

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 13, 2022

November 13, 2022
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES *Here I Am to Worship*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who is eager to forgive
and who loves us beyond our days.
Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.
God of mercy and forgiveness,
we confess that sin still has a hold on us.
We have harmed your good creation.
We have failed to do justice,
love kindness,
and walk humbly with you.
Turn us in a new direction.
Show us the path that leads to life.
Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

Beloved of God:
your sins are forgiven ✠ and you are made whole.
God points the way to new life in Christ,
who meets us on the road.
Journey now in God's abiding love
through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* (all verses)

If You But Trust in God to Guide You



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite
Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

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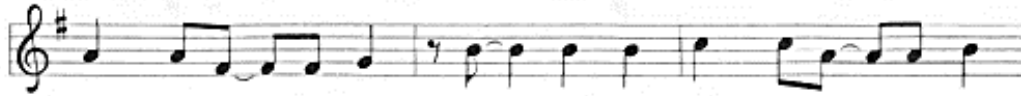
GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;
poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.



Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

THE FEAST IS READY

LM and refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a

A reading from Malachi.

Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that “the day is coming.” On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who honor God.

¹See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a}But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98

(read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done ¹ marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have ¹ won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made ¹ known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight ¹ of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the ¹ house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory ¹ of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, ¹ all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- ¹ joice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD ¹ with the harp,
with the harp and the ¹ voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound ¹ of the horn
shout with joy before the ¹ king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and ¹ all that fills it,
the world and those who ¹ dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers ¹ clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to ¹ judge the
earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the ¹ world with righteousness
and the peo- ¹ ples with equity.

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A reading from 2 Thessalonians.

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

⁶Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

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GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR BARB

HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord of Our Life* (all verses)

Lord of Our Life



1 Lord of our life and God of our sal - va - tion, star of our
2 See round your ark the hun - gry bil - lows curl - ing, see how your
3 Lord, you can help when earth - ly ar - mor fails us; Lord, you can
4 Peace in our hearts, our trou - bled thoughts as - suag - ing, peace in your



night and hope of ev - 'ry na - tion: hear and re - ceive your
foes their ban - ners are un - furl - ing. Lord, while their poi - soned
save when dead - ly sin as - sails us; and, in the day when
church, where kin - dred souls are rag - ing, peace, when the world its



church's sup - pli - ca - tion, Lord God Al - might - y.
ar - rows they are hurl - ing, you can pre - serve us.
hell it - self ap - palls us, grant us your peace, Lord:
end - less war is wag - ing, peace in your heav - en.

Text: Matthäus A. von Löwenstern, 1594–1648; tr. Philip Pusey, 1799–1855, alt.
Music: ISTE CONFESSOR, Poitiers *Antiphoner*, 1746

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

CREED

**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 to the dead.***

**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 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 CHURCH *(Please respond.)*

P: Lord, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am

Last time



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith
Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,
in your great love you richly provide for our needs.
Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,
and make us ready to share with all in need;
through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.
Amen.

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



San-to, san - to, san - to Dios de glo - ria y po - der,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might,



cie - los y tie - rra pro - cla - man tu glo - ria.
heav - en and earth . . . are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ben - di - to a - quel que vie - ne en el nom - bre de Dios.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of our God.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.
Come, taste and see.

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the tray.

COMMUNION SONG

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

HYMN DURING COMMUNION *My Lord, What a Morning* (all verses) My Lord, What a Morning

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,
my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.

- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un - der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be - gin to fall.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST COMMUNION



“Go, make dis - ci - ples, bap - tiz - ing them, teach - ing them.

Go, make dis - ci - ples, for I am with you till the end of time.

Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light for the world.

Go, be a cit - y on a hill, so all can see that you’re

serv - ing me. Go, make dis - ci - ples.”

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: GO, MAKE DISCIPLES, Handt Hanson
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the abundant table,
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal
with bread for the journey.
Give us your grace on the road
that we might serve our neighbors with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine on you
with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *How Firm a Foundation* (all verses)

How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand?"
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

SENDING IN SERVICE

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES *The Blessing*

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor	Rev. Barb Barry
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Pianist	Heidi Shenberger
Head Usher	Kathy Bowen
Acolyte	Norm Kuykendall
Lector.....	Peggi Norman
Securing Offering	Bernie Harris & Sam Mull
Communion Set-Up.....	Bill & Lilly Chiado
Communion Clean-Up	Bill & Lilly Chiado
Communion Bread	Bill & Lilly Chiado
Communion Assist	Ron Coldsmith & Ilona Laney
Attendance last Sunday	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in honor of Mark's birthday given by Sally, Abby & Joy and their families.

Thank you, Heidi Shenberger, for filling in as pianist and **thank you Audrey Shenberger** for singing.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

For now, the offering plate will continue to be placed in the back of the church in front of the Baptismal Font. Thank you for your continuing support of the ministries of Solomon's as we join God in the work of sharing Christ's love.

Prayer requests for the following *Sr. Barbara Barry, Greg Steinour, Betty Amt, Tana Vance, Jim and Carole Darr, Barbara Beckner, Tracy Fredericks, Louis Norman, Lanny Haugh, Heather Carman Shull, Jenny Barnes, Ray Rotz, Matthew, Lexi and Brooke Bowen, Sarge and Barb Weaver, Patricia Furry, Tina Smith, Nancy Marshall, Milissa Fogle, Marie Dovey, Beth Floyd, Jean Jackson, David Johnson, Joe and Karen Wolfinger, Jennie Matthews, Patricia Yetter, Carol Locke, Linda Wepking, Frances Kramer, Darrell Veilleux, Ukrainian Nation, Peace for the World.* If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. **Note:** At the beginning of each month, the Prayer Request List will start anew. If you would like to remain listed on the next month's list, or if you would like to have your name removed from the list before the end of the month, please call the office.

Office Hours for Pastor Barb are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon or call for an appointment.

Congregational Meeting today immediately following the worship service.

Help will be needed to prepare and serve food for the Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 19. See sign-up sheets in the Sunday School Room.

Join us for a Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 20 at 4:00 p.m. Those attending are invited to bring canned food and/or a monetary donation for Maranatha Food Pantry. There will be a dessert fellowship after the service. You are invited to bring a dessert to share. Solomons will provide drinks.

You are invited to Bible Study from 10 to 11 each Wednesday in the Conference Room of the Fellowship Center. This year we are praying through the Psalms. Each week is stand-alone so come when your schedule permits. Christian Ed is a life-long journey of discovering who God is and who are as followers of Jesus. Making time to learn God's Word is a mark of discipleship. Hope to see you there!

Antietam Battlefield Luminaries Saturday, December 3, 2022, at 10 AM. The 33rd annual Antietam Battlefield Illumination will take place on Saturday, December 3. This is a very fulfilling and emotional event which honors the 23,110 casualties which occurred during the battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862. Volunteers are greatly needed, to set up and light the luminaries. Solomon's is responsible for setting up and lighting approximately 720 luminaries. Volunteers should be at our field (by the lookout tower), no later 10 AM. A volunteer sign-up sheet is posted on the Sunday School bulletin board. For further information please contact Bonney Coldsmith or Wayne Norman.

Maranatha Paper Drive: During the month of November, will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry. Paper products cannot be purchased with Food Stamps. Items needed: toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, Kleenex, hand wipes, diapers, etc. Please place the items in the gray tote under the coat rack next to the mailboxes. If you have any questions, contact Rob Floyd.

Our Thanksgiving Dinner will be Saturday, November 19 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m.
Menu: Roast turkey, mashed potatoes, filling, gravy, corn, peas & carrots, cranberry relish, applesauce, roll & butter, plus apple and pumpkin pie. Water, coffee, and hot tea will be served. Cost: Adults - \$15; Children 5-11 yrs. \$7.00; Under 5-free. **Flyers for the Thanksgiving dinner are available** on the table in the Sunday School room for the taking.

There are extra poinsettia order forms available in the pamphlet rack in the Narthex.

Choir Practice - Thursdays at 7:00PM.

Hurricane Relief: In response to Hurricane Ian, Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is partnering with the Florida-Bahamas, Southeastern, North Carolina and South Carolina synods, as well as Lutheran Services Carolinas, to provide both immediate and long-term support. LDR anticipates relief will include water, food supplies, tarps, cleaning materials and other needs for those who have lost or damaged homes. **Please hold the victims and relief workers daily in your prayers.** Pray that God will deliver comfort to those who mourn and strength to those working diligently to provide aid. **Prayerfully consider a generous donation to provide tangible support. Make your check out to Solomons Lutheran Church with the memo space clearly marked "Hurricane Relief." If you are using cash, clearly mark the envelope. Thank you for your care and support of God's people.**

Sunday School is in Session - Adult Sunday School classes begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School room. Children's Church will be held during morning worship and will meet downstairs at 10:20 a.m. Confirmation Class will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room in the Fellowship Center.

Many thanks to Edna Harris for all the time and energy she gave to fulfill her duties as treasurer for the past two years. Edna will be stepping down from treasurer at the end of the year. Prayerfully consider if you feel called to serve in this ministry.

Power Pack Meals: The Power Pack Meal program at New Franklin Elementary School is up and running. Currently 24 students are being sent home each Friday with food to last them through the weekend. The need for donations is great. Any individual size container of vegetables, fruit, breakfast items, meals (mac & cheese, Chef Boyardee, etc.), juice pouches, Yahoo chocolate drink, 8 oz. bottle water are welcome. Please place your donation in the gray Social Ministry tote in the Sunday School room. Monetary donations are welcome, make your check payable to Solomon's with Power Pack Meals in the memo line.

Sign-up Sheets for worship assistants for the rest of the year will be on the side table in the Sunday School room. Communion: bread, set-up, clean-up, and assistant will be on a monthly basis. If you can't commit to the entire month, please see if you can share the month with someone else. Acolytes and Lectors are on a weekly basis. If you find you can't fulfill a chosen date, please call someone to take your place. Let Kimberly in the office know so the bulletin and newsletter info stays up to date. Thank you for your commitment to help provide opportunities for meaningful worship at Solomons. Kimberly will publish the schedule for each month in the newsletter.

Bulletin Announcement Forms are in both pamphlet racks. Please submit all bulletin announcements to the office by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

Council Minutes, Monthly Financial Statement and Committee Minutes are available in the library for anyone to read.

2022 Order Form



Anyone desiring to remember a loved one or honor someone with Christmas Poinsettias is asked to fill out the following form and mail it to the church office or put it in the collection plate (beside the Baptismal Font), along with a check make payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church, marked "Poinsettia Order." Deadline for **red, or marble (pink & white)** poinsettias is November 20, 2022. Cost is \$8.00. This is a 6 ½ inch pot (4-7 blooms)

*The Christmas Poinsettias in
Memory and Honor of Family and Friends
have been donated by:*

(name)

Red _____ Marble _____

Total amount enclosed _____ Total Poinsettias ordered _____

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

In honor of _____

Poinsettias must be taken home on Dec. 24th *after the evening service*.
Extra order forms are available in the pamphlet rack at both doors.

NOVEMBER 13, 2022
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST



We are witnesses of God's faithfulness.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 21:5-19	Suffering for Jesus' sake
Monday	Malachi 4:1-2a	The great day of the Lord
Tuesday	2 Thess. 3:6-13	Warning against idleness
Wednesday	Acts 10:34-43	Gentiles hear the good news
Thursday	Psalm 33:1-9	The greatness of God
Friday	Hebrews 3:1-6	Jesus is greater than Moses
Saturday	Psalm 98	Make a joyful noise
Sunday	Luke 23:33-43	Christ the crucified king

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. Psalm 98:1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come Lord Jesus; come Holy Spirit, give us courage to bear witness to your love and faithfulness with songs of joy during the good times and the bad times. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food, a sign of your faithfulness that gives us strength to endure all things through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you peace during the good times and the bad times.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some scary or troubled times you have experienced?
- When bad things happen, who do you turn to? What do you do?

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Drawn to the Light



DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 21:5-19.

Luke's Gospel is written after Roman soldiers demolished the Jerusalem temple in 70 A.D. Jesus' followers were not to pin their hopes on the glory of the temple or on anything in life that seems to promise security and stability. Jesus warns that there will not be an end to daily struggles. There will continue to be wars, earthquakes, plagues and famines. Jesus could have added hurricanes, floods, droughts, and more examples of instability. Truth itself has always been under assault, making life even more unstable. In the meantime, what do we do? We announce the truth of Jesus and God's promises that will not be conquered. We live as witnesses to the truth of God's final conquest in Christ and faithfully endure life-threatening occasions. Troubled times—whether in the first or twenty-first century—are an opportunity to speak the truth of God's love and faithfulness in Christ.

Discuss: In what ways have you experienced God's love and faithfulness in difficult times?

Pray: **Almighty God, as we experience scary times, give us faith to trust in your promise of victory over sin and death and the confidence to speak the truth in love through Christ. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you encourage those who experience difficulties in daily life?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalm 98 calls on all the earth to *make a joyful noise*. This week take a walk outside and look at God's creation around you. When you return home, draw a picture or write a list of things you saw. Then make up your own tune to use as you sing these words: *O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things* (v. 1a).