

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



"What the Heirs Get for Christmas"

Occasionally it might happen a person will be notified by a lawyer that they are provide for in a will. In other words, that person has become an "heir." Sometimes, as an heir, you inherit money, or land or some family heirloom.

The apostle Paul, addressing us in Titus 3:4-7, plays the role of a lawyer, informing us that we are heirs. *"But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life."*

So what do the heirs get for Christmas?

- **We have inherited salvation**

"...he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy." This a most gracious gift – one not deserved, but given out of the eternal love of God.

- **We have become new people**

"He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit." In our holy baptism, we have been made new! The old has been washed away, and we are now called "children of God."

- **We are Justified before God**

"...having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life." We now wear the righteousness of Jesus. Everything that Jesus did by keeping the Law perfectly, now belongs to us, through faith in his death and resurrection. When God looks at us, He does not see our sin -- rather He sees your faith in Jesus.

The parable of the Prodigal Son could well be a Christmas story. When the son realized his mistake (sin), he returns home, not knowing what to expect. But he certainly did not expect to see his father running across the field to welcome him, and to wrap his arms around him in joy! The Christmas season reminds us that God has welcomed us home and has wrapped His loving arms around us in the birth of Jesus.

Believe in the gifts you have received. We are alive in Christ. In him, the old has passed away and we have become new. Let us thank God for His gifts this Christmas season. This is quite a day for the heirs!

God's peace this month,
Pastor Andrew C. Lissy

LIVING SAVIOR WORSHIP & MUSIC

Advent is a time of preparing, anticipating, hoping, and waiting. It's a time when we focus on the coming of Jesus while at the same time remembering that he is with us now. It's a time when we can move from darkness into light as we recognize the Savior as He draws closer each day.



Our journey through Advent is strengthened and enabled by our times of worship either in person or virtually through streaming.

Even during this time of Covid 19, we can be assured that our Lord is not only coming but that He is also waiting with us at our side. During the time of the pandemic, the Advent color of Blue seems appropriate. Many of us are experiencing the "Advent Blues." Yet despite the reality of our current circumstances I am reminded of the wonderful words of the Advent hymn:

“Comfort, comfort ye My people,
Speak ye peace thus saith the Lord.
Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.

Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover and her warfare now is over.”

Whether it's our sins, Covid 19, or disappointment in some part of our life, Jesus covers it all. He is coming. He is here. May each of us experience the hope and peace that Jesus brings.

God bless you and your Advent and Christmas.

Worship Ministries CANCELLATIONS

Due to the fact that we are still being guided by directives and regulations surrounding the COVID-19 virus, our various worship ministries – Chancel Choir, Modern Worship Ensemble, Lay Readers, Acolytes - are not able to meet at this time. All of us are praying for the time when we can resume our various activities and ministries.

COVID-19 Precautions Reminder

Covid-19 cases have been increasing in our area. Just as a reminder, the Commonwealth of Virginia is allowing religious services to continue at 50% capacity or at capacity which allows adequate social distancing (whichever is lower) provided we follow specific restrictions. At every LSLC service or event masks must be worn for those over the age of 3 (inside or outside). If you forget your mask, we have some available for you. Also, we must maintain social distances of 6 feet or more between families and use of hand sanitizers is required. Social distancing and masks are required in the sanctuary, in the building and outside. As a reminder please remember to not come to church if you are not feeling well, have a fever of higher than 100.3, or are awaiting a Covid-19 test.

Events at LSLC



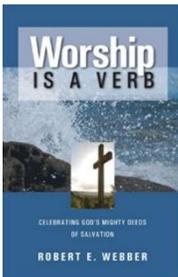
- **Cathedral Brass 2020 Christmas Concert** – Please join in as a member of our virtual audience on Sunday, December 6th, from 4:00pm – 5:00pm, as the Cathedral Brass once again graces our celebrating and sharing the joy of the season. They will be performing via an on-line live stream from [Vienna Presbyterian Church \(VPC\)](#). To view the concert, visit the VPC home page, and in the upper right, click on the “Watch and Listen” dropdown tab to access the live stream link.
- **Service of Readings and Carols** – Saturday, December 12th 3:00 – 5:00pm
Outdoors in the LSLC parking lot and adjacent field. Join us for this unique worship experience led by Jonathon Leosch. This service is built on our Youth Group tradition of the reading of Jesus’ birth in Luke and the singing of Christmas carols. Note: all worship COVID-19 protocols are to be followed (masks and social distancing between family groups)

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- **Moving Forward in Faith Program** - Watch for special messages during services this fall on how we all can grow in our faith and in our walk. For more information contact [Paul Gross](#).
- **Women's Retreat** - For now, save the date for **March 5-7**, virtual retreat. Visual Faith Ministries (which Connie is part of) is hosting a virtual event on Saturday, March 6th. The event is still being planned, but LSLC (Wendy) is discussing how we might tailor this one-day event to fit our needs and extend to a Friday evening zoom gathering and a Sunday gathering, similar to what we would have done in person. Looking ahead to 2022 - save date of March 4-6, 2022 for in-person retreat at Roslyn.

Bible Studies / Group Gatherings

- **Living Savior Young Adult Fellowship** Hosted by [VICTORIA & BEN PIERCE](#). Living Savior Young Adults: If you're between 18 and 35, look for upcoming events to thank the Lord for all our blessings in the midst of intense changes we've all embraced over the past few months.
- **Sunday Adult Bible Study**, 1:15 – 2:00 Sundays has started. Contact Jason Tolbert for Zoom address.



- **Vicar Book Club** - Every Wednesday from 11:00-12:00 am via Zoom (although any participants that would like to join at Vicar's house are more than welcome to do so.) We are currently studying "Worship is a Verb" by Robert Webber. To join the Book Club go to <https://www.bookmovement.com/our-book-club-bookshelf/6f9498> or [contact Vicar Tim](#)
- **Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study**, 8am – 9:30am, 2nd and 4th Saturdays. Contact [Paul Gross](#) for Zoom address
- **Men's Zoom video get together**, 1st and 3rd Friday evenings. Contact [Paul Gross](#) for Zoom address

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- **Children's Sunday School.** Elementary Sunday School for children in Grades 1-5 started Sunday, September 13. It is delivered virtually, by short videos posted to YouTube. You can access the videos any time after they are posted. Sunday school packets will include the Bible Explorer Guide Book and activity sheets for children. Packets are available at church or you can arrange for pick up/delivery by [contacting Jean-Marie Galing](#). Please call [703-298-7472](tel:703-298-7472) or email jeanmariegaling@hotmail.com to get signed up and receive the YouTube links, as the videos are unlisted and only available through shared links.
- **Sunday evening Bible Study** - Dr. Benson and Dr. Horton will be hosting a new nine-week Bible Study on Zoom beginning Sunday, January 10 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. The study will be based upon the book, **The Good and Beautiful God, by James Bryan Smith**. If you would like to participate in this study, please email Dr. Benson at mabenson2@gmail.com so that she can send a zoom invitation to you.

Social Ministry

Living Savior invites you to stay engaged in its work to help our neighbors!



Hurricane Relief: Social Ministry's Endowment will contribute \$250 in matching funds to Hurricane Laura relief efforts. Please contribute vis LSLC & mark your check or donation "hurricane relief." [On-line donation click here.](#)

Living Savior Angel Tree
Supporting Shelter/Artemis House & NOVACO
Gifts due by Tuesday, December 15th



Be an Angel and adopt an Angel. Despite the limits of COVID-19 we will be the hands and feet to many this Christmas Season with gifts to those in need. We will be using an electronic "Signup Genius" at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A48A5A62B0-artimis>. Your support

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means so much to those in need. Please plan on providing as generously as we have in the past. Simply go to the site, select a family, a child, or a mom. Shop (gift ideas have been provided) and wrap the gifts with a tag with **FAMILY # and FIRST NAME** attached and placed in the Marked Bins in the church Lobby or Narthex by Tuesday, December 15th.

Artemis House & NOVACO (Northern Virginia Coalition of Churches) operates as part of Shelter House. NOVACO's mission is to help homeless victims of domestic violence become secure and self-sufficient through community collaboration to provide housing, education, child care, counseling and mentoring. In the past, LSLC hosted the moms and children of NOVACO for a holiday. With COVID, this is not possible this year.

If you would prefer to donate funds toward the Angel Tree project, you can mail a check, use LSLC electronic giving portal, or put a check in the collection plate. Make payable to Living Savior Lutheran Church and mark in the memo "Angel Tree" and we will use it toward Angel Tree project expenses or take care of angels that have not been adopted. You can also use the electronic giving site for LSLC for Social Ministry by [clicking here](#).

Questions? Ask one of the Angel Tree elf brigade members: Kelly Lyons kplyons@cox.net, Cathi or Bob Willuweit rcwilluweit@hotmail.com, Betty Cook nacegc@gmail.com, Steve Thomas bandsthomas@verizon.net, or Miki Kolton eakolton@gmail.com



• **Concordia Lutheran in Triangle, VA Needs Your Help!** Please help us in providing desperately needed food to more than 100 families per week. Drop off your food / pantry donations at the church or provide an [on-line donation](#).



Hyperthermia Prevention Shelter for Fairfax Homeless. With temperatures dropping and COVID-19 posing additional risks, it has never been more important to stand together as a community in service to our unsheltered neighbors.

Since 2005, FACETS has partnered with Fairfax County and our local faith community to ensure that no one sleeps outside during the winter months. Before the pandemic, area churches have opened their doors to offer warm places to sleep and eat. But due to COVID-19 this year, a former retail space in Tyson's Corner will serve as a 24-hour Hypothermia Prevention Shelter.

LSLC will be partnering with area churches to provide meals for the Hyperthermia Prevention Shelter. Meals will be prepared but we will not be serving the meals due to COVID-19. If you are interested in preparing food for a breakfast, lunch or dinner please contact [Miki Kolton](#)

Social Ministry Thank You....

- Thank you to all who generously supported **the Operation Christmas Child** (Shoebboxes). Special thanks to Rachel Neuberger and the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child program at Living Savior. We were able to fill over 50 shoeboxes
- Thanks to all who participated in the **CROP Walk 2020**. Special thanks to the Cloutier family for their leadership on this event.
- Amazing response to the **Thanksgiving Baskets for Artemis House/NOVACO**: from LSLC is planning to help make sure the families served by the shelter are able to celebrate Thanksgiving. Special thanks to all who helped to organize.
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Outreach Ministry

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- **Cathedral Brass Concert** – Saturday, December 5th we will be blessed with our traditional Cathedral Brass Concert with a twist. The concert will be virtual. Great opportunity to sit back and enjoy the concert. Invite family and friends to watch virtually along with you. See [LSLC website](#) for more details.

- **What's happening sheet** – If you want to see what is happening in October/November/December go to the [LSLC website](#) under Announcements to download the “LSLC Outreach Information Sheet” Good to pass on to neighbors, family or friends who may be looking to get involved in the LSLC activities.

Opportunities to serve

- **Christmas Tree sales** will be beginning in only a few weeks (hard to believe). Sales start the weekend after Thanksgiving and go until all the trees are gone. Your help is needed more than ever. Safe, outside activity to serve the church mission. We will need help unloading and during sales. Please contact [Keith Meins](#)
- **USHERS!!! We NEED USHERS (see Usher schedule below)** – Since many of the congregation are safe-at-home, we need those who can to help as Ushers. For Sunday 8:30 or 11am service Ushers, see Pastor Andy. For Monday or Thursday Walk-in Communion please contact [Cathi Willuweit \(rcwilluweit@hotmail.com\)](#)
- **Alter Guild** – If you can help out with Alter Guild please contact [Pam Belch](#).



Preschool

December Highlights

Throughout the month of December, the children will be preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. They will be making ornaments for our preschool Christmas tree and cards and gifts for their parents. The Christmas Program, The

Christmas Star, will be recorded on December 9th and shared with the parents. On the 17th and 18th of December the children will celebrate the birth of Jesus with birthday cake and special readings about the birth of our Savior.

Registration for 2021– 2022

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year will begin on February 3rd for members of Living Savior's congregation as well as for currently and previously enrolled families. On February 4th registration will be open to the public. Informational brochures will be available in January in both the preschool and church office. The preschool offers a warm, Christian environment for young children. We are accredited by the NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) and have been commended for passing NAEYC's reaccreditation process with extremely high scores! We enroll children from 2 ½ through 5

years of age for preschool. If you, your friends or your neighbors have preschool aged children and are interested in the preschool, please call the office at (703) 352-4208 or you can email the office at: preschool@livingsaviorlutheran.org

Christmas Wishes Granted

For the past twenty-one years during the month of December, Living Savior Preschool has reached out and generously supported local families and children who find themselves in need due to circumstances beyond their control. This year the LSP community is again supporting NOVACO in conjunction with Miki Kolton and LSLC church by providing Christmas gifts from wish lists for the children and their families. With the generous support from the "angels" of Living Savior Preschool and Church, these families will have their wishes granted as we spread the true meaning of the Christmas spirit!

Concordia Food Ministry

Together with LSLC and the Concordia Food Ministry, Living Savior Preschool will accept food donations all year rather than just in the month of November. We explain to the children that they are helping families in need by bringing in food donations throughout the year. This is another way we help the children understand the importance of giving to others as God has given to us.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Preschool Staff and children!

If you are interested in enrolling please see the LSLC Preschool website at <https://www.livingsaviorpreschoolfairfaxstation.org/>

Opportunities to Worship

- **In-Person**
 - Sunday 8:30am
 - Sunday 11:00am – This service is also live streamed. Click the following to watch live or recorded services.
<https://livingsaviorlutheran.online.church/>
 - Monday 5pm – 7pm – Walk in, private communion
 - Thursday 3pm – 5pm – Walk in, private communion
 - **Upcoming Special Services** – note: all holiday services will be live streamed ([see LSLC On-line Church website](#))
 - Advent services - 7:00 pm, December 2th, 9th, 16th
 - Service of Readings and Carols – Saturday, December 12th 3:00 – 5:00pm Outdoors in the LSLC parking lot and adjacent field (note this service will not be live streamed)
 - Christmas Eve Services
 - **NEW** – Family Christmas Service – 4:00pm. Service oriented toward Families with Young Children, December 24th
 - Traditional Christmas Eve Services December 24th, 6:30pm and 8:30pm

Church Calendar

- <http://www.livingsaviorlutheran.org/events/>

Usher Schedule

December 2020- February 2021

Date	8:30	11:00
December		
6	Hoffman/Mesfan	Flom
13	Gross	Meins
20	Galing/Mesfen	Gray
27	Kennedy	Debolt
January		
3	Mesfen/Weyrick	Meins
10	Galing/Kennedy	Gray
17	Galing/Mesfen	Meins
24	Gross	Debolt
31	Hoffman/Mesfan	Gray
February		
7	Gross/Mesfen	Gray

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14	Kennedy	Debolt
21	Cook	Meins
28	Weyrick	Gray