

AMAZING GRACE

a weekly newsletter of

Grace Lutheran Church & School

1200 Charles Street • La Plata, MD 20646 • 301-932-0963 • www.growingwithgrace.org

Rev. Ed Huber, Pastor

Jeff Burkee, Principal

Amanda Bell, DCE

WORSHIP TIMES & LOCATIONS

Sunday 8:30 am

Liturgical with Holy Communion
(sanctuary)

Education & Fellowship Hour: 9:45—10:45 am

Sunday 11:00 am

Contemporary Praise with Holy Communion
(family life center)

Nursery Open: 8:15 am—12:15 pm

Wednesday: 6:30 pm Worship & Prayer with Communion

All Saints Day

All Saints Day is a popular observance in the church. It is not a day to remember martyrs and heroes of the faith, since they already have their special days. Rather, it is a day to remember all those who have passed on with the sign of faith and who are important to us.

The hymns we sing on All Saints Day are soaring music and profound texts especially “For All the Saints” (*Lutheran Service Book* 677).

Our great hymns do more, though, than lift our spirits. They boldly confess the reason for the
(Continued on page 8)

Stay Informed

The best way to stay up-to-date with all the news and events at Grace is through our email lists. We currently have 2 lists:



Prayer Warriors: Used solely for prayer request

News & Announcements: Everything else (including weather closings).

If you'd like to add your email to our lists, please contact Andi in the church office at 301-932-0963 or aproctor@growingwithgrace.org.



Simple Gifts—a Series of Devotions on Stewardship.

Copies of *Simple Gifts, a series of devotions on stewardship* are available in the narthex and the family life center. This devotion is published by the LCMS as a resource for individuals and families.

We hope this will be a valuable tool for you as we prepare for Stewardship Sunday on November 17.

LWML Mite Box Collection

First Sunday of the Month

Reminder:
Mite Boxes Due Today



Statement on Holy Communion/The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an usher.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34. Faith in Christ and His word is necessary for a blessed reception including Baptism in the name of the Trinity and faith in [1] Christ as Savior, [2] Jesus' clear words that the Sacrament is His body and blood, [3] the Lord's promise that in the Sacrament his or her sins are forgiven, and [4] receipt of the promised forgiveness reaffirmed and strengthened in his or her union with Christ and other Christians. The unbaptized and uninstructed person who does not yet know or believe in Christ and His promises is unprepared and should not commune. The unrepentant person who does not seek Christ's forgiveness for sins—either general or particular—or refuses to forgive someone is unprepared and should not commune. The doubting person who denies or is unconvinced of what Jesus says of His bodily presence in the sacrament or its promised forgiveness is unprepared and should not commune.

Prayer Before Communion

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for you . . . prayers@growingwithgrace.org

General: Don Shisler, Les Wilson, Faith Riggins, Pat Murray, Jane Gibbs, Jan Davis, Sherie Zimmer, Alice Morrill, Addie, Matt, Pete Gehris, Mattie Kincaid, Robert, Carl Fletcher, Rev. Art Scherer, Dean Elliott, Linda Otto, Chris Otto, Bob Kidwell, Miranda & Christian Sprague, Del Riege, Steve Lindsey, Gisela Jaschik

Those Battling Cancer: Bruce Rowe, Dave Gehris, Gale Elrod, Dorothy Maddox, Gloria Spicer, Don Shisler, Rev. David Percy, Denise Clark Hall, Chuck Wilson, Jean Nelson, Laura Decker, Kevin Bobish, James Dobbs, Jon Gehris, Mary Nelson, Adam Lumpkins, Merry Dawson, Carrie Wyman, Paul Proctor, Tim Motz, Muriel, Dana, Ken Ritch, Peter Tretner, Christina Allen, Rob, Carol Whitsell, Alice Levine, Lois Hookham, Jesse Stump, Chris Moorhouse, Nichole Garner, Megan Jenkins, Carol Ann Sowers

Those in Nursing Homes/Shut-Ins: Dan Waltz, Shirley Biondi, Bob Springer

Our Military/Civilians Overseas: Troy Dupont, Marshall Gibbs

Missionaries: Bob and Salme Bugenhagen, Mark and Megan Mantey (Uganda) Matt and Caroline

Sunday School & Bible Studies

CHILDREN/YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Opening—9:45am, Sanctuary

We meet as a group in the sanctuary and then move to our respective rooms at 10am.

Preschool - Rm #120

Ann Stine & Dawn Cartwright

Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grades - Rm #215

Linda Samara

3rd & 4th Grades - Rm #212

Dan Stine

5th & 6th Grades - Rm #210

Frank Cartwright

7th Grade Confirmation - Rm #310 (modular)

Rev. Ed Huber, Amanda Bell, DCE

8th Grade Confirmation - Rm #116

Rev. Ed Huber, Amanda Bell, DCE

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fellowship and Coffee Hour

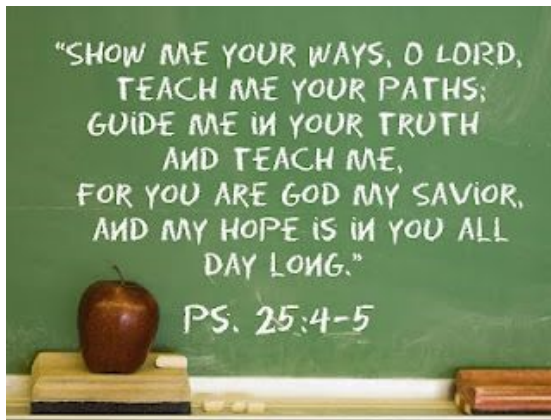
Rm #112 (café)

Today's Bible Readings: Digging deeper into the Scripture readings for the day.

Rm #208 (library)

The Daniel Plan: Biblical based approach to a healthy lifestyle.

Rm #203



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY

Men's Fellowship Group and Bible Study

6:30 pm, Rm #112 (café)

Dan Stine, 301-645-8956

Frank Cartwright, 301-674-0772

A Study of Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy

7pm, home of Bill & Cheryl Swartzwelder

301-934-4713

MONDAY

Women's Bible Study

Dinner 6pm, Study 6:30 pm

Rm #112 (café)

Susan Gastler, 301-751-4867

TUESDAY

Ladies Bible Study

9am, Rm #116

Judy Knott, 301-743-3156

WEDNESDAY

Daniel Plan

7pm, Rm #112 (café)

Cathy Burkee, countrygrandmab@gmail.com

Jean Nelson, jcnelson1066@gmail.com

THURSDAY

Crossways

6:30pm, Rm #112 (café)

Curt Springer, curtaspringer@comcast.net

NEWS YOUTH



Due to the rain we postponed the pumpkin patch to TODAY Nov. 3rd and we will be going to Montpelier Farms since they are still open.

The cost is still \$ 5 per person plus any money you need for food or a pumpkin.

We will again meet after second service in the FLC to head out.

Drivers needed. Any Questions contact DCE Amanda Bell

Youth Holding Butter Braid Fundraiser

The youth are now accepting orders for **Butter Braid pastries**. These tasty braided pastries come in a variety of flavors and are perfect for family gatherings, holidays or just because.

Check out the order forms at the table in the narthex or talk to a youth about ordering your Butter Braids today! **Final Orders due: 11/10 with delivery expected before Thanksgiving.** Any questions talk to DCE Amanda Bell.



Sunday, November 10th
6pm-8pm

Bring your own board games and card games to share. Dinner will be provided.

Any questions contact
DCE Amanda Bell



Children's Bags are now available in the back of each service

This is a trial to see how they work—let DCE Amanda Bell know if you have any suggestions.

Who Is a Cheerful Giver?

St. Paul wrote to the Church of Christ in Corinth: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7). *God loves a cheerful giver.* But who is a cheerful giver?

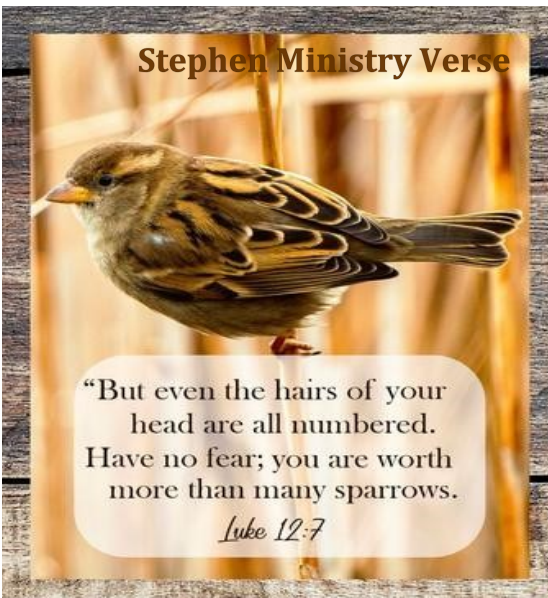
Abel was. By faith, Abel gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God’s sight. Abraham was. By faith, Abraham prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel’s God and they His people.



What more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything, yes, even His life, enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us – like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ – give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart – for the joy set before us – the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.



Stephen Ministry Verse

“But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Have no fear; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Luke 12:7

A graphic for Stewardship Ministry. It features four green square icons in a 2x2 grid. The top-left icon shows a tree with a person standing at its base, labeled 'Give'. The top-right icon shows several hands raised, labeled 'Serve'. The bottom-left icon shows a white cross on a green background, labeled 'Attend'. The bottom-right icon shows a green sprout with two leaves, labeled 'Grow'. Below the icons, the word 'Stewardship' is written in a large, green, cursive font, with 'a way of life' in a smaller, green, sans-serif font underneath. At the bottom, the text 'Stewardship Sunday November 17' is displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Help For Your Food Budget

SHARE, a non-profit, community-based organization, provides healthy and nutritious groceries at an almost 50% discount. This is accomplished through high-volume purchasing and thousands of volunteer hours.



Monthly packages cost \$23 and include \$40-\$50 worth of basic and healthy groceries, typically made up of 4-6 lbs of frozen protein and 8-12 lbs fresh fruits and vegetables, sometimes with seasonal grocery or dessert items. "Specials" are also available each month.

Please see November's menu on page 9. If you'd like more information on the program or are interested in volunteering, please contact Alice Adams, amadams1@verizon.net.

Organ Fund Update

Since the total in the Organ Fund exceeds the goal amount for the Rodgers Inspire 233 organ (\$43,900) by quite a significant amount (\$6,000), we will continue to raise funds in the hopes of obtaining the Rodgers Inspire 343 organ for the amount of \$64,700, as presented by Marty back in September.



As per the existing contract we have six months to raise the difference and purchase the Rodgers Inspired 343 organ for only the additional cost (no additional shipping or installation charges) in place of the one now on contract. We have been approached by several members who hope to continue to raise money for the Inspire 343. The additional amount needed is \$12,400. these members would like to request that the congregation also consider donating to help raise the additional monies needed.

Pastor Appreciation

October 27, 2019



Pastor Liersemann (left) and Pastor Ed Huber (right)

Altar Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Gene and Amelia Brandenburg in loving memory of Gene's brother Dale and in thankfulness for all those who serve our country.



Blessed are those who
hunger and thirst
for righteousness,
for they will be filled
MATTHEW 5:6

You only hunger and thirst for what you don't have. Jesus has come to fill us up with righteousness – His own righteousness. He is the self-giving Lord whose sacrifice inspires us to be givers, too.

Veterans Day Chapel

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

1200 Charles Street La Plata, MD 20646



The faculty, staff, and students of Grace Lutheran School prayerfully request the honor of your presence as we host our 6th annual Veterans Day Chapel.

Chapel will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 in the FLC and will begin promptly at 8:45 am. Second grade will provide a continental breakfast for guests at 8:05 am.

Please RSVP to Mrs. Weinberg at swinberg@growingwithgrace.org



For nearly 30 years, **Equal Exchange** has been a leader among Fair Trade food and worker-owned businesses, enabling farmers to support themselves and their families.

Grace is proud to use these products and we invite you to check out the selection of coffee, teas and chocolates from **Equal Exchange** available for purchase in the café.



Back by Popular Demand— GIFT CARDS!!

Find holiday gifts for everyone while raising money for our youth.

Whether you buy gift cards as presents or use them to buy gifts, your order immediately raises money for our youth.

Purchase gift cards for your weekly groceries, gassing up your vehicle, or for a special night out.

There are hundreds of stores - Please check out the order forms for Scrip Gift Cards at the table in the Narthex.

Return your order for to DCE Amanda Bell and *your cards will be here with in a week.*

On Sale ALL Holiday Season!!

Any Questions talk to DCE Amanda Bell.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Short-Term Volunteer Needed

We are in need of a short-term counter, for January—March.

Counters record the Sunday offering, work in teams of two and serve approximately once every 5-6 weeks.

If you are interested, please contact Andi at aproctor@growingwithgrace.org or 301-932-0963.

(Continued from page 1)

hope that is in us (1 Pet. 3:15): the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, delivered to His people in Word and Sacrament for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We do not cry simply because we miss our loved ones. We cry also for joy knowing:

- We will see them again
- They are in the presence of Christ at peace
- We are already united with them in Christ and the Sacrament of the Altar
- They pray for us

It is custom to observe a *Totenfest* on All Saints Day. A *Totenfest* ("celebration of the dead") is a German Church tradition of remembering those who have died in the faith. Our worship practices on All Saints Day include:

Special prayers: I heard a voice from heaven saying, 'Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth.' 'Blessed indeed,' says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.'" Let us remember with thanksgiving those who have gone before us with the sign of faith, for they were redeemed by God. He gave them new life through His Son in Holy Baptism. He nourished them in the company of His people at His holy table. In His mercy and wisdom, He summoned them to His nearer presence so that they may rest in His blissful peace forever.

We light candles, read names, and toll bells for those who received the ministry of the church during their last days and received a Christian burial in the past year.

We pause for all to name in their hearts their loved ones who have fallen asleep in Christ Jesus. Then the bell is tolled three times

The Pastor prays: In joyful expectation of the resurrection to life, we remember before You, O Lord, all our departed kin and friends who have gone before us in the faith. We offer thanksgiv-



ing for the gift of faith and hold fast to the certainty of Your promises. We implore You, remember Your Church throughout the world; make all its members grow in love for You and for one another. As You have received our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of the resurrection to eternal life, bring us at the last with them into the light of Your presence, that in union with all Your saints we may give You glory forever, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

There is more weeping at All Saints Day than almost any other time of year, and yet the festival is dearly loved. The prayers, the names, and the ringing of the bells, and the hymns, are powerful reminders of the promises of God making weeping most appropriate.

The Church Triumphant contains many great and famous men and women who lived extraordinary lives and died with honor rather than deny Christ, but the Church Triumphant is also filled with quiet saints – also known, loved and missed by us. The fact that they matter to us also matters to God and the saints. Thus we rejoice while we weep because every tear is removed from the eyes of the saints. We also weep in joy because we are eager for the day when every tear is removed from our eyes.

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NOVEMBER 2019

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, 1200 CHARLES ST, LaPLATA

FOR INFO LEAVE MESSAGE FOR ALICE ADAMS @ 301 885-1819

**Orders for monthly host sites due 11/11
Distribution Day - 11/23, 8:30-11am**



**VALUE
PACK
\$23**

FESTIVE AND SEASONAL, HEALTHY AND NUTRITIOUS
**Whole Roasting Chicken – 5 lb. average
Ground Pork Sausage – 1 lb.
Beef Sirloin Tips – 1 lb
Elbow Macaroni – 1 lb.**
plus, fresh seasonal produce such as sweet potatoes,
white potatoes, celery, onions, apples and oranges

10-12# TURKEY WITH EXCITING
FROZEN SIDES

**THANKSGIVING
DINNER \$37**

MIXED GREENS,
GREEN BEANS,
MACARONI & CHEESE, MIXED
VEGETABLES, SWEET POTATO
PATTIES, MASHED POTATOES, AND A
HOLIDAY PIE



AND ALL YOU NEED ON THE
SHELVES, INCLUDING THE SPICES
HOLIDAY PANTRY \$24

STUFFING MIX, CRANBERRY SAUCE,
CHEDDAR BISCUIT MIX
ORNBREAD MIX, CRUSHED PINEAPPLE,
CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP,
FRENCH FRIED ONIONS,
GRAVY MIX, VEGETABLE OIL, BROWNIE
MIX, HOLIDAY BAKING SPICES, & HERB
TURKEY SEASONING

SHARE grows STRONGER with every purchase, and
EVERYONE CAN SHARE. WILL YOU?

SERVING NEIGHBORHOODS FROM
BALTIMORE, TO CHARLES TOWN, TO MANASSAS,
TO LEXINGTON PARK, TO HAMPTON ROADS

CONVENIENT PAYMENT OPTIONS:
Debit/Credit Cards, EBT, Cash/Money Order
Menu items are subject to change.

301.864.3115 800.21.SHARE SHAREdc.org



**VALUE
PACKAGE
PLUS
10-12 #
TURKEY \$41**

FACILITIES UPDATE

Thank You to our dedicated servants who keep our facility and grounds in working order.

- Grounds Crew: Bill Burroughs, Scott Gingerich, Jerry Miller, Bill Swartzwelder and John Funk
- Butterfly Garden: Paula Grant and Nigel Wyllie
- Lightbulb Replacement: Bill Burroughs
- Electrical and Lighting Upgrades: Billy Hoffman
- Kitchen Equipment Maintenance and Misc: Bill Hoffman

Thank you to Emily Ferren who has been researching, completing and submitting grant applications.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Replacement of windows and doors in preschool (grant funding)
- Solar panels – audit schedule to be arranged this fall
- Scout shed
- AC and heating repair and maintenance – ongoing
- 5 LED exit signs and LED lighting to be installed in mezzanine
- Replacement of hooks & door closures in restrooms (FLC & prek)

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- Outside Creations finishing back playground area and replacing liriopie
- Drainage maintenance and blockage project
- Retention pond cleanup and playground mulching (due to drainage project)
- New glass doors installed on east side, by the café (for uniformity and security - grant funding)
- Shade sails up over the small playground for summer/fall seasons
- LED installation complete (janitor closet & prek restrooms)
- Wooden fence repairs and replacement
- Mop sink room between church bathrooms received a new faucet, paint and flooring.
- Planters updated for fall

Entry to the Building

With the relocation of the church offices, there are now two ways to enter the building during the school/business day.



1. If you are volunteering or will be working in the school you must sign in through the school office and receive a visitor badge.

2. If your visit concerns only the church and you will not be entering the school portion of the facility, you can enter via the doors at the café or the sanctuary.

Please use the doorbells indicated and someone will open the door for you.

Thank you for your cooperation as we work to keep our children, employees and facility secure.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY (3)

2 pm	Ch. Hall Vets Ministry	off-site	Bill Eckman, 301-934-4874
5 pm	Suicide Support Group	120	Carolyn Weimert, 301-934-8243
6:30 pm	Men's Bible Study	112	Frank Cartwright, 301-674-0772

MONDAY (4)

6 pm	Women's Dinner & Study	112	Susan Gastler, sgastler@growingwithgrace.org
6pm	Choir Practice	Sanct	Marty Staub, cmstaub@juno.com
6:10 pm	Yoga Basics	FLC	Annah Rinaldo, annahrinaldo@gmail.com
7 pm	Stephen Ministry Mentors	116	Paul Lenker, dministry@growingwithgrace.org
7 pm	LutherRingers	Sanct	Marty Staub, cmstaub@juno.com

TUESDAY (5)

9 am	Ladies Christcare	116	Judy Knott, 301-743-3156
6:30 pm	Men's Aftercare	209	Paul Lenker, dministry@growingwithgrace.org
6:30 pm	Women's Aftercare	112	Paul Lenker, dministry@growingwithgrace.org
7:30 pm	N.A.	FLC	<i>contact main office</i>

WEDNESDAY (6)

1 pm	Admin Staff Meeting	112	Jeff Burkee, x201
7 pm	Praise Team Practice	FLC	Jake Pomrenke, 240-346-3215
7 pm	Daniel Plan	112	Jean Nelson, jcnelson1066@gmail.com

THURSDAY (7)

12:45 pm	Adult Day Care Ministry	off-site	<i>contact main office</i>
6 pm	GLS 4th Grade Musical	FLC	<i>contact main office</i>
6:30 pm	BSA 1321	Sanct	Cris Purnell, 301-502-1720
6:30 pm	Crossways	112	Curt Springer, curtaspringer@comcast.net
7 pm	A.A.	116	<i>contact main office</i>

FRIDAY (8)

7:30 pm	N.A.	116	<i>contact main office</i>
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SATURDAY (9)

6 pm	JP Home Fundraiser	FLC	<i>contact main office</i>
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**Nov. 30 ~ Small Business Saturday
in La Plata at Martins**

Dec. 1 ~ Advent by Candlelight

Dec. 7 ~ Christmas Breakfast



SERMON NOTES

All Saints Day: Interlude and Vision of Comfort [Revelation 7: 1-17]

Saint John takes an interlude to introduce the church

- The sealed 144,000 are the church militant
- The great crowd in heaven that no one can number - church triumphant

FIRST MESSAGE - MERCY: Four angels stand astride the whole earth holding back the four winds

SECOND MESSAGE - GRACE: A fifth angel comes from the rising of the sun with the seal of the living God

- In 2 Timothy 2:19 – Paul says *the firm foundation of God stands bearing this seal; the Lord knows who are his.*
- *We are sealed by the Holy Spirit as the pledge and guarantee of our inheritance*
The 144,000: Twelve Tribes of Israel or the whole church on earth?
- John uses Old Testament language – the twelve tribes - to describe the

144,000 – symbolic or literal number?

- John is consistent with tradition in describing the 144,000 as a symbolic number

What about the identity of the twelve tribes – symbolic or literal?

- The twelve tribes are redefined to recognize a faithful lineage of Christ

The countless saints in heaven are at rest and peace

- Romans 8: 18 has come true – *the sufferings of this present time cannot be compared to the glory that shall be revealed to us*

The saints all belong to the angel's choir and sing hymns of praise - Te Deum [tē 'dēəm]

What a choir – what lyrics – what content!

The saints in heaven are alive and well celebrating the presence of our living Lord

Berthold Von Schenk – a Lutheran pastor on the saints and Holy Communion

The altar is the trysting place where we meet our beloved Lord. It is also the trysting place where we meet our loved ones – for they are with the Lord. The nearer I come to my Lord in Holy Communion, the nearer I come to the Saints – to my own loved ones.

How appropriate to place flowers on the altar in memory of the saints!

No worry; the saints live in eternal communion with God and family

- As we commune at the table of the Lamb and sing His praise, we join the saints
- Rest today knowing the saints pray for us – they are waiting for us – and I believe they know who is coming next