

# **SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA**



## **READINGS for the WEEK of November 17, 2019.**

### **Malachi 4:1-2a**

A person named Malachi, which means “my messenger,” is otherwise unknown. The post-exilic author addresses the people’s expectation that their return to Jerusalem was supposed to ensure their prosperity. Yet because of the injustices in society, God is not accepting the worship of the priestly activity in the temple, which was restored by 515 BCE. The day of the Lord is a time of judgment, and the tree that is the nation will be destroyed. The Babylonian god of justice Shamash was depicted as a winged solar disk whose presence in the sky, like the sun, brought light to the earth and law to society.

### **2 Thessalonians 3:6-13**

Written either by Paul in the 50s or in the late first century by a disciple of Paul, this passage addresses the problems caused by those in the local church who, either in celebrating Christian freedom or in assuming that the eschaton has already begun, have quit working. That Paul earned his own living is held up as a model of Christian life. In the first century churches had no clergy, paid or unpaid.

### **Luke 21:5-19**

Writing mainly to Gentile Christian communities in the late 80s, Luke includes much of the description of the coming apocalyptic events as found in Mark 13 and Matthew 24. The beauty of the temple “dedicated to God” was due to the largesse of Herod, a hated puppet monarch. The temple was destroyed in 70 CE: thus the early Christian communities are reminded that what is valued in religion and society may not last. Messianic claims were common. Verses 9-19 follow stereotypical biblical and intertestamental descriptions of the apocalyptic end of time, with calamities in nature and society, and include comfort for the coming persecutions of Christians, for heresy by Jewish religious authorities and for sedition or political disloyalty by the Roman Empire. This passage is one among many in the gospels that indicate that many people became Christian as individuals, and were alienated from their family because of it. Luke casts this passage as a public discourse made by Jesus, and this section stresses that the end is still far distant.

## **SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION**

We will be highlighting a verse(s) here for memorization that captures the main idea of the month’s scriptures – November verse: “O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!” (Psalm 118:1)

## **Weekly Announcements – November 17, 2019**

### **PASTOR’S CORNER**

The study of scripture is an important part of any week. The men's Bible study, weekly text study and Body and Soul each bring a different set of insights to the scripture passages we hear on Sunday. I am thankful for the opportunity to interact with you and other clergy as we strive to understand and apply scripture to our lives.

Noelle joined me at the Scales Mound School Veteran's program. The young people did a wonderful job of honoring them.

A Saturday afternoon program of the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation on Extreme Weather Events at Woodbine Bend was very informative. The Saturday installation of Pastors Bruce and Lisa Burbank at Lord of Love Lutheran in Galena was meaningful.

Normally I would have traveled to the Synod clergy meeting on the second Wednesday of the month but opted to attend the meeting regarding the future of the Shepherd's Table.

I appreciated having the flexibility to respond to a call from the hospital for a terminally ill former coworker.

Pastor Jim

### **OPEN FORUM**

There will be an open forum today, November 17, 2019 at 9 am. Pastor Denver Bitner from the Synod will be here to answer any questions about the Synod.

### **INSTALLATION OF PASTOR JIM MEHLTRETTER**

The installation of Pastor Jim will be today, November 17, 2019 at the 10 am service. Pastor Denver Bitner will be officiating at the installation. Following the service/installation there will be a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to pass. Dessert will be furnished.

### **THANK YOU FROM THE MOP SHOP**

Thanks so very much for your continued support of The Mop Shop! I picked up the many wonderful donations made during Trick or Treat for The Mop Shop! Our shelves are FULLY stocked thanks to the generosity of many! Enjoy the holidays...and again, many thanks! Best wishes, Mindy

### **THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!**

SOTH's gifts to ELCA World Hunger through noisy change offerings and individual gifts help our church creatively and courageously work toward a just world where all are fed. From Feb 1 to Sept. 30 this year your World Hunger gifts to the synod office have totaled \$1,542! Thank you for making this work possible through learning, action, prayer and giving.  
Social Ministry

### **ADVENT SERVICE**

Don't miss the United Churches of Galena's Christmas Concert at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Galena on Wednesday, December 4. Our 1st Advent Service on December 11th, the Catholic Choir & Friends will be joining us at SOTH. The Song is "All Is Well.". Thank you!

### **MITTENS, HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES NEEDED FOR WINTER**

During the month of November we will be collecting new, or gently used, mittens, gloves, hats and scarves. These will be distributed to local schools and food pantries to distribute to children and teens that need them this winter. Preferred gloves are those that are water proof rather than the knitted type, but all types are accepted. The collection box will be in the entry area as you come into church. Thank you!

### **PASTOR JIM'S CONTACT INFORMATION**

His phone number is (563) 599-2096 and his email address is: [jamespmehrtretter@gmail.com](mailto:jamespmehrtretter@gmail.com).

### **PRAYER MINISTRY**

- Steven & Jodi Swanson & Family (our missionary family)
- Family & Friends of Mary Saam
- Troy Cording (Larry & Sue's son)
- Stacy Krug (Jim Krug & Diane Gehrts' niece)
- The Ehrler Family
- Kathy (Ehrler) Gerlich
- Kendall Smith (Hansen's granddaughter)
- Annie Sherwood (friend of the Hansens)
- Gabe Hilby (Heim girl's classmate)
- Ladora Williams
- Paul Hesselbacher
- Liam Petelle (Edie's grandson)
- Rich Schelke
- Caroline Krug
- Men & Women serving our country
- Peace in the World

#### **Attendance – November 10, 2019**

8:00 AM – 62 , 10:00 AM – 31 Total – 93

#### **Weekly Giving**

**General Giving \$2,528.00**

*(Budgeted for General Giving - \$4,019.00)*

**Mission Giving \$ 67.00**

**Total \$2,595.00**

#### **THOSE SERVING US NEXT WEEK**

##### **GREETERS/USHERS/READERS:**

Liz/Maddie Heim-- (8 AM)

-- (10 AM)

##### **ASSISTING MINISTER:**

Deb Ehrler-- (8 AM)

-- (10 AM)

**COMMUNION SET-UP/CLEAN-UP:** Vickie Serшон/Lou  
& Linda Kusnierz

**HOSPITALITY – Deb Ehrler**

**TELLERS – Goldie Foley & Alana Turner**

### **NOVEMBER, 2019**

17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Worship Services with Holy Communion @ 8 am & 10 am Sunday School @ 9 am <b>Open Forum @ 9 am</b> <b>Pastor Jim's installation @ 10 am service --</b> <b>Potluck to follow (11 am)</b>	<b>LWR Quilting @ 9 am</b>	<b>Text Study at SOTH @ 10 am</b>	<b>Church Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm</b>	<b>Men's Coffee &amp; Bible Study @ 8:30 am</b>  <b>Office Hours @ 9 am</b>	<b>Pastor's Sabbath</b>	