

**The Sermon**

The sermon, usually delivered by the pastor, is an explanation of the Word of God, and an application of that Word to the lives of Christians. It stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God has done and is doing for us (the Gospel).

Before the pastor begins the sermon, he will either stand or kneel before the altar, and pray that his words will be pleasing to God and edifying to the congregation. When he steps into the pulpit, he begins with the Apostolic Greeting: “Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (Ephesians 1:2).

He may then read the text, and will then preach the sermon. The sermon is neither easy to listen to nor necessarily entertaining. It is both discomfoting and comforting, but it is never comfortable. The goal is not to make the listener feel good about himself, but that he should die to himself, and rise to faith.

After the sermon, the preacher will conclude with the words of Philippians 4:7: “The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” This is called the “**votum.**” This verse invokes the promised blessing of peace upon all that stand fast in the Lord and worship Him. It fittingly concludes this section of the Office of the Word and leads into the Offertory.

The sermon should never be omitted. The pastor has two main responsibilities: the preaching of the Word, and the administration of the Sacraments. To omit one is to neglect that responsibility to the care of the souls of those who have been entrusted to him, and he must answer for that before God.

**Questions about the Word**

- **Why do we say “Alleluia” three times?** Like we do in the Kyrie, we say the Alleluia three times to honor and praise the three Persons of the Trinity.
- **Why do we omit the alleluia during Lent?** We omit the Alleluia during Lent because of the penitential nature of the season. Instead of reflecting on the praise of the Lord, we reflect on His suffering and death.
- **Why do we say the Nicene Creed during the Communion service and the Apostles’ Creed during the other service?** Historically the creeds have corresponded to the Sacraments of Baptism (the Apostles’ Creed) and the Eucharist (the Nicene Creed).

Next month we will look at: An Explanation of the Divine Service Part 4– The Office of the Word – The Offerings

*God’s Blessings,  
Pastor Dave*



- 12/1 – Dianna Schledewitz
- 12/2 – Carolyn Henry
- 12/4 – Mike Jenkins
- 12/4 – Chase Poppa
- 12/9 – Jeri Laubscher
- 12/9 – Don Richter
- 12/15 – Asher Brunnert
- 12/19 – Christy Yaksic
- 12/19 – Carter Strauch
- 12/22 – Sarah Rogers
- 12/24 – Trenton Kistler
- 12/26 – Harriett Howard
- 12/26 – Karl Ritterbusch
- 12/29 – Linda Ritterbusch
- 12/30 – Katie Jenkins
- 12/30 – Ronan Jenkins
- 12/31 – Nancy Jenkins



- 12/17 – Matt & Sherry Gaarder
- 12/22 – Matt & Brenda Johnson



December 12, 2019, 5:00 pm  
 - Twyla Hazen  
 - Marie Walsh



## LWML Talked Turkey at the November Meeting

When the LWML met on November 5, we started with a delicious dessert made by our hostess, Marilyn Bettis. Beth Goudge led us in a very interesting bible study about “What is Enough.” The study helped us focus on how we always want more; more things, more food; more time to complain. We then looked at Luke chapter 12, where Jesus told a story about a rich man who had a problem with enough. How true that story is, now for us, 2000 years later. As we looked closer to God’s word, Jesus tells us that life is more than food, more than stuff. He asks us to “consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.” (Luke 12: 27) We should be seeking the kingdom of God, our Father, the provider of all things, most importantly our faith and our eternal like in heaven.

During the business part of the meeting we finalized the plans and menu for the LCC Thanksgiving meal. We talked about decorating the church after the Thanksgiving service. Pam & Marie told us about the Poinsettias, ordering etc. The ornaments for the Sunday School children were on display, and we talked about how we would wrap them.

Our next meeting is December 3, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Please join us. The hostess for that meeting is Jean Memken and Marie Walsh is leading us in God’s word.—Lesley Oddi, President



Here are the items that were discussed at the last Church Council Meeting.

The meeting was attended by Dean Biermann, Larry Abbott, Karla Roush, Royce Duncan, Pam Myers, Pastor Oddi, and Kim Hullinger.

Pastor Oddi reported on the last circuit meeting which was attended by District President Hageman. President Hageman described a Servant Event the district was planning for 2020 in which they would like each church in the district to plan a servant activity in their community. He noted that the number of worshippers is shrinking, but there is still a hunger for God’s word.

Royce Duncan reported a profit of \$2,283.55 from the Soup and Chili Supper.

Trustees: Larry Abbott reported that as the fluorescent lights go out, they are replacing them with LED lights.

Campus Relations: Pam Myers reported the need for a new vacuum cleaner at the LCC. The Council authorized \$300 for the purchase of a new vacuum.

There was no old or new business.

## A Plan Comes Together

From 1983 – 1986 there was a TV show that aired on NBC called “The A-Team.” The A-Team was led by Colonel John “Hannibal” Smith, played by George Peppard. Colonel John “Hannibal” Smith’s catch phrase was “I love it when a plan comes together.”

On Thursday Nov. 14, 2019 a plan came together, not because of a TV show; the plan came together because *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28 King James Version (KJV)*

The plan was to serve members of our community who needed a good meal, a warm welcoming place to meet, and people who are called according to His purpose. The second Thursday of every month, the members of the LWML make sure that there are delicious desserts at Shepherd’s Kitchen. The Shepherd’s Kitchen is a community outreach program that was started by members of First Presbyterian Church many years ago. Two years ago the First Presbyterian church asked for our help, for members of Hope to make one meal a month, and we said yes.

The meals are prepared each month by Lesley Oddi and Liz Mandrick, served by Lesley, Liz, Pastor and the members of the LWML or members of our congregation who bring the desserts that month.

We prepared a Thanksgiving feast for Shepherd’s Kitchen in November. Beth Goudge and Liz decorated the tables (tablecloths, candles, mums). Beth and Jan Duncan and Liz made special desserts: pumpkin pie, chocolate cake, carrot cake and yummy cherry bars, all topped with Redi-Whip if so desired. Liz also made the green bean casserole. Lesley cooked the turkey (35 pounds), made the gravy, peeled 30 pounds of potatoes (you *have* to serve real mashed potatoes-it was a Thanksgiving meal) made the stuffing, and baked the rolls. Mike Mandrick joined in to help in serving the meal and clean up (many hands make light work).

All things worked together, the community members who shared the meal, 55 in total, loved it. We heard: “That’s the best carrot cake I have ever eaten.” “Special plates and napkins (provided by Liz), wonderful food, I know that I am blessed.” “This is just the sweetest meal ever; you know food tastes better when it is eaten with friends.” Or “I can see on your faces that God’s love for us and you, is shining through.” And many more wonderful comments of appreciation.

God loves it when His plan comes together, and Hope Lutheran’s meal at Shepherd’s Kitchen did just that. Beth, Jan, Liz, Mike, Pastor and Lesley answered God’s call according to His purpose.—*Lesley Oddi*



*Pastor Oddi dishes up some turkey while Mike Mandrick (left) helps out..*



*Beth Goudge and Jan Duncan plate the yummy desserts!*



*Lots of attendees for this Thanksgiving feast!*

## What Favor?

“I would like you to do us a favor . . .” How could a simple little phrase like that be so explosive within our government? A request for a favor seems to be front and center in the impeachment inquiry going on in Washington. I am sure this “favor” is one none of us will ever forget.

I looked up the word favor and discovered it can be both a noun and a verb. Favor as a noun means either an approval or support (the idea was viewed with favor) or an act of kindness beyond what is expected (I’ve come to ask a favor). Favor as verb relates to feeling or showing approval or preference for (Serving muffins with coffee on Sunday morning is something many would favor) or giving someone something they want (Please favor me with your reply). No matter how it is used in the English language, the word favor conjures up the idea of receiving something that you might not really deserve, but you really want.

So, this is where God comes in. As a Christians, can you think of any examples where you have received God’s favor? The inspired authors of Scripture certainly did.

King David wrote about it in Psalm 34. Here is the scenario behind that Psalm. David had to appear before King Achish, a Philistine king of Gath. David was alone and fleeing from Saul who was trying to kill him. When he came to Gath, some

of King Achish’s subjects recognized David and captured him and then took him to the king. Knowing King Achish could imprison or even kill him, David pretended to be crazy. King Achish was so repulsed by David’s behavior that he drove him out of Gath and David left unscathed. So after that encounter, David wrote Psalm 34 where he says:

*I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
he delivered me from all my fears.  
Those who look to him are radiant;  
their faces are never covered with shame.  
This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;  
he saved him out of all his troubles.  
The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.*

Look at all the ways God favored David. He answered his prayers. He calmed his fears. He allowed him to feel so uplifted that he face shone. He helped him overcome his troubles. He sent angels to protect him. In “The Message,” a contemporary Bible translation, that last verse is written as: “*God’s angel sets up a circle of protection around us while we pray.*” Isn’t that an amazing scenario? As we draw near to God in worship and prayer, there are angels surrounding us and protecting us. We are favored indeed! David was greatly favored by God, but that favor pales in

comparison to what we read in Luke 1. One of the most beautiful depictions of God’s favor is Mary’s encounter with her cousin Elizabeth after they both found out in miraculous ways that they were each going to bear a son. When Elizabeth first greets Mary, she loudly exclaims, “*Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?*” Elizabeth realizes that Mary is to be the mother of the Messiah. So does her baby boy that leaps within her womb as Mary comes near. Elizabeth was filled with God’s spirit as she uttered those words of God’s favor. She knew she had been especially blessed and you can tell from her words she could even *feel* God’s favor.

Mary already knew she was favored by God. The angel Gabriel’s first words to her when he came to give her the news of her pregnancy were: “*Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you. Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God.*” (Luke 1: 28, 30)

How does Mary respond? With her own examples of God’s blessings. Her words are what we call the Magnificat, one of my favorite passages in the Bible. In it, she lists all the ways God has blessed her. Some examples are: *My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been*

*mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation (Luke 1:46-50). She goes on to say: “He has filled the hungry with good things . . . He has helped his servant Israel.” (vs. 53-54).*

Now consider the situations of these two women. Elizabeth was old - too old to bear a child, and yet here she was pregnant. She had been isolated in her home for several months because she did not want to encounter others who may have ridiculed her and spread gossip.

(continued on page 6)



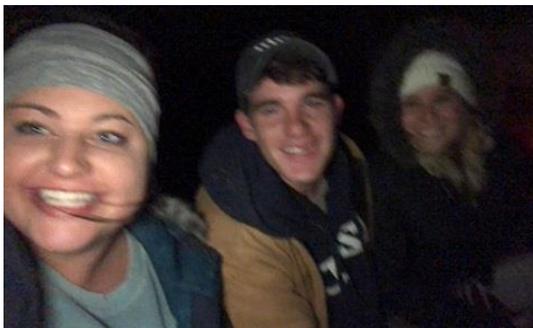
*“The Mighty One*

*HAS DONE  
GREAT THINGS  
FOR ME,  
AND HOLY IS  
HIS NAME.”*

LUKE 1:49, NRSV

## News from the LCC Director

Since the last newsletter, the students participated in the Bible Walk, along with Hope members. It was a great day of fellowship...I loved hearing and seeing all the laughter!!!! We'll have to come up with more ideas that incorporate the LCC and The Church family! Then a number of students went to the Pappert's for a hayride and wiener roast at the river. They had lots of fun. Sunday night was the Thanksgiving Dinner and six students enjoyed the feast! We've started the Bible studies on counter-culture (requested by the students) We had a good discussion last week on Made in God's Image and the LGBTQ and our Christians response. We have one more Bible study before Thanksgiving break, the students get back to campus and we have one more Bible study before finals week and home for Christmas break. Talk about fast! We praise God for a semester of continuing building faith in our young people. Thank you for your support and prayers.—Joyce Cronin, LCC Director



Scene from the hayrack ride – look at those smiles!



Students enjoying some pizza before the Great Bible Walk!



A couple of "alums" checking out the pizza!



### What Favor? *(continued from page 5)*

Mary was young, unmarried, and pregnant. Her life was actually in danger because of her circumstances. And yet, both women praise God for their lives and considered themselves blessed - favored by God. Talk about faith! How I wish my faith could be as strong when I encounter the less than favorable circumstances of life.

Mary was definitely unique. She was, after all, the mother of our Savior Jesus. And as she proclaimed in the Magnificat, she has been recognized by all generations after her as the blessed virgin, mother of Christ. Plus her faith was unwavering. She was, no doubt, overwhelmed by the news of the angel, but she immediately believed what he said. She knew all he told her would come to be, no matter how impossible it seemed.

Yes, Mary was unique, but I can relate to what she says, and I hope you can, too. We have all been favored by God with the birth of His Son, the Savior of the world. We, too, can say, "My soul doth magnify the Lord for He has done great things for me - Holy is His name!" It is my prayer that those words remain in your heart during this season of Advent and through the Christmas holiday. I wish you all a joyous Christmas as we celebrate and never forget God's greatest favor in our lives - Jesus our Savior!—jm

# PUZZLE

## Symbols of the *season*

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.

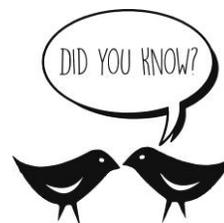


- shepherd's staff       \_ \_ \_ \_
- tree that keeps its leaves     \_ \_ \_ \_  \_ \_ \_ \_
- shines to lead the way     \_ \_ \_ \_
- green for eternal life,  
red for Jesus' blood      \_ \_ \_ \_ & \_ \_ \_ \_
- sounds to announce  
good news      \_ \_ \_ \_
- has no beginning or end     \_ \_ \_ \_

Th   ks b  to  od fo   is  
indesc   ba  le gif  !

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

Answers: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV



--Liz Mandrick was honored by the Lettuce Dream Board for her volunteer service to that organization. Way to go, Liz!

--Gladys Strauch was featured in a Maryville Daily Forum article on seniors at Oak Pointe partnering with young children from the Leet Center at Northwest. She was pictured doing a water color painting with a youngster from the Leet Center.

--Cindy Carmichael got her picture in the Maryville Daily Forum as one of the organizers and craftspeople planning the Holiday Bazaar at Mosiac Medical Center. The bazaar will be December 4-6 in the lobby area right outside the gift shop. Go see some of Cindy's handiwork and support our local hospital!

--Andrea Riley placed 16<sup>th</sup> in the District Cross Country meet at Platte Ridge Park, with a run time of 24 minutes, 2 seconds. Great job, Andrea!

--Jaclyn Pappert placed first in the FFA area public speaking event with a presentation on Sheep Breeding. Jaclyn also was awarded all-conference honors for her amazing work on the softball field. Congrats, Jackie!

## The Day After Christmas

The pastor was looking over the crèche the day after Christmas when he noticed that the baby Jesus was missing. He went outside and saw a little boy pulling a new red wagon. In the wagon was Jesus.

He walked up to the boy and said, "Hi, there. Where did you get the baby Jesus?"

The boy answered honestly, "In the church."

"Why did you take him?" the pastor asked.

"Well," said the boy, "I prayed to Jesus and asked him for a wagon for Christmas. I told Him that if He gave me one, I'd take Him for a ride in it."

