



NOVEMBER 2015

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## Explaining the Liturgy Continued...

### Preface and Proper Preface

It has been said, "Like small steps, the Preface moves us from that part of the service that centered on the Word of God (readings, sermon) toward that part of the service that centered on the meal Christ instituted (Meaningful Worship, Brauer)."

Let me break up the Preface into three sections.

1. The Preface begins with a salutation, "*The Lord be with you. And also with you.*" Earlier these same words occurred before the readings. Now they occur before Communion. Why? The salutation focuses us where God is for us and how He comes to us — in Word and Sacrament. "The Lord be with you" focuses the attention of the congregation on the body and blood of Christ that is about to be given them for the remission of sins. The congregation responds to the pastor by praying the same thing for him as he prepares the Sacrament. There in Communion God is with us!
2. The Preface continues with, "*Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.*" Here we encourage one another to worship God rather than being tied to worldly thoughts (Lamentations 3:41, Ps. 25:1). Origen said a Christian must, "lift up his soul before lifting up his hands; lift up his mind before lifting up his eyes, and, before standing to pray, lift up his spirit from things of earth and direct it to the Lord of all."
3. The Preface concludes with, "*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give Him thanks and praise.*" This line recalls Jewish prayer before meals. Also, at the Passover, the head of the family would speak similar words. The Scripture points out that when Jesus was celebrating Communion at Passover He gave thanks to God (Luke 22:19, I Cor. 11:24). Following Jesus' example, we begin Communion with thanks as well. (Luther Reed)

The thanksgiving continues with the Proper Preface which is a prayer thanking God for His various blessings in Christ. The Proper Preface begins with the words, "*It is good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You...*" What follows is based on the season of the church year (see LSB pg. 208 & 216 for general versions).

The conclusion of the Proper Preface reminds us of what is about to happen in this Sacrament, "*Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven...*" As Christ comes to us in His body and blood, heaven meets earth, and we join with the entire Christian Church that has gone before us and that will come after us. At that altar, within those communion rails, the entire company of heaven comes down to earth. It is the Christian equivalent of the Jewish temple's Holy of Holies that the Ark of the Covenant was housed in. In this Sacrament we are truly given a foretaste of the feast that is to come, and we join in the praise that is offered before His throne "...with angels and archangels..."

Cont. on page 2



## **Sanctus**

The Sanctus is a rich burst of praise sung before the Lord's Supper. It continues the Preface. The Proper Preface concluded with the words, *"Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:"* With that introduction, the Sanctus begins with the [cherubim's] praise found in Isaiah 6:3, *"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory..."*

The church may be visibly separated by geography, language, false doctrine, time, death, etc but we are in reality one body in Christ. In regard to the Lord's Supper Paul says, "Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf (I Cor 10:17)." Thus, we sing the angel's praise. We join with the angels and the whole church, for together we are one church. Outwardly we are divided but in Christ we are one body.

The Sanctus continues with the Benedictus that says, *"Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest."* These words are drawn from Psalm 118:25-26 and Matthew 21:9. Hosanna means, "save now" and became an expression of praise. Historically, it was customary for the Jewish Passover to end with the singing of Psalms 115-118. The Gospel of Mark tells us that Jesus and his disciples concluded the Passover/first Communion by singing a hymn (Mk 14:26). Most likely Jesus sang Psalm 118 that included the words of our Sanctus. These are also the same words that the crowds greeted Jesus with as He triumphantly entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. They are the words used to greet the promised Messiah. It is no accident that this triumphant greeting is combined with the words of praise heard in the heavenly throne room. The combination of the holy, holy, holy and the same words that the crowds greeted Jesus with on Palm Sunday serves as a confession that this Jesus who now comes to us in, with and under the bread and wine is the Triune God who Isaiah saw in the heavenly throne room.

Theologically, the last phrase of the Sanctus points us to the elements in Communion. Our 'Hosanna...Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord' finds its fulfillment in the reception of the Sacrament. Under the masks of bread and wine, Jesus comes to us and gives us His very own body and blood for our forgiveness. Interestingly, Reformed churches expunged this portion of the Sanctus for the very reason that they deny the truth of Jesus' words when He said, "This is my body, This is my blood."

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Peck*



Welcome to all women of the congregation!

**"BOUNTIFUL  
SOW – NOURISH - REAP"**

*"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need abound in every good work" (II Corinthians 9:8)*

**Primary Targets for the 2015-2017 Biennium**

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) National Board of Directors approved the following **primary targets** (goals) for the 2015-2017 biennium:

**Nurturing Faith in Christ.** We are committed to helping every woman find personal opportunities in her daily life and in her congregation to be nurtured in faith in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to discover her unique gifts and value in God's family.

**Making Our Mission Meaningful.** We challenge and equip women of all ages, stages, ethnicities, and experiences to make a meaningful difference in the lives of hurting, helpless, and unbelieving people at home and throughout the world.

**Sharing Encouragement.** We believe that women value the friendship, support, and encouragement from other women and strive to offer warm, welcoming opportunities for women to grow in faith and relationships as sisters in Christ.

Let's make these goals our very own! We challenge you to find ways to accomplish these targets in your personal lives, as well as at home.

**MISSION NEWS**

We are part of the Rocky Mountain District of the LWML comprised of several states in the southwest. We have all of Colorado and New Mexico, as well as Vernal, UT, Page, AZ, and El Paso, TX. With such a variety of places, our district is a fascinating place to live and visit. As a district we have committed to raising \$78,500 for mission projects. The amount paid as of Sept. 1 is \$50,000, with a balance of \$28,500 to reach by Mar. 31, 2016. Your donations on **Mite Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>** will help us reach this goal.



**NOV. 8** is the second annual "Feed the Students at CU Boulder Lutheran Chapel" event. We will caravan to the Boulder Campus Chapel with crockpots full of chilies and stews, and attend the 5:00 p.m. worship service in the newly renovated chapel. Everyone is invited to join us for this activity!

**NEXT MEETING – Saturday, November 14 9:00am**

It's our quarterly meeting at church. The ladies (and Pastor) will have a Bible study and business meeting. All ladies of Wheat Ridge are invited to attend! We will be discussing an Advent by Candlelight service with carols, readings, followed by dessert scheduled for the first Wednesday in Advent—Dec. 2 at 6:30 p.m. for the entire congregation. **THE MORE, THE MERRIER!**



**ANGEL TREE**



With a first snow comes thoughts of winter, Advent and even Christmas. November 29 through December 20 we will be collecting items for our Angel Tree.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to the congregation for helping keep the shelves stocked at The Action Center. Your generosity will help many families with the non-perishable goods you gave.





## God's Love in ACTION

### STEPHEN MINISTRY IS YOUR MINISTRY

You play an important role in our Stephen Ministry. Here's what you can do:

- **Pray** for God to bring hope and healing to hurting people through our Stephen Ministry.
- **Accept Care** from a Stephen Minister during your time of need. God doesn't expect you to bear your burdens alone.

Stephen Ministry is lay people providing confidential one-to-one Christian care to individuals in our congregation who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

- Could you benefit from the confidential one-to-one and support of a Stephen Minister?

Then talk with the pastor or a Stephen Leader: Judy Kugler, Eady Broscheit or Joe Broscheit to learn more.



### 14 Health Benefits of Singing



1. Reduces stress
2. Improves mood
3. Lowers blood pressure
4. Improves breathing
5. Reduces perceived pain
6. Boosts immune system
7. Improves sense of rhythm
8. Promotes learning in children
9. Forges comforting memories
10. Promotes communal bonding
11. Provides comfort
12. Motivates
13. Empowers people
14. Promotes well-being

## THIS 'N THAT

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### LUTHERAN CHORALE

Come join the **Lutheran Chorale** at the Lakewood Cultural Center as we celebrate “**Welcome Joyous Season**” at 7:30 pm on Thursday, December 3, 2015. Hear selections from J.S. Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio* along with beloved carols and songs that are sure to help you prepare for the season of joy and hope! Finally, join us at the close of the concert for our traditional audience sing-along of the famous “*Hallelujah Chorus*” from Handel’s “*Messiah*”!

We will also be holding our annual “**Silent Auction**” prior to the concert and during intermission. Please come early to shop for those special Christmas gifts and to help support the Chorale.

The Lakewood Cultural Center is located at 470 S. Allison Parkway, Lakewood. Tickets can be purchased at the LCC box office from 8am-5 pm, Monday through Friday and Saturday, 10 am-2 pm, by phone...303-987-7845, or online at [Tickets@lakewood.org](mailto:Tickets@lakewood.org).

Ticket prices are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors 65+, \$12 for students 13+ with ID and \$5 for children 3-12.

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### *Redeemer Lutheran serves A Harvest Dinner*

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 3300 W. Nevada Pl., Denver, (just west of Sheridan off Alameda) will be having their annual Harvest Dinner on Friday, November 6th, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Activities Center. Please join us for a great evening of food, fellowship and fun! 100% of the money raised at this event goes toward local, national & international missions. We will have a wonderful meal consisting of roast beef, baked potatoes, green beans, salad, rolls, pie and drinks. The cost of the meal is \$10.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children 4-10. Children under 4 eat free. There will also be a Bethesda Auxiliary Craft Sale as well as cards, calendars, and baked goods. Hope to see you there!

### Mark your calendars!

**The Christmas Program  
will be Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2015, at the  
second Wednesday Advent service at  
6:30 pm. Watch the bulletin for more  
information.**



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### LuHi Parker Auction

Ham'R Up! You won't want to miss an entertaining night with Walt Cade from A&E's Storage Wars: Texas! Mr. Cade will be bringing down the hammer at our Live Auction this year on Friday, November 20th. Join us for an evening of celebration while supporting the ministry of Lutheran High School. Get your tickets, check out items that will be available for auction and even begin bidding early at [bidpal.net/lhsparkerauction](http://bidpal.net/lhsparkerauction). This is an event you won't want to miss!

If you can donate to our auction, please contact Kristin Gehrke at [kweddick34@hotmail.com](mailto:kweddick34@hotmail.com) or 720.979.6179

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### QUESTION??

Have you reloaded your Safeway card lately to help earn some extra money for Wheat Ridge Lutheran? It just takes a minute. Go to Safeway Customer Service for assistance.



wheat ridge lutheran church  
**thanksgiving celebration**

**Thanksgiving Eve Worship**



**We gather together to  
Give Thanks**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25**

**6:30 PM**

Worship with Holy Communion  
Thanksgiving Eve

**PREPARE THE WAY**

**DECK THE HALLS**

Let's get the church ready for the  
Celebration of Jesus' birth.

Join us following the worship service  
on Sunday, November 29 to  
hang the greens.



Many hands make light the work.



# *Christmas Program*

*Wednesday, December 9th, 6:30 p.m.*

*Featuring all three choirs  
and congregational singing!*

**Rehearsals:**

Each choir will learn their parts independently and come together for combined rehearsals during regular Youth Choir rehearsals on November 8th, 15th, 22nd and December 6th.

