

Prince of Peace Tidings

Volume 25

November 2023

Issue 11

Rendering to God the Things that are God's

Jesus said: *“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's”* (Matthew 22:21).

“What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?” We sing those words in the offertory. But have you ever thought much about those words? What do you owe God? Do we owe anything to God?

To render to God the things that are God's is to follow the Third Commandment: *“Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy,”* which means that we fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it (Luther's Small Catechism).

Rendering to God the things that are God's is to repent of your sins and to follow God's Son in trusting obedience, since through Christ we receive His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Everything we have is a gift from God – our life, our possessions, our families, our children, our health, our wealth. We could never repay Christ for our salvation, but we can say thanks. In the Divine Service, God serves us as we thank Him for sending Jesus as our Savior from sin and eternal death by gladly hearing His Word and learning it. Christ alone destroyed sin's power through His death and resurrection.

So, we say thanks to God by receiving His gifts of Word and Sacrament in the Divine Service. It is here where God delivers His people from the clutches of the devil, He brings His people to Himself, and He keeps His people loyal to Him in faith.

“Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!” (Psalm 107:1)

Happy Thanksgiving!

In Christ,
Pastor Adelsen

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Financial Peace University

Have you ever lost sleep because of your financial situation? According to a Ramsey Solutions study, 40 percent of Americans have admitted to exactly that. With credit cards, car loans, student loans, and inflated grocery prices, your financial situation may change rapidly. Even if you are doing well financially, the current economy has made that a challenge. You can change your financial future by joining Financial Peace University where you will learn how to pay off debt fast, save more money, build lasting wealth, and give generously. Financial Peace University begins at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, November 13. Cost is \$79.99 per family without a book or \$99.99 with the book. You may sign up in the POP narthex, or by visiting <https://www.fpu.com/CDA906>. For more information, please see Pastor Adelsen or email him at pastor@wspop.org.

The Book of Revelation – Wednesday Morning Bible Study

The Book of Revelation is addressed to seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea. These seven churches represent the Christian Church for all time and place. When reading through Revelation 2-3, we certainly see that fact. Each congregation was far from perfect, they are sinner-saints after all, as they all dealt with false teachings from within or from without. To each congregation, Jesus spoke to them law to show them their sins and gospel in showing what Christ has won for them. Below are some examples of how we still face the same challenges as the congregations of the past.

- **Ephesus:** Persevering in the midst of suffering, and uncompromising against evil.
- **Smyrna:** Poor monetarily, but rich in God's grace.
- **Pergamum:** Double-mindedness. Saying that they are Christians but not living the life of faith.
- **Thyatira:** Heresy and seduction.
- **Sardis:** Going through the motions of religion as Jesus meant little to them.
- **Philadelphia:** Kept the word of Jesus and have not denied His Name.
- **Laodicea:** Apathetic in their faith in Christ as they found security in their possessions and wealth.

As God's Word says in Ecclesiastes 1:9, "*There is nothing new under the sun.*" We can see ourselves in each of these congregations – for good or bad. But despite their faith or lack thereof, Christ is still present as the ruler of His Church offering the forgiveness of sins that He won for all people through His death and bodily resurrection.

This is just a taste of what the Wednesday Morning Bible Study has learned so far in our study on the Book of Revelation. Please join us each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.!

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Congregational President's Comments November 2023

I've been recently reminded that October has been "Church Worker Appreciation" month within the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Typical on my part to be unaware of calendar events. So I thought I'd remind everyone, even late as it may be, that we really don't need a special month to be thankful for Pastor Adelsen for his thoughtful preaching of God's Word and spiritual care for us and for Debbie's care of church administration. I'm thankful for all of their efforts every day! I am especially grateful that our Lord has led them to serve here at Prince of Peace. I also thank all of our committee chairs and members, altar guild, music director, organist/pianist, choir members, Sunday School and education staff, and all volunteers. It requires a lot of hands and support to make the mission at Prince of Peace successful. Consider expressing your personal thanks to each of them for everything they do for us at Prince of Peace.

Church attendance has continued to be in a depressed state through the month of October. I encourage all of us to remain steadfast in hearing God's Word every Sunday, observing the Sacraments and strengthening our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Let's fill God's house for worship! ...and just an afterthought. Invite your friends, neighbors and family!

The budgeting process here at Prince of Peace continues in process. Church Council members are preparing initial committee budget materials to be consolidated into a master budget. The consolidated budget will be reviewed at the Church Council meeting on November 12 with presentation to the congregation in December. Your thoughts and input are still requested.

The LCMS school feasibility discussion continues with a call for more survey responses. Informational pamphlets are available to answer questions about the school initiative and the associated survey. A synod consultant has not yet been assigned to this project.

A special thank you to the Trustees and volunteers for their outstanding coordination of church cleanup day. Many of the very necessary maintenance projects were completed and left the church property in wonderful condition. Well done!

The financial conditions here at Prince of Peace continue to be challenging. The Church Council is managing that condition as best it can. Prince of Peace does have certain costs to cover each month to keep the lights on! Maybe we can forego a morning Starbucks latte in favor of a Kwik Trip coffee and toss the difference in the collection plate. Just a thought. Please pray for inspiration and guidance.

TOGETHER IN CHRIST. ALLELUIA!

Kurt Childs, Congregational President, Appointed

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LWML News:

November 4: Monthly meeting at 9 a.m.

December 2: Advent Tea & Cookie Exchange from 9:30 to noon

Everyone is invited.

October Trustees Report

By Roger Emmons, Trustee

The following tasks were completed in September.

Shed SE and East doors replaced

Shrubs Trimmed

SE Maple tree trimmed and shaped

Lower branches removed from south pine trees

Power-wash outside walls of Fellowship Hall, Class Rooms and Sanctuary

Redirected downspout SE corner of Porte Cochere

Vegetation removed from rock landscape borders

Windows washed

Removed all items from top shelf in Education Storeroom, shelf removed

Cleaned air vents

Thank you to all the members that participated in our fall clean-up day on September 30.



Peter Leyh	1 st
Sara Flack	5 th
Lily Kasinger	5 th
Charlie Kasinger	6 th
Nevaeh Schaub	7 th
Patricia Horstmann	10 th
Gabi Ruffi	11 th
Gary Fletcher	15 th
Travis Glick	15 th
Debbie Dunnum	18 th
Reggie Kasinger	25 th

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November Schedules

Ushers

November 5-Roger & Ginny Emmons
November 12-Randy & DeAnne Otto
November 19-Russ & Sharie Brunk
November 26-Willie & Leatta Danielson

Greeters

November 5-POP Family
November 12-POP Family
November 19-POP Family
November 26-Barb Hinds & Chris Leis

Money counters

November 5-Schmidt & Dunnum
November 12-Peters & Leis
November 19-Childs & Hinds
November 26-Schmidt & Dunnum

Song Leaders

November 5-POP Choir
November 12-Holly Ford
November 19-Horstmann Family
November 26-Brooklynn Scholze

Altar Guild

DeAnne Otto
Melissa Adelsen

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