

GABRIEL'S GAZETTE

NOVEMBER 2022



The Creed of the Divine Service

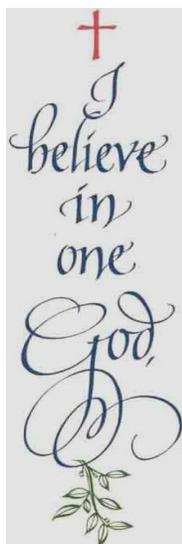


*"Loving, Sharing, Serving
Jesus with you."*

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Recently, I have had some members ask me why we don't say the Apostles' Creed in church anymore. I can assure you, it's not because I like making the service longer! If I did, I'd use the Athanasian Creed! Perhaps I can give you a very brief history of the two creeds and their use.

The Apostles' Creed is the oldest of the three creeds, perhaps a generation or two from the ministry of the Apostles themselves! It was used primarily as a catechetical tool to teach families who were coming into the Christian faith and being baptized. In the Lutheran Church, it has been the creed of the Small Catechism for the teaching of children the faith, leading up to the reception of communion. It also has a history of being used in prayer offices (services without communion) and as a part of the family's devotion in the home.

The Nicene Creed dates back to 325 AD to the Council of Nicaea. This creed was formed to combat the heresy of Arianism, which taught that Jesus was not fully God. Rather, they said, Jesus was created by God and was like God. By the Middle Ages, the Nicene Creed was established as the Creed to be sung as a part of the Mass or service of communion. It identified a congregation as an orthodox church and tied very nicely with communion, in which we receive the very body and blood of Christ, who is God and Man. And, from the time of the Apostles to the 18th century, churches celebrated communion every Sunday, and in larger churches and monasteries, much more often.

Much, much later, after the influence of Pietism (which de-emphasized the sacraments and preaching and emphasized private devotion and good works) and Rationalism (which denied anything miraculous, including the presence of Christ's body and blood in the Sacrament),

the practice of every Sunday communion diminished significantly. Many churches offered communion only once a month or even a couple times a year. Add to that the American scene, where churches of immigrants in the frontier would rarely have the visit of a pastor who could give them communion and where Lutherans mixed with Methodists and Baptists and others who did not believe in Christ's presence in the sacrament, and it is no surprise that Lutherans in America had almost entirely lost the practice of weekly communion. And when communion was not celebrated, it became common that the Apostles' Creed was used.

By the late 20th century there was a movement to restore the practice of weekly communion in Christianity. And when we began doing that, the Nicene Creed came along with it, as the creed of the Divine Service.

Some have mentioned that they miss saying the Apostles' Creed in the service. I don't mind using it and have been contemplating how to bring it in sometimes, perhaps depending on the theme of the service or season of the Church Year. But...I do want to ask those who miss it: Are you saying the Apostles' Creed daily at home? If not, you should be, at least according to Luther in the Small Catechism. You'd actually say it at least twice a day, once in the morning and once at night. I suspect if people were saying it regularly in the home, they wouldn't miss it so much in the weekend service. I don't hear people complaining that we don't use the Athanasian Creed often enough, and we use that even less frequently. So, to be fair, if I use more of the Apostles' Creed, I might bring in the Athanasian Creed a couple more times!

Pastor



Confirmed in Christ

This year, we have two confirmands to be confirmed. In October, Pastor Solum met with each confirmand and their family for their examination in preparation for their Confirmation. On **Sunday, October 30th at 8:45 a.m.**, the congregation is invited to join them in the sanctuary to pray for them and listen to them recite selections from the Small Catechism. They will be confirmed at the **10:00 a.m.** Divine Service the same day.

You are invited to be there on Oct. 30th to witness the confession of faith given by these young people, renew your own confession of faith with them, and give them the benefit of your blessing and prayers that our Loving Lord will always keep them strong in the Faith they will profess! Encourage them as they continue to grow in this Faith and live out God's plan for their lives!

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE...

What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?



St. Paul wrote to Church of Christ in Corinth: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). God loves a cheerful giver. But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God's sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel's God and they His people.

What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure.

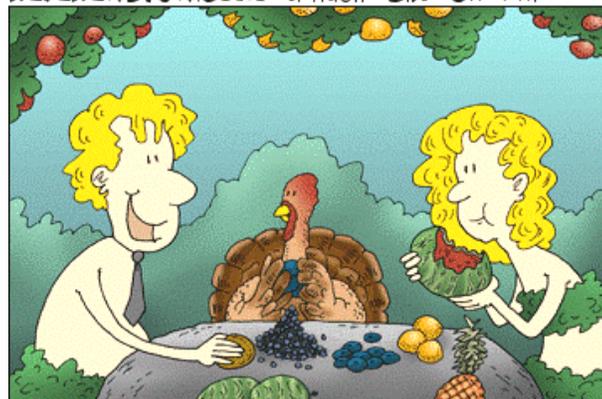
So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It's the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things

- LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article / November 2022



Daylight Savings Time ends on **Sunday, November 6.** Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour!

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(See Genesis 3)

11-21-2011

I'D LIKE TO GIVE THANKS FOR THE FOOD, FOR A PEACEFUL WORLD, AND THAT TURKEY IS ALWAYS ABLE TO JOIN US ON THANKSGIVING



This past summer five of our youth attended the Higher Things Conference, *FOR YOU*, on the campus of Valparaiso University. The conference provided four days of Lutheran worship, catechesis, and fun. Here is a note from one of the participants:

Thank you for supporting our youth group and helping us pay to be able to go to the Higher Things Conference. I enjoyed every moment of it and I made some amazing new friends there. I can't wait for next year!

-Grace Fulford



CALLING OUR YOUTH



Who: all youth in grades 6-12

What: Youth Lock-In

When: Friday, November 4

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Where: Right here at the church!

Cost: \$5.00

Pick up: Saturday, November 5, at 8:00 a.m.

Food, Fun, and Games will be provided. Please see Michelle Braddy, Sherri Kempf, Justin Pavolka, or Kristen Swanson for more information.

Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board.



COME JOIN US
in a
WORSHIP SERVICE
of
THANKSGIVING & PRAISE
on
THANKSGIVING DAY
Thursday, November 24th
at 9:00 AM



You are invited to
Immanuel Lutheran Church's
Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner
Sunday, November 20th, at noon.

Please RSVP to the church office
at (219) 872-4419
or immanuel Lutheran1237@gmail.com,
or on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.
Carry outs are available by calling the church
office, for those unable to attend in person.



Shepherds & Lambs

The Sunday School
Newsletter
November 2022

Congratulations to our Confirmands.

We pray that God will bless you as you are confirmed and send you every blessing from above. May His happiness surround you and may God walk with you through your life.

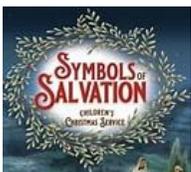


We enjoyed participating with the congregation in *The Tree of Life, God's Promise of Salvation* 10-week lessons. The first week in December we will return to CPH's *Enduring Faith* 3-year series.

Here is the second part of our Five Boundaries to set for your kids.



LIMIT THEIR ENTERTAINMENT: Many kids are very content to be on their phone or TV for long hours. By letting our kids be continuously entertained, we are teaching them that the best way to use your mind is to let someone else play around in it. We need to help them have a hunger for learning. That means setting boundaries on TV and video games and having minimum amounts of required reading time per day. A good use of this reading time would be to set up devotional minutes. Sometimes, it's even good to let kids be bored so they're forced to figure out what to do independently!!



We've selected a Christmas service, *SYMBOLS OF SALVATION*.

The children will present this service on Wednesday, December 14 at 7 p.m. Practices will be Dec. 3, 10AM-12

(Christmas party/lunch 12PM-2) and Dec. 10, 10AM-12. Speaking parts will be distributed in the beginning of November. We look forward to 100% participation in sharing the amazing story of our Savior's birth. So please put this on your calendar.

We will conclude our Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box collection on Nov. 7.



See the table in the Gathering Place to search for a list of suggested gifts to purchase. You may pack an entire box, just some items, or cash donations to cover the \$10 shipping/box. We would like to have the kids join us for a Packing Party on Saturday, Nov. 12, 10AM-12, to assemble the boxes.



May you have a Blessed Thanksgiving as you share time and food with families and remembering all the things our God has blessed us with.

Lynette Johnston-Martin
Sunday School Superintendent

THANKSGIVING WORD SCRAMBLE

1. pearad _____
2. erwolyfMa _____
3. ornc _____
4. nebairresrc _____
5. rovbNeme _____
6. gmsirpli _____
7. lbfaloto _____
8. opeostat _____
9. tknafulh _____
10. yrkteu _____
11. liyamf _____
12. tsufnifg _____
13. eafts _____
14. inrden _____
15. nieipmkupp _____



ADVENT BEGINS NOVEMBER 27th



Advent Midweek Services

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 30, Dec. 7, & Dec. 21

Come early for supper at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 14

7:00 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Service

WORD SCRAMBLE ANSWERS:

- 1. Parade 2. Mayflower 3. Corn 4. Cranberries
- 5. November 6. Pilgrims 7. Football 8. Potatoes
- 9. Thankful 10. Turkey 11. Family 12. Stuffing
- 13. Feast 14. Dinner 15. Pumpkin Pie



**CHRISTMAS TRIVIA NIGHT
FRIDAY, DEC. 2nd**

in Fellowship Hall

Doors Open @ 6PM

Trivia Starts @ 7PM

Cost - \$10/Player ~ Bring a team!

* Bring Your Own Snacks & Eggnog *

Proceeds to Benefit Sunday School's
Hat & Mitten Tree.

COME JOIN US !!!



We do not publish a January issue of *Gabriel's Gazette*, so please plan ahead and submit January news items along with your December issue items on the next deadline: **Monday, November 7.**

