

TITONKA, IOWA

VOL. XXVTVIII  
No. 11

GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

John Heille, Pastor

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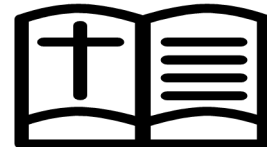
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## GOOD HOPE WOMEN OF THE ELCA



### CIRCLE NEWS

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Study Leader</u>	<u>Hostess</u>
Morning Circle	Thurs., Nov. 9 9:15 a.m.	Church	Gail Hamilton	Gail Hamilton

#### COMMUNION SET-UP

November 12 & 26  
Mike & Denise Heyer



#### COMMUNION CLEANUP

November 12  
Mark & Brenda Heesch

November 26  
Bryant & Carol Heesch



#### ALTAR FLOWERS

Nov. 5 & 12  
Deb Spear

Nov. 19 & 26  
Karen Hamilton

#### USHERS



USHERS:  
Brian Bartelt,  
Kevin Hamilton,  
Randy Tjaden, and  
Nick Trunkhill

#### ACOLYTES:

Lane Boekelman  
Karly Lium



### Thanks for All the Saints.

November is a great time to give thanks. I say thanks for many blessings, home and work, family and neighbors, health and rest, play and recreation. Above all I thank God for the people in my life. One church tradition helps me give thanks for people—All Saints. Many Christians, myself included, celebrate All Saints every November—and for me it's time to remember Jesus' people who've gone before me.

### Who are the Saints?

In my Catholic childhood teachers and preachers held up saints as models of virtuous living. I was taught to look up to people like Mary, Joseph, John the Baptist, Peter, James, John, and Paul. Everyone acknowledged the saints as special exceptional people. The older I get my definition of saints keeps growing. As All Saints comes this year I remember many different people who shared God's love and grace with me. They might not have famous names; but the shape me by sharing their hope and love with me—and for those gifts I am so grateful.

When John envisioned the homecoming of the saints in Revelation 21:1-6 he saw people from many tribes and nations coming together. John's vision of the redeemed is huge—beyond the human ability to count. The truth is the saints are all around us. They aren't perfect—but they are open to God's love and grace. Oscar Wilde is credited for saying, "Every saint has a past and every sinner has future." If he's right that means in Christ Jesus we celebrate all the Saints—all the people over the years who have followed our Lord acting in love both toward God and our neighbors.

We celebrate the faith of the saints not their character. We realize that they, like each of us, have complicated life stories; and that God can use them and us anyway. Great saints of the 20th century—Martin Luther King Jr, Dorothy Day, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and many more are renown not because of their perfect character but because God used them, as imperfect as they were, to bring His Word and Kingdom closer to His people.

All Saints is a great day to take perspective on the church. Abigail Van Buren wrote in April 1958, "The church is a hospital for sinners – not a museum for saints." The real church—the church in heaven and on earth—celebrates the saving work of Lamb of God. All saints lets us remember and give thanks for the saints of the past, and the people of our day who God is using today to share his love and mercy.

Peace and thanks for your partnership,  
Pastor John

November 2023 10 Minute Bible Study  
John's Revelation Vision

**Read Revelation 21:1-8**

John had a revelation—a vision of a new heaven and a new earth—but people struggle to let go of the world they know. Part of the Christian faith is looking ahead to the fulfillment of God's promises.

What promises of God's are you looking forward to seeing kept?

How do you see the world differently when you remember that a new heaven and a new earth is coming?

**Read Revelation 21:9-14**

John spoke of a vision of an angel guiding him to see the city Jerusalem coming down from heaven. He saw God's glory and radiance shining bright. In this world we only catch glimpses of God's glory.

What glimpses have you caught of God's glory?

**Read Revelation 21:15-21**

An angel showed John all the dimensions of the city. It's enormous, 1500 miles from side to side.

Some people imagine the kingdom of God as small and limited. But John says it's huge. How is that vision Good News.

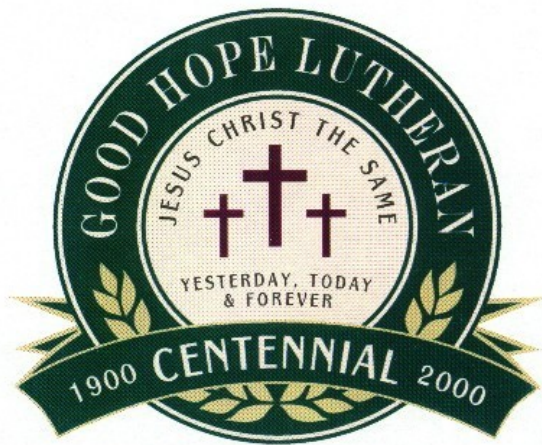
**Read Revelation 21:22-27**

John includes a detail—there is no temple in the city.

What does it mean to say that God will dwell with us?

*give thanks*  
♥ WITH A ♥  
*grateful heart*

The Thanksgiving Eve Service  
will be held at 7:00 p.m. at  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Please join us!



TITONKA, IOWA

JOHN HEILLE PASTOR

GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
P.O. BOX 351  
TITONKA, IA 50480

Return Service Requested

### **A Payer of Thanksgiving**

**Lord God, on this day of Thanksgiving,  
We ask your blessings on our family,  
Our friends, our homes, our health, and on  
The food we are about to eat.**

**We thank you for this time together and  
The many gifts that you have given us.**

**Help us to remember in this time of bounty  
Those less fortunate. And may our love  
Consume us all that we might share  
In your glory.**

**Amen.**

