

*Dear Friends in Christ:*

**9 You visit the earth  
and water it,  
you greatly enrich it;  
the river of God is full of  
water;  
you provide the people  
with grain,  
for so you have  
prepared it.**

**10 You water its furrows  
abundantly,  
settling its ridges,  
softening it with  
showers,  
and blessing its growth.**

**11 You crown the year  
with your bounty;  
your wagon tracks  
overflow with richness.**

**12 The pastures of the  
wilderness overflow,  
the hills gird themselves  
with joy,**

**13 the meadows clothe  
themselves with flocks,  
the valleys deck  
themselves with  
grain,  
they shout and sing  
together for joy.**

*At the conclusion of the small catechism Luther offered suggestions on how the head of the household was to teach members to offer blessings and thanksgivings at meals.*

*The adjacent reading which is taken from Psalm 65: 9-13 was to conclude the final blessing after the meal as a bible reading. It was when I worked at Bible Camp in the early 70's that I first experienced the actual practice of giving thanks or better yet returning thanks after the meal was concluded. It is interesting to note that Luther's Table blessing was not the standard, "Be present at our table Lord..." The children of the household and members were to recite:*

**The eyes of all looks to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.**

*This was followed by the Lord's Prayer and this prayer.*

**Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bountiful goodness through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Then after the meal the following was to be recited by all.*

**Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry. His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner; but the Lord takes pleasure In those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

*After reciting the Lord's Prayer and the following prayer the psalm with which we began is read.*

**We give thanks to you, Lord our Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord for all your benefits, you who live and reign forever. Amen.**

*As we approach the Thanksgiving Holiday and our regular Thankoffering Services we recall that while Thanksgiving is neither a religious holiday nor on the church calendar it is a prominent theme in all of scripture. Luther recognized it in his Morning and Evening Prayers as well as Blessings at Meals in the catechism. This season and in every season, "Rejoice, give thanks and sing".*

*With Thanksgiving,*

*Pastor Hal*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Hal: 715-828-1112  
Email: [harkihear@gmail.com](mailto:harkihear@gmail.com)

If you are hospitalized, know someone who is, need pastoral assistance, a prayer request, home visit, private communion, or other pastoral service contact Pastor Hal at any of the above.

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**BAPTISM**-Big Elk Creek  
Wesley David Jones

**WEDDING**-Trinity UM  
Carrie Bodenburg/Derrick Paul

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**All Saints Sunday**  
**November 06, 2022**  
Luke 6: 20-31  
Pastor Dave Whelan

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 13, 2022**  
Luke 21: 5-19  
"Signs and Strength"

**Christ the King**  
**November 20, 2022**  
Luke 23: 33-44  
"Yielding to a Higher Power"

**First Sunday in Advent**  
**November 27, 2022**  
Matthew 24: 36-44  
"When You Just Can't Wait"

... by prayer and supplication  
with thanksgiving  
let your requests be made  
known to God.



**THANKOFFERING AND THANKSGIVING** will be the emphasis on Christ the King Sunday, November 20, 2022. As was the case last year there will be NO Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We will celebrate and rejoice as we give thanks and gifts offered in the name of Christ our King. Join us for this final Sunday of the church year anticipating Advent.

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## HEADS UP TO A CHANGE IN DATE



Due to Pastor Hal being gone the first part of November we have changed First Communion instruction to December 03, 2022 at Barum Lutheran Church beginning at 9:00 am. It will run till about 2:00 pm. It is open to 5<sup>th</sup> graders and old youth who may not have completed the instruction previously. A parent or adult is required to attend with the student. Bring a dish to pass for the potluck lunch. Question? Contact Pastor Hal 715-828-1112 or [harkihear@gmail.com](mailto:harkihear@gmail.com).

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## A good contagion

Thanksgiving is key in Christian prayer, but often our requests outweigh our thanks. By contrast, 85% of prayers in the Jewish prayer book are blessings of thanks, according to Rabbi Evan Moffic. Noting that the Hebrew word for a Jewish person — Yehudah — means "one who is grateful," he states, "Gratitude is at the core of how Jews pray." Someone once asked Moffic if he might know about a blessing he'd overheard at a restaurant. After a man proposed to his girlfriend and she said yes, he walked quietly to a corner, put on a yarmulke (a sacred Jewish head covering worn in prayer) and spoke a blessing. His fiancé teared up. The rabbi said the prayer was surely this: "Blessed are you, O God, sovereign of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us and for enabling us to reach this joy-filled moment." Why was this person so interested? "I am planning to propose to my girlfriend," he shared with Moffic, "and I want to say this prayer with her." Unbeknown to the newly engaged pair, their gratitude transformed another couple's life. When we give thanks to God, not only is our faith strengthened but our thanksgiving may inspire others. Gratitude is contagious!

—Heidi Hyland Mann