

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

Walking Together: Going up into God's Presence

The Last Battle is the final book in C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia*. In this book, Lewis tells the story of the apocalyptic end of the land of Narnia and the second coming of Aslan, who is an allegorical figure representing Jesus Christ. As the characters in the story leave behind the destruction of the old creation and go into the presence of Aslan, they are invited to go "further up and further in." In a way, this is what we do as worshippers in the Divine Service, we enter further up and further into the presence of God.

After confession of our sins and receiving God's absolution, there is a part of the Divine Service that may be observed called the "introit." This word, "introit," sounds a lot like "entrance" or "going into" and with good reason, for that is precisely what "introit" means in Latin. It means going up into God's presence.

The introit is a prayer or Psalm or canticle that may be spoken or sung by the pastor and the congregation as the pastor walks up the steps from the floor of the nave (the center of the church) to the chancel (the part of the church where the altar lies). The altar is the presence of God. It is the place where God in Christ lies in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This is why we face the altar when we pray to God and why we bow to the altar. In the Divine Service, we can pray the introit as we go up into God's presence to focus our hearts, our minds, and our bodies for the proper attitude we should have in God's presence: reverence.

The roots of this practice go all the way back to the Old Testament when the people of God would "go up to Jerusalem" to worship God at the temple. As the people ascended the hill of Mt. Zion, on which the temple was built, they often would sing and pray psalms of ascent. The psalms of ascent were just what they sound like. They were prayers that were sung to God as they people went up into God's presence.

Using the introit in the Divine Service both connects us with the people of God across time and focuses us to enter into God's presence to hear from Him as He speaks to us in the Service of the Word. As we begin to use the liturgies in the *Lutheran Service Book* in the coming year, I look forward to praying the introit with you as we enter together into the presence of our Lord who speaks His Word to us, who hears our prayers, and who gives us His body and blood for our forgiveness and salvation.

Your Pastor,
Joshua Miller



NOTE:

**NO LIVING BY FAITH OR GROWING IN CHRIST
THIS WEEK.**

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR CONFIRMANDS!



PREPARING FOR ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

All Saints Sunday is next Sunday, November 7.

If you would like to include the name of someone who died in the faith this past year, please submit the name and your relation to that person to Pastor Miller this week.



In compliance with the recommendations of the U.S. Center for Disease Control and the Minnesota Department of Health, face masks must be worn inside the facilities of Jehovah Lutheran Church anytime you are with another person who is not in your immediate household. This includes worship services, all board meetings, Bible studies, working, and volunteering. A facemask must completely cover the mouth and nose. If you do not have a facemask, we are happy to give you one.

Please help us continue to keep our facilities open, our worship services in-person, and our neighbors safe.



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PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

2-3pm Wednesdays

in Drews Memorial Chapel.

In the event the chapel is occupied for other purposes, please proceed to the sanctuary.

REPARING FOR WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Lord makes a new covenant with his people and writes his law on their hearts for all to know and live by.

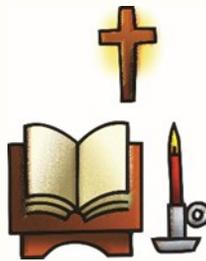
Romans 3:19-28

The law brings us under God's wrath for our sin.

"But now" God manifests his righteousness freely in Christ, gifted to us through faith.

John 8:31-36

By his word Jesus brings true freedom,
free from slavery to sin and free to live as his disciples.



So if the son sets you free,
you will be *free* indeed.

John 8:36



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JEHOVAH SERVICE AND EDUCATION SCHEDULE



9:30 AM Divine Service Sundays in the Sanctuary

Invite a friend and join us
for a year of connecting and Walking Together

**NOTE: NO LIVING BY FAITH
OR GROWING IN CHRIST THIS WEEK**

Living by Faith

11:00AM on Sundays.

Ages 14 - 100+

Join us in person in the lounge.

Contact Pastor Miller with questions
at 612-600-3514 or pastorjoshuamiller@gmail.com.



Growing in Faith

Ages Birth - 13 years

Gather with us weekly in the nursery after the Divine Service.
Parents are welcome to stay with their children.



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IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Donna Ostenson Kiefert
Bernice Demulling
Rita Galston
Paul Finegan
George Mendoza
Sandy Quenzer
Tom Kelly
Tim Robinson
Patrick Carey
Wesley Pagel
Shirley Starner and her son-in-law Greg Beaudoin
Jim Kinsel
Lynne Baerthel and her family
Marge Maule
Jeannie Edwards (cousin of Pastor Miller)
Joyce and Susan Boettcher (stepmother and cousin of Elizabeth Wegner)
Sue Schutte (mother of Principal Jay Schutte from King of Kings Lutheran, on hospice)
Frank Loffler (friend of Gary Reed)
Ramone and his family



*Let my prayer
rise before you as incense.
Psalm 141:2a*

Those suffering or recovering from COVID-19 and for wise use of the vaccines.

Safety and good health for all students, teachers and staff at schools, including those from this congregation.

For strength to speak out for and protect the lives of the unborn our God has created and compassionate care of all that He has made. For the compassionate support of all mothers of young children who are in need.

For the refugees who have fled for refuge from Afghanistan to North America.

For President Biden and Vice President Harris as they serve our nation.

For Governor Walz and all in leadership in our state.

Mayor Carter and all in city government. That our city's government would see the error of the proposed zoning changes, which would hurt religious institutions, and table these changes.

For our Synodical President Matthew Harrison, our District President Lucas Woodford as they lead us, and for our Circuit Visitor, Steven Bielenberg.

For our congregation, as we follow our outreach roadmap, *Walking Together*.

For the Mekane Yesus congregation as they call a new pastor.

continued . . .



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Special Weekly Prayers:

As we pray for each member and family in our congregation by name, this week we pray for our confirmands: Alexander Dalager-Perez, Justice Hequet, Martin Miller, Peter Miller, and their families.

*Note, we are currently praying for two members or families from Jehovah Lutheran each week. The order for these prayers is alphabetical. In addition to our public prayers, our Pastor and board of Lay Ministry are praying individually for these members and families each week. Special prayer requests are encouraged any time and may be given to Pastor via phone or email.



JEHOVAH'S WEEKLY FRIENDLY FRIDAY CALL-IN CHAT



Join us on Fridays at 11:10am.

All you need is your phone.

Dial: 978-990-5000. If you are using a land line please dial 1 and then the number.

When prompted enter the JELC code:

796345#

After the beep just say hello and your name. We will have a short devotion, a topic for discussion, and prayer.

*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,
as indeed you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11*



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