

Letters at Christmas





St. Michael

Lutheran Church

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS

WELCOME!

- ❖ **INFORMATION CENTER:** Are you interested in Bible classes, Sunday School, youth activities or our J.O.Y. Group senior adult ministry? Stop by the Information Desk in the lobby—we want to meet and help you.
- ❖ **GUEST and HANDICAP PARKING:** For your convenience, parking is located across from the main church entrance and the west entrance door (4).
- ❖ **AUTOMATIC DOORS:** Two sets of automatic doors are available. One is located on the west entrance door (4) and the other is located on the main doors (2).
- ❖ **LISTENING DEVICES** for those who have difficulty hearing the service are available at the sound booth at the back of the sanctuary.
- ❖ **TODAY'S SERMON IS AVAILABLE ONLINE**, along with prior sermons and Bible studies, at stmfw.org/sermons.
- ❖ **ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE** at stmfw.org/giving.
- ❖ **WE VALUE YOUR ATTENDANCE:** Please complete a connect card or visit stmfw.org/iamhere.

St. Michael loves new parents and small children!

- ❖ **WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN WORSHIP**, but if you need it, a nursery for children under age 5 is located in Room 24B. Please ask an usher for directions.
- ❖ **THE CRY ROOM** is our lobby. Please pull up a chair so that you may watch and listen to our worship service.
- ❖ **BUDDY BAGS** are available for small children in the lobby. You may pick one up prior to service and return on your way out. Enjoy!
- ❖ **CHANGING TABLES** are located in the family and women's restrooms adjacent to the lobby.
- ❖ **CHILDREN'S CHURCH** is for children 5 and under during the sermon at the 10:45a worship.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 10, 2023

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES

Theme of the Day: We are in our final New Testament book, the book of Revelation. In the first three chapters John, the writer of Revelation, talks about a series of letters. Our theme for the Advent season is “letters” and so this weekend we examine the letters the Holy Spirit inspired John to write in Revelation.

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

- P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.**
- P: “I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet which said:
- C: Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches:**
- P: To Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea . . . Write what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. (Revelation 1:9-11, 19)
- C: To the angel of the church in Ephesus write.** (Revelation 2:1)
- P: To the angel of the church in Smyrna write. (Revelation 2:8)
- C: To the angel of the church in Pergamum write.** (Revelation 2:12)
- P: To the angel of the church in Thyatira write. (Revelation 2:18)
- C: To the angel of the church in Sardis write.** (Revelation 3:1)
- P: To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write. (Revelation 3:7)
- C: To the angel of the church in Laodicea write.** (Revelation 3:14)
- All: Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”** (Revelation 3:22)

HYMN

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry
(stanzas 1-3)

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C: But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(silence for personal confession and self-reflection)

- P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

OFFERTORY 8:00a
10:45a

The First Noel
Comfort, Comfort

Flute Choir
Karen Manges

ANTHEM 10:45a

An Antiphonal Noel
(Kindergarten through 3rd grade, please go to the front of the sanctuary)
(Grades 4-8, please go to the choir loft)

ESM K-8

PRAYERS/THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 10:45a

(If you are visiting today, please refer to our communion practice on page 8)

PREFACE/PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS (sung to the tune of *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

AGNUS DEI (sung to the tune of *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Jerusalem My Happy Home	673
Renew Me O Eternal Light	704
O Come O Come Emmanuel	357
All Hail the Power of Jesus Name	549
Come Your Hearts and Voices Raising	375

POST COMMUNION HYMN (sung to the tune of *Angels from the Realms of Glory*)

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord turn His face toward you, and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway
(stanzas 1-4)

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SILENT PRAYER

Heavenly Father, when the Lord returns again may He not only find faith on the earth, but faith in us. Amen.

St. Michael Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Dennis Goff, Senior Pastor

Shawn Davis, Missional Pastor

Stephanie Maxson, Music Director

Rhonda Patterson, Communications Director

Celine Newman, Director of Belonging

Mark Neubacher, Visiting Pastor

Emma Deines, Youth Director

Tammy Bruns, Executive Director

Tina Hoover, Executive Assistant

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

St. Michael Lutheran Church
2131 Getz Road 46804
STMFW.ORG | 432-2033
December 9/10, 2023



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP * Also available via livestream

Wednesday, December 13 7:00p

This year, ALL our students will lead ONE service for BOTH St. Michael and Emmanuel congregations. You are invited to this historic service as we join together to worship Jesus; God made flesh to be our Savior! Our kids will lead us with scripture, songs, and the candlelit ending of *Silent Night*, *We Light a Thousand Candles*, and *May My Light Shine*. Join us at the University of St. Francis Performing Arts Center at 431 W. Berry Street.

Saturday, December 16 5:00p*

Our children pre-K through 5th grade will share the Christmas story through scripture, songs, and drama. Thank you to our Family Ministry Coordinator, Jen Clendenen, for directing the children!

Wednesday, December 20 and Saturday December 23/No Services

Sunday, December 24 / Christmas Eve Services

Worship with lessons and carols	10:00a
Family Candlelight Worship with carols and kid's activity (NO puppets)	5:00p
Candlelight Worship with choir, bells and orchestra	7:00p*
Candlelight Worship with choir, bells, orchestra and Holy Communion	11:00p

Monday, December 25 / Christmas Day

Festival Worship with Holy Communion 10:00a*

Saturday, December 30 5:00p

Sunday, December 31 / New Year's Eve

Worship with Holy Communion 10:00a*

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Thank you for your generosity! All items need to be returned by Tuesday, December 12. If you have questions, contact Robin Kaiser at rrkaiser@hotmail.com or Pastor Shawn at pastordavis@stmfw.org.

CAMP LUTHERHAVEN WOMEN'S RETREAT—January 26-28

Dive into what it means to live on fire for Christ in life today with speaker Sara Scheiwe. This New Year's retreat promises to be an intentional, fun, and encouraging time with others and with Jesus. For more information and to register, please visit www.lutherhaven.org.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH—December 17 (Christmas Party)

Sunday, December 17 Youth Group: Middle School 4:00p-6:00p and High School 6:00p-8:00p. It's a Christmas Party! We will sing Christmas carols with Stephanie and celebrate the coming of our Savior. We will share time in fellowship, soup and sandwiches. Bring a friend that might enjoy joining our group in 2024!

High School Food and Fellowship at Electric Works —Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00p. This is a date change due to scheduling conflict. St. Michael's Youth will provide some snacks to share.

"Connect" 8th grade students and their parents-every Tuesday from 3:00p-5:30p

Connect is a time for 8th grade students and parents to meet with DCE Intern Emma, play games, have some snacks and get to know one another. "Connect" will be every Tuesday from 3:00p - 5:30p at Union Street Market at Electric Works.

REDEMPTION HOUSE UPDATE

We will provide a meal at Wayne Street on December 17 and Fairfield Avenue on December 17. Contact Candi Luchnenko to provide a dish at 422-2061.

BOOK CLUB—December 14 at 10:00a

This month we are reading *The Christmas Spirit* by Debbie Macomber. If you'd like, bring a book to donate to Kate's Cart! Contact Camille Blake at 409-9196.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE

Please pick up your offering envelopes in the hallway outside the church office. If you would like to give electronically, please inform the office. If you would like to receive envelopes, please contact Tina at tina@stmfw.org.

YEAR-END GIVING

Please note that December 28 is the last day for year-end contributions in order to be posted and deposited in the bank by year-end. Also, please complete stock transfers by December 15. Thank you for your generosity!

CHRISTMAS AT THE EMBASSY—December 10 at 4:00p

Celebrate the holiday season with Concordia Lutheran High School's annual Christmas at the Embassy. Tickets are \$12 for students/seniors and \$18 for general admission.

HOLIDAY HELP CENTER FOR THE GRIEVING

GriefShare has created a Holiday Help Center to help grieving people cope with the many emotions they will face during the holidays. It also provides practical tips for surviving social events and establishing new holiday traditions.

Visit <https://www.holidays.griefshare.org/blog>.

COUNT ME IN! . . . TO WORSHIP

Saturday, December 2 **128** Sunday, December 3 **392** Sunday Livestream **113**

SERMON SERIES FOR 2024

The theme we will highlight for our 70th anniversary next year is "Jubilee: Set Free to Tell the Story." The preaching focus throughout 2024 (with a few exceptions), will focus on a number of Old Testament characters who were a part of God's salvation story down through the ages that has become our salvation story. Similarly, there have been countless people connected to St. Michael who have been a part of "telling the salvation story" here. We are all a part of, and continue to share in, that legacy.

EPIPHANY BY CANDLELIGHT—January 7 at 2:00p

Just like Advent by Candlelight, except in Epiphany! Sign up at the Information Desk to attend, decorate a table with dishes and a centerpiece or to bring an hors d'oeuvre or dessert! We will enjoy a speaker who will share about astronomy and the Christmas Star.

ST. MICHAEL'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

In 2024 we celebrate 70 years of St. Michael! This year of Jubilee we will grow together through celebrations and spiritual practices while sharing the story of what God has done and is doing through His people. One way we will celebrate this coming year is through community events every 7 weeks (approximately). Save February 24 and April 28 on your calendar!

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Our Lord invites to His table those who have been baptized, who repent of their sin, who believe Jesus Christ is their Savior, and who believe the body and blood of Jesus is really present together with the bread and wine. Anyone who is not yet instructed in the Christian faith or who has a differing belief are asked to first speak with one of the pastors. If you need communion delivered to where you are sitting, please notify an usher or elder before the service begins. Gluten free communion wafers are available by raising your index finger as communion is distributed signaling to the elder that you wish to receive a prewrapped gluten free wafer. Grape juice is available in the purple tinted cups located in the center of the tray of individual cups. Children or adults who have not yet been confirmed or instructed in the Lord's Supper are welcomed to come forward for a blessing placing their arms over their chest.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK December 11-17

Monday, December 11

3:45p Grace Notes
6:00p Harmony Ringers
6:45p BSF Young Adults
7:00p Resound Rehearsal
7:00p Men's Bible Study/Jones

Tuesday, December 12

6:00p Worship Team Meeting
7:00p Church Council
7:00p Praise Teams Rehearsal
7:00p Faith and Friends Bible Study

Wednesday, December 13

9:15a Coffee Break Bible Study
10:30p Men's Bible Study
6:00p High School Youth
6:30p Men/Women's Choir
8:15p Adult Choir

Thursday, December 14

10:00a Book Club
12:00p JOY Christmas
6:30p Orchestra Rehearsal
7:00p Jubilant Fields Rehearsal

Friday, December 15

6:00p Foster Children Christmas Party
8:00p Men's Basketball

Saturday, December 16

8:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast
5:00p Sunday School Christmas Worship

Sunday, December 17

7:30a Bell Rehearsal
8:00a Worship with Holy Communion
9:30a Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
10:00a Brass Rehearsal
10:45a Worship

SERVING AT ST. MICHAEL this weekend

Are you able to join a worship service team? Contact Tina Hoover at tina@stmfw.org or 432-2033.

Greeters:	Mary and Rich Busch (5p); Christie Gerken, Tim and Marilyn Crum (8a) Jerry and Mary Nichols, Jan Fillmore (10:45a)
Lay Readers:	Bruce Schroeder (5p); Ross Fredrickson (8a); Norma Endersby (10:45a)
Children's Church:	Macy and Vaughn Hendrickson (10:45a)
Acolytes:	Avery Meeks (5p); Jacob Schult (8a); Austin Pieper (10:45a)
Information Desk:	Celine Newman (5p); Gretchen Weerts (8a) Jenny Hendrickson (10:45a)
Ushers:	Dave and Myra Atkinson (5p); TBD (8a) Dave Crow, Karen Hall (10:45a)
Elders:	Ryan Meyer (5p); Mark Muntzinger (8a); Paul Selking (10:45a)
Nursery:	Caitlyn and Emma Stir
Fellowship:	Jim Maxson, Mark and Joni Lee
Altar Guild:	Karen Martin

PRAYERS THIS WEEK

We are privileged to pray for each other. Please notify the staff on your connect card or by email if you would like your prayer needs kept private. Otherwise, we will print them in this publication on a weekly basis.

- **December Milestone Birthdays:** Monica Zoch, 12/2, 85; Joe Pyle, 12/9, 82; Mary Jones, 12/13, 95; Shirley Lehman, 12/13, 89; John Patterson, 12/13, 81.
- **Pray for:**
 - The family of Marlene Kapp, Cindy Koszowski's mother who died this week.
 - Harry Jones having a spinal epidural on Wednesday.
 - The safety of Cody Roemer, Mike and Suanne's grandson, who has been deployed. Pray also for his family as he serves.
 - Brad, brother-in-law of John and Sue Baker, diagnosed with cancer. Pray for his family as he awaits treatment options.
 - Julie Doran, friend of Mollie Grover, recovering from a fall
 - Carol Brammer, mother of Drew Terril, who has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma.
 - The family of Clint Lewis, who died this week.
 - The father of Dean Wilson, who is hospitalized.
 - Financial release and stability for Shenecko and Devion Guyton and peace in their new home.
 - Miracles and blessings for Michelle and her children
 - The family of Maxine Sternberger, Diane Menze's mother, who died last Friday.
 - Continued prayers for Beth Ann Hargrove (foot surgery), Randy Hoover (carpel tunnel surgery), Don and Kathy Magner, Brian Wielosinski, Carleen Richard, Sue Doepner and her family, Mason Leininger, Otis Vincent, Stephanie Weaver, Amber Afarin
 - Thanksgiving for Rev. Daniel and Nichole Harrison and their new baby boy, Henry Michael Harrison.



Reading through the New Testament—Week 49

December 10-16

Becoming more like Jesus—growing in His Word

The last few weeks of the year, we will complete our New Testament reading with the book of Revelation. For obvious reasons, many find Revelation to be a challenging book to read and understand. For the next few weeks, we will provide some general words and commentary on Revelation to consider as you read.

“The title, ‘victorious disciple,’ indicates what we consider to be the intent of the Revelation of John. This is the golden thread of emphasis throughout this last book of the Bible. The book, written in the form and style of a letter, is to be read to encourage Christians to stand firm in their faith over against false doctrine and persecution. As Christ has been victorious and now rules as King of kings and Lord of lords, so every disciple of Christ will be victorious if he lets no one seize his crown (3:11).

Since the book of Revelation is a form of apocalyptic literature, its interpretation has led to many forms of distortions and misunderstandings. Many Christians read no farther than the first three chapters for fear of being misled. This is unfortunate because they miss so much of the note of triumph and victory which permeates the entire book.






The book of Revelation is best understood as a series of seven broad cycles each beginning either with the life of Christ or the beginning of the Christian Church and completed by the coming of Christ for judgment of the world. Each cycle becomes more comprehensive and decisive as the history of the Church moves on.”

(From “Living Discipleship Series: The Victorious Disciple – Revelation” by Walter W. Stuenkel)

Overall, it is important to remember that the main purpose of Revelation is to strengthen the faith of the believer and provide courage for living out our faith, even in the face of difficulties, tribulations, and persecutions as victorious disciples of Jesus Christ.

New Testament in a Year—December 10-16

Revelation

Chapter 4  5  6  7  8 

Additional Reflections from this week's reading

Chapter 4 | This chapter introduces the second of seven visions Jesus gave to John on the island of Patmos. The chapter begins with the words, “After this I looked . . .” What happens here and in subsequent visions does not happen in historical sequence. John, of course, saw them in order, one after another. But the visions themselves pertain to many events that happen within the general time frame of the New Testament period of judgment.

Chapter 5 | This chapter is a continuation of chapter 4's introduction to the second vision, the vision of the scroll. When John was first drawn up to heaven, he saw the glorious throne of God. His attention was diverted for a while to what he saw around the throne: the elders, the glassy sea, the four living creatures. Now John turns back to the throne itself.

Chapter 6 | The vision of the scroll, introduced in chapters 4 and 5, begins here. Jesus, the Lamb who is worthy, opens the first of the seven seals on the scroll. The symbolism of the number 4 in this chapter points to the earth. The four horses and their riders represent four influences that will affect the earth while the church waits for the triumphant return of the Lamb.

Chapter 7 | It is VERY important to realize in this chapter what the meaning of the 144,000 is all about. In vv. 4-8 John offers a symbolic picture of all those God elected to salvation and preserved in faith. Although the 12 tribes of Israel are used to communicate this picture, it is clear that not only OT believers are included. Consequently, the NT talks about a spiritual Israel that includes all believers (2:9) from “every nation, tribe, people and language.” And, the apostle Paul writes in Romans 11:26, “all Israel will be saved.” The number 144,000 is to be interpreted purely symbolic, not a finite number since the “elect” are described as “a great multitude that no one could count.”

Chapter 8 | The second vision comes to an end and we are introduced to the third vision, the vision of the seven trumpets. The first four trumpets announce events on earth in a relatively few verses (8:6-12). Then the last three trumpets announce the influence of the spirit world on the earth with great detail (8:13-11:19).

Blessing the World

As we embrace the spirit of this advent season by discovering countless opportunities to bless those around us, all while waiting expectantly for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Surprisingly, these chances to make a positive impact may present themselves in ordinary settings like your office, classroom, or the familiar surroundings of your favorite restaurant. This week, identify three individuals from your daily life who might benefit from a little extra encouragement or a thoughtful blessing?

Reflect on the simple yet impactful ways you can embody Christ's love and kindness, and go be His hands and feet that bring comfort and joy to those who may need it.

Belonging in Community

As stated earlier it is important to remember that the main purpose of Revelation is to strengthen the faith of the believer and provide courage for living out our faith. Although we can easily be caught up in the dramatic and confusing images and statements of Revelation, we can also be intentional about paying attention to the warnings and promises that we come across.

Take some time to look through the section of Revelation that you have read so far.

- What warnings and instructions resonate for you?

As you think about this try to avoid thinking of how others will fare. (i.e. "I am concerned with the how I see _____ behaving.) Instead be honest with yourself and share things that are relevant to you. (i.e., As I read the words that talk about people who are _____ I can recognize that in myself. The words encourage or remind me to _____.)

- What promises resonate for you?
- How do the promises compare to the warnings?

Talking about the return of Jesus and the end of the world can feel extreme and in some ways it is. This can often cause us to be cautious or even avoid talking about the finite realities that we believe as Christians.

- How can you use these warnings and promises as ways to relate to someone who has questions about what Christians believe about the end of the world?

As you end your time together, pray for hearts and minds that can find peace in who Jesus is and what He has done for our salvation.

Summary of the Letters to the Seven Churches / Revelation 2-3

TO	LOCAL DETAIL	IMAGE OF CHRIST	GOOD	BAD	CALL TO REPENT	TO THE ONE WHO CONQUERS
All 7 churches (1:4, 11)		1:5, 12-18				
Ephesus (2:1-7)	False apostles and Nicolaitans are there	Holds the seven stars in His right hand; walks among the seven golden lampstands	Have endurance; cannot bear evil people; are not weary; hate the works of the Nicolaitans	Have left your first love	Repent, or else I will remove your lampstand	I will grant to eat of the tree of life in the paradise of God
Smyrna (2:8-11)	Synagogue of Satan is there	The First and the Last, who was dead and came back to life	I know your suffering and poverty	You are afraid of suffering	Stop being afraid of suffering, poverty; be faithful to death and I will give the crown of life	You will not be hurt by the second death
Pergamum (2:12-17)	Satan's thorn is there; Satan lives there; the teachings of the Nicolaitans are there	Has the sharp two-edged sword	Hold on to my name; you did not deny the faith	Some hold to the teachings of Balaam (idolatry, immorality) and the Nicolaitans	Repent, or else I will war with the sword of my mouth	I will give of the hidden manna and a white stone and a secret name
Thyatira (2:18-29)	The so-called prophetess Jezebel is there; some there have known the depths of Satan	The Son of God, who has eyes like fire and feet like brass; searches thoughts and hearts	Have love, faith, service, endurance; your last works are more than your first works	You tolerate Jezebel, who teaches people to commit sexual immorality and eat idolatrous food	Repent of adultery with Jezebel; her children will be killed; the faithful must hold fast to what they have	I will give authority to rule the nations with an iron scepter and will give the morning star

TO	LOCAL DETAIL	IMAGE OF CHRIST	GOOD	BAD	CALL TO REPENT	TO THE ONE WHO CONQUERS
Sardis (3:1-6)	Have a reputation of being alive but are dead	Has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars	A few have not polluted their garments, are worthy to be dressed in white	I know your works; have a reputation of being alive but are dead	Repent; keep what you receive; watch, lest I return as a thief	Will be dressed in white; I will not remove his name from the book of life; I will confess his name
Philadelphia (3:7-13)	Have an open door for evangelism; Jews from the synagogue of Satan will acknowledge that I have loved you	The holy and true One, who has the key of David and who opens and closes	I have placed before you an open door; you have kept my Word and not denied my name	Have a little power to take advantage of open doors, opportunity	Hold on to what you have; I will protect you during the testing of all the earth; I am coming quickly	I will place him as a pillar in God's temple; I will write on him God's name, the name of God's city, my new name
Laodicea (3:14-22)	Are worldly wealthy, but spiritually poor, naked, blind	The Amen, the faithful and true witness, the source of the creation of God		Lukewarm; do not know your own wretchedness	I am about to spit you out; repent; I knock at the door; if anyone opens, I will enter and eat with him	I will grant you to sit with me on my throne

Dear Church...



THIS WEEKEND'S SERMON OUTLINE

"Dear Church . . ." – Revelation 2 – 3

Writing letters . . .

Seven letters to seven churches . . .

F _____ over **F** _____

- Ephesus – "These are the words of Him who holds the seven stars in this right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands."
- Smyrna. "These are the words of Him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again."
- Pergamum. "These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword."

C _____ over **C** _____

- Pergamum – ". . . there are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam . . . eating food sacrificed to idols and committing sexual immorality."
- Thyatira – ". . . sexual immorality and eating food sacrificed to idols."
- Ephesus – "You have abandoned your first love."

Repent . . .

A _____ over **A** _____

- Ephesus – "You have abandoned your first love."
- Laodicea – "You are neither cold nor hot . . . you are lukewarm."
- Sardis – "You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead, your deeds are unfinished."

St. Michael's Mission: "**Connecting people to Jesus and others.**"

Becoming more like Jesus. **Belonging** to His community. **Blessing** His world

- Philadelphia – "I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut."

V _____ over **V** _____. "**To the one who is victorious . . .**

- Ephesus – ". . . I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, in the paradise of God."
- Smyrna – ". . . you will not be hurt by the second death."
- Pergamum – ". . . I will give you a white stone with a new name."
- Thyatira – "To the one who is **victorious**, I will give authority over the nations."
- Sardis – "The one who is **victorious**, I will never blot out your name from the book of life."
- Philadelphia – "To the one who is **victorious**, I will write on you my new name."
- Laodicea – "To the one who is **victorious**, I will give you the right to sit with me on my throne."

If Jesus wrote a letter to our church, what would He say?

If Jesus wrote a letter to our church, what do you hope He would say?

If Jesus wrote a letter to our church, what would you want Him to say?