

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 28

November 13, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

During Holy Week, Jesus announced that the temple would be destroyed, and that started a discussion about calamities in history and the Last Day. All that Jesus said would happen is already part of history: wars, earthquakes, famines, floods, and astronomical events. The signs of the times tell us the Last Day is near. For some people, it will be a time of judgment, but for followers of our Lord, His return will be a sign that our “redemption is drawing near.” Malachi says in joy they “shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.” And the psalm calls on all creation to rejoice. Even the rivers should “clap their hands!” Before that Last Day, Paul urges, we ought to rely on the Lord’s faithfulness, get to work, and try not to be a burden to anyone. Today is already a day to “sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things” (Psalm 98:1).

PRESERVICE “Lion and Lamb” -Wendy & Mary

HYMN “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” *LSB* 348

1 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.

2 Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.

3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.

4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.

5 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!
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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Based on Luke 21*

Pastor: When many say, “The time is at hand,”

People: do not go after them.

Pastor: When you hear of wars and tumults,

People: do not be terrified.

Pastor: When you are brought before kings and governors for My name's sake,

People: I will give you a mouth and wisdom.

Pastor: When these things begin to take place,

People: straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Malachi 4:2*

Pastor: Looking toward Christ's return in judgment and the gracious gift of His own righteousness, let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You and our neighbors in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Before we were born, almighty God gave His Son to die for you; He is the "sun of righteousness." Because of your Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ, each day He declares you righteous for Jesus' sake. When our Lord returns, we "shall go out leaping like calves from the stall." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

INTROIT *Psalms 121:1–2, 5, 7–8; antiphon: Luke 21:33*

Pastor: Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

People: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

Pastor: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

People: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

Pastor: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

People: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" *LSB 790*

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear

Now to His temple draw near,

Joining in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning

And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.

Have you not seen

All that is needful has been

Sent by His gracious ordaining?

3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,

Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.

What need or grief

Ever has failed of relief?

Wings of His mercy did shade you.

4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

Ponder anew

What the Almighty can do

As with His love He befriends you.

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen

Sound from His people again;

Gladly forever adore Him!

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Malachi 4:1–6* (The day of the Lord is coming.) “For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts. Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM HYMN “Joy to the World” *LSB 387*

Hymn 387 paraphrases today’s Psalm. Psalm 98, for reflection:

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord! Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow

Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace

And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Text: Public domain

EPISTLE 2 *Thessalonians 3:1–13* (Paul warns against idleness.) Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ. Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Luke 21:28b*

Pastor: Alleluia. Straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

People: Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 21:25-36*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Rejoice, Rejoice Believers” *LSB 515*

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising
And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
At midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches
With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience
Their cross and sufferings bore,
Shall live and reign forever
When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him
Their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption
That sets Your people free!
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SERMON "Redemption, Revelation, Redeemer" Luke 21:25-36

I. Survivor Bias & Abraham Wald

II. R_____ (v. 25-28)

- What is Jesus describing?
- What is redemption associated with?

III. R_____ (v. 29-33)

- Signs of Spring
- What lasts in life?

IV. R_____ (v. 34-36)

- What does Jesus caution us against?
- What does the focus need to be when staying awake, praying, and standing?

APOSTLES' CREED

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING "Only in God" -Talbot

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy holy holy Lord
God of power and might
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes
In the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \times body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \times blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God you take away

All the sin of the world

Oh Lamb of God have mercy on us

And grant to us your peace

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee" LSB 750

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee
And hope in Him through all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,
And bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the rock that naught can move.

2 What can these anxious cares avail thee,
These never-ceasing moans and sighs?
What can it help if thou bewail thee
O'er each dark moment as it flies?
Our cross and trials do but press
The heavier for our bitterness.

3 Be patient and await His leisure
In cheerful hope, with heart content
To take whate'er thy Father's pleasure
And His discerning love hath sent,
Nor doubt our inmost wants are known
To Him who chose us for His own.

4 God knows full well when times of gladness
Shall be the needful thing for thee.
When He has tried thy soul with sadness
And from all guile has found thee free,
He comes to thee all unaware
And makes thee own His loving care.

5 Nor think amid the fiery trial
That God hath cast thee off unheard,
That he whose hopes meet no denial
Must surely be of God preferred.
Time passes and much change doth bring
And sets a bound to ev'rything.

6 All are alike before the Highest;
'Tis easy for our God, we know,
To raise thee up, though low thou liest,
To make the rich man poor and low.
True wonders still by Him are wrought
Who setteth up and brings to naught.

7 Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,
Perform thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word; though undeserving,
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted Him indeed. Text: Public domain

“O Sing to the Lord” *LSB* 808

1 O sing to the Lord,
O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord,
O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord,
O sing God a new song.
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.

2 For God is the Lord!
And God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord!
And God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord!
And God has done wonders.
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.

3 So dance for our God
And blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God
And blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God
And blow all the trumpets.
And sing to our God,
And sing to our God.

4 O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.

5 For Jesus is Lord!

Amen! Alleluia!

For Jesus is Lord!

Amen! Alleluia!

For Jesus is Lord!

Amen! Alleluia!

O sing to our God,

O sing to our God.

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BLESSING

Pastor: May our Lord's body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" *LSB 809*

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;

There is no shadow of turning with Thee.

Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;

As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. Refrain

ref Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,

Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above

Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain

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POSTLUDE "Sing a New Song" -Paul and Betsy Hanson

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Luke 21:6 – “As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.”* Everything in this world is headed for the graveyard, but some things are also destined to rise from the grave. On that Day of Resurrection – as we look back on our earthly life – what will we see? What will have really mattered? This is a good question to ask ourselves in this season of the church year that focuses on The Last Things.

THANKSGIVING: We will have a joint service with other LCMS churches in our area at Emmaus on Wednesday, November 23 at 7 p.m. There will be a joint choir for this special service! Please see the posters in the narthex.

THANKSGIVING CHOIR REHEARSALS: All singers are welcome! Please join us to rehearse on Thursday evening, November 17 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and again at 6:15 before the Thanksgiving service on Wednesday, November 23.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available. Hard to believe that 2023 is right around the corner but here it comes. Please stop in the narthex and pick up your offering envelopes. If you did not receive envelopes and would like them, please let Nancy W, Alan M, Pam U, Pastor or Maria know. We can certainly get you a box. If you have envelopes and currently give electronically and no longer want envelopes, please let us know and we will note that for 2024. Thank you!

HELP NEEDED! The Fellowship committee needs volunteers on Saturday, November 19 and Sunday, November 20 to help with set up and clean up for the Federwitz reception. Please talk to Jean M. if you are able to help. Thanks! [Contact information available from the office.]

EMMAUS GENERATIONS: Please join us for Emmaus Generations at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 16! We will be filling stockings for deployed Soldiers’ Angels chaplains to distribute to service members in their care. We will be collecting new small gifts to be wrapped and used to fill the stockings. A box will be in the narthex to collect these gifts. Suggested items: Card games, travel games, small handheld games, DVD/Blu-Ray, puzzle books, warm socks, Crystal Lite On-the-Go.

EMMAUS FAMILY: DO YOU ENJOY CHRISTMAS MUSIC? The Fellowship Department is planning to order tickets for Bethel University’s “Festival of Christmas – King of Kings” for Saturday, December 3, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets will be \$22-\$25, depending on availability. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, November 13, 2022.

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE: We will be collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts for kids from November 23rd through Sunday, December 11th. These toys will go to local families in need through the Salvation Army. Toys can be put in the barrel in the narthex. A Thrivent Action Grant has been received. Any Questions? Please e-mail Marie G. [Contact information available from the office.]

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN Giving thanks and giving back: join members from Jehovah Lutheran Church the day after Thanksgiving to pack food for the needy around the world. We have 30 slots reserved on November 25 from 2:00pm to 3:45pm at the Coon Rapids location (401 93rd Ave NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433) of Feed My Starving Children. Please let Pastor Miller know if you intend to participate, as names are required to reserve spots. Carpooling can be arranged. [Contact information available from the office.]

MANY THANKS to all who donated coats and cold weather gear to Jehovah. The event was a huge success, as we came together to serve our neighbors in the Midway. God's richest blessings to you as you bless others in the name of Jesus! *And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.'* Matt. 25:40 (ESV)

LWML MITES: The total amount collected for Mites was \$ 214.88. Thank you to all who contributed! Watch the newsletter to see stories about the organizations receiving mites.

HEAR "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: "Still Holding On" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. God's judgment clears the way for God's new creation, in Christ. (Luke 21:28)

CONCORDIA ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE: Concordia Academy's open house on November 16, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, gives prospective students and families a great chance to see how CA honors God through excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and more! Meet teachers and students, take a tour, learn about programs, and see if CA is the right fit. Please RSVP at www.concordiaacademy.com/openhouse.

CONCORDIA ACADEMY PRESENTS LITTLE WOMEN: Tickets are now on sale for Concordia Academy's production of *Little Women*, based on Louisa May Alcott's beloved story of the March sisters. Performances are November 18 and 19 at 7:00 p.m. and November 20 at 2:00 p.m. An additional understudy performance will be held on November 19 at 2:00 p.m. Order your reserved seats at www.concordiaacademy.com/littlewomen.

Responses to the King Advent 2022

This year, we are excited to be celebrating Advent with our brothers and sisters from Jehovah and Bethel Lutheran Churches. We will have two opportunities for midweek services:

11:30 a.m. at Emmaus Lutheran
6:30 p.m. at Jehovah Lutheran

Join us as we consider the responses of four different people to the coming of Jesus the King.

- Wednesday, November 30: "Faithful Israel Hails its King" (Joseph)
- Wednesday, December 7: "Rejoicing in the King" (Mary)
- Wednesday, December 14: "Rejecting the King vs. Departing in the King" (Herod vs. Simeon)

THANK YOU to those who volunteered to take donations to the food shelf! Ken N. made a delivery to Keystone last week and wrote up this account of his experience:

Today I delivered the food that members have voluntarily left in the food bin at Emmaus to Keystone Community Services. There were more people there than I expected to see, but I am probably naïve about what the less fortunate are going through.

Today I saw many people, way more than I expected, standing in line and shopping for donated food. I have never been to Keystone Community Services, but I wish I had seen it before. I talked to the volunteer who helped carry the Emmaus groceries into the building with a new found respect. I didn't get his name but appreciated his willingness to help.

Many of the members of Emmaus have been blessed... As Thanksgiving approaches, I feel sad that we at Emmaus don't do more. There are so many who need help, and the church has been called to help the downtrodden. I know we have our own financial issues, though minor in comparison, but if we aren't willing to help others in need, then we are too inwardly focused.

Emmaus members: Please consider donating/contributing food for the needy via our Food Shelf program. I am very willing to continue delivering all food donations to Keystone Community Services. Thank you for anything you are willing to do. A small contribution by you is a blessing to someone in need.

Food shelf donations may be left in the bin near the restrooms at Emmaus and it will be delivered to one of our local food shelf locations for distribution.

Food banks accept dry and canned food donations. What does that mean? Basically, any food that is “shelf-stable” or nonperishable – you can keep it in your pantry and it won't go bad. And remember, only donate food that hasn't reached its sell-by date yet. Specifically, food banks often need items like: **peanut butter, canned soup, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned stew, canned fish, canned beans, pasta, rice**