

to be written; otherwise we would have despised what we now have and would have pried into what is beyond us.

Good Angels Are the Stronger. That the entire world is not a mass of flames, that all towns and villages are not lying in a heap of ruins, we owe to the working and doing of the good angels. They are far more sensible and wise than the evil angels, because they have a mirror into which they look, a mirror the devil does not have. It is called *facies Patris*, the face of our Lord God. This is why one good angel is far wiser than all the devils put together. The good angels are much mightier too; for they stand in the presence of Him whose name is *Omnipotens*, the Almighty.

Their Appearances Create Fear. The good angels bring terror; that is, they come with a certain majesty...so that the people to whom they come are frightened. Thus Mary is filled with fear upon seeing the angel (Luke 1:29)...But an evil angel creeps along smoothly and gently, like a serpent, until he has lured people into security and sin; then he departs, leaving horrible fear behind.

Angels at our Side Even in Death. You should be certain that angels are protecting you when you go to sleep, yea, that they are protecting you also in all your business, whether you enter your home or leave your home.... Therefore even when you come to die, you should say that Christ will be with you and will have an unnumbered multitude of holy angels with him. You should know that angels are at your side not only in this life but also in death.

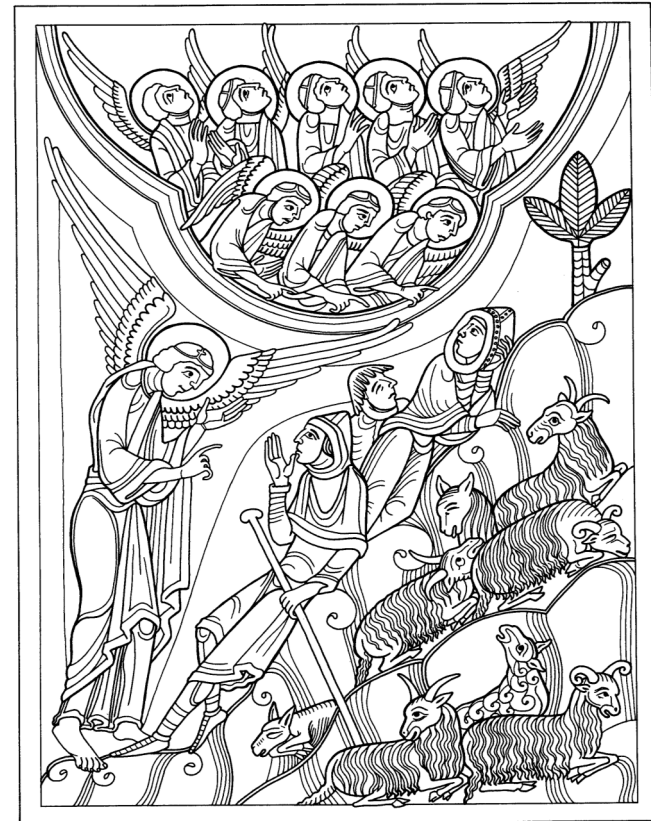
—From the writings of Martin Luther (1484-1546)



We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose. And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.

Credits

Cover Art: *The Annunciation to the Shepherds*. St. Albans Psalter, Hildesheim. Early 12th century.



...the things that have now been
announced to you by those who
preached the Good News to you
by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—
things into which angels long to look.

—1 Peter 1:12—

Old Orchard Church
June 28, 2009 — 10:15 to 11:45 a.m.

Celebrating Jesus Christ, Lord of Ministering Angels

And the Reception of New Members

Of the eternal and incarnate Son

The Father says,

“Let all the angels of God worship him.”

For he has inherited a Name higher than theirs;

By the exercise of his love,

Shown in the bitterness of his suffering,

Christ has been exalted above every angelic spirit
in the universe.

Now they serve him, now they submit to him,

Rendering their help as bodiless spirits

Sent from the unseen world to serve God’s elect children
in the seen world.

Thanks be to God, Lord of all creatures!

Thanks be to Christ,

Who bore up our human nature

To the Central Heights of glory in the world invisible,

Past even angels,

That we might share the divine nature forever.

Alleluia!



Scripture Readings

Jesus's teaching on angels: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-42; 18:10-14

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-9, 13-14

Miniseries on Worship

"The Practice of Worship: Like an Old Shoe and a New Song"

Psalm 96

Ron Lutjens, senior pastor, preaching

A New Age View of Angels

There are many books about people’s encounters with angels...This book is different from all the rest. It will teach you how to talk with your angels. The simple five-step method you will be using is called the GRACE Process.

Ask Your Angels is a guide to establishing a new form of relationship with your celestial companions—that of best friends. It comes into being as part of the great reawakening to the angels that is currently under way. Whatever belief you’ve previously held about them, applying what you’ll learn here will open you to a new way of being with these blessed messengers.

In Part I, we’ll be sharing a bit of the history of angelic encounters with the human race. Then we trace the evaluation of how people have perceived angels and the celestials’ impact on the World Mind. And to give you a sense of how it happened to us, we’ll tell you the stories of how we met our own angels....

Anyone and everyone can talk with celestials—the three of us have been doing it for years....If you approach the exercises and meditations that we offer with heartfelt sincerity, you’ll make full, joyful contact with your own guardian angels.

There are many different divination tools, such as the tarot, the runes, and the *I Ching*. In this book we will be sharing a new one with you—the Angel Oracle. Using it is an enjoyable way to open yourself to the wisdom of a wide range of angels and will help you tap into your own intuitive knowing.

Once you form a relationship with your heavenly helpers, whole new vistas unfold. In Part III, you enter into a working partnership with the angels, for the purpose of personal and global transformation. You’ll learn how to fine-tune your relationship and team up with the angels to achieve your goals. We will show you how to bring the winged ones into all your relationships, dreams, healing, and recovery.

—From *Ask Your Angels* (1992)

A Christian View of Angels

What an Angel Is. An angel is a spiritual creature, a personal being without a body, appointed for the service of the divine church.

Bible Does Not Say Much About Angels. Moses writes nothing about the creation of the angels because....he did not want to provide an opportunity for speculation. Our God did the right thing in that He did not permit many matters