

# Amazing Grace

November, 2020

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Our mission to the Inland Empire is to be **heralds** of the transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ, **healers** to our brothers and sisters in Christ, and **upholders** of God's will and Word.

## A MESSAGE from Pastor Maggard

Dear Saints of Grace,

These are very uncertain times. We know that God rules both the world and the church, but sometimes we have no clue what God is doing in the world. Thanks be to God, we know clearly what He is doing in the church: He gives us righteousness and salvation through faith with the means of Word and Sacrament. This is comforting, indeed! The world, however, is a different matter. God does not reveal to us what He is doing in the world. When we are attacked by our flesh, the world, or Satan, our fear, love, and trust in God may be shaken. Our dear Father in heaven has given us the gift of prayer during times of doubt and insecurity.

The Hymn, "Hear Us, Father, When We Pray" is a wonderful hymn that reminds us of the power and comfort of prayer (LSB 773).

Hear us, Father, when we pray,  
Through Your Son and in Your Spirit.  
By Your Spirit's Word convey  
All that we through Christ inherit,  
That as baptized heirs we may Truly Pray.

This points out that our God is the one, true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Because of Jesus' perfect righteousness and sacrifice for sins, we become children of God through Baptism and therefore we become inheritors of the riches of Christ! The biggest inheritance may be that we can

talk to the one, true God and He promises to hear us! What an amazing privilege!

When we know not what to say  
And our wounded souls are pleading,  
May Your Spirit, night and day,  
Groan within us interceding;  
By His sighs, too deep for words,  
We are heard.

This highlights to us Romans 8:26-27: "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." Even when we cannot find the words, the Holy Spirit prays for us! Not only does God promise to hear us but He also promises to intercede for us even when we are speechless! Imagine the suffering Christian on his or her deathbed. The Holy Spirit is interceding!

Jesus, advocate on high,  
Sacrificed on Calv'ry's altar,  
Through Your priestly blood we cry:  
Hear our prayers, though they may falter;  
Place them on Your Father's throne As Your own.

This highlights to us Hebrews 4:14-16: "Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us

hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” To boldly approach God is scary and daunting because of our sin. But that is exactly what the author of Hebrews tells us to do: approach the throne of grace boldly! God has promised to hear us!

By Your Spirit now attend  
To our prayers and supplications,  
As like incense thy ascend  
To Your heavenly habitations.  
May their fragrance waft above, God of love.

This highlights to us Psalm 141:1-2: “O Lord, I call upon You: hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to You! Let my prayer be counted as incense before You, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.” God delights to hear from you. Your prayers are like incense rising up to the highest heavens.

These are uncertain times, but we have a sure and certain hope in an unmovable God who is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Cast your cares on the Lord and He will care for you! (Ps 55:22) It is impossible to speak about prayer without breaking out in the language of the Psalms. But when language fails you, rest assured, you have an Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who intercedes on your behalf. Thanks be to God for His wonderful care for us.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Maggard*

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## EVANGELISM

“Attitudes of Ministry”

“Be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”  
2 Timothy 4:5

As you serve God and minister to others today, keep these attitudes in mind:

**Fearlessness:** as Paul told Timothy, “God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline” (2 Timothy 1:7) Because the wisdom and power of God are with you as you serve Him. There’s no reason to fear!

**Faithfulness:** be devoted in your relationship to Jesus—not relying only on others’ insights into His Word, but on what He teaches you through prayer and Bible study.

**Fruitfulness:** your ministry should be productive—both you and those you are serving should be growing spiritually—strengthening and encouraging one another’s faith and love in Jesus.

**Fervency:** your love and devotion to the Lord should be the heartbeat of your ministry. Your desire to serve Christ should be “boiling hot”, which is the Greek word picture of the word fervent. Because, as I often say, your intimacy with God determines the impact of your life.

When you’re **fearless**, others will follow; when you’re **faithful**, you’ll persevere; when you’re **fruitful**, you’ll be encouraged; and when you’re **fervent**, you will do the eternal work your spirit longs to accomplish. So serve Him well today.

(All of the above was taken from Charles Stanley’s devotional book, *Jesus, Our Perfect Hope*, September 30th, p. 285)

I am very excited about Pastor Maggard’s upcoming Bible Study class centered around Greg Koukl’s book, *Tactics: A Game Plan for Discussing Your Christian Convictions*. In ‘Tactics’, Gregory Koukl demonstrates how to artfully regain control of

conversations, keeping them moving forward in constructive ways through thoughtful diplomacy. You'll learn how to maneuver comfortably and graciously through the minefields of a challenging discussion, how to stop challengers in their tracks, and how to turn the tables on questions or provocative statements. Most importantly, you'll learn how to get people thinking about Jesus.

If you missed the deadline of signing up for Pastor's Study on October 25th, the book can be purchased through Amazon and I'm sure you will still be able to attend the Bible Study through the Google Meet app. I highly encourage you to do so.

As Christians, we are constantly being observed about what we say and do. We need to remember to always lead with grace and love, and when we don't, remember to ask for forgiveness. We also need to be prepared to discuss our Christian faith with others, and let the power of the Holy Spirit work through us. Bible Study and prayer are great ways to help us be more prepared.

Jesus, we want to glorify you! Help us to be fearless, faithful, fruitful, and fervent as we serve You. Amen.

*Kathy Holm, Chairperson*

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## STEWARDSHIP

REMINDER: The annual Stewardship letter has been distributed. To assist the Church Council in preparing a budget for 2021, prayerfully fill yours out and return by November 1st.

Thank you,  
*Barbara Dellinger, Chairperson*

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## WORSHIP

This is from a daily devotion that is sent to Kathy Holm from Susan Coleman. She then forwards it on. I really liked this one, for obvious reasons, and wanted to share it with you as my article for November.



When GOD moves us to sing from the Holy Spirit, Satan is frustrated. Ten minutes of song at the beginning of a time of prayer banishes Satan. It has great power. *Just Sing!* Don't let Satan deceive you out of that power or privilege by saying, "I can't sing." Some of you are thinking that right now: "I can't sing!"

If you've got a 4-year-old grandson and he says to you "Grandma/pa

"I've got a song. Can I sing you a song?" "Sure you say." What comes out of his mouth is three songs: three tunes and four sets of lyrics, all jumbled up.

What do you feel like?

You say "There's a song in my son's heart." That's all you feel. When God hears his children sing, he looks around and says, "Where's the enemy?"

You don't have to worry about whether you can sing or not. Your Heavenly Father just wants you to sing to Him from your heart.

He thinks it is beautiful!

Love in Christ,  
Debbie Schwartz, Chairperson

### Trivia Answers:

1. Black Friday	2. November 26, 1789
3. 1924	4. California
5. 102	6. 45
7. The Wampanoag	8. 86 pounds

### YOUR TITHES FOR THE LORD'S WORK

SEPTEMBER	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
6th	\$ 5,711.00	26
13th	\$ 3,275.00	39
20th	\$ 3,410.00	32
27th	\$ 2,710.00	36

## November Baptisms

Debbie Schwartz  
Sandy Stringham  
Josh Torrance Sr.

Do you know when you were baptized?  
Email - [gracelutheranrialto@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranrialto@gmail.com)

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>



Thank you for remembering our "shut-ins" Margaret Dickenson, Bette Howard, Joyce McFarland, Larry Maudlin, Dick & Margie Nelson, Evelyn Smith, Ruth Spies, and Joyce Waters.

This month's added prayers— Sue Nehls' brother — Michael Schultz; Mike and Betty Guinn; Mansell Family in the passing of Jan; President and our country; Larry Maudlin; Dear ones in facilities; Linda Whitter of Christ the King; Alma Rich's daughter — Dawn and her husband — Tom; Bill Choske's manager, Gerard; Glen and Gail James' friend — Kathie and Glen's Aunt Jyrlene; Bill Choske's friend — Tim and his wife, Erin; Anthony and Tamara Mahomes' friend, Billy; Tamara Mahomes' friend — Andera, friend — Zenida and her best friend — Windy, Windy's son — Jayson, his wife -- Nikole and their unborn son.—

We keep in prayer: Tony Mantz and family; Dave Nehls and family; - Patty and Richard Lowe; Anthony and Tamara Mahomes; Terry Pickinpaugh Marcy and Bryan Stringham.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

*IN NOVEMBER TO*

Jim and Diane Kline on the 13th

*thankful & blessed*

# November

## BIRTHDAYS

2	Susan	Sidoti
2	Josh	Torrance Sr
9	Jacob	Wampole
12	Charles	Dellinger
12	Michael	Nehls
16	Carole	Mincer
16	John	Scharlemann
19	Joseph	Mantz
20	Maurine	Schaffer
29	Brent	Rosen



1. What is the day after Thanksgiving known as? \_\_\_\_\_
2. When did the first national Thanksgiving Day take place? \_\_\_\_\_
3. When was the first Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Which U.S. state consumes the most Turkey? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many pilgrim's traveled to America on the Mayflower? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many different varieties of pumpkins are there? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Which Native American tribe helped the pilgrims? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What is the weight of the largest Turkey? \_\_\_\_\_



### Funny Corner



Who helped the squash cross the road?

*The crossing gourd!*

