### THE SHEPHERD'S LOVE

New York Mills Apostolic Lutheran Church • 315 Main Ave South • New York Mills, MN 56567 Vol 3 No. 20

### From the Pastor's Desk

Jan 2022



"Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and *he found a ship going to Tarshish:* so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken. Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep. So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not. And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah. Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou? And he said unto them. I am

an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the word to the people. Jonah's whole job was God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land. Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him. Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them. Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous. And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon vou. Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them. Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said. We beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O Lord, hast done as it pleased thee. So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging. Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows. Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights." Jonah 1:1-

Jonah was a prophet of God. Most people think of a prophet as someone who tells the future. In the Old Testament prophets do tell the future. But the idea of a prophet as a fortune teller is more pagan than biblical. The office of Prophet in the bible is not about what they say but it's all about who told them to say it. A prophet in the biblical sense is someone who God calls to give his

to say what God had given him to say to the people that God told him to say it to.

Now the Ninehvites were terrible brutal people. They were terrible in every sense of the word. Utter evil. And Jonah hated them for it. So when the Lord tells him to go deliver the message to the Ninehvites Jonah figures it is better for him to run away. This can be puzzling, Jonah would, more than likely, be pleased with the destruction of the Ninehvites. So why does he run? The answer lies in the end of the book. Jonah runs because he knew deep down in his soul that God is merciful. And he knew that if the Ninehvites repented God would stay his wrath. He didn't want God to be merciful to the Ninehvites, so he ran.

When you read the book of Jonah you find that pretty much everyone obeys God but his prophet Jonah. The sailors, the Ninehvites, the great fish, even the plant. This account shows us that we ought to be obedient to the Lord even if we don't see the big picture. In our day and age we have a similar role to Jonah. God has entrusted us with his word and commanded that we preach it. Jesus died for sinners, no one is beyond his grace. Even our disobedience is forgiven by him. This new year we have the perfect opportunity to proclaim the saving work of Jesus to a world that in some ways is no different than the Ninehvites. The beautiful thing is that God is merciful and his word works in even the hardest of hearts.

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" 2 Corinthians 9:15

God's Peace, Nicholas Kandoll The annual Sunday School
Christmas program was held in
Dec.

"O come, little children, O come, one and all,
O come to the manger in Bethlehem's stall
And see what the Father in heaven so true
Has done to prepare a bright
Christmas for you

Receive then our hearts, which
we offer to Thee,
And keep them from sin and
from wickedness free;
O render them holy and blessed
like Thine,
Thou Son of the Highest, Thou

Infant divine."





Several women got together to pack Christmas fruit and goodie baskets for shut-ins, the elderly and some that have endured hard times.

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 1:27

Thank you to the Apostolic Lutheran Women's Ministry for remembering Beatrice Muckala with a Christmas Basket. That was so kind, and Mom appreciated the thought and efforts that go into this annual tradition. She asked to pass on her good wishes to all as we go into 2022.

Carol Hagel and Teresa Muckala

Thanks so much and Happy New Year!!

### To God the Anthem Raising

To God the anthem raising,
Sing, Christians, great and small;
Sing out, his goodness praising,
Oh, thank him, one and all!
Behold how God this year,
Which now is safely ended,
Has in his love befriended
His children far and near.

2 Let us consider rightly
His mercies manifold,
And let us not think lightly
Of all his gifts untold.
Let thankfulness recall
How God this year has led us,
How he has clothed and fed us,
The great ones and the small.

3 To church and state he granted
His peace in ev'ry place;
His vineyard he has planted
Among us by his grace.
His ever-bounteous hand
Prosperity has given
And want and famine driven
From this our native land.

4 O Father, Lord of heaven,
For all your gifts of love
Which you to us have given
We lift our thanks above.
In Jesus' name we here,
To you our prayers addressing,
Still ask you for your blessing:





**BLESS** the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

<sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

<sup>3</sup> Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

<sup>4</sup> Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

<sup>5</sup> Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

<sup>9</sup> He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.

<sup>10</sup> He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

<sup>11</sup> For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

<sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

#### **Church Information**

Apostolic Lutheran Church 315 Main Ave South New York Mills, MN 56567

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Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.-noon

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View live or archived services

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If you want to be added or removed from our mailing list please contact me. All newsletter items to be considered can be emailed to me at the above address by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Echoes of Mercy Radio Broadcast 920 AM KWAD

Sunday mornings English at 8:05 am

Sponsored by New York Mills, Spruce Grove and Menahga Apostolic Lutheran Churches

# Sunday School @ 9:15.

## Worship @ @ 10:30 Sunday

If you choose to watch the services online and would like to donate to the church please send checks to:

Louise Amberg-Jokela

206 South Broadway #107 New York Mills, MN 56567.

Thank you to everyone that has taken the time to send contributions. It is greatly appreciated!

Meals/potluck, will be served on the **first Sunday** 

Group 8 serves in Jan Group 9 serves in Feb

The group will make the main dishes and others are asked to bring salads or desserts.

There is a sign up sheet for Sunday coffee in the dining room.



#### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Those who are hurting in body and mind; any that have lost loved ones; the lonely and alone; those that are struggling with depression, addictions, temptations, persecutions. Pray for the sick and relatives and/or friends that are ill or are awaiting surgeries. Also pray for our nations leaders for wisdom from on High to rule this great land; our military; first responders, fire fighters; mission workers.

And pray especially for the children of Christian parents who do not have Jesus as their Savior.

### **NYM Emergency Food Shelf**

FOR EMERGENCY HELP CALL NYM
CULTURAL CENTER 385-3339

CONNIE WARNER 385-2853 (work) 385-3669 (home)

BONNIE WELTER 385-3385 218-639-4100 (cell)

TERESA MUCKALA 763-843-3269
ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL
LOCATION:
400 S WALKER AVE
NYM MN