



The Evangel

Vol. 39, Edition 11

November 2022

***Our Saviour
Lutheran Church***
is a congregation of the
Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America.

We welcome all
to share in life with Christ
as a community
of faith in mission.

OSLC's Vision & Mission

God calls us to be a community of
discipleship for all, making Christ's
love real in our daily lives.

Grow in faith and Christian calling
Love and serve God and neighbor
Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Worship on Sundays

9:00 A.M. (Online and in-person)

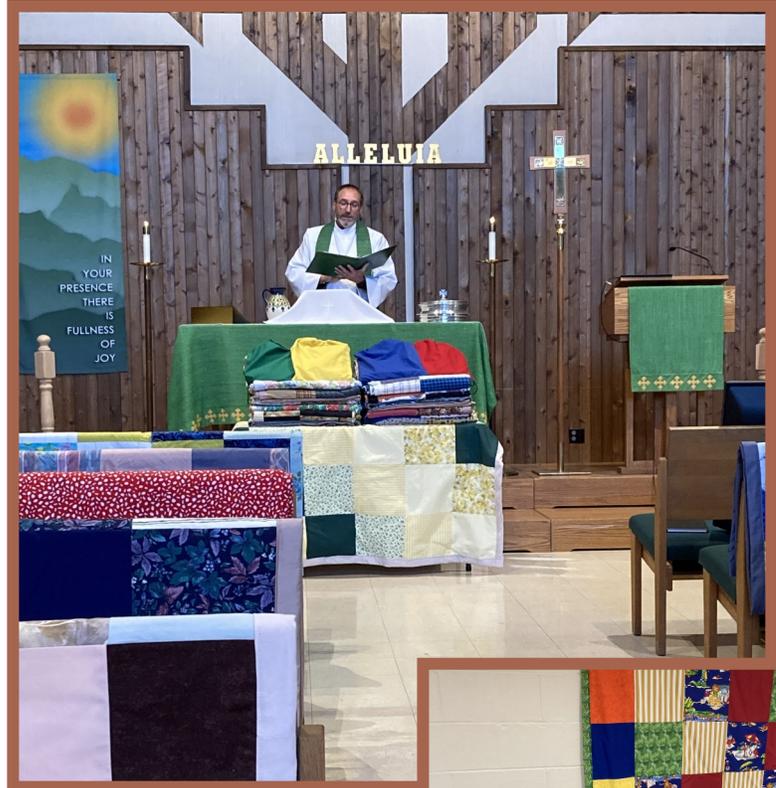
11:30 A.M. (in-person)

Join the Zoom Meeting or watch
live on OSLC's facebook page.

Email OSLC (info@osluth.org) and Teo will
send you a bulletin and a Zoom invite.



Randy Schroeder, Pastor



BLESSING OF BACK TO SCHOOL KITS



November Blessings

Grace, Mercy and Peace to you and your families from our Creator and risen Christ!!

As you read this I will be returning from vacation. Yet, I am writing this prior to vacation ☐. So, I thank you for blessing me with time to **...be still...** Missy and I are/were planning a relaxing time in Louisville, KY. I might have time to work on a few home projects and we are going to enjoy our niece's wedding in Fort Wayne as we gather with family. When I return, I will let you know how things worked out.



Presently, as the leaves continue to fall with the temperature, we begin to think about thankfulness and enter Advent. Yet before we get to Thanksgiving and Advent, There are a couple of items I which to bring to your attention.

November 6th is All Saints Sunday. Please send names of those who have died and entered the Church Triumphant, in the past year, (or so) whom you wish to be remembered as we pray. On Sunday Nov 6th, will also welcome Matthew Szerdy into our congregation through Baptism. If you are able, please join us in church to welcome Matthew, son of Darren and Beth Szerdy.

Sunday, November 13th, again join us in church, because we will meet the primary candidate for the PLM Pastor's position. They will be here to preach at both services, and you will have time to meet them after the second service. (More information will be posted about the gathering) Friday and Saturday, the candidate will meet with the PLM Board and Students. If all goes well, the next steps are to submit their name to the Synod Council for approval. Because Campus Ministry is a Specialized Ministry, the Synod Council would authorize the Letter of Call to PLM. Your prayers are appreciated during this process. Please come on Sunday the 13th, as you are able, to support PLM at this exciting time.

Now we can look toward Thanksgiving and Advent. Sunday November 20th, the Faith Formation team would like to invite you to participate in the spiritual practice of gratitude as a community. You can read more about this event posted by the Faith Formation team in the bulletin as well as this issue of the Evangel.

This Advent, beginning on Sunday the 27th, we will use liturgy published by Barn Geese Worship. The theme is 'Out of the Blue.' Midweek services are also the planning stages, so stay tuned. The following is taken from the Introduction to this Liturgy.

Imagine that you're driving down the highway. You miss your exit. With a little tug in the pit of your stomach, you realize that you're now heading somewhere new.

Imagine that you're at a concert. A piece of music keeps surprising you with fresh chords and new sounds. The composer leads you somewhere you didn't expect, and you can't help but follow, curious to discover what comes next.

Imagine that you've gathered with a group of people for ballroom dancing. The music shifts; it's time to change partners. You're ready to sit this one out, but someone meets your eyes and holds out their hand. The moment is electric. You accept the wordless invitation and spin into motion.

Change is at hand. Something unexpected is happening, and we're in the midst of it.

Out of the blue, something new is arriving like lightning: transformation, wonder, justice, joy. From generation to generation, God has been dreaming of this moment. Inevitably, it catches us by surprise, just like it surprised our ancestors in faith: Sarah, Abraham, Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Mary, Joseph. God's time is now. It's here to reorient our expectations and to sweep us into a future of hope and promise, even if we didn't expect it, even if it wasn't part of our plans.

This November and December, Barn Geese Worship invites you to join the flow of an Advent season that sweeps us off our feet, carries us forward, and invites us to join God in God's creative work. We'll trace God's plans for justice and peace with the genealogy of Jesus and the witness of the saints who followed him. We'll be surprised by a thicket of new shoots from the stump of Jesse. We'll find God beguiling us by inviting us to imagine something new, regardless of what came before. And if we're worried about the future and afraid of letting go of the familiar outlines of our lives, God will meet us there too.

The highway has always extended past the familiar exit. The music is already written. The dance is underway. But the moment of change seems to come out of the blue, altering our expectations and creating a future we never thought possible.

It soon will be Advent, and change is coming **out of the blue**. What will God reveal to us this season?

I give thanks for you each and every day! I am thankful for your partnership in ministry as we continue walking this path of faith together. May God's peace and mercy fill you now and always.

Peace,

Pastor Randy

News & Notes

Council Highlights

September 14, 2022

- Hunger Hike was a success, raising more the \$1500.
- Levi Taylor started PAX on October 25th.
- PLM Update: the primary candidate will be at OSLC the weekend of November 13th.
- Faith Formation: Missy hit the ground running. Sunday school is starting November 6th. Gratitude Sunday will be November 20th.
- The Evangelism team is participating at the Fall Festival at the West Lafayette Wellness Center on Friday, October 28th from 5-8 PM.
- Finance: September income was 103% of expected and year to date income remains excellent (104.5%)
- Constitution Changes: Looked at the changes highlighted in blue. Voted on approval of these changes. No objections. Approved.
- Bylaws Changes: Vote on recommending the changes to the congregation. No objections. Approved.

Stewardship Article

The Psalmists tells us the earth and everything on it belong to God. “The earth is the Lord’s and the fulness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein”. (Psalm 24:1). One major theme in the Bible is stewardship of what God has given us.

We are called on to give our time, talent and treasure. As Financial Secretary for OSLC I want to address where we are in terms of how we are managing treasure since this has been a major topic this year.

We currently have two pledge-based campaigns in progress. The annual request for pledges for our 2023 budget and the three year Capital Campaign.

The pledging for the 2023 budget is proceeding and it appears we will meet the level of the 2022 budget at minimum.

The pledge period for the Capital Campaign is over with an amount of \$161,140 pledged. As of October 24, \$97,177 has been contributed! On a weekly basis Bob Nielsen has been making payments on our Line-of-Credit account with PEFCU, which was one of the sources of money for the purchase of the houses between the church and the PLM House. As I noted in a previous article, the response of the congregation was prompt and generous.

We are on track to continue as a congregation and as a contributing member of the IK Synod. We have made a commitment through the property purchase to support and strengthen our joint ministry with Purdue Lutheran Ministry.

John Mills

Save these Dates

- November 6th– Sunday School Classes | baby Matthew Baptism
- November 20th-Gratitude Sunday

Our
Saviour’s
Love we
Celebrate

NOVEMBER UPDATES

Psalm 106:1 -Hallelujah! Thank GOD! And why? Because God's good, because God's love lasts.

The Message

As I look back over the past four weeks my heart is filled with gratitude! It has been a privilege and joy begin my new role here at OSLC! Everyone has been so kind and helpful, and I feel truly blessed to be serving along side all of you! THANK YOU!

This first month has been busy and I am excited to see the energy that is being generated around the events we have planned and the ones that will be coming up soon!

Adult Forum is in full swing! Here is our schedule through the end of November. If you have thoughts or ideas about topic or people who may be interested in sharing with us, please let Mark Hermodson, Scott Vana, Sandra Vana or Missy Schroeder know so we can try to make arrangements.

October 30th – Dale Buettner journey of being a career musician and songwriter

November 6th – Servant Sunday no AF- Baptism of baby Matthew

November 13th – PLM Candidate question and answer time

November 20th- Pastor Randy talking about his involvement with the Wabash Pastoral Leader Program

November 27th- Thanksgiving weekend no AF

Sunday School will begin on November 6th. Missy Schroeder will be teaching the class. The curriculum we use is designed for multi-aged children. Please let Missy know if your children will be participating in Sunday School so she can plan accordingly. missy@osluth.org or 260-402-4477

Gratitude Sunday- On November 20th, the Faith Formation team would like to invite you to participate in the spiritual practice of gratitude as a community. After our second service at 12:30 (ish) we will be hosting a lunch and a time for us to think about and practice gratitude for all the many blessings in our lives. Missy will lead us in a gratitude practice, we will eat and then have opportunities for young and old to create cards and or notes for the people in our lives who we are thankful for. There will be crafts for the kids to do and we invite all to create artwork to be displayed in the narthex that is an expression of what they are grateful for. Please let Missy know if you would like to attend so we can plan accordingly or if you have any questions. missy@osluth.org or call or text 260-402-4477

Advent plans are under way, and we will let you know more as they unfold.

If you are interested in participating in any of the events or would like to join our Faith Formation team please let Carol Grady, Holly Black, Krista Gerhart, or Missy Schroeder know. Missy's contact information is missy@oslut.org or 260-402-4477.



illustratedministry.com



Resources:

- **Facebook**-“Like” OSLC’s page for Sunday Worship streamed live, updates and upcoming events: <https://www.facebook.com/osluth/>
- **RightNow Media** (bible studies, devotions, video resources for individuals & families)- **FREE** OSLC membership: <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/account/invite/OurSaviour>



rightnow MEDIA

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Fall Cookout



Thank you to all of you who helped with our Fall Cookout! We had around 30 people participate and had a lot of fun! Thank you, Carol and Buz for all the help setting up and Pastor Randy for splitting the wood and manning the fire! We look forward to many more fun events in the future!

Upcoming Activities



LUM Fall Happenings

PORT of HOPE – the Immigration Clinic Fundraiser | Thursday, November 3 at 5:30 p.m. | Lafayette Brewing Co., Lafayette, IN

TURKEY TROT 5K

Run | Thursday, November 24 at 8 a.m. | Celery Bog Nature Area, West Lafayette, IN

Community THANKSGIVING

Feast | Thursday, November 24 at Noon | Central Presbyterian Church, Lafayette, IN

JUBILEE Christmas | Saturday, December 10 | All Day | Events at 27 Locations in Lafayette/West Lafayette, IN

*Pints with a Pastor
Announcement
coming soon!*



Callout for Men's Breakfast Group:

Many years ago a younger group of OSLC men started to meet for breakfast once a month and had a topic for discussion or a book review. Everything changed so that now we are much older and we have no topic or book review. We just enjoy whatever comes up. Attendance ranges from five to nine and we meet at Literato at 8:30 am for an hour or so on the first Saturday of the month. We welcome newcomers and guests. There is plenty of space. Each orders their own food and drink and heads for our table.

Pease consider joining us.

Dick Rahdert



November

“The trees are in their autumn beauty, the woodland paths are dry, under the October twilight the water mirrors a still sky”

-William Butter Yeats

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | 6 PM Pax All Saints' Day | | 8pm AA | | 8:30 Men's Breakfast Group |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 9am Worship in-person & Zoom 11:30 Worship in-person | | 6PM Pax Election Day | | 8pm AA | Veterans Day ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 9am Worship in-person & Zoom 11:30am Worship in-person | | 6 PM Pax | 6:30pm Council Meeting | 8pm AA | | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 9am Worship in-person & Zoom 11:30am Worship in-person Gratitude Sunday | | 6 PM Pax | | 8pm AA Thanksgiving Day  | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| 9am Worship in-person & Zoom 11:30am Worship in-person First Sunday of Advent | | 6 PM Pax | | | | |

9 AM Worship Assistant Schedule for November

| Date | Cantor | Assisting Minister | Lector | Usher | Assistant to Mike Williams |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| November 6 | Russell Hillberry | Marcia Daehler | Mary L Waltmann | Mark Hermodson | Jesse Grogan |
| November 13 | Kathy Heise | Mary L Waltmann | Dick Rahdert | Vera Weiser | Ted Heise |
| November 20 | Russell Hillberry | Robert Hershberger | Dee Hershberger | Mark Hermodson | Jesse Grogan |
| November 27 | Mark Hermodson | Mary L Waltmann | Dee Hershberger | Robert Hershberger | Jesse Grogan |

If you would like to serve as a worship assistant for the 9am and 11:30am services in the months of November & December, please contact Teo (teo@osluth.org)

11:30 AM Worship Assistant Schedule for November

| Date | Assisting Minister | Lector | Usher |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------|------------|
| November 6 | Sandra Vana | Dean Devoe | |
| November 13 | | Dean Devoe | |
| November 20 | | Sandra Vana | Scott Vana |
| November 27 | | Dean Devoe | |

Service Opportunities



THANKSGIVING AT LTHC

Mission Trip 2023

You are invited to make a difference in the lives of the people of Guatemala. Join us on a mission trip June 10-18, 2023. We will partner with Mission Guatemala who has over 12 years of experience serving God and the people of the central highlands of Guatemala. Their focus is on health, education and nutrition. We will work alongside local people on projects determined by the local communities. In the past these have included constructing school desks and furnishings for feeding centers, installing high efficiency wood burning stoves in homes, building restrooms and handwashing stations at schools, assembling water purification buckets, playing with school children, and creating playgrounds in villages.

What you need in order to serve is a servant's heart for working within the culture of Guatemala. Physically you need to be able to walk 200-300 yards without stopping. Financially the cost is between \$1500-\$2000 depending mostly on the cost of airfare. You will need a valid US passport and meet Guatemalan and United States health requirements for entry. Teens (13-17) are welcome when accompanied by a parent or grandparent. We will also have 3-4 team meetings to prepare for our service.

A more in-depth information session will be held soon. If you are interested, contact Pastor Will Peugeot

willp2444@gmail.com

765-426-6251

For more information about Mission Guatemala visit www.missionguatemala.com.

We're getting a jump start on our Thanksgiving shopping list. This will help fill needs at the Engagement Center for the entire holiday including breakfast, a main meal, and to go sack dinners. If you would like to lend a hand the link below will direct you to LTHC's shopping list.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094AAEAD23A1FD0-thanksgiving>

LTHC plans to feed 100 people that day and can use any extra help. Any donations are welcome starting **November 1-11**.

If you are looking for additional ways to serve LTHC, cooks are needed to help provide a Thanksgiving meal at **Eighth Street Commons** and **Lincoln Center**

Please contact **Jennifer Shook** at meals@lthc.net for further information.



Words of Wisdom

A Good Contagion

Thanksgiving is key in Christian prayer, but often our requests outweigh our thanks. By contrast, 85% of prayers in the Jewish prayerbook are blessings of thanks, according to Rabbi Evan Moffic. Noting that the Hebrew word for a Jewish person — *Yehudah* — means “one who is grateful,” he states, “Gratitude is at the core of how Jews pray.”

Someone once asked Moffic if he might know about a blessing he’d overheard at a restaurant. After a man proposed to his girlfriend and she said yes, he walked quietly to a corner, put on a yarmulke (a sacred Jewish head covering worn in prayer) and spoke a blessing. His fiancé teared up. The rabbi said the prayer was surely this: “Blessed are you, O God, sovereign of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us and for enabling us to reach this joy-filled moment.”

Why was this person so interested? “I am planning to propose to my girlfriend,” he shared with Moffic, “and I want to say this prayer with her.”

Unbeknown to the newly engaged pair, their gratitude transformed another couple’s life. When we give thanks to God, not only is our faith strengthened but our thanksgiving may inspire others. Gratitude is contagious!

—Heidi Hyland Mann

Gratitude Galore

If you’ve ever kept a gratitude journal, you know they’re fairly easy to fill. Edward King, an English bishop known for working with the poor, may not have had a fancy journal. But these words evoke such a list: “I will thank God ... for the glory of the thunder, for the mystery of music, the singing of birds and the laughter of children. ... for the awe of the sunset, the beauty of flowers, the smile of friendship and the look of love ... for the leaves on the trees in spring and autumn, for the witness of the leafless trees through the winter, teaching us that death is sleep and not destruction, for the sweetness of flowers and the scent of hay. Truly, oh Lord, the earth is full of thy riches!”

King concludes: “And yet how much more I will thank and praise God for the strength of my body enabling me to work, for the refreshment of sleep, for my daily bread, for the days of painless health, for the gift of my mind and the gift of my conscience, for his loving guidance of my mind ever since it first began to think, and of my heart ever since it first began to love.”

Thankful for the Saints

In our day of Thanksgiving one psalm let us offer for the saints who before us have found their reward. When the shadow of death fell upon them, we sorrowed, but now we rejoice that they rest in the Lord. ...

These stones that have echoed their praises are holy, and dear is the ground where their feet have once trod. Yet here they confessed they were strangers and pilgrims, and still they were seeking the city of God.

A Challenging Word

Do you not know that God entrusted you with that money — all above what buys necessities for your families — to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to help the stranger, the widow, the fatherless; and, indeed, as far as it will go, to relieve the wants of all mankind? How can you, how dare you, defraud the Lord, by applying it to any other purpose?

—From a sermon by John Wesley

TRUMPET—In the Old Testament, trumpets, often made from ram’s horns, called people to worship or war (and often promised victory). Joshua and the Israelites used trumpets to fell the walls of Jericho. Under Gideon, the small Israelite army blew trumpets and smashed jars to confuse the Midianites into surrender. The New Testament says trumpets will sound at the Last Judgment and the resurrection of the dead. In Revelation 11, a seventh trumpet proclaims God’s final and complete triumph.



Attention to U.S Hunger at White House Conference

October 5, 2022

When the ELCA signed a request of President Biden to host a White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, Hunger, and Health, the group of organizations stated: “We *can* end hunger in America, and a public commitment to a White House Conference, with ending hunger as a key priority, is an essential step in accomplishing this goal” (March 14, 2022 Letter). The conference sponsored by the White House on September 28 became the second of its kind in over half a century. Tackling hunger, nutrition and health in America was the theme, accompanied by the announced *Biden-Harris Administration National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health*.

Hunger in the United States

According to the White House data on hunger, nutrition and health, 1 in 10 American households experience food insecurity. Additionally, diet-related diseases are some of the leading causes of death in the United States of America: 10% of Americans have diabetes, 1 in 3 Americans will have cancer in their lifetime, and more than 40% of Americans suffer from high blood pressure. These grim statistics disproportionately affect communities of color, people living in rural areas, people living in U.S. territories, people with disabilities, older adults, LGBT community members, military families and veterans. It is with this landscape that the work being done by government programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); school meals and Child Tax Credits (CTC) is important for meeting basic needs. Among ELCA federal policy prioritization is supporting the strength and reach of these programs.

White House Conference and Strategy Highlights

Over 500 elected officials, advocates and activists, and leaders of business, faith and philanthropy groups from across the United States convened in Washington D.C. as well as virtually to discuss the Administration’s goal of “ending hunger and increasing healthy eating and physical activity in the U.S. by 2030.” The first step toward achieving this goal was announced by President Biden: the commitment of \$8 billion by public and private sectors toward helping to provide more food and better nutrition by 2030.

It is through the release of the 44-page *Biden-Harris Administration’s National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health* that the White House gave a direct and detailed plan. This strategy calls for a “whole-of-government” approach that is pursued across five pillars.

1. **Improve food access and affordability** – approach includes goals to increase access to free and nourishing school meals, provision of Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) benefits to more children, and expansion Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility to more underserved populations. This pillar in the strategy names helping all Americans become economically secure as a critical step to reduce hunger and associated disparities toward “making it easier for everyone—including individuals in urban, suburban, rural, and Tribal communities, and territories—to access and afford food.”
2. **Integrate nutrition and health** – approach includes pilot coverage of medically tailored meals in Medicare, testing Medicaid coverage of nutrition education, and expanding Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries’ access to nutrition and obesity counseling.

3. **Empower all consumers to make and have access to healthy choices** – approach proposes a front-of-package labeling scheme for food packages, an update the nutrition criteria for the “healthy” claim on food packages, expansion of incentives for fruits and vegetables in SNAP, and facilitation of sodium reduction in the food supply by issuing longer-term, voluntary sodium targets for industry.
4. **Support physical activity for all** – approach includes expanding the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) State Physical Activity and Nutrition Program to all states and territories, investing in efforts to connect people to parks and other outdoor spaces, and funding regular updates to and promotion of the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans.
5. **Enhance nutrition and food security research** – approach includes bolstering funding to improve metrics, data collection and research to inform nutrition and food security policy, particularly on issues of equity and access; and implementing a vision for advancing nutrition science.

This Strategy and Our Convictions

Non-governmental programs were highlighted by President Biden during the conference, and he expressed that “everyone has an important role to play”. This includes private and non-profit efforts, to which ELCA congregations, social ministries and ELCA World Hunger initiatives are deeply committed.

The Alliance to End Hunger, in which the ELCA is a member, **noted** the significance in the White House plan of intending to end hunger for millions by reducing the number of households defined as having a very low food security to less than 1% and by cutting the number of households defined as food insecure by 50% by 2030. “The White House laudably built its strategy based on feedback from stakeholders, the general public and those with lived experience of poverty and hunger... We now look forward to working with our diverse network to determine the action steps that will bring the plan to fruition.”

“The vision of ELCA World Hunger is nothing short of a just world where all are fed,” says Ryan Cumming, ELCA Program Director for Hunger Education. “Congregations, social ministries and local partners have a key role to play in this work. They are on the frontlines of responding to hunger and connecting neighbors to public support, but just as importantly, they are building the relationships rooted in justice, love and hope that will be needed to end hunger for good, together. The White House’s national strategy is a key step to that future.”

Recordings of panel sessions and plenary sessions are available [online](#).

News items for the December *Evangel* are due to Teo (teo@osluth.org) by 11/23/2022. Please type "Evangel" in the subject line.

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The Evangel

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