

**WELCOMING WORD** *Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ’s coming among us.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Lord, you have been our refuge  
**C:** from one generation to another.

**L:** Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,  
**C:** from age to age you are God.

**L:** So teach us to number our days  
**C:** that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

**OPENING HYMN #534** *Now Thank We All Our God*

Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers’ arms, has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love and still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us.  
And keep us in his grace and guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all harm in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
The Son and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God whom earth and heav’n adore;  
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.  
Amen.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

**P:** Faithful God,  
**C:** we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

**P:** Beloved, we are God’s children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.  
**C:** Amen.

**INVOCATION**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**C:** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Righteous God, our merciful master,

C: **you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18** <sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. <sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." <sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

<sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. <sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

**SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11** Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30** [Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who

have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ”

## **MESSAGE** Intern Tamara Siburg

### **HYMN #406** *Take My Life that I May Be*

Take my life that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart; it is thine own. It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.  
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: 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.

*A brief silence.*

P: Lord of the church, ignite your people with the passion of your love. By the fire of your Holy Spirit, unify us across ministries, congregations, and denominations, and refine us to participate in your activity throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord of creation, we stand in awe at the works of your hands and praise you for the beauty of nature all around us and throughout your creation. Bless the earth for your glory and restore its integrity where exploitation has caused ruin. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord of all in need, search out all who cry to you in distress. Scatter the heavy clouds of depression, chronic illness, unemployment, and loneliness with your radiant light. Send us as encouragement and signs of your healing. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord of the stranger, stir up holy restlessness in us to extend love to those at the margins. Release our desire for control and open us to learn from the perspectives of others. Touch the lives of those we name before you who are in need this day. (*especially . . .*) Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord of the living and the dead, we give you thanks for all the saints at rest from their labors . Rouse us to live by their example, that saints yet to come may also know your love. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**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. 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.**

**BENEDICTION** *May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again*

**CLOSING HYMN: #332 *Battle Hymn of the Republic*** (vs. 1-2)

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored.  
He has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword.  
His truth is marching on.

**REFRAIN:**

**Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.**

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat.  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgement seat.  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on. **REFRAIN**



**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson)  
Nick Sydow (friend of Connie Curran's sons)  
Brian Marshall (friend of Kim Kelliher)  
Jeannie U'Ren  
Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother)  
Irene Bruflat  
Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower)  
Harlan Oimoen  
Grace Aavang  
Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith)  
Trevor, Lizzie & Cammie Sayre (son of Tamie Reichert)  
Dorothy Twiton

Delores Bryant  
Makenzee Smith  
Brock Howe  
Mary Krantz  
Ruth Ann Nemet  
Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl)  
Laurie Duden (Brenda Martin's aunt)  
Bill Steinhauer  
Peter Toniazzo  
Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny Kellogg)  
Shirley Thompson

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

**BUCKY BOOKS FOR SALE till NOV 15th** - Last chance to pick up a Bucky Book and help our youth for their future summer opportunities. Each book sells for \$35.00.



1) For faster delivery, email [Brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:Brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org) and a copy will be delivered to your door.

2) Order online at <https://www.buckybook.com/evangelical-lutheran-church-mt-horeb> The books would be shipped directly to your home.

The Bucky Book makes a great gift! Please consider buying some for family and friends to support our cause even more, or share the link with friends. Thank you for your support..

**SUNDAY SCHOOL on ZOOM**- Join us on ZOOM, 9:00 - 9:30 am, each Sunday morning. Youth, who are 3 years old - 8th grade are invited to participate. It is great seeing their faces each week. Lessons are also emailed, if you are unable to attend our ZOOM time. Email [brenda.martin@elcmhoreb.org](mailto:brenda.martin@elcmhoreb.org) for the zoom link.

**COUNCIL MEETING, NOV 16th, 7 pm (Zoom)** - Our new 2021 ELC Council will meet on Monday, Nov 16th at 7pm on Zoom. Please keep our 2021 council members in your prayers as we prepare for the year ahead. 2021 Council Members include: Ben Brothers, Diane Bartz, Steve Hall, Andy Mullendore, Vicky Rosenbaum, Carl Sieg, Amy Sinner, Becky Strube, Barb Underwood, Ethan Wittman, Katie Zelle, and Jenni Zupan.

**ELC 'COFFEE TIME' on ZOOM** - Join us on Wednesdays at 10 AM each week to catch up with our church family. Time to connect and see each other! Zoom link is emailed each week. If you need the link, contact Pastor John, Tamara or Brenda.

**CONFIRMATION PARTY ON ZOOM** - 7th & 8th graders will be joining on ZOOM for some online games on Wednesday, Nov 18th at 7 pm. No Confirmation classes will be held on Wednesday, Nov 25th. Happy Thanksgiving.

**FUSE NIGHT on ZOOM** - Youth, who are 9th - 12th graders are welcome to join our high school group on ZOOM, TUESDAY, November 17th at 7 pm. FUSE nights build relationships, challenge each other in exciting games, time to hang out, and learn about what it means to share our faith with everyone. Invite your friends to join us. Link is emailed each week to our youth.



**Brenda Martin**

*Youth Ministries Director*

## **DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15, 2020**

**SHARE:** What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

**READ:** Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding

Monday, Psalm 9:1-14, God's Power and Justice

Tuesday, Zechariah 2:1-5 ; 5:1-4, Zechariah's visions

Wednesday, Matthew 24:24-51, Coming of the Son of Man

Thursday, Psalm 95:1-7a, Call to Worship and Obedience

Friday, Revelation 22:1-9, The River of Life

Saturday, Matthew 12:46-50, True Kindred of Jesus

**TALK: Consider some of these ideas:** "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master" Matthew 25:21. Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating to not just maintain the abundance of gifts given by God but to use for the good of the world.

- What are some of the gifts/talents that God has given you? How might you use and grow them for the betterment of the world around you?
- Do you act out of your joy/faith in God or out of fear of the future and unknowns?
- During these times of uncertainty, how might you encourage and build up others?

**PRAY:** Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**BLESS:** May the Lord bless your life this day. Amen!