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American Lutheran Church, 500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866 Church Phone: (217) 893-4550 <u>www.alc-rantoul.org</u>



"Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come." Psalm 71:18

During the lengthy season of Pentecost, which began on May 19 this year, the church sanctuary is usually decorated in green, the color of growing plants. The green symbolizes how God's people, fed with His Word and Sacraments, are growing and maturing in faith.

This is ALC's 94th anniversary year. That's a lot of green and a lot of growing and maturing. Thanks be to God that He is not done with us yet. We still have a place and a purpose in His kingdom. ALC's enduring message of Christ crucified and risen is still what a hurting and dying world needs.

As God continues to add years to the life of this congregation, may you be able to look back and see His faithfulness at work year after year and the many ways He revealed His goodness to ALC. May you then, as the Psalmist urges, declare God's power and mighty acts to the next generation.

As God continues to add years to your life, may His Spirit daily bless you with the faith to know beyond all doubt that, when your labors here are completed, the eternal joys of heaven await you.

Let us pray. Loving Father, You desire all to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. Remember the lost who have not heard the glorious Gospel of Christ. Remember those who have forgotten Your Word. Let them hear Your Church's call and receive the gift of Your Spirit, so that they would rejoice forevermore in Your great salvation. Amen

Adapted from the archives of Trinity Lutheran Church, Coal Valley, IL, Rev. David C. Anderson