

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 31, Issue 45

November 13, 2022

"Hope In Who God Is"

When we sing the psalms back to God, one of the things we are learning how to do is how to address Him as He would like to be addressed. Instead of cooking up our idea of pious noises and a liturgical shuffling around, we can read the script, commune with the librettist, and follow the stage directions.

This psalm can basically be divided into three stanzas. The first concerns *why* we are invited to praise Jehovah. The second addresses *how*. And the third has to do with the matter of *who*. We are to praise God because His strong right arm has obtained the victory. We are to praise Him because He does not keep the fact of His salvation a secret. He has remembered His mercy and truth with regard to Israel, and the whole world can see that. So, make a joyful noise, make a loud noise, and do it with song. Sing to the Lord with a harp, and also with a psalm. Add to all the jubilation with some brass. Act like this is the coronation of the king. Let the fullness of the oceans join in on the chorus, not excluding all the inhabitants of these oceans. Waves crashing together on the offbeat are glorious, and because the hills refuse to be left out, they also rejoice. We all sing together in joy *because of the coming judgment*. This judgment will be sheer relief for the planet, not to mention all the nations.

The Magnificat

Our Lord's mother was very likely a teenage girl when Gabriel appeared to her. Not only was she of such a character to be chosen by God at such a tender age, she was also a young woman who was steeped in the Old Testament Scriptures.

Criminal and Civil Cases

In Scripture, we are invited to think about our relationship to God under different images. If we think biblically, we can use them all profitably, not allowing one of them to dominate, or applying them woodenly. For example, when we think of the coming judgment, we are invited to think it as a criminal trial, in a capital case, and with ourselves as the accused.

But we are also invited to think of that judgment, *as here*, as a civil case, with ourselves as the plaintiffs. In the former illustration, we want to get out of the courtroom as rapidly as possible, and with minimal fines. In the latter illustration, the difficulty is getting *into* the courtroom. Your case is ironclad, and your problem is that no one will listen. The good news is that Jehovah Himself is coming, and He will listen. He will *hear* you.

He will bind up every wound. He will set every bone. He will untie every treachery. He will reverse the effect of every desertion. Every disease will be sponged away. Every cruelty will be dissolved into nothingness. No unrepentant sinner will be given the power to blackmail the redeemed cosmos out of her joy. The fatherless will be brought to their everlasting Father, and all the pieces of this glorious story will be fitted together, and there will be no remainder.

Undertake or Overtake?

So what do you make of Jesus? He was crucified, buried, raised, raised again, and then enthroned. He is now seated at the right hand of the Ancient of Days, and every creature is summoned to face Him. Every one of us either does so or refuses to do so. Our solemn responsibility is to turn and face Christ. If we do, then we will look upon the one who was pierced. We will see *Him*, and that means we will see the judge who undertakes on our behalf. We can know this because we have been looking at the judge who undertook (past tense) on our behalf. So that is the foundational issue. Christ either *undertakes* for you, and does so as one kind of judge, or He *overtakes* you, doing so as the other kind of judge. Do you want to look on the kind face of a merciful judge? Then you must repent. You must turn around. You must look upon His face.

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PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Please call
Eleanor Galik
708-302-1686

for immediate prayers



Living in the Word...that the
Word may live in others.

Living Word Lutheran Church

16301 South Wolf Road
Orland Park, IL 60467


708-403-9673
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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Fri 9 am - 2 pm

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:15 am Adult study
10:00 am Worship

This Week at Living Word

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship Gideons International Presentation	14 Tot Time 9:30am-11:00am 	15 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool 10:00am Push Prayer 7:00pm Council Meeting	16 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	17 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	18 9:30am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	19

This Week's Celebrations

 Nov 17 Ed Baidis	 Nov 17 Jessica Lyons Nov 17 Emily Olund
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Stewardship Snapshot

November 6th

21 Worshipped, 21 Communed
2 DVD
10 Watched Online
33 Total

Financial Support for October 30th

1,065.00 General Offering
 335.00 Mission of the Month (Working on Wellness)
1,400.00 Total General Fund Deposit

Offering was not counted on Sunday, November 6th

Living Word's budget calls for weekly offerings averaging \$3654 to fund our ministry. Regular, intentional and meaningful contributions from what the Lord provides you helps carry this out.

Church Contacts

intouchlwlc@yahoo.com

Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel

dianamotel@yahoo.com 708-287-4939

Leadership Team

Neal Hartz - President 847-344-2410
Jim McKinney - Vice President 708-359-8527
Bill Merchantz - Treasurer 708-539-6027
Diana Motel - Secretary 708-287-4939

Members at Large

Pastor John Bucka 815-931-2961
Bob Grossart 708-870-0202
Paul Huang 626-551-1446

Devotional Time

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *"If this man were not from God, he couldn't have [healed my eyes]."* - John 9:33 (NLT)

God can do amazing things in our lives, once we humble ourselves and ask Him to rescue us. But if we're too proud to admit that we still need help, we will remain stuck in whatever 'blindness' keeps us from recognizing how far we fall short of God's standard. Today, choose humility over pride, and let God 'open your eyes'.

Opportunities to Connect with God

PUSH PRAYER meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to pray for our church, community and world. We welcome requests (call 708.403.9673) or visit our website to send in your prayer request, or join us for 30-40 minutes each week.

RADIO & TV OPPORTUNITIES

- Worship Anew** 8:00 a.m. Sunday - Comcast channel 184 (TLN) & 8 (SD) , WPWR channel 50
 AT&T U-verse channel 1008 (HD) & 8 (SD), Dish Network # 8495
 10:30 a.m. Sunday - DIRECTV channel 377 (TCT)
- The Lutheran Hour** 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays on 1230 AM; and 9:30 a.m. Sundays on 1580 AM



Living Word News

DON'T FORGET TO remember when doing gift card shopping this upcoming holiday season to use the app and/or website that Diana had set up for us last year to help raise money for our church just by doing our Christmas shopping, birthday shopping or buying gift cards for other happy occasions. With a mobile app, RaiseRight or the website ShopWithScrip, you can purchase gift cards for your friends, family, and even yourself and they will donate 3% of the sales to our church. If you need help setting this up, just let Diana know and she can help you set it up, and she will also have all of this up on our website and Facebook page, and once the account gets set up, our unique code to use in order for the 3% is **YL5M6W4APYDX**. This is the most safe and secure way to buy gift cards these days, Still be as generous as you always are, just be aware to do it safely and securely, and help raise extra cash for us. So as you are starting some of your Christmas shopping this year, stay nice and warm at home and do it from your phone or laptop and have the gift card company donate the 3% back to Living Word.

AMAZON SMILE will also donate some of the proceeds to our church when using that feature on their website. All you have to do is put Living Word into their search field or click on the link from our website and you can start doing your shopping. We all know how much we spend with Amazon, lol. Every little bit can go a long way for our church and our future. Happy shopping with both of these opportunities.

TRANSITION TEAM met this past Tuesday evening with Pastor Johnson from Christ. They were given a list of pastor names from Pastor Johnson who he feels would be a good fit for both our church and Christ Lutheran. He also informed the team that their council and board of elders will keep meeting each week as well to work things out on their end. Diana has found some videos on 3 of the pastors. One of the pastors will be filling in for Pastor Johnson at Christ this Saturday evening. As soon as the team has more information they will pass it along to us. As always, our hands are in Christ, who is our victor.

COUNCIL MEETING is scheduled for this upcoming Tuesday. They will be discussing the locations of the security cameras, financial status and updates and receiving and discussing the updates from the transition team.

Preschool News

PLASTIC GALLON JUGS are needed for our preschool. Mrs. Diana will be creating the arctic in her Dramatic Arts Play Area in January, and she is asking for all your empty plastic gallon jugs. They can be from certain orange juices, fruit punches, water, apple cider or milk. The boxes are set up outside of the sanctuary once again since election day is over. So you can still drop them off anytime you are here. She has over 150 already, most of them from The Well Coffee Shop in Manteno. If you ever happen to be in that area, please stop by and tell them thank you from Living Word and let them know that we are trying to support them for all of their help that they are offering to Diana and her class. She is hoping to have about 400 or better by the beginning of January, so help her fill up those boxes and bags with these bottles. As always thank you for all of your help and donations for preschool as they build the arctic, lol.

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM is returning to our worship service again. It is scheduled for Sunday, December 11th. So save the date and come enjoy watching the children sing the songs that they have learned this year. It will be a perfect time to connect with the preschool families as they are so amazed with our preschool, hopefully they can see what a wonderful church and fellowship our congregation is.



NOVEMBER 23rd is Thanksgiving Eve, and as usual we will come and worship to give thanks and praise to Jesus Christ, our Lord. Service is at 5:30pm. We want to wish everyone here at Living Word and your families a very blessed Thanksgiving! We all need to remember our loved ones and all that we have to be thankful for.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

November 23rd, 2022

5:30 pm Service

'Come join us to give thanks and praise!'



Gideons International is our Mission of the Month part 1. We will have two guest speakers here this Sunday giving us a short presentation on their work. Gideons International is an Evangelical Christian association for men and their wives founded in 1899 in Janesville, Wisconsin. The Gideons' primary activity, along with their wives in the Auxiliary, is "encouraging each other to do the work of the Lord, focusing on who they are before God, and strengthening the power of their personal testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ".

They are most recognized for distributing copies of Scripture free of charge, paid for by freewill offerings from local churches and from members themselves. This Bible distribution is a worldwide enterprise taking place in around 200 countries, territories and possessions. The association's members focus on distributing complete Bibles, New Testaments, or portions thereof. These copies are printed in over 108 languages. The association is most widely renowned for its Bibles placed in lodging rooms. The Gideons also distribute to hospitals and other medical offices, schools and colleges, military bases, as well as jails and prisons. The association was named after the Biblical figure Gideon depicted in Judges 6.

2nd half of November Mission of the Month. Angel Tree for Orland Township.

Suggested Food List:

- Broth
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Canned Cranberries
- Potatoes/Dehydrated Potatoes
- Dry Stuffing Mix
- Canned Olives/Pickles
- Jell-O/Pudding
- Cake/Frosting Mix
- Pie Filling/Crust Mix
- Food Certificates for Meat, Poultry & Perishables

Other Staples

- Canned Stew/Chili Dinners
- Pasta Sauces
- Pasta/Noodles/Rice
- Boxed Pasta Noodle Dinners
- Dry/Hot Cereals
- Apple Sauce
- Juice Drinks
- Peanut Butter/Jelly
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Tuna
- Candy Canes
- Marshmallows
- Baby Food

Gift items for boys and girls ages 0-11:

- Action Figures
- Barbies & Barbie Accessories
- Blocks/Building Sets
- Board Games
- Coloring/Arts & Craft Sets
- Dolls & Doll Accessories
- Infant/Toddler Toys
- Learning/Interactive Toys
- LEGOS
- Miniature Car Sets
- Play Food
- Play-Doh
- Science Kits
- Sports Equipment
- Stuffed Animals
- Trucks/Trains/Boats



Gift items for boys and girls ages 12-17:

- Arts & Craft/Science Kits
- Beauty Supplies
- Board Games
- Books
- Candles
- Coloring Books (Stress Relieving)
- Hair Supplies
- Hats/Winter Apparel
- Headphones
- Hygiene Products
- Jewelry
- Shaving Supplies
- Slippers
- Socks
- Sports/Exercise Equipment
- Sports Team Apparel
- Sports Water Bottles
- Throw Blankets

OR be creative!



Also don't forget about our furry four-legged friends this Christmas either. Orland Park has Crashy's Closet, which is their Pet Food Pantry. They accept dry or canned pet food, pet care products, pet treats and snacks, and pet toys.



"Sing Before the Lord"

Psalms 98 says: *"Let [all creation] sing before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth."* With Judgment Day coming, why and how do we *"sing before the Lord..."*?

1) REMEMBER Moses & Elijah.

⁴ "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵ "See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. ⁶ He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction."

Malachi 4:4-6

2) FOLLOW Paul.

⁶ In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you... ¹³ Brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-7, 13b

3) TRUST Jesus!

¹⁰ Then [Jesus] said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹ There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven. ¹² "But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. ¹³ And so you will bear testimony to me. ¹⁴ But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. ¹⁵ For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ Everyone will hate you because of me. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ Stand firm and you will win life... ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Luke 21:10-19, 27-28

"Sunday Zoom Bible Study Classes"

SUNDAY MORNING Bible Study will be on Zoom. We will have a dedicated link every Sunday for the Zoom portion of the class. I will email this link to everyone on Fridays, so it would be very easy for you to find the email with the link. Please see me or call the office if you would like to join, we can give you the information that you will need for Zoom. Not only will you gain some insight with these bible study classes, but you will have fun doing so at the same time. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the Bible study on November 13th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89507132613?pwd=WWVWd3JTVWtuUGY3dkFBVDVQdWxhUT09>

Meeting ID: 895 0713 2613 Passcode: 142255

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,89507132613#,,, *145255# US (Chicago)

"Friday Zoom Bible Study Classes"

POW (People of the Word) Acts Bible Study wrapped up their study on Acts last Friday and they started their Advent study, "It's a Wonderful Life" this past Friday. Please let me know if you would like to join, we have an extra book, plus we can order more books for you as they start the new studies. I will email the following link to everyone on Thursdays. All you have to do is click on the link and it will connect you to the group. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the Bible study on November 18th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84737730673?pwd=aFNGREnubXYzem1LY2l1b0srZnpmQT09>

Meeting ID: 847 3773 0673 Passcode: 560789

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84737730673#,,, *560789# US (Chicago)

NOVEMBER'S TOT TIME is scheduled for this coming Monday, the 14th. Diana's first Tot Time was a huge success, all of the same families who attended the event last month had registered for this month's Tot Time as soon as it was posted, plus we have a couple of new families registered for November, and they can't wait till Monday gets here, lol. Hopefully this event will prove to be very beneficial to both the community and to our church and preschool.



Living Word Lutheran Church Tot Time

When - Monday, November 14th
From - 9:30 am - 11 am

Miscellaneous Items

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU! The Hodo Family has been very blessed to have such a caring family here at Living Word. We just wanted to say thank you for everything you have done for us, not only with the events of this past week, and helping us out with the costs that we will be incurring from the damages caused to our house from the gale like winds that we had last Saturday, but for always being there for us and keeping us in your prayers. Your thoughtfulness, care, prayers and of course your help has meant so very much to us. You are always in our prayers, and we just hope that we can be there for you when you will need it the most. May God bless you and keep you safe, healthy and happy.

SHARE OUR POSTS!! Please share our posts with all of your Facebook groups, it's a very small and easy thing to do and the results are so great. Diana has created an ad on Facebook for our preschool, if at all possible, please start sharing the updated information for the two different week day options for preschool and for the two different weeks that she is offering for the preschool summer primer. The same day she had created the ad on Facebook, she had already received comments and questions about the preschool, this should be a great way to reach more people.

WORSHIP LINKS are emailed out every Sunday after service. If you are unable to come join us in person for service, we totally understand, but if you have the capability of watching the service online, please do so. You can watch the livestream from YouTube or our Facebook page, or just click on the link that is emailed to you. Not only will it keep you connected to your church family, but it will also help us grow our attendance totals, which is very important, if we grow our church's attendance, either in person and virtually by 10% we will meet the requirement for the endowment fund to receive approximately \$20,000 or better. We are all struggling in these difficult times, but if we all work together, we will all prosper. Please feel free to share the links or watch with family and friends, kindly let us know how many had watched. Thank you for all your help!

KITCHEN ITEMS NEEDED: The coffee shop, lol, kitchen is in need of a few things. We are running low on coffee filters and regular size coffee cups, so when you are doing your grocery shopping if you could pick up either these items, it would be greatly appreciated. As always, thank you for all your generous donations.

CHURCH DECORATING We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Sunday, November 27th, following the worship service and fellowship time. Any help you can lend will make this event go quick, we always appreciate any help that is given. Thank you in advance for time and effort.