



DANIEL 12:1, NIV

At that  
time your  
people —  
everyone  
whose  
name is  
found  
written  
in the  
book —  
will be  
delivered.

**November 18, 2018**  
**26th Sunday after Pentecost**

Zion Lutheran Church, 17927 Dice Road, Hemlock, MI 48626  
[www.zionhemlock.org](http://www.zionhemlock.org) ~ Church Office 642-5909 ~ Pastor Cell 989-964-8722

**Here He Comes**

**As We Gather** ~ “Soon will come that hour When with mighty power Christ will come in splendor” (*LSB* 333:3). Although the hymn “Once He Came in Blessing” is traditionally included in the Advent section of the hymnal, it speaks to us this day. The words remind us that our Lord may return at any time. Jesus gives a verbal portrait of that return and His eternal kingdom as he speaks with the disciples and promises that “in the new world . . . the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne” (Matthew 19:28). As disciples of our Lord gathered around Word and Sacrament by the working of the Holy Spirit, we joyfully anticipate the feast of the Lamb in His kingdom of glory.

**PREPARATION**

**506 Glory Be to God the Father**

*LSB 506*

- 1 Glory be to God the Father,  
Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit:  
Great Jehovah, Three in One!  
Glory, glory While eternal ages run!
- 2 Glory be to Him who loved us,  
Washed us from each spot and stain;  
Glory be to Him who bought us,  
Made us kings with Him to reign!  
Glory, glory To the Lamb that once was slain!
- 3 Glory to the King of angels,  
Glory to the Church’s King,  
Glory to the King of nations;  
Heav’n and earth, your praises bring!  
Glory, glory To the King of glory sing!
- 4 Glory, blessing, praise eternal!  
Thus the choir of angels sings;  
Honor, riches, pow’r, dominion!  
Thus its praise creation brings.  
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings!

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## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

*Revelation 4:11; 15:4*

- P** Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power,  
**C** for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created.

- P** Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name?  
**C** For You alone are holy.

- P** All nations will come and worship You,  
**C** for Your righteous acts have been revealed. Alleluia!

## Confession and Absolution

- P** We confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.  
**C** Merciful Father, with heartfelt repentance we confess our sin. We are sinful from birth and daily sin in thought, word, and deed. Our actions have been unkind and often have resulted in evil. Our words have been hurtful, and we have not always honored Your name in our speaking. We have left undone many things that could have brought glory and praise to You. We do not remain focused on looking with eager expectation to Your return in glory and have become taken in by the fleeting pleasures of this world. O Lord, grant us Your grace and the blessing of forgiveness. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to amend our sinful lives, that we grow daily in righteousness and be bringers of peace in our time.

- P** Because of the great sacrifice of His Son, Jesus, on the cross of Calvary, God promises full and free forgiveness. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.  
**C** Amen.

## WORD

### 941 We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God *LSB 941*

- 1 We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord, The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.  
To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,  
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:  
“O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!”

- 2 The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;  
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.  
The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,  
Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:  
“O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!”
- 3 You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,  
Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev'ryone:  
You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin's womb,  
Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;  
Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve—  
You opened heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.
- 4 You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God's right hand,  
Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.  
We know that You will come as our Judge that final day,  
So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;  
May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,  
In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

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## Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**G** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.  
Lord Jesus, You have promised that at the end of time You will appear in glory to gather Your people to You. Keep us firm and steadfast even in the face of hardships, challenges, and disappointments in this world that we never lose the hope in Christ that will sustain us until Your return as judge on the Last Day; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are worshiped and glorified, now and eternally.
- G** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Daniel 12:1–3*

- <sup>1</sup>“At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. <sup>2</sup>And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup>And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Hebrews 10:11–25*

<sup>11</sup> Every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup> But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup> waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. <sup>14</sup> For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. <sup>15</sup> And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, <sup>16</sup> “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” <sup>17</sup> then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” <sup>18</sup> Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.



**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

*Mark 13:1–13*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!” <sup>2</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” <sup>3</sup> And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked

him privately, <sup>4</sup>“Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?” <sup>5</sup>And Jesus began to say to them, “See that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup>Many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup>And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. <sup>8</sup>For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains. <sup>9</sup>“But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them. <sup>10</sup>And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. <sup>11</sup>And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. <sup>12</sup>And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. <sup>13</sup>And you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Today’s Memory Verse

“Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.”  
Hebrews 13:4

### 333 Once He Came in Blessing

*LSB 333*

- 1 Once He came in blessing, All our sins redressing;  
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;  
Bore the cross to save us; Hope and freedom gave us.
- 2 Now He gently leads us; With Himself He feeds us  
Precious food from heaven, Pledge of peace here given,  
Manna that will nourish Souls that they may flourish.
- 3 Soon will come that hour When with mighty power  
Christ will come in splendor And will judgment render,  
With the faithful sharing Joy beyond comparing.
- 4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus, From our sins release us.  
Keep our hearts believing, That we, grace receiving,  
Ever may confess You Till in heav’n we bless You.

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## Sermon "Here He Comes" Daniel 12:1-3

## Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.  
For the Church, the gathering of God's forgiven people, that we be of support and encouragement to one another as we await the day of the Lord's return, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.**
- P** For our nation, our state, our local community, and our neighborhoods, that justice prevail in our courts and in all centers of government as we await the day of the final judgment, that we lead lives that are peaceful and secure, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.**
- P** For those who bear the responsibilities of being leaders in the Church, especially President Harrison, our Synod president; Pastor Maier, our district president; and Pastor Hessler, our circuit visitor, that they find support and joy in their service, and that many young men and women would be led into vocations of service in the Church, encouraged by our prayers and our gifts, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.**
- P** For those with special need for our petitions in these times as the day of Christ's return draws ever closer, including the sick and hospitalized, the shut-ins, those facing challenges in employment or in other parts of their lives, *including . . .*, that their needs be met according to God's gracious plan, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.**
- P** For the proper use of the good gifts God has granted us, that we be thankful for all that we need to support our lives, that we be of blessing to our families, our neighbors, and our communities, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.**
- P** As we join in prayer, we thank You, Lord, for the faithful witness left to us by Your saints, those we have known personally in our lives and those from times past whose witness continues to inspire and inform us. Grant that Your Holy Spirit lead us in ways of peace as we await the resurrection of the body and the glory of the life everlasting.
- C** **Lord, have mercy, and hear our prayer.**
- P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

**Handbells** "Now Thank We All Our God" Gott

## Our Tithes and Offerings

### 782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

LSB 782

- 1 Gracious God, You send great blessings  
New each morning all our days.  
For Your mercies never ending,  
For Your love we offer praise. Refrain

**ref Lord, we pray that we, Your people  
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,  
Through the sharing of Your blessings  
May bring glory to Your name.**

- 2 By Your Word You formed creation  
Filled with creatures large and small;  
As we tend that endless treasure  
May our care encircle all. **Refrain**

- 3 In His earthly life, our Savior  
Knew the care of faithful friends;  
May our deeds of dedication  
Offer love that never ends. **Refrain**

- 4 Heav'nly Father, may our caring  
Bear the imprint of Your grace;  
With the Son and Holy Spirit,  
Praise be Yours in ev'ry place! **Refrain**

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## SACRAMENT

### Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### Proper Preface

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And now we thank You that You have called us to prepare for the return of our Savior and that day of the Lord when He comes to bring lasting justice and righteousness upon earth. As we await the fullness of Your eternal kingdom, we praise and magnify Your glory by joining in the eternal anthem and singing:

## 680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

LSB 680

- 1 Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise  
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread  
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup  
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.
- 2 Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be  
Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth on bended knee  
Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry  
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.
- 3 Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest  
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be  
Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war  
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.
- 4 Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise  
Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways  
Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least  
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.
- 5 Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light  
Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally  
Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee  
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

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### Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for all You have done for Your people in Jesus Christ, our Lord. We thank You for the gift of life and all we receive through it, and we bless You for the assurance of Your continuing merciful care when this life is ended and You return in glory. Accept our praise, O Lord, and grant that all who partake of Christ's holy body and blood this day be filled with Your heavenly joy and peace. As we receive the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, grant that we be sanctified in body, soul, and spirit and finally be granted a place with all Your saints in Your everlasting kingdom. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### The Words of Our Lord

#### Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## Lord's Prayer

### Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**G** Amen.

## Distribution Hymns

### 617 O Lord, We Praise Thee

*LSB 617*

- 1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,  
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.  
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish  
Our weak souls that they may flourish:  
    O Lord, have mercy!  
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,  
That our sins and sorrows did carry,  
And Thy blood for us plead  
In all trial, fear, and need:  
    O Lord, have mercy!
- 2 Thy holy body into death was given,  
Life to win for us in heaven.  
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;  
May this feast thereof remind us!  
    O Lord, have mercy!  
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee  
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.  
All our debt Thou hast paid;  
Peace with God once more is made:  
    O Lord, have mercy!
- 3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor  
That we follow Christ our Savior  
And live together here in love and union  
Nor despise this blest Communion!  
    O Lord, have mercy!  
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;  
Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;  
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see  
Days of peace and unity:  
    O Lord, have mercy!

## 563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

LSB 563

- 1 Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness  
My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,  
With joy shall I lift up my head.
- 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day,  
Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;  
Fully absolved through these I am  
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
- 3 Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,  
Which at the mercy seat of God  
Pleads for the captives' liberty,  
Was also shed in love for me.
- 4 Lord, I believe, were sinners more  
Than sands upon the ocean shore,  
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,  
For all a full atonement made.
- 5 When from the dust of death I rise  
To claim my mansion in the skies,  
This then shall be my only plea:  
Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,  
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,  
For me, and all Thy hands have made,  
An everlasting ransom paid.

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## 895 Now Thank We All Our God

- 1 Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love  
And still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us  
And keep us in His grace  
And guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next!

3 All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heav'n adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

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## 673 Jerusalem, My Happy Home

*LSB 673*

- 1 Jerusalem, my happy home,  
When shall I come to thee?  
When shall my sorrows have an end?  
Thy joys when shall I see?
- 2 O happy harbor of the saints,  
O sweet and pleasant soil!  
In thee no sorrow may be found,  
No grief, no care, no toil.
- 3 Thy gardens and thy gallant walks  
Continually are green;  
There grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs  
As nowhere else are seen.
- 4 There trees forevermore bear fruit  
And evermore do spring;  
There evermore the angels dwell  
And evermore do sing.
- 5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there  
Around my Savior stand;  
And soon my friends in Christ below  
Will join the glorious band.
- 6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare  
For that bright home of love  
That I may see Thee and adore  
With all Thy saints above.

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## 632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

LSB 632

- 1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee  
My heartfelt thanks forever be,  
Who hast so lovingly bestowed  
On me Thy body and Thy blood.
- 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:  
What wealth is come to me this day!  
My Savior dwells within my heart:  
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

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## Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## 918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

LSB 918

- 1 Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
Hold me with Thy pow'ful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

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<b>Elders</b>	Frank Yell & Dale Rohde
<b>A/V</b>	Mark Richardson
<b>Ushers</b>	Dave Hutfilz, Dave Little, Roger Kade
<b>Greeters</b>	Jeanne Kade & Maxine Diener
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Darlene Keel & Millie Parker

**Our Measure of Love and Gifts**

**Attendance last week** – 119 *Needed for The Lord’s Work at Zion* \$4,128 ~ *Received for the Lord’s Work* \$4,894 = Loose Plate \$133, Envelopes \$3,254, Mission \$130, Maintenance \$477; Parsonage rent \$900. \$370 was given to God’s Helping Hands to purchase Bibles & food for the food pantry.

**Faith Comes By Hearing ~ Military Bible Sticks** ~ Thank you for your donations of \$269 to purchase Bible sticks for our military personnel. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

**Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday** Nov 23-Elmer Blehm (his 88<sup>th</sup>), Dick Bluemer; Nov 24- Noah Rowe; Nov 25- Victoria Heath, Brady Richnak; Nov 26- Aaron Coty; Nov 27—Willie Brickel, Shawn Byron, Vincent Werry; Nov 28-Jaxson Hildebrant, Mark Hingston.



**Thanksgiving Eve** service will be held on Wednesday, November 22, 2018 at 7 pm. Oh, give thanks unto the Lord! All are welcome!

**Zion’s Annual Bake Sale** will be held Saturday, December 1 from 9 am – 1 pm. We will again be making our tasty homemade raised donuts! Donations of baked goods, candies, etc. will be needed. There are 2# and 5# bags of granulated sugar available in the kitchen for those who would like to make items for the bake sale. Thank you to Michigan Sugar for this donation. Please have bake sale items at the church on Friday, November 30. Signup sheets are in the narthex for helpers.



**Sharing Tree Gift Tags** are available in the narthex. **Be sure to write your name, phone number by the tag number on the paper provided.** Please sure to wrap the gift so that it can be opened during gift-check in, securely tape the tag to the gift and return by November 25. See Darlene Keel with questions.





**Christmas decorations** will be put up on Friday, **November 30** starting at 4:30 pm. Volunteers are appreciated to help decorate the tree and put up other decorations. Signup sheet in the narthex. Come and join us.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wheeler, Christmas Bazaar** will be held on Saturday, **December 1** from, 9 am – 2 pm. Featured will be a Cookie Walk with Christmas and specialty cookies for \$4.50 per dozen, Christmas and seasonal decorations, outside crafters and vendors, quilted and stitchery items, baked goods, and candy. A brunch will be available 9 am -1 pm.

**Advent Soup & Sandwich Suppers** will be held on Wednesday, **December 5, 12, and 19** at 5:30 pm followed by worship at 7:00 pm. December 19 will be a potluck. Please bring your favorite dish to share!

**Annual Christmas Brunch** will be held following the service of carols and scripture readings on **December 9**. Bring your favorite dish to share and join us in the fellowship hall. Invite your family and friends to join you as we prepare for the reason for the season! Jesus!

**Upcoming Youth Group Activities** ~ All youth are invited to join us for as we prepare for the reason for the season with a Christmas Party on Sunday, **December 16** from 1-6:30 pm. Lunch will be provided. We will enjoy games, snacks and a party and then attend “*A Christmas Invitation*”, a play at Merrill Wesleyan Church featuring a few familiar faces! Join us for this event! See JoAnn Pinet with any questions.



### **Song of Thanksgiving**

After retiring from the ministry in England, the Rev. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000) became a prolific hymn writer. Some people have compared his talents to those of Charles Wesley, co-founder of the Methodist Church.

Green’s popular Thanksgiving hymn “For the Fruits of His Creation” calls worshipers to move beyond gratitude to their responsibilities for other people and for God’s creation. The hymn’s closing lines sum up why Christians can give thanks throughout the year: “For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.”