

"Blessed are  
those who  
mourn, for  
they shall be  
comforted"  
--Matt. 5:4



God gives good gifts for you...  
at Immanuel Lutheran Church (LCMS)  
301 Alma Street, Laurel, NE 68745  
immanuel LutheranLaurelNE.com  
Church Office: 402.256.3314

Pastor Jeffery Warner  
word and sacrament  
spiritual care by appointment

Podcast/Blog: isaiah504blues.com  
{cell/text} 402.922.3017

## -The Shepherd's Scroll-

*"If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort." (2 Cor. 1:6-7)*

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

**All Saints' Day arrives** on the first day of November every year, like always. This year, it's a little different for me. For a few of you, too, I know. It's different because this year, my Dad will be on the other side of the Altar now, in Christ. He joins some of your own Mom's and Dad's and other loved ones there, who even now rejoice with the saints before the throne, shouting:

"Salvation belongs to our God, and to the Lamb who sits on the throne!" (Rev. 7:10)

**The Creed teaches us each to confess,** *"I believe in...the communion of saints."* You are part of that communion, along with all of us who are Baptized into Christ Jesus, baptized into His death. So are all who have died in the faith of the "one, holy, Christian and apostolic Church." Where Jesus is, the "angels, archangels and all the company of heaven" are found there, unseen, yet "laud and magnify His glorious name, evermore praising [God] and saying "Holy, holy, holy Lord God of **Sabbaoth** (that is, of *hosts*, of *heavenly armies*)! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory."

**The songs we sing give voice to the reality of things** which goes unseen, except by faith. In this world, *"We walk by faith, not by sight."* (2 Corinthians 5:7) There Paul states plainly that sometimes, even now we would *"rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord."* (vv.6-8)

**We are in communion with Him,** with them, with all who believe "Salvation belongs to our God and to the Lamb who sits on the throne," that is, Jesus. We thank God that He gives that salvation to us, even here and now, whenever we take and eat and drink. Stay connected to Christ and to those whom you love, and lost now for a time, as we gather at the Lord's Supper, all saints in Christ Jesus,