



Knowing Christ... Making Christ Known



November 29, 2020

***Hope
1st Sunday of Advent***

WELCOME TO



501 Brookline Blvd, Havertown, PA 19083 — (610) 446-3270
www.templelutheran.org

OUR MISSION -

“TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE CHRIST KNOWN”

Visiting today? Welcome!

November 29, 2020

Notes for Today's Services

**We hope that you will be able to join
with us in worship through the live streaming
on the website templelutheran.org**

OFFERING - *During today's service we cannot actively collect an offering for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. There is an offering plate in the back of the church. At Temple Lutheran Church, we acknowledge financial stewardship to be an act of discipleship, done in response to the Good News of God's love. As you hear God's Word today and consider the ways God has blessed you, we invite you to share only what God is calling you to share. We thank you for your generous gifts, and assure you that your donations will help to transform lives as we come to know Christ, and make Christ known throughout Havertown and the world. Please mail checks to the church.*

While we are all social distancing, the work and expenses of the church continue. Please consider e-giving as a way to continue meeting your pledge to Temple during this time. Contact our Financial Secretary at finsecretary@templelutheran.org for information or the form to do this.

TODAY'S READING: ISAIAH 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence —

² as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil —

to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us
away.

⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

GOSPEL READING: MARK 13:24-37

²⁴But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,

²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

VIRTUAL CAFÉ! will happen directly after service using the link found below! This is a new Zoom meeting and will be held on Sundays, every week from 10:20am to 11:35am.

[Virtual Café Link](#)



Thank you to everyone who is making live streaming the Sunday Service possible. For the Director of Music Ministries – Florrie Marks, our music ministers – Sarah Foss, Amanda Quillen, and Mark Wallace, and for our audio-visual wiz – Kyle Barger.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

For Healing and Encouragement Angie, Paul Arata, family and friends of Jane Bachensky, Geoff Bailey, Keith Bailey, Fernando Batista, Brendan Bell, Nancy Butler, Jack Byers, Mike Carr, Linda Clack, Jane Corso, Noah Davis, Bobbie Delaney, Gordon Dershimer, Declan Devlin, Chase Doyle and Adam, Mary England, Christie Ennis, Bill Faust, Shane Faust, David Fitch, Kristine Ferguson-Franklin, Lois Ann Forgeess-Oler, Lois Gabbott, Todd Gasper, Greg Hallquist, Mike and Sandy Harms, Florence Homer, Craig Jamgochian, Dan Joseph, Gina Kapusniak, Kim Komar, Louis F. Lamoreux, Jean Long, Madison Lynn, Kevin Mack, Pat Mannion, Janet Marinari, Bridget Marley, Mary Ann Mittleman, Sister Judy Moellet, Audie Murphy, Betty Pagan, Carmen Palacios, Linda Palisano, Marita Reardon, Susan Rush, Merry Snyder, Karen Spangler, Vera Spangler, Benny Strain, Gaetan Termini, Dick Torti, friends and family of Joyce Van, Frankie Vlassopoulos, Lily Walker, Barbara Ward, Philip White, Linda Wilke.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP



Effective this Sunday, November 29, the current format for in-person worship will be suspended. There will be a meeting in the sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. to discuss how lay-led in-person worship can be held without requiring our staff to be there. (Masks and social distancing will be required and there will be other accommodations to responsibly promote public health).

If you'd like to experience safe, sacred, space on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary, we intend to keep that as your right. Join us as we envision a responsible and spiritually fulfilling way to do that.

Meeting Sign-up to discuss In-Person Worship

Note: We will be keeping our 9:30 online worship service indefinitely. We are dedicated to accommodating as many people as possible in these wild COVID times.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS



The church decorated with beautiful bright red poinsettias was one of Jeanne Pocock's favorite memories. We plan to have Jeanne's virtual memorial service during the holidays and want to "go all out" to decorate.

Please purchase plants at \$7.50

each – and don't forget to add the dedication; In Memory of/In Honor of...

Please also make arrangements to collect the plants, either after the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service or during the following week.

Poinsettias must be purchased by Monday, December 21.

TLC Fundraisers – Poinsettia and Face Masks/Hunger

1 MILLION MASKS INITIATIVE TO FIGHT HUNGER IN NEPAL



This year we are collecting donations to purchase face masks through the Women's Empowerment Collective in Nepal. The collective trains marginalized women in handiwork skills to give them an opportunity to improve their lives. The women make the masks in exchange for

emergency food to support their family. Each \$10 mask will provide 10 meals. We are also donating the masks to the people of Nepal, who are still struggling following the

major earthquake in 2015.



Please add your dedication – In Memory of/In Honor of – when you purchase masks. Our goal

is 100 masks.

For more information on the Women's Empowerment

Collective check out the movie: <https://youtu.be/tbdd5S74d34>

For more information about the initiative check

<https://empowermentcollective.org/1-million-masks/>



SUNDAY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT INTEREST FORM

As Christmas is approaching, we've been navigating how to proceed with the Christmas pageant this year. The Christmas Pageant this year is going to look very much like Kids Sunday, with some narrative parts interspersed with videos our youth make at home. I've actually tasked the Youth Group this year to come up with our Christmas Pageant script, and they've been working hard to pull it together to be completed for December. Our Christmas Pageant is on a theme of A Christmas Carol, with visits from Scrooge, the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present, and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. These roles will be fulfilled by the members of our Youth Group. However, we still need your help! Attached below is an interest form for the Christmas Pageant 2020. Please be sure to fill out every question as well as your contact information so once December comes I will have a list of information to give out based on what you have signed up for.

Here is the form: <https://forms.gle/xQTknD4bEmMKzSSm8>

We hope you'll join us for what will be a unique and still awesome Christmas pageant experience!

Juli

Per usual, any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me!

Juli

610-301-6992

julpie19@gmail.com

On-line Sunday School is before the live-stream service from 9am-9:30am with Miss Jeanne via a Zoom link:

[Sunday School on Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 759 0842 5637
Passcode: XpcX0X



GIFT BAGS FOR CHESTER EASTSIDE

We are filling gift bags for the women at Chester Eastside Ministries. Please provide your own bags (7" wide, 9" high) or contact the church office. [Click](#) for a list of suggested items. Please return bags by December 6. Thank you.



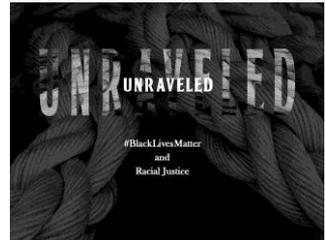
CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

The tags from Bethany Services have been sent out. Please contact Vanessa Wallace if you have not received your tags. Please return your gifts to the church by December 6. There is a box under the table to the left of the glass doors. Please contact the church office or Vanessa if you don't know the code for entering the building. There is also a box in the sanctuary. Be sure to attach the tag to the gift and cross your name off the list. Thank you.



RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Recent racially charged incidents ... have stirred ensuing riots and torn open the rawest of wounds – racism. Judging a person according to skin color is an ancient sin. For that reason, God gave this ancient solution. In the earliest words of Scripture, God spoke: *“Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, and, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth”* (Genesis 1:26 MSG).



Embedded in these words is the most wonderful of promises: God made us to reflect his image. ... Sin has distorted this image, but it has not destroyed it. Our moral purity has been tainted. Our intellect is polluted by foolish ideas. We have fallen prey to the elixir of self-promotion rather than God-promotion. The image of God is sometimes difficult to discern. But do not think for a moment that God has rescinded his promise or altered his plan. He still creates people in his image to bear his likeness and reflect his glory. ...

Would you let this truth define the way you see other people? Every person you see was created by God to bear his image, and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. This means that all people deserve to be seen for who they are: image-bearers of God.

Imagine the impact this promise would have upon the society that embraced it. What civility it would engender! What kindness it would foster! Racism will not flourish when people believe their neighbor bears God's image. The fire of feuds will have no fuel when people believe their adversaries are God's idea. Will a man abuse a woman? Not if he believes she bears the stamp of God. Will a boss neglect an employee? Not if she believes the employee bears a divine spark. Will society write off the indigent, the mentally ill, the inmate on death row, or the refugee? Not if we believe, truly believe, that every human being is God's idea. And he has no bad ideas. ...

Why does God love you with an everlasting love? It has nothing to do with you. It has everything to do with whose you are. You are his.

How can we respect our neighbors? What is God's solution to angry racism that gives birth to violence and bloodshed? Government programs might help. Lectures might enlighten. But, in the end, God's plan is the only plan: see every person on the planet as God's idea.

And He has no bad ideas.

Max Lucado

Excerpted from: https://maxlucado.com/gods-ancient-answer-for-racism/?mc_cid=1404a95a9b&mc_eid=0fb368e100

P.S. If you'd like to talk, we have a team of people standing by. Reply to this email and you'll get connected with one of us.

[Resources – TLC Family
Doin' the Work](#)

STAYING CONNECTED IN COMMUNITY

Life has ups and downs and we all go through challenging times. Especially now, when social distancing has brought in an additional level of human distancing, we can often find ourselves craving human interaction and support. This group has been initiated for exactly this purpose, to build human connections, especially in the face of the current adversity. TLC's "Staying Connected in Community" aspires to be a safe group that welcomes everyone to share their experiences and challenges, and to listen and connect with others while recognizing both our common humanity and the divine light we share. "Staying Connected in Community" will be meeting virtually every 3rd Thursday of the month, with group gatherings starting at 7:45 pm and discussion between 8-9.30pm.



Next meeting will be Thursday, December 17. Zoom link is below.

For more details, please contact Lisa Schneller at lisaschneller23@gmail.com

[Staying Connected in Community](#)

GIVING TO TEMPLE

While we are all social distancing, the work and expenses of the church continue.

There are now many ways you can now give to TLC

- Mail a check to the church office
 - Authorize payment through your bank
 - Sign up for electronic giving with Nancy Hallowell
- Questions? Contact [Nancy Hallowell](#)
- Use the PayPal link on the website or in Temple Connections or below



Need to contact the Pastor? The Rev. Timothy Johansen,
by calling (610) 446-3270
or by emailing pastor@templelutheran.org
Emergency Phone Number (610) 853-1736



**Christmas
Eve
In-Person
Sign Up**

Times are subject to change based on the COVID situation in our area.

BED LINEN ITEMS FOR HOMELESS

TLC Food Pantry is collecting the following New or Gently Used items for distribution to the homeless in Philadelphia:



- Flat sheets
- Pillows
- Pillow cases
- Towels
- Comforters

No ripped, torn, or visibly soiled items please.
Please put donations in the tub by the glass doors.

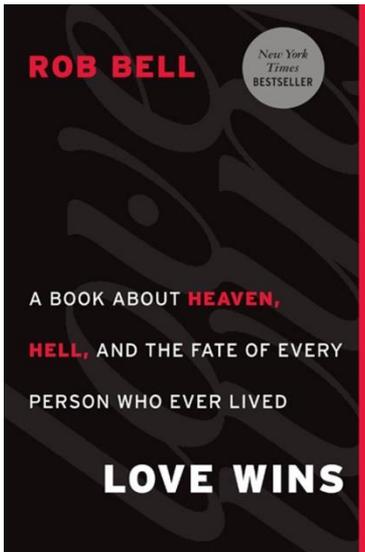


FOOD PANTRY

Check the website <https://tlcfoodpantry.com>

Needed: Paper products (particularly paper towels), detergent, hand soap (bars) and coffee both instant and ground.

BOOK CLUB



Our next book for the TLC Bookclub will be **“Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived”**

by Rob Bell

Millions of Christians have struggled with how to reconcile God's love and God's judgment: Has God created billions of people over thousands of years only to select a few to go to heaven and everyone else to suffer forever in hell? Is this acceptable to God? How is this "good news"?

Troubling questions--so troubling that many have lost their faith because of them. Others only whisper the questions to themselves, fearing or being taught that they might lose their faith and their church if they ask them out loud. But what if these questions trouble us for good reason? What if the story of heaven and hell we have been taught is not, in fact, what the Bible teaches? What if what Jesus meant by heaven, hell, and salvation are very different from how we have come to understand them? What if it is God who wants us to face these questions?

Author, pastor, and innovative teacher Rob Bell presents a deeply biblical vision for rediscovering a richer, grander, truer, and more spiritually satisfying way of understanding heaven, hell, God, Jesus, salvation, and repentance. The result is the discovery that the "good news" is much, much better than we ever imagined.

Please join us on Monday, December 7 at 8PM for great discussion and fellowship. Even if you haven't read the book, you are very welcome to join! For more details on how to join the video chat, contact Despina at despina.kontos@gmail.com

CALENDAR

Tuesdays	8:30 p.m.	AA Meeting
Wednesdays	7:00 p.m.	Mid-week Worship in Parlor
Thursdays	7:00 p.m.	Sober with Sitters (AA with Childcare)
Sundays	8:30 a.m.	In-Person Worship (reservation required)
	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School with Ms. Jeanne
	9:30 a.m.	Live Streamed Worship Service

12-Step meetings are held regularly at the church, but not all of them are posted, at the request of each group's leadership. Please contact Pastor Tim if you have an addiction and need help.

Partners in Ministry

Ministers	People of Temple Lutheran Church
Pastor	The Rev. Timothy B. Johansen
Congregation Council President	Pat Keaveney
Director of Music Ministries	Florrie Marks
Children, Youth & Family Minister	Julianna Pierdomenico
Director of Discipleship	Rob Mannix
Office Administrator	Janet Bruss
Director of Sunday School	Jeanne Daniels
Sunday Nursery Staff	Shelly Davis
Sexton	Calvin Lawler

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