



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

November 12, 2023 + 24th Sunday after Pentecost

With this being the closest Sunday to Veteran's Day, we consider it a privilege to honor our local veterans. May this worship give praise to God and thanks to God or those who were willing to live God's command to "love thy neighbor" by risking their very lives in military service for our country.

+ GATHERING +

Prelude

(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to those worshipping by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in this meal are invited to participate. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by snack bags. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please take the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher.





Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

(A moment of silence is kept for reflection and confession.)

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.

We have ignored voices that call for your justice.

We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness.

**We have spoken and acted in ways
that disrupt your beloved community.**

We truly repent of things we have done and left undone.

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness,
follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen.**

Rejoice and be glad! God hears the prayers of all who cry out,
and restores us to life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Song

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

#632



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
- 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
- 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
- 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone.



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Music: William Croft, 1678-1727
Public Domain

Veterans Day Litany & Video

Loving God, the framers of our Declaration of Independence claimed that you have endowed us with inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Yet there are those who would take these from us.

Today we remember all those who have served in our country's armed forces to preserve the freedoms you have granted us, **to make it impossible for those who would take away our freedoms from prevailing.**



For the men and women who serve in the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and National Guard, **we ask your blessing.**

For the family members who have also made great sacrifices in order to make it possible for their service members to be on watch at home or around the world or to go into harm's way, **we ask your blessing.**

For the families who grieve the death of a loved one who went in harm's way, never to return, **we ask your blessing.**

Jesus tells us that no one has greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. For all those veterans who have been willing to lay down their lives for us, **we ask your blessing.**



For the veterans of past wars who bear scars in their bodies and spirits, **we ask your blessing.**

For veterans who came home but couldn't "fit in" with their families or communities anymore, **we ask your blessing.**

Keep all our veterans in your care today.
Grant them the peace that they sought to preserve for others.
As we honor our veterans, we also pray for peace.
**Teach all your people the ways of peace
that those who have sacrificed so much for peace and freedom
will not have done so in vain.**

We pray all these things in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Refrain



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march-ing on.

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910
 Music: North America, 19th cent.
 Public Domain

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

Righteous God, our merciful master,
you own the earth and all its peoples,
and you give us all that we have.

Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom,
and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

First Reading

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

A reading from Zephaniah.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;

the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs,
 those who say in their hearts,

“The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.”

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.
¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.
¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.
¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90:1-12

Let us read Psalm 90 responsively.

¹Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

**²Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**

³You turn us back to the dust and say,

“Turn back, O children of earth.”

**⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday
when it is past and like a watch in the night;**

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

**⁶in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

**⁸Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**¹⁰The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?

**¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

A reading from First Thessalonians.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.

⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

Family of God



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! The Lord our God be
blessed! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Your Word brings right - teous - ness. With
all your works, we praise you! Ex - alt your Name for - ev - er! Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Sing al - le - lu - ia!

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

The Holy Gospel according St. Matthew the 25th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And

the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’²³ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed;²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’²⁶ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?’²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

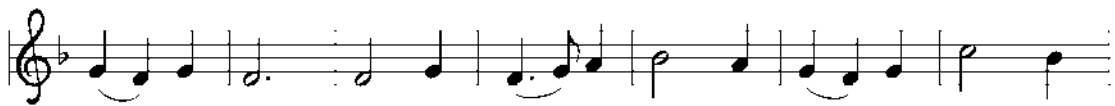
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Time
Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us* #707



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest
 4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -
 of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our
 char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, “You have
 as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -

men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en
 thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,
 done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—
 men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,

bless - ings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
 warmed by you, at length he - lieve that more hap - py
 in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your
 hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of

and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
 and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
 poor and need - y. "Give as I have giv'n to you."
 all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-1889, alt.
 Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887
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Apostles' Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith...

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.
 On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

P Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life,
as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people,
and you equip the church to serve.
Turn us from fear and self-serving ways,
that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another.
Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests.
Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A You call us to honesty and integrity.
Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders.
Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption,
and bring redemption to victims of injustice.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.
Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing,
and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community.
We especially remember before you...
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church.
Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word
the breastplate of faith and love.
Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P Here other prayers may be offered either aloud or in silence...
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of
life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith
we praise your goodness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

✠ OFFERING ✠

Offering Response

We Are an Offering

#692

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Text & Music: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
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✠ MEAL ✠

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



Proper Preface

We praise and thank you abounding God,
because you demand so much from us
and at the same time give us everything you expect of us.
In the glory of creation and the grace of liberation
you set the contours of our journey with you.
By crafting the covenant and by renewing your people in exile
you showed us the manner and purpose of your ever-flowing love.
In Jesus you gave us your most precious talent.
Though we buried Him through our ignorance and sin,
you raised Him to multiply your church
and spread abroad your kingdom.
And so we give you thanks with saints and angels
and the company of heaven, joining their unending hymn.

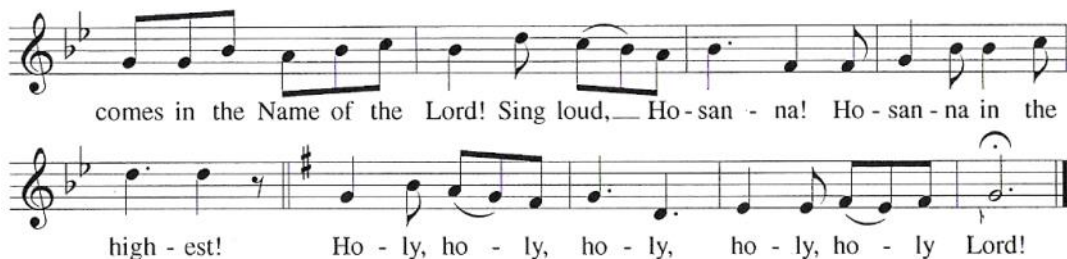
Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

Family of God

Musical score for the Sanctus. It consists of three staves of music in G major and 6/8 time. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, our God of pow'r and might, — Sing ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Heav'n and earth are full of your maj - es - ty! Ho - san - na in — the high - est! Blest is he who".

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, our God of pow'r and might, — Sing
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Heav'n and earth are full of your maj - es -
ty! Ho - san - na in — the high - est! Blest is he who



Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Encouraging God, your Son Jesus died for us
so that we might live together with you.

He went through the deep night of betrayal, anguish in Gethsemane,
trial by His own people, and scourging by His oppressors,
that we might live in endless day.

Send your Holy Spirit that your people may be turned
from the fear of your wrath to the anticipation of your glory.

By that same Spirit of salvation and hope,
sanctify these gifts of bread and wine

that in your kingdom of grace they may be for us
the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;

who, at supper with His disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,

*“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.”*

After supper Jesus took the cup.

Again He gave you thanks, and gave it to His disciples, saying,
*“Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”*

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Generous God,

when your church is entrusted with a little, make it faithful,
and when your people are sent forth to take care of much,
make them wise and true and kind.

As you invested your whole heart in the uncertain market of our love,
 show your children where to take risks, when to enter the unknown,
 and how to trade with your bounty.
 Prepare the hearts of the flourishing and the fragile
 for the day of your revelation,
 that when all secrets are made known and all desires laid bare,
 your understanding and forgiving grace may see the
 virtue behind our clumsiness and the goodness amid our folly.
 Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope
 that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy,
 when your whole creation is justified by faith
 and sanctified by love, and you are all in all, ever one God,
 Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us...

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

Family of God

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the Agnus Dei, with lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the".



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Distribution

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

The Body of Christ given for you. Amen.

The Blood of Christ shed for you. Amen.

Distribution Hymn

This Is My Song

#887



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is:
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts.1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st.3
 Music: Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957
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Distribution Hymn

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

#888



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



for pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit-ed plain:
 who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer - cy more than life:
 thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine.
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859-1929
 Music: Samuel A. Ward, 1848-1903
 Public Domain

Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

Lord Jesus,

in this simple meal you have set a banquet.

Sustain us on the journey,

strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and

give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Announcements

Benediction

The love of God surround you;

the grace of ✠ Christ release you;

and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength,

now and forevermore. **Amen.**

Sending Song

God Bless America

God bless A - mer-i - ca, land that I love.

Stand be - side her and guide her thru the night with a light from a

bove. From the moun-tains, to the prai-ries, to the o-ceans

white with foam. God bless A - mer - i - ca,

my home sweet home. home. home.

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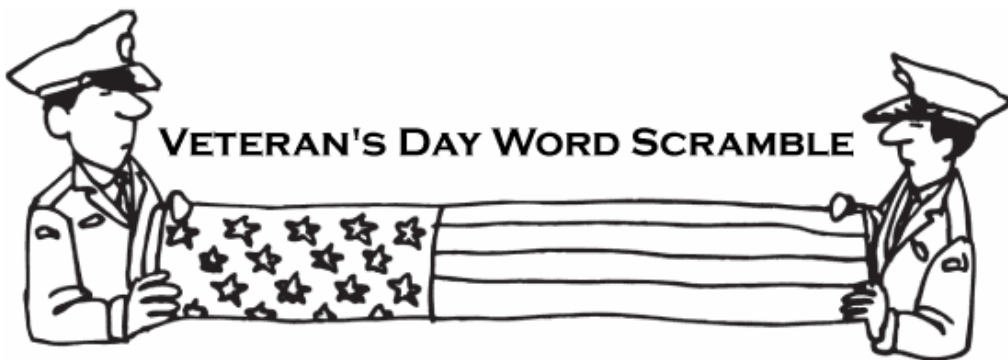
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Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 Thanks be to God. Amen.



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VETERAN'S DAY WORD SCRAMBLE

VBYRREA

		6		16			

ECOMMMORIATO

						20	19				7

EMDCOACRY

18	2				15		

FEEMDRO

					9

HEOR

			5

HORNO

				11

IMAREMOL

				17		13	

YIAMTRLI

							3

ASCNOEBRE

				8		4			

PERAAD

					14

PRTTIACOI

				12		10	

VAETREN

					1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

		u	g		
9	10			11	12

9	13	14	

9	15	16	17	18	19	20	

