



Thanksgiving is Recognition and Gratitude for God's Spectacular Deeds

Dear Friends in Christ,

Someone walking through a forest may actually be so focused on individual trees that he or she misses the entire forest. An old fable tells of a group of blind men who had never come into contact with an elephant before, so they developed an idea about what an elephant looks like by simply feeling and touching it. Each man put his hand on a different part of the elephant's body, and once they got a grasp of the part, whether the ear, trunk or tail they were touching, they went on to describe the elephant by their limited experience. We often live our lives the same way perceiving God's blessings in a limited way. Because we do, we often live bereft of faith-filled thankfulness.

Because of our spiritual blindness in life, we are fragile and often unable to see the big picture. We can often be so close to something in our limited experience that we are not seeing the greater reality around us. Covid-19 continues, inflation rises, threats of war continue, earthquakes and fires and floods seem everywhere. Such things we often readily see. Yet God daily continues to pour rich and wonderful blessings upon us. Food to eat. Rain and sunshine. Medical care to help us. A safe home and warm bed. Health to do our work. The sustenance of our church home and the Gospel. Forgiveness of our sins. The celebration of God's Word and Sacraments among us. But often how blind and mindless we can be, for many times we do not see these blessings as the incredible miracles of God that they are. These blessings surround us and we often don't notice or acknowledge what God has done. When we do see and take advantage of God's gifts, we often do so unthinkingly like flies gathering hastily on syrup and flying away when satisfied. And why is it that we laud the bigger things, like wealthy men and celebrities being propelled into the darkness of space, but we can't often see our daily, needful blessings as the amazing miracles of God that they are! We often don't admire or value the little blessings like we value the technological advances God has provided. There are times we aren't found happy or very thankful for the most basic of blessings.

Is it perhaps that in our hearts, we feel that something is really not all that significant because it is commonplace and therefore expected? When the sun doesn't shine here in the Great Lakes Region for three or four days, we begin to more readily realize what a great thing it is when the sun does shine through the clouds again. We don't comprehend

how important and precious a drop of water is until we begin to see the rivers and lakes in the Western United States literally drying up before our eyes.

Psalm 111 instructs all who enjoy the blessings of the LORD to study them closely, because they ARE spectacular! Why? Those blessings are meant to lead us to see and believe that our God is gracious and compassionate to us in Jesus. Only true believers however will pause, study such deeds, recognize what God has done and give thanks to Him. God has not only given us believers countless spectacular gifts, He gives us the eyes of faith to see what He accomplishes and to respond to Him in worship. By the Holy Spirit's power in Word and Sacrament, we believers are being led to know the depth of God's love for us in Jesus Christ and respond as thankful people. Chiefly, we have been given faith to believe that God has sent His Son Jesus Christ to die and rise again to bring us life now in body and spirit and later, eternal life. God sent Jesus to forgive our sin of ingratitude and to bring us help for our sinful short-sightedness. He comes to us in Word and Sacrament to gift us with life and spiritual sight, so we don't miss the forest for the trees...missing Jesus and beholding only His creation. Beholding God's mercy, which is new each day, we respond with thankful hearts...hearts that believe that "along with Jesus, GOD DOES GIVES US all needful things" (Romans 8:32).

Every day of our life is truly a day of thanksgiving for us believers...even in times of inflation, sickness and danger. Remember the Psalmist's words: "The works of the LORD are great, STUDIED by all who have pleasure in them. His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever. He has made His wonderful works to be remembered. (Ps. 111: 2-3 New King James Version)." Come and hear and study God's works with us and join us in giving Him perpetual thanks and praise. With faith in Christ given you by His Holy Spirit, see ALL His works in your life...both great and small...and join us in responding thankfully in worship.

A Blessed Thanksgiving to you!

Pastor Boelter

Official Acts

The following official acts have been performed or are scheduled to be performed by your pastor on behalf of the Congregation:

Baptism

Olivia Ann Chase, daughter of Evan Blair Chase and Francesca Marie ne'e Saracino Chase. Born July 10, 2021. Baptized October 10, 2021. Sponsors: Dr. Cori Chase St Hilare and Dario Saracino. Pastor Boelter officiating.

Finley Michael VandeVorde, son of Eric Scott VandeVorde and Tracy Helen ne'e Schaldenbrand VandeVorde. Born March 9, 2021 in Chicago, IL. To be baptized November 21, 2021. Sponsors: Brad Michael VandeVorde, Bethany Lynne VandeVorde and Katie Marie Schaldenbrand. Pastor Boelter to officiate.

Burial

Gerald Hugo Pochert- born May 6, 1926, died in the Lord February 15, 2021. Memorial Service held September 18, 2021. Cremation. Interment: Pending. Pastor Boelter officiating.

Andrea Michelle Arnold, born October 27, 1971, died in the Lord December 8, 2020. Interment: White Chapel Cemetery Friday, October 8, 2021. Pastor Boelter officiating.

Confirmation

William David Scott- son of John David Scott and Angela Marie ne'e Fagan Scott, born June 2, 2008, baptized August 10, 2008. Confirmed October 24, 2021. Pastor Boelter officiating.

Bible Class Opportunities

Sunday Morning Class in November is finding us continuing our study of the Book of Jude on Sunday mornings at 9:30 A.M. in our Adult Bible Study. On the last Sunday of November and throughout December, we will embark upon a special Advent Bible Study "Wait upon the LORD" as we prepare for Christmas. There will be no Bible Class held on Sunday, December 26th and on Sunday, January 2nd.

Wednesday Morning Classes in November-December- and January. Our Wednesday morning Bible Study Group has continued its verse-by-verse study of the Book of Romans. We meet each Wednesday morning from 10-11 A.M. There will be NO Wednesday Classes on December 22 and 29, and no classes held on January 5th, 12 and 19th. Class will resume Wednesday, January 26th upon Pastor's return.

Adult Information Class continues to be offered to any/all who are interested in joining our congregation, and those who would like a refresher course in Christian Doctrine. Classes meet as scheduled for the participants. If you or someone you know would like to take this course, please contact Pastor Boelter and class time will be arranged.

Thanksgiving Worship will be held Sunday, November 21, 2021 at both the 8:15 and 10:45 A.M. Divine Services. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the 8:15 A.M. Divine Service. Come and give thanks to the LORD for all blessings, spiritual and temporal, great and small.

The Season of Advent begins Sunday, November 28th. Advent is a season of worship where we contemplate God's promises given through His O.T. Prophets and people regarding the Coming Messiah Jesus. To prepare our hearts in repentance and faith for the celebration of Christmas, we will again hold three special Advent Services on the following Wednesdays of December in Advent: December 1, 7 and 14. Our Wednesday Services will be held both at 11:15 A.M. and at 7:00 P.M. Based upon the words of Psalm 27:14, our special Sermon Series this year is: "Wait upon the LORD." The season of Advent is characterized by waiting- waiting upon the LORD for His presence to be revealed to us at Christmas. In this Advent worship series, we look back at those who waited on the LORD for His promises to come to pass through the Christ Child. We also take this time to look ahead, thinking about how we must wait upon the LORD in this present moment in our lives, for God continues to make Himself known to us in His Word and Sacrament.

Our Wednesday Advent Series will be as follows:

Wednesday December 1, 11:15 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. “Wait upon the LORD with Faith,” based upon Paul’s Letter to the Galatians chapter 3 verse 8. Abraham and Sarah waited with faith for the birth of their son Isaac. We wait for the birth of God’s Son Jesus Christ, trusting that He will come at Christmas to save all people.

Wednesday December 8, 11:15 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. “Wait upon the LORD with Hope,” based on Psalm 130:5. The Prophet Isaiah declared the coming of the Lord, which gave the people of Israel hope for the future. We wait with hope for the future because we know what the future holds...a Savior!

Wednesday, December 15, 11:15 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. “Wait upon the LORD with Rejoicing.” Based upon Isaiah 25:9. Elizabeth rejoiced as she waited for the coming of her son John the Baptizer. Mary also rejoiced as she waited for the birth of her son, Jesus. In the same manner, we rejoice as we wait for the coming of the Son of God.

The first weekend in December is looking to be a very busy week here at Christ the King. We are grateful to God that this year the Judelaires will be performing their Christmas Concert at our Church on Friday evening, **December 3rd at 7:00 P.M.** This is always a beautiful evening of sacred and traditional Christmas music, and a wonderful opportunity to welcome our community into our beautifully decorated Church to proclaim our Lord’s birth. Helpers will be needed to host, usher, and provide treats for our guests. We are planning to host a reception following the concert in our Library, with plans being made to do so in a safe way for all in attendance. Pass the word to your family and friends...a more normal celebration of Christmas is being made possible once more!

And... on **Sunday December 5th**, our Church will host the Live Nativity following a year of being unable to do so because of the pandemic. Donations are gladly being accepted at this time to help fund the project. Also, we will need helpers to host this event, as well as individuals to function as security personnel for this event. As in the case of the Judelaire performance, we are considering how we can most safely host those who come, welcoming them to our church for this annual event. Grant Harris is again heading up this event. Please call him and let him know that you will be present and willing to help with this effort, which is always loved by our community.

Sunday, December 19, 2021 8:15 A.M. Service “Wait upon the LORD with Gratitude.” Based on Psalm 9:1, Zechariah’s waiting days for John the Baptizer’s birth were filled with great gratitude to God for the LORD’S promise about to be fulfilled. In these remaining days before our Savior’s birth, we are ever more grateful for the arrival of the Promised One.

This year we will follow a special printed liturgical order of worship for our 11:15 A.M. Advent Services, but will return to our traditional Evening Vesper’s Liturgy for our Advent Services at 7:00 P.M.

NOTE: With the offering of our Advent Services each Wednesday evening at 7:00 P.M. in December, we will **NOT** be offering our Monday Divine Services on the 2nd and 4th Monday (Dec. 13 and 27) as usual. Those who may wish to receive the Sacrament following the Wednesday Vespers Services may arrange to celebrate it with Pastor after the 7:00 P.M. Service. Please call ahead if you wish to make an appointment to receive Holy Communion on Wednesday evenings after the Vespers Service.

Christmas Worship

The Children's Christmas Worship Service is tentatively Scheduled for Sunday, December 19th at the 10:45 A.M. Divine Service. More information will follow about this service.

Christmas Eve we will worship Friday, December 24th at 5:00 P.M. (With Holy Communion) and at 10:00 P.M. Continuing under the theme "Wait Upon the LORD," our Christmas Eve Service will be entitled: "The LORD is Come." Join us at either service as we gather and welcome the Lord Jesus on Christmas Eve. After our long Advent waiting, the Lord is come...into our lives, into our homes, and into our hearts. Through the Word, Scripture and song, we will take time to celebrate Jesus' birth as our Savior and Friend.

Christmas Day Saturday Morning, December 25 **ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:45 A.M.** With Holy Communion. Our Service, entitled "Let Earth Receive Her King" is based on John 1:16: "From His fullness we have all received grace upon grace." On Christmas Day we receive the gift of Jesus, our King of Kings. The wait is over and our new life with Jesus has begun. We join the whole earth in glorifying Him on this blessed day. Join us as we receive the Sacrament and continue to sing our favorite Christmas hymns.

Sunday, December 26, 2021 ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:45 A.M. with Holy Communion. Join us for worship as we continue to celebrate the birth of Savior and implore His blessings upon our New Year. Again – no Bible Class on Sunday December 26th.

January 2, 2022 Normal Service Schedule Resumes this first Sunday of the New Year with worship at 8:15 (with Holy Communion) and 10:45 A.M.

January 9, 2022 Bible Class and Sunday School resume.

Confirmation Instruction program begins again Tuesday, January 11th. We are ready to begin a new year of Confirmation Instruction for students who wish to enter our Level I program. Tuesday evenings are the days set aside for Confirmation Instruction in our church. We are thankful to Kyrstyn Sloan for teaching this entry level class during the last two seasons. Teaching Level I instruction this year with Pastor Boelter will be Jennifer Knapp. At this time, there is only one student who may be eligible for Level II instruction with Pastor, and no students have completed instruction during the pandemic and are eligible at this time for Level III. Level III will therefore NOT be taught in 2022. ANY PARENT WHO WISHES THEIR CHILD TO BEGIN THIS 3-YEAR PROGRAM NEEDS TO CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AND SPEAK WITH THE PASTOR BY DECEMBER 15TH. With students returning to class in the public school system, we are fully returning to in-person classes, with no zoom classes offered. A basic knowledge of Bible Stories learned from our Sunday School program is needed for entry into the program, and faithful family worship and service is expected in order for the Rite of Confirmation to be celebrated for the confirmand. Please note that mere completion of the course work does not qualify a confirmand to be confirmed. Faithfulness in life and worship is also of the utmost importance. Our confirmation program is one of the strongest programs we have here at Christ the King. It has been a thorough immersion in the Word of God and in the chief teachings of the Scriptures for our young students for many years. We hope all parents will take advantage of this program and make it a first priority in their children's lives...not simply another subject or activity merely to "juggle" or to "pass."

We continue to hold services for our friends at Sunrise Assisted Living, Mack and Aline on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. This provides us all an opportunity to visit our neighbors who eagerly desire our visits and our worship services, and to show them the love of Christ. Services are held at 10:30 A.M. and last approximately 25 minutes. Consider joining the pastor and elders to help bring God's love in Christ to our neighbors in a very personal way!

We gather to pray the Litany each 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 9 A.M. in our small chapel. In this brief service, we gather for prayer, a hymn, a Bible reading and a brief meditation that helps us prepare for worship in Divine Service the next Sunday. These brief services last about 25 minutes and will help prepare your heart to receive the word of the Lord in Sunday worship. All are welcome to join us.

Anniversaries
to
Celebrate



Paul and Lisa Nuechterlein	Nov 1
Hassan and Karen Azar	Nov 5
Jan and Allison Hendrickson	Nov 10
Kurt and Deann Newman	Nov 16
Thomas and Kyrstyn Sloan	Nov 18
Jeffery and Jennifer Knapp	Dec 17
Edward and Janis Fleck	Dec 19
Michael and Linda Renema	Dec 19
Murray and Margaret Davis	Jan 14



Betty Gade	11/1	Paula Touhey	11/10	Nancy Wenskus	11/12
Elizabeth Grossett	11/1	Benjamin Canko	11/12	Louis Mueller	11/13
Hazel Wenskus	11/3	Sharon Davis	11/12	Ellen Nelson	11/13
Robert Mullinger	11/5	Mark Kusch	11/12	Julie Bohannon	11/14
Brigitte Zook	11/5	Joann Miller	11/12	Zoey Davis	11/15
Michael Barber	11/6	Mimmio Padovini	11/12	Dennis Finley	11/15
				Lisa Nuechterlein	11/15
				Linda Jacobi	11/20
				Shannon Shanley	11/20
				Karen Besler	11/22
				Elaine Martin	11/22
				Kyrstyn Sloan	11/23
				William Wengel	11/24
				Michael Renema	11/27
				Gary Rhoton	11/28
				Judy Champine	11/29
				Jennifer Wolohan	11/30

Richard Reardon	12/2	Robert Hays	12/20	Lisa Bush	1/10
Deann Newman	12/4	Kevin Paavola	12/20	Shirley Fabry	1/12
Abigail Newman	12/7	Bret Samyn	12/24	James Ziemiecki Jr.	1/13
Jacob Grossett	12/8	Gregory Davis	12/25	Katherine Knapp	1/15
Linda Sieszputowski	12/8	Jenna Isherwood	12/28	Michael Pampalona	1/15
Andrew Trost	12/8	Murray Davis	12/29	Audrene Apostolos	1/16
Lynn DeSantis	12/9	Heidi Genzman	12/29	Michelle Allen	1/17
Paul Piotruchowski	12/9	Dylan Nowicki	12/29	Scott Forster	1/17
Joe Pampalona	12/11	Lisa Segletes	12/29	Cameron VandeVorde	1/17
Judith Cantin	12/12	Diane Droege	12/31	Scott Kroll	1/19
Sean Metry	12/12	Heidi Zook	12/31	Noel Paavola	1/22
Nick Sedrowski	12/12	Lukas Finkelmeier	1/3	Barbara Chase	1/23
Ashley VandeVorde	12/13	Michael Mullinger Sr.	1/3	Katelynn Davis	1/23
Hassan Azar	12/14	Michael Mullinger Jr.	1/4	Mila Quartana	1/24
Sue Mack	12/15	Wesley Peters	1/4	Nick Trost	1/24
James Paavola	12/15	Roy Pochert	1/4	Julie Tavery	1/25
Roland Bernardi	12/18	Judith Dettloff	1/6	Kassinda Usher	1/25
Paul Navetta	12/19	Madelyn Fabry	1/6	Elliott Fuller	1/26
John Anderson	12/20	Robert Heiss	1/6	Linda Kusch	1/28
Kristen DeNardis	12/20	Kristine Fleszar	1/8	Lori Sedrowski	1/28



11/3/2021	10:00 AM - Bible Study	11/11/2021	Veterans Day
11/4/2021	10:30 AM - Sunrise Service	11/13/2021	9:00 AM - Litany (Chapel)
11/7/2021	8:15 AM - Service w/ HC	11/14/2021	8:15 AM - Service
	9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class		9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class
	10:45 AM - Service		10:45 AM - Service w/ HC
11/8/2021	7:00 PM - Divine Worship w/ HC	11/17/2021	10:00 AM - Bible Study
11/10/2021	10:00 AM - Bible Study	11/18/2021	10:30 AM - Sunrise Service

11/21/2021	8:15 AM - Service w/ HC 9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class 10:45 AM - Service		10:45 AM - Service
11/22/2021	7:00 PM - Divine Worship w/ HC	12/24/2021	5:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service w/ HC
11/24/2021	10:00 AM - Bible Study	12/24/2021	10:00 PM - Christmas Eve Service
11/25/2021	Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	12/25/2021	10:45 AM - Christmas Day Service w/ HC
11/27/2021	9:00 AM - Litany (Chapel)	12/26/2021	10:45 AM - Service w/ HC
11/28/2021	8:15 AM - Service 9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class 10:45 AM - Service w/ HC	12/27/2021	Office Closed
12/1/2021	10:00 AM - Bible Study 11:15 AM - Advent Service 7:00 PM - Advent Service	12/31/2021	New Year's Eve
12/2/2021	10:30 AM - Sunrise Service	1/1/2022	New Year's Day
12/3/2021	7:00 PM - Judelaries Concert	1/2/2022	8:15 AM - Service w/ HC 10:45 AM - Service
12/5/2021	8:15 AM - Service w/ HC 9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class 10:45 AM - Service Live Nativity	1/3/2022	Office Closed
12/8/2021	10:00 AM - Bible Study 11:15 AM - Advent Service 7:00 PM - Advent Service	1/6/2022	10:30 AM - Sunrise Service
12/11/2021	9:00 AM - Litany (Chapel)	1/8/2022	9:00 AM - Litany (Chapel)
12/12/2021	8:15 AM - Service 9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class 10:45 AM - Service w/ HC	1/9/2022	8:15 AM - Service 9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class 10:45 AM - Service w/ HC
12/15/2021	10:00 AM - Bible Study 11:15 AM - Advent Service 7:00 PM - Advent Service	1/10/2022	7:00 PM - Divine Worship w/ HC
12/16/2021	10:30 AM - Sunrise Service	1/16/2022	9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class
12/19/2021	8:15 AM - Service w/ HC 9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class	1/16/2022	8:15 AM - Service w/ HC 10:45 AM - Service
		1/20/2022	10:30 AM - Sunrise Service
		1/22/2022	9:00 AM - Litany (Chapel)
		1/23/2022	8:15 AM - Service 9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class 10:45 AM - Service w/ HC
		1/24/2022	7:00 PM - Divine Worship w/ HC
		1/26/2022	10:00 AM - Bible Study
		1/30/2022	8:15 AM - Service w/ HC 9:30 AM - Adult Bible Class 10:45 AM - Service w/ HC