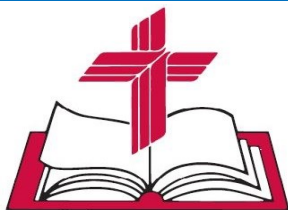


Inside this issue:

"Peace in The Prince of Peace"	1
This Week at Living Word	2
Stewardship Snapshot/Devotional Time	2
December Celebrations	3
Living Word News	4
Mission of the Month	4
Community Events	5
12-8-2024 Message Outline	6

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Eleanor Galik
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

livingwordorland.org
intouchlwlc@yahoo.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Fri 9 am - 2 pm

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:15 am Adult study

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 33, Issue 48

December 8, 2024

"Peace in The Prince of Peace"

As the Advent journey unfolds, our hearts are drawn to the theme of peace. We explore the promise of a coming Messiah, a Prince of Peace, as foretold by the prophet Isaiah. Let's look into the profound peace that Christ brings into our lives. Our hearts are drawn to the theme of peace. Explore the promise of a coming Messiah, a Prince of Peace, as foretold by the prophet Isaiah. Let's delve into the profound peace that Christ brings into our lives.

The Promise of a Prince of Peace:

"For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah's prophecy unveils one of the titles of the Messiah—Prince of Peace. This peace isn't fleeting; it's perfect and enduring for those who trust in God. "You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!" Jesus, the Prince of Peace offers a tranquility that remains undisturbed by life's storms.

Understanding True Peace:

"Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand." True peace transcends the absence of conflict. It's a peace that surpasses human understanding—a gift from God.

Experiencing Peace Amid Chaos:

"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give." Even in life's chaos, the Prince of Peace offers a unique gift—a peace that the world cannot replicate. Consider a sturdy lighthouse standing firm amidst a storm. In Christ, we find a similar anchor, providing peace in the midst of life's tempests. The second Advent candle, symbolizes the peace that Christ offers—a peace that guards our hearts and minds.

The Transformative Power of Peace:

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." The peace offered by the Prince of Peace isn't a passive state. It reshapes our thinking, aligning it with God's will, and brings about a renewal of our inner selves. "The peace of God is that eternal calm which lies far too deep in the human soul to be reached by any external disturbances."

Navigating the Storms of Life:

"The Lord gives his people strength. The Lord blesses them with peace." Life's storms are inevitable, but the Prince of Peace provides strength and stability in the midst of them. Our peace is not shaken because it's anchored in the Lord. In Christ, we find our roots anchored deep in the soil of His love.

A Peaceful Response to Adversity:

"But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace-loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness." The peace of Christ not only sustains us in trials but also influences our responses to adversity. It transforms us into peacemakers, sowing seeds of peace in a world hungry for harmony. Someone once wisely said, "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."

Extending the Peace of Christ:

"God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God." We are called not only to experience the peace of Christ but to actively work for peace. As children of God, our lives should reflect the peaceful nature of our heavenly Father. Our acts of peace can have a ripple effect, touching lives far beyond our immediate surroundings. May our lives symbolize not just the individual peace we have but the collective peace we can bring to the world as followers of the Prince of Peace. May the peace of Christ surpass all understanding, not only guard our hearts and minds but propel us to be ambassadors of peace in a world desperate for it. As we continue our Advent journey, let our lives be a testimony to the transformative and unshakeable peace found in the Prince of Peace. In Him, we discover not just a momentary respite but a lasting and profound peace that echoes through eternity.

This Week at Living Word

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Worship Service	9	10 9am–Noon Preschool 10:00am Push Prayer	11 9am–Noon Preschool	12 9am–Noon Preschool	13	14

Stewardship Snapshot

November 27th (Thanksgiving Eve) 5 Worshipped 2 Watched Live <u>4 Watched Later</u> 11 Total <u>Financial Support for November 27th</u> 1,035.00 General Fund Deposit	December 1st 20 Worshipped, 19 Communed 2 Watched Live <u>13 Watched Later</u> 35 Total <u>Financial Support for December 1st</u> 1,485.00 General Fund Deposit 5,000.00 Special General Fund Donation 200.00 Building Use (Townhomes Meeting) 150.00 Building Use (Cook County) 120.00 Mission of the Month (Lutherans for Life) 16.00 VBS Designated Funds (VBS Shirt) <u>90.00</u> Police Bibles Support Designated Funds \$7,061.00 Total Deposit
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Devotional Time

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 your requests, or join us for 30-40 minutes each week. You can also join on Zoom.

PUSH PRAYER will be available on Zoom now for any of our out-of-towners and/or shut-ins to join us., I will email the link on Monday afternoons or Tuesday mornings, so it would be easier for you to find the email in your inbox. Just click on the link and it will connect you to the group. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the PUSH PRAYER on December 10th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84076099900?pwd=d3BxLBWbTlZRVpuSGhgTXc2dGRldz09>

Meeting ID: 840 7609 9900 Passcode: 427470

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84076099900#,,,,*427470# US (Chicago)

+13092053325,,84076099900#,,,,*427470# US

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

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!*
 - Romans 5:17 (NIV)

Mankind has been subject to the corruption of sin since the Fall, but Christ, through his life, death, and resurrection, provides the antidote to that corruption. We are made new, and now God uses us as instruments to demonstrate and proclaim His grace to others.

VERSE OF THE MONTH ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."- *Joshua 1:9 (NIV)*



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH AT 10 AM

Living Word Preschool

Christmas Program



Christmas Worship

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:30 pm

Christmas Day Service 10 am



Living Word News

PRAYER REQUEST OF THANKSGIVING for Pastor John as he is in the regular assisted living building. He was reevaluated again last month. He has expressed that he is up to having some visitors and phone calls again. He is walking around more, he is still very leery to want to go out as he doesn't want to take the risk of falling again. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as they are very concerned about Pastor John, as we all are, and are very thankful for his improved condition. If you would like to send cards or well wishes or to call him, here is the complete address: John Bucka, C/O Victorian Village, **Rm #108**, 12600 Renaissance Circle, Homer Glen, IL 60491. Phone number for Victorian Village is 708-578-7091, so just ask for Pastor John Bucka when they answer. He is in good spirits and alert throughout the day, he is still struggling with having dizziness and falling, but other than that he is doing well.

PRAYER REQUEST of thanksgiving for Eleanor Galik. She accidentally tripped last month and has a broken left hip. She is so grateful for all of the prayers that she receives from us all. She has a wonderful therapist in Florida, and she has been working very hard. She was in our prayer meeting on Tuesday via Zoom, and she looked great. She was able to stay with us for the entire time this week. She says her pain level is only about a 3-5 range, even on the bad days. You are doing great Eleanor, keep up the hard work. We love you. If you would like to send her a card or a little note while she is in Florida, come see me for her new address.

TRANSITION TEAM MEETING NOTES As many of you know, we had the opportunity to meet with President Buss and Pastor Schauer on Sunday, November 24th; we came together for a meaningful meeting where we had the opportunity to share our thoughts and feelings about the call process. We expressed to President Buss our deep faith in the Lord and our genuine belief that Living Word has an important mission ahead.

As we prepare to continue our search for a full-time Pastor in January, we understand that this journey may bring uncertainty, but we remain hopeful and open to the various paths before us. During this Advent Season, let us support one another, embracing the hope, peace, joy, and love that the Lord brings into our lives. We trust that His light will continue to guide us as we navigate this journey together.



JAZZ BAND CONCERT EVENT If you are looking to enjoy great jazz music, the Tinley Concert Band will be playing on Saturday, December 7th at the Tinley Park Holiday Market (Oak Park Avenue Train Station) at 6700 South Street in Tinley Park at 2:00pm. The concert will be approximately 40 minutes. They will also be playing at Art Beckmann Performing Arts Center (Central Middle School) located at 18146 Oak Park Avenue in Tinley Park on Sunday, December 8th at 3:00pm. You can enter the building at Door #3. There will be two more performances in the spring, one in March and another in May. I will have more information on those concerts as that time gets a little closer. If you would like any other information, please see Jim McKinney.

Mission of the Month

DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH is The Orland Township Food Pantry. We will be collecting all of December for this very worthwhile organization, who helps provide groceries to the low income families of Orland Park and Orland Hills who need immediate assistance. At the end of December we will have all of your donations deposited into the General Fund and Bill will write a check to them and it will then get mailed to the Village Office.



The Orland Township Food Pantry supplies food to low-income residents who need immediate assistance.

Community Events

BINGO

BONANZA

**SUNDAY,
January 19, 2025**

Doors open at 2:30 p.m.
Bingo begins at 3:00 p.m.

Marian Village

15624 Marian Dr. • Homer Glen
www.marianvillage.org

Light lunch included. American Legion Post 2011
will offer water, pop, beer, and wine for purchase.

**RSVP by Friday, January 15th to Ailish Doherty
at adoherty@franciscancommunities.org
or 708-226-3786**

**Event is for players 62 and up. A family member
or friend may attend to assist the player.*

**Admission:
\$5 per
player**

Memory Support COMING SOON



MARIAN VILLAGE

FRANCISCAN COMMUNITIES

Franciscan Ministries sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

 **LIVING** *joyfully*



15624 Marian Dr., Homer Glen, IL 60491 • 708.226.3780 • www.marianvillage.org



12-8-2024 Message Outline

"Come and See!"

Psalms 66 says: "Come and see what God has done...!"

1) This Advent, come and see God's REFINING FIRE.

³ "I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty. ² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? *For he will be like a refiner's fire* or a launderer's soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years. ⁵ "So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me," says the Lord Almighty. ⁶ "I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷ Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord Almighty. Malachi 3:1-7b

2) This Advent, come and see God's GOOD WORK.

² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ *being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.* ⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. Philippians 1:2-11

3) This Advent, come and see God's DIVINE SALVATION.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. ⁵ Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. ⁶ And all people will see God's salvation.'" ⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰ "What should we do then?" the crowd asked. ¹¹ John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?" ¹³ "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them. ¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay." Luke 3:1-14

"TO HELP YOU
DETERMINE WHAT
REALLY MATTERS."
WOULDN'T IT BE
GREAT TO HAVE
CLARITY ON THAT?



IT'S
LOVE.



SOME TRANSLATIONS: "WHAT IS BEST?"

WHAT?



IT'S LOVE,
LOVE IS WHAT
REALLY
MATTERS.



THAT SEEMS
TOO EASY.



IS IT?



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