

RESURRECTION NEWS



NOVEMBER 2020

Pastor's Letter
November 2020

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

The month of November is a busy month with much to celebrate, remember, and do in the United States of America. The month begins with the celebration of All Saints' Day. Two days later is Election Day. Eight days after that is Veterans Day. Then we get a week breather before the final full week of the month sets in with Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and the mayhem of holiday shopping that ensues leading up to Christmas. But in the business and craziness of this month, my prayer is that you would take time to remember another important day: Sunday, November 29th, which marks the beginning of the season of Advent.

I look forward to the season of Advent every year for a couple of reasons. First, my family has a tradition where every Advent we make an Advent Wreath which sits in the middle of our table through the Christmas season. Then, every night at dinner we light the appropriate candles of the wreath (one for the first week, two for the second, etc.) and we sing Advent hymns in the candlelight. The second reason why I look forward to the season of Advent is because it provides an outlet for many of the feelings I find in my troubled heart: feelings of frustration with certain elements of my life, feelings of helplessness, being overwhelmed, being stressed – whatever the combination of feelings might be, I find it all coming to a head in the season of Advent. (Maybe the business of the Christmas season plays a role in this, too! I imagine you know the feeling!) But there's something therapeutic and freeing about giving all of my struggles to the Lord, knowing and trusting that he is the one who can (and will!) fix the brokenness of my life and this world. That's why in Advent we sing hymns like:

*Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart. (LSB 338:1)*

*Prepare the royal highway; The King of Kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley A level road appear!
Then greet the King of Glory Foretold in sacred story:
Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God's Word! (LSB 343:1)*

*O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel! (LSB 357:7)*

My hope and prayer is that you would take time this year to celebrate the season of Advent – not just as a preparation for Christmas, but as a preparation of Christ's second coming when he will *from our fears and sins release us* and *Bid our sad divisions cease*. Join me this Advent season in looking forward to our Lord's second coming and the peace that he will bring to our troubled hearts!

Peace in Jesus,
Pastor Akers

Notes from your Deaconess

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

Cleaning up the gardens, clearing leaves from the yard, taking down screens, later sunrises and earlier sunsets – these herald the coming colder weather here in Maine. In our weekly worship we also recognize the approach of new church year. During these last few weeks our Sunday readings will focus on the day of the Lord – the great day of his appearing, judgment, and new life together. The texts remind us to prepare for this to happen at any time. Advent will begin on the final (fifth) Sunday of November.

As Pastor Akers has been reminding us in our Thursday Bible studies, as members of Christ's body the church, our primary citizenship and homeland is God's kingdom, and so we look forward to that return of Christ. Meanwhile, we do physically live in another land, and need to work for its welfare in whatever vocations God has given us.

The Sunday morning Bible studies and Sunday School narratives through November will turn our focus to two different men through whom God worked for the nations where they lived. We'll spend two weeks with Joseph in Egypt seeing how God worked through very unpleasant circumstances to bring good to Egypt, and all of Joseph's family. Then, jumping some centuries into the book of Exodus, we will begin reading and thinking about how God used Moses, born in Egypt at a very bad time for the Hebrew people. God prepared him for service by ironically having him raised as a part of the Pharaoh's household. Many years later, after a self-exile of forty years, he *returned* to Egypt where God used him to bring his people out of slavery.

Through much of the month of November, the daily readings of our lectionary continue through the gospel of Matthew. We'll also read from the prophet Jeremiah. He, too, lived during a time when those around him seriously were divided in their views of how to live with and plan for uncertain future events. He continued to warn his fellow Jerusalem neighbors to repent and trust in the Lord. He also wrote to those already exiled with God's admonition to settle down, live, and help those among whom they now found themselves. As we approach the season of Advent we will move to some readings in Revelation and also the prophet Daniel. The book of Daniel, too, has much to show us about how to live in a land where those around us do not trust in the same God as we do, and yet to faithfully work in such a place, and even for the government.

During the Saturday morning women's Bible studies on 11/14 and 11/28 we will continue to focus our attention on accounts of women – particularly in conjunction with the narratives under study on the Sundays. Do feel free to join us in person or check with me about joining via computer means (8:30 to 10am in the Fellowship hall).

Under his mercy,
Sharon M. Conover

But seek the welfare of the city [land] where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. Jeremiah 29:7

Opportunity for service: a church member who volunteers at the Homeless Shelter wondered if there might be church family members willing to help make baked items from time to time when the Shelter receives an overabundance of particular fresh produce donations – for instance: too many bananas for them to use in short time, but which could be transformed into banana bread and then donated in that form back to the Shelter. If interested in being such a help, let me know so that I could call on you if this kind of situation arose and we could be of service.

Fall Worship Schedule:

- 8:30am Worship
- 10:00am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
- 10:45am Worship

Please Note: Gathering restrictions are still in place and masks & physical distancing will still be required for Worship until recommendations from the CDC are adjusted. Thank you for your cooperation and your continued willingness to RSVP prior to attending worship services.

November Stewardship

	<u>November 1</u>	<u>November 8</u>	<u>November 15</u>	<u>November 22</u>	<u>November 29</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	10:45 Andrew Farr	10:45 Emily Carlson	10:45 Allison Farr	10:45 Mia Fitzpatrick	10:45 Evan Farr
<u>Worship Assistant</u>	8:30 Charlie MacPherson	8:30 Brian Watson	8:30 Charlie MacPherson	8:30 Glenn Carlson	8:30 Brian Watson
	10:45 Chris Batson	10:45 Glenn Carlson	10:45 Steve Farr	10:45 Brad Fitzpatrick	10:45 Mark Larsen
<u>Ushers</u>	8:30 Brian Watson	8:30 Rick Drageland	8:30 Brian Watson	8:30 Rick Drageland	8:30 Tyler Wilson
	10:45 Mo Cote	10:45 Glenn Carlson Jr.	10:45 Wayne Pelletier	10:45 Chris Batson	10:45 John Ayotte
<u>Cantor</u>	8:30 Sharon Conover	8:30 Jared Goldsmith	8:30 Sharon Conover	8:30 Jared Goldsmith	8:30 Sharon Conover
	10:45 Steve Farr	10:45 Allison Farr	10:45 Fernando Gouvea	10:45 Steve Farr	10:45 Allison Farr
<u>Greeters</u>	8:30 Sharon Klipp	8:30 The MacPhersons	8:30 Gail Carrano	8:30 The Watsons	8:30 The Dragelands
	10:45 The Batsons	10:45 The Larsen Family	10:45 The Farr Family	10:45 Dorothy Mc Allister	10:45 The Gouveas
<u>Altar Care</u>	Kitty Carlson	Andrea Watson	LeeAnne Larsen	Katie Huesers	Joan Drageland
<u>Flowers</u>	The MacPhersons	The Ouellettes	The Ouellettes	OPEN	OPEN

Member of the Month!

Gail Maestas (pronounced Mess-tuss.)

Gail grew up in the northwest corner of Montana in Libby, a logging town 40 miles from the Canadian border and 25 miles from Idaho. Her childhood was somewhat idyllic: Surrounded by her parents, 2 older sisters, a younger brother, aunts, uncles, cousins—all living in the same neighborhood! She attended St. John's Lutheran School through 6th grade, then went to a public high school. A favorite play place was Libby “Creek” which was located near her home. Gail was brought up in LCMS, and loves the hymn Onward Christian Soldiers. Her father was a logger for many years, then the road maintenance supervisor of the logging roads the men used to get the harvested logs to market.

Following high school, she attended Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) in Tacoma, Washington for her BSN. Her mother, a Selective Service clerk, helped Gail connect with the Army to pay for the last two years of schooling in return for 3 years of active service following graduation as a nurse. Gail didn't hesitate! During her Junior and Senior years she was a Private First Class, then upon graduation was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. After graduation, she was sent to Fort Sam Houston Army base in San Antonio for Basic Officer Training. The Army also paid for her to earn a Master's Degree in Nursing Administration from the University of Washington, Seattle, which she paid back with 4 years served. While serving in Germany she met and married her husband Andy who was a hospital corpsman. Andy left the military and attended PLU for his BSN. He then followed Gail's assignments. Andy's specialty was ER and Occupational Health Nursing. They have two sons: One here in Oakland and the other in Indiana. Both sons are married with children—granddaughters, Emma, Ella, Sophia—two for one son and one for the other.

Andy suffered many long-term illnesses and succumbed to them in 2018. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. They were married almost 42 years, leaving Gail with a heart full of love for Andy and all the years they shared. After Andy's passing, her son here in Oakland invited Gail to come share a house with them, (Sophia's parents) and thus Gail came to Maine!

Gail served in the US Army for 26 years and 30 days. She retired in 1998 having attained the rank of Colonel. She recounts a long and exciting career in the military—her work took her from San Antonio to San Francisco; Frankfurt, Germany to Tacoma, Washington; New Mexico to Seattle; and finally Washington DC. Her positions included OR staff nurse, instructor of nursing and OR techs, ER assistant head nurse, pediatric/adolescent clinic head nurse, Chief Nurse of a 24-hour ER/acute care clinic/ambulance services, Transition Coordinator for planning the relocation to a new Medical Center, many levels of program management, analyst, and research work for improving efficiencies and effectiveness of operations and utilization of resources within the Army Medical Command and DoD/Health Affairs. She culminated her career as a Program Executive Officer for an executive information system for the Army, Navy and Air Force Medical Commanders and staff decision making.

Over the years, there were many accomplishments, including being named one of the top 100 Federal Employees for the contributions she made in IT, and being inducted into the “Distinguished Graduate Hall of Fame” in her hometown of Libby. After leaving the military, she and 3 other retired women military officers began a firm for consulting with DoD/Health, DoD/Policy and VA/Health information systems organizations. Though Gail has worked hard and been successful in her professional life, she's also had outside interests.

Gail likes quiet time, and activities include reading, needlepoint, and “playing” the piano. In the summer, she enjoys gardening and yard work, and in the winter she likes shoveling snow! Gail's 18-month old granddaughter, Sophia also gets special attention when her mom and dad are working. Gail's favorite movies lean toward musicals and action films, and currently she's catching the TV series “24”. When Gail goes out for a restaurant meal, she enjoys Chinese, Italian, a good burger, or a steak. She doesn't do much cooking as her daughter-in-law is a great cook—especially her rice, veggie, and shrimp dish! And dessert?...well, Gail says anything chocolate!

Gail's advice to our young folks is to look for the opportunities and be brave enough to step up and put yourself out there. If you have an idea—go to a superior and let them know...there may be an opportunity. For the seniors: Gail urges, “Stay out of the sun—use your sunscreen!” Be as active as you can. Use social connections to keep your mind sharp! Do puzzles and mind challenges.

Asked about future dreams or ambitions, Gail was quick to say, “A train ride across Canada to British Columbia, then take a boat to Alaska. I'd like to live there for a season!” And in a lovely coincidence—Gail has a birthday this month! Happy Birthday, Gail!





BIBLE QUIZ

Monthly Worship

November 1, 2020

All Saints' Day

Psalm: 149

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Epistle: 1 John 3:1-3

Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

November 8, 2020

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 70

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

November 15, 2020

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 90:1-12

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7-16

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

November 22, 2020

Last Sunday of the Church Year

Psalm: 95:1-7a

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

November 29, 2020

First Sunday in Advent

Psalm: 80:1-7

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Holy Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

1. What are parables?

A) a person walking parallel to someone else B) the smallest coin denomination used in Corinth and Nazareth (C) an instrument of torture used by the Roman soldiers (D) short stories illustrating biblical truths

2. Why were some of the tribes of Israel ready to engage in civil war so soon after entering the Promised Land?

A) they jumped to the wrong conclusion regarding the building of a second altar B) they did not like how small their land allotments were C) they had a history of unruly rebels in their ranks D) their Philistine neighbors bribed them into warring with their own kinsmen

3. How long did Paul stay in Corinth?

A) one and a half days B) one and a half weeks C) one and a half months D) one and a half years

4. What common item did God use to allow Samson to kill 1,000 Philistines?

A) ram's horn B) donkey's jawbone (C) lion's tailbone D) camel's skull

5. Exactly how is a believer's salvation obtained?

A) through silver and gold B) through daily deeds of goodwill C) through Jesus' blood D) through at least one of our parent's faith

6. What did Jesus do when He found a mature fig tree with no figs on it?

A) cursed it and the tree withered B) blessed it and the tree produced fruit C) scolded it and the tree dropped its leaves D) ignored it and the tree shook violently



11/1 Mia Fitzpatrick
 11/6 Avis Grant
 Gail Maestas
 11/13 Fernando Gouvea
 11/16 Hayley Farr
 11/22 Eleanor Keefe
 11/23 Peter Doran
 David Leigh
 11/29 Rick Drageland



BAPTISM BIRTHDAY

11/18 Adolph Galonski
 11/27 Corina Wilson
 11/?? Krista Carlson
 Sarah Kohl



11/7 David & Kay Gideon
 11/18 Peter & Evelyn Gaug
 11/23 Dan & Beck Keefe
 11/30 Bill & Jo Schiebel



Confirmation Anniversary

11/14 Sharon Conover
 Mike Hein
 11/26 Tyler Wilson

Tickling the Funny Bone

It was the church's annual Thanksgiving dinner, and little Ben was asked to return thanks. The church members bowed their heads, and Ben began his prayer, thanking God for all his friends, naming them one by one. Then he thanked God for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa, all his aunts and uncles, Pastor Wright and Mrs. Wright, their kids, and his Sunday school class. Then he began thanking God for the food. He prayed a mighty thank-you for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salads, the cranberry sauces, the pies, and even the Cool Whip.

Then he paused, and everyone waited. After a long silence, the young boy looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for Mrs. Wright's broccoli casserole, won't he know I'm lying?"

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It was bedtime for Timmy and Jimmy who were staying overnight with their grandparents. While kneeling to say his prayers, Timmy began praying at the top of his lungs, "Dear God, for Christmas I want some video games, a motor bike, a DVD player...."

"Whoa," Jimmy hollered, "Why are you yelling? God ain't deaf."

"I know God's not deaf," replied Timmy. "But Grandma is!"

Bible Quiz Answers

1. D (Matthew 13:31-34)
2. A (Joshua 22:12, 26-28,33)
3. D (Acts: 18:11)
4. B (Judges 115:15)
5. C (1 Peter 1:18-19)
6. A (Mark 11:12-14, 20-21)

The Daily Lectionary

A guide to help you be in the Word daily

11/1	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 / Matthew 21:1-22
11/2	Jeremiah 1:1-19 / Matthew 21:23-46
11/3	Jeremiah 3:6-4:2 / Matthew 22:1-22
11/4	Jeremiah 5:1-19 / Matthew 22:23-46
11/5	Jeremiah 7:1-29 / Matthew 23:1-12
11/6	Jeremiah 8:18-9:12 / Matthew 23:13-39
11/7	Jeremiah 11:1-23 / Matthew 24:1-28
11/8	Jeremiah 20:1-18 / Matthew 24:29-51
11/9	Jeremiah 22:1-23 / Matthew 25:1-13
11/10	Jeremiah 23:1-20 / Matthew 25:14-30
11/11	Jeremiah 23:21-40 / Matthew 25:31-46
11/12	Jeremiah 25:1-18 / Matthew 26:1-19
11/13	Jeremiah 26:1-19 / Matthew 26:20-35
11/14	Jeremiah 29:1-19 / Matthew 26:36-56
11/15	Jeremiah 30:1-24 / Matthew 26:57-75
11/16	Jeremiah 31:1-17, 23-34 / Matthew 27:1-10
11/17	Jeremiah 33:1-22 / Matthew 27:11-32
11/18	Jeremiah 37:1-21 / Matthew 27:33-56
11/19	Jeremiah 38:1-28 / Matthew 27:57-66
11/20	Daniel 1:1-21 / Matthew 28:1-20
11/21	Daniel 2:1-23 / Revelation 18:1-24
11/22	Daniel 2:24-49 / Revelation 19:1-21
11/23	Daniel 3:1-30 / Revelation 20:1-15
11/24	Daniel 4:1-37 / Revelation 21:1-8
11/25	Daniel 5:1-30 / Revelation 21:9-27
11/26	Daniel 6:1-28 / Revelation 22:1-21
11/27	Isaiah 1:1-28 / 1 Peter 1:1-12
11/28	Isaiah 2:1-22 / 1 Peter 1:13-25
11/29	Isaiah 5:1-25 / 1 Peter 2:1-12
11/30	Isaiah 6:1-7:9 / 1 Peter 2:13-25

(Daily lectionary readings taken from LSB #299-304)

Some helpful habits for home devotions:

- *Do one reading in the morning and the other in the evening.*
- *Keep a journal or make a mental note of one thought that you would like to remember from this reading.*
- *Read and discuss the daily reading with a family member or friend.*
- *Choose one verse to commit to memory, reciting it through the day.*
- *Speak to God in prayer about something from the reading that impressed or confused you in this reading.*
- *If you miss a day or two (or three) and fall behind, don't worry and don't quit! Either set aside some time to catch up or skip those readings and move on.*
- *If you're using another reading schedule or guide, stick with it. The important thing is to be in the Word daily.*