

WEEKLY SUNDAY PREVIEW

November 22, 2020

At harvest time we join the psalmist in offering Thanksgiving to God. “You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.” We are grateful for the abundance of the good things of God’s creation. Paul reminds us that our Thanksgiving overflows with generosity. As the body of Christ in the World, we give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

I was thinking today about the turkey that most of us will be cooking and eating next week. Pastor Newman mentioned in his sermon today, that someone once asked him why bad things happen to good people. I am sure that you are not finding a connection between the two things but it connected in my brain. So sorry about that. If we think about all of the feathers on a turkey that we remove in order to have this magnificent meal that we are all planning to have, and we attached something that we are thankful for or count one of our many blessings for each feather, we would have a mighty pile of blessings and things to be thankful for. The song that Bing Crosby sings in White Christmas, says that you will fall asleep counting your blessings. Sometimes it is hard to see the good because of all of the bad. Count your Turkey Feathers.

This Week’s Lessons

This is an opportunity to read the verses before and after the passage that we will share on Sunday. Sometimes the lessons are taken out of context and lead to questions that the lesson we read on Sunday does not quite answer.

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 8: 7-16

Please be seated.

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰You shall eat

your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

¹¹Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. ¹²When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, ¹³and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, ¹⁶and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good.

PSALM: Psalm 65

Read responsively.

¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be fulfilled.

²To you, the one who answers prayer, to you all flesh shall come.

³Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!

They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the Earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.

⁷You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸Those who dwell at the ends of the Earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

⁹You visit the Earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the Earth.

¹⁰You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹²May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: 2nd Corinthians 9: 6-15

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." ¹⁰Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. ¹²This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the LORD's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you.

¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

GOSPEL: Luke 17: 11-19

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the Church, the World, and all in need.

Silence for reflection.

A Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the Church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the Earth. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Bring peace to every place where conflict rages. Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Heal the sinful divisions we erect between us and release us from systems of oppression and prejudice. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the Church. Sustain those who work in children's ministry, youth ministry, and campus ministry as they nurture the gifts of young people. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Thank you for saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example, that we may see your presence in those in need around us. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

Here other petitions may be offered. (Feel free to add a petition that may be close to you.)

P Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

C **Amen.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONTACT THE PASTOR

Communications requesting pastoral care should be made directly to Pastor Larry Baker, (614) 257-8560.

ZION ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Today we will be having our Annual Business Meeting after the service. There will be much business to discuss, especially the budget for next year. Please plan to stay to help guide our congregation over the next year. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

THANKOFFERING SERVICE

Thankoffering Sunday will be next Sunday, November 22, 2020, this year. We will traditionally invite many of the ladies to participate in the service as much as we can. (Social distancing and all.) We will have Thankoffering envelopes on the table by the door. Thank you for your support of WELCA and the ELCA programs that these funds help support.

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD PANTRY

We have been asked to provide green beans for the Thanksgiving dinners this year. We would appreciate that, if you wish to donate, put a monetary donation in an envelope and put it in the offering plate. (We do not have the ability to store 200 cans of veggies here at the church.) Carol Mahon will purchase the beans for us. The local Food Pantry will be well stocked. We will also collect a special offering that goes to a WELCA fund during the service next week. Thank you for your continued support of the Good Samaritan Food Pantry and our WELCA.

COMING IN NOVEMBER

November 22nd, TODAY, Thankoffering Sunday and Annual Congregational Meeting after Church
 November 26th, Thanksgiving Day.
 November 29th, Fifth Sunday and the First Sunday of Advent.

HAPPY NEW YEAR. NEW CHURCH YEAR BEGINS.

We will be celebrating another New Church Year on Sunday, November 29, 2020, when we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. This will be a special day for us. We will celebrate the approaching birth of our Lord every Sunday for the four weeks before Christmas. We will be gathering here at the church for our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Thursday, the 24th. Please mark your calendars for these special Sundays before Christmas.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Once again this year we will be getting poinsettias for the Altar for Christmas Eve. This year we are getting red blooms and they will, be \$15.00 per pot for 8.5" pots. Please take a moment to stop by the bulletin board behind the office door and sign up for one (or more). Place your money in an envelope and put it in an offering plate. We appreciate your help in making our Altar even more festive for this special night. If you are not coming to church anytime soon, email or text me and I will sign you up.

PRAYERS



*You are in my
thoughts and
prayers.*

Please keep these people in your prayers: Al Bausch, Dortha Feddern, Michael Koch, Wesley and JoAnne Porter, and all of those who are suffering from COVID-19. Please remember all of our shut-ins and sick. (Also, pray for the families and caretakers of those on the prayer list.)

A new address for Dortha Feddern: Allen View Health Care Center; 2615 Derr Road; Springfield, Oh 45503. Send her cards to let her know we miss her.

Michael is back home with his parents. Their address is 224 West Romany Loop, Beverly Hills, FL 34465. (Thanks to Ginny Fogt for the address.) You can get updates from Linda at www.caringbridge.org/visit/michaelkoch2?fbclid. Keep all of the Koch's in your prayers.

If you hear or know of anyone who should be on our Prayer List, please let me know, my number is 614 398-6302 or lejohn7310@icloud.com

FUNDS FOR ZION

We are all probably doing more shopping on line during this pandemic. Did you know that when you shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7201301, AmazonSmile donates to Zion Lutheran Church?

Also, if you have a Kroger card, you can designate Zion to receive a percentage of your grocery expenses. Go to the service desk to inquire.

Help bring joy this season

Buy your gifts at smile.amazon.com
or with AmazonSmile ON in the app
and Amazon donates
amazon smile



THE 1st SATURDAY BREAKFAST BUNCH

"The 1st Saturday Breakfast Bunch" will meet on the first Saturday of every month at Der Dutchman in Plain City, at 8:30 AM. "Come one, Come all," for a great breakfast, great fellowship, and more! Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there.

(Our next gathering will be sometime late summer or early fall of 2020.)



REMEMBER SPECIAL FAMILY DAYS/SIGN-UPS

We are asking those who would normally remember special family celebrations by signing the calendar for flower donations too, instead, donate money in lieu of flowers. The money will go to the food pantry. Please check the bulletin board behind the door to the office for all of the sign-up sheets for this year. Lectors and Worship Assistants are also welcome. Thank you so much!

Sign-up sheets for this year are on the bulletin board in the office. Take a moment to check it out. There is something for everyone. Email or text me if you want me to sign you up for something.

Remember that we will have poinsettias on the Altar for Christmas Eve. I know it is early, but think about donating one or two for the beauty of our Candlelight service. I will put up a sign-up sheet about the 1st of November. Thanks for your help.

(If you wish to sign up for a particular Sunday as a worship assistant, reader, or for food on the Altar, and are not going to be here to do so, let me know via text, phone call, or messenger, and I will sign you up for that Sunday.)

You can find copies of the Directory and other interesting handouts on the table by the door. (Tidings will be available when they are published.)

*Hope to see you soon.
God bless you all this week.
Stay safe, stay healthy.*



*“We have so much to be thankful for, one day a year
Hardly seems adequate.”*

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,*

*who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.*

**Never forget,
Thank a Veteran today.**