

**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**4856 WAYNE ROAD**  
**CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202**  
**(717) 267-2266**

EMAIL: [info@solomonslutheran.org](mailto:info@solomonslutheran.org)  
WEB SITE: [www.solomonslutheran.org](http://www.solomonslutheran.org)  
FACEBOOK SEARCH: Solomon's Lutheran Facebook



M A T T H E W 2 5 : 2 1

*"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-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**NOVEMBER 19, 2023**

**November 19, 2023**  
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, & wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.*

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.  
**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,  
confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.**  
**We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.**  
**We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.**  
**For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.**  
**For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.**  
**For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**  
**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG *On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand* (ELW 437)



1 On Jor-dan's storm-y bank I stand, and cast a wish-ful eye  
2 All o'er those wide ex-tend-ed plains shines one e-ter-nal day;  
3 No chill-ing winds or poi-s'nous breath can reach that health-ful shore;  
4 When shall I reach that hap-py place and be for-ev-er blest?



to Ca-naan's fair and hap-py land, where my pos-ses-sions lie.  
there God the Son for-ev-er reigns and scat-ters night a-way.  
sick-ness and sor-row, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.  
When shall I see my Sav-ior's face and in God's bos-om rest?



I am bound for the prom-ised land, I am bound for the prom-ised land;



oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the prom-ised land.

Text: Samuel Stennett, 1727–1795

Music: PROMISED LAND, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; adapt. Rigdon M. McIntosh, 1836–1899

## 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 (Sung Twice) *He Is Exalted* (W&P 55)**

He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex-alt-ed on high; I will praise him.

He is ex-alt-ed, for - ev - er ex-alt-ed, and I will praise his

name. Je - sus is Lord, for - ev - er his truth shall

reign; hea - ven and earth re - joi - ce in his ho - ly

name. He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex-alt-ed on high.

Chords: F, F/A, B♭, C/B♭, B♭/C, C, Dsus, D/C, Gm, Dm/F, C/E, C, F, Am, B♭, F/A, Gm, Dm/F, C/E, C, F, Am, B♭, F/A, Gm, B♭/F, E♭M<sup>7</sup>, B♭/C, F, B♭/F, F

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**     *People Need the Lord*

**FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

A reading from Zephaniah.

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.*

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!  
For the day of the LORD is at hand;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
“The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.”

<sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

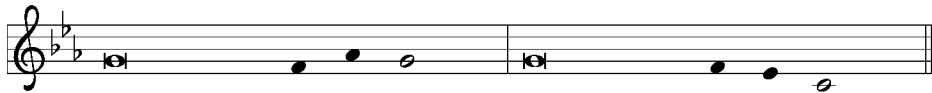
<sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the LORD,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,

and their flesh like dung.  
<sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the LORD's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 90:1-8, 12**

(Sung responsively between choir and congregation, beginning with the choir)



<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have | been our refuge  
from one generation | to another.  
<sup>2</sup>**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth were born,  
from age to age | you are God.**  
<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the | dust and say,  
“Turn back, O child- | ren of earth.”  
<sup>4</sup>**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past  
and like a watch | in the night; R**  
<sup>5</sup>you sweep them away | like a dream,  
they fade away suddenly | like the grass:  
<sup>6</sup>**in the morning it is | green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.**  
<sup>7</sup>For we are consumed | by your anger;  
we are afraid because | of your wrath.  
<sup>8</sup>**Our iniquities you have | set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.**  
<sup>12</sup>So teach us to num- | ber our days  
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

### **SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Open Our Eyes, Lord* (W&P 113)**

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "O - pen our eyes, Lord; we want to see Je - sus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. O - pen our ears, Lord, and help us to lis - ten. O - pen our eyes, Lord, we want to see Je - sus."

The guitar chords for each line of music are as follows:

- Line 1: D, G<sup>2</sup>, G, Em<sup>7</sup>/A, A<sup>7</sup>
- Line 2: G/D, D, A/C#, Bm, D/A, GM<sup>9</sup>
- Line 3: Em, A<sup>7</sup>, G/D, D<sup>2</sup>, D
- Line 4: DM<sup>7</sup>, A/G, G, Em<sup>7</sup>, A<sup>7</sup>
- Line 5: G/D, D, A, Bm<sup>7</sup>, D/A, GM<sup>9</sup>
- Line 6: Em<sup>7</sup>, A<sup>7</sup>, Em/D, D

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON “Risky Business”**



## HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord of Light* (ELW 688)



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and  
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -  
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may  
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom  
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance  
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,  
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -  
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -  
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions  
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.  
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:  
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:  
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

### *Refrain*



Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents

Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

REPRINTED UNDER ONELICENSE #A-71900. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Used by Permission. CCLI #11066173

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: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.*

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERTORY *Create in Me a Clean Heart (Hopkins) (W&P 35)*

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of six systems, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. Chord diagrams are provided above the guitar line for each system.

**System 1:** Chords: C/D mn, Dm/C. Lyrics: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve

**System 2:** Chords: C<sup>7</sup>sus, C<sup>7</sup>, F, C/E, C/D Dm, Dm/C. Lyrics: you; cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that

**System 3:** Chords: Gm, F/A, F/Bb, C, F, Am<sup>7</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>. Lyrics: I might be re - newed. So fill me and

**System 4:** Chords: Am<sup>7</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>, Gm<sup>7</sup>, Gm/D, C<sup>7</sup>sus, C<sup>7</sup>. Lyrics: heal me, and bring me back to you. Cre -

**System 5:** Chords: F, C/E, C/D Dm, Dm/C, Gm, F/A, F/Bb, C, F. Lyrics: ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve you.

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty,  
 all things belong to you.  
 We bring your gifts to the table,  
 that all might be fed.  
 Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
 Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

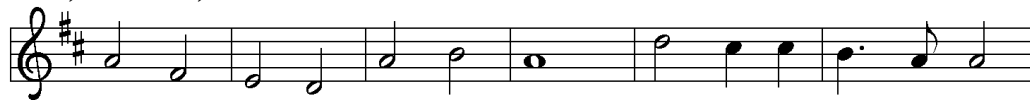
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. 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**

Jesus invites you to this table.  
Come, eat and live.

## 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 basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.*

### COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 154)



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, grant us peace.

## HYMN AFTER COMMUNION *Christ, Be Our Light* (ELW 715)



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957  
 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell  
 Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.  
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

REPRINTED UNDER ONELICENSE #A-71900. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION *We Rejoice in the Grace of God* (W&P 151)

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and joyful, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "We re-joyce in the grace of God poured up - on our lives; lov - ing - kind - ness has come to us be - cause of Je - sus Christ. We re - joyce in the grace of God, our hearts o - ver - flow. What a joy to know the grace of God!"

We re-joyce in the grace of God poured up - on our lives;  
lov - ing - kind - ness has come to us be -  
cause of Je - sus Christ. We re - joyce in the  
grace of God, our hearts o - ver - flow.  
What a joy to know the grace of God!

Text: Steve Cook and Vicki Cook

Music: WE REJOICE IN THE GRACE, Steve Cook and Vicki Cook

Text and music © 1988 Integrity's Hosanna! Music and PDI Music (ASCAP). All rights reserved. International © secured.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Used by Permission. CCLI #11066173

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed be your name, O God,  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray.  
**Amen.**

## BLESSING

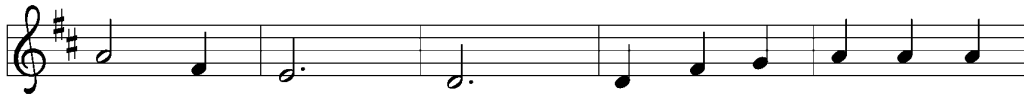
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.  
**Amen.**



## SENDING SONG *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* (ELW 815)



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

REPRINTED UNDER ONELICENSE #A-71900. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

### SENDING IN SERVICE

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

### EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE/SILENT PRAYER

### POSTLUDE

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from  
ONELICENSE with license #A-719004. All rights reserved.

## SERVING TODAY

Interim Pastor .....	Pastor Michael Allwein
Cell Phone Number .....	717-357-3814
Email Address .....	mallwein211@gmail.com
Church Office Email Address .....	<u>office@solomonslutheran.org</u>
Organist .....	Doug Mummert
Head Usher .....	Linda Berberich
Acolyte .....	Norm Kuykendall
Lector.....	Bonney Coldsmith
Securing Offering.....	Wayne Dale & Brian Coldsmith
Communion Set-Up.....	Marjorie & Wayne Dale
Communion Clean-Up .....	Linda Berberich & Kathy Bowen
Communion Bread .....	Linda Berberich
Communion Assist.....	Ron Coldsmith
Attendance last Sunday.....	51

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The altar flowers** this morning are placed to the Glory of God in honor of our children and grandchildren given by Mark and Sally.

**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!

**Prayer requests for the following:** *Tim Tweedy, Missy Moreui, Becky Ensinger, Ron Bunting, Rose Wishard, Bobby Seilhamer, Sam Mull, Lilly Chiado, Bernie Harris, Phyllis Brehm, Catherine Plummer, Bonnie Hudson, Marty Wenger, Virginia Detwiler, Callie Mummert, Matthew, Lexi and Brooke Bowen, Jim & Carole Darr, Beth Floyd, Sarge and Barb Weaver, Tina Smith, Patricia Yetter, Nancy Marshall, Darrell Veilleux, Linda Wepking, Bill and Jane Brindle, Esther Gift, Jean Jackson, Marjorie McMullin, Joe Mock, Ina Shreiner, Genny Grant, Frances Kramer, Linda Russ, Carol Locke, Betty Amt, Ukrainian Nation, Peace for the World.* If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. **Please Be Aware: 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.**

### **Weekly Calendar Reminders:**

November 23 – **NO** Choir Practice 7PM

**If you are in need of pastoral care,** please notify Pastor Mike Allwein at 717-357-3814.

**If you are not taking your altar flowers home,** please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

**To the congregation of Solomon's:** I'm writing this with my sincere thanks to all who has sent cards and prayers my way these past few months. I'm hopefully nearing the end of my treatments and am looking forward to the day I'm given the OK to resume life as before. I feel so blessed to have a church family like Solomon's walking with me through this challenging time of my life. Hope to see you all soon. We walk in faith! Sam Mull

**Spiritrust Lutheran Chambersubrg Auxiliary is inviting all to participate in the annual Angels of Love Christmas Tree.** A contribution of \$10 per person will dedicate an angel for the tree in honor or memory of a friend, family or loved one. The tree will be located in the lobby at the Inn at Luther Ridge. Funds raised will help provide care to those who can't pay and other needs at Luther Ridge and in the community. Pamphlets are located at the mailboxes. Any questions or to turn in your contribution see Becky Pecha. We appreciate your contributions.

**Volunteer Opportunities at SpiriTrust Lutheran, The Village at Luther Ridge**

Pianists are currently needed to play once a month at the Sunday afternoon chapel service. The service begins at 2:00pm and lasts for approximately a half hour. Volunteer opportunities are also available in our skilled care center. Come assist residents with simple crafts, bingo, and other games. Assist team members with manicures or transporting residents to and from events. Or simply come and spend time with residents by doing friendly visits. Please contact Linda Beaver if you are interested in helping at [lbeaver@spiritrustlutheran.org](mailto:lbeaver@spiritrustlutheran.org)

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** - Pastor Mike 's Bible study is held every Sunday, beginning at 9:00am. We conclude at 9:50, in order to prepare for worship. We look at one of the Scripture texts for the following Sunday. Copies of the reading, in addition to a handout, can be found on the table in the SS room in a tray marked "Bible Study." If you cannot join us every week, please join us when you are able! The Bible is our Book of Faith!

**Sunday Nov 19 at 5PM is our joint Thanksgiving Service to be held at New Franklin Assembly of God Church.** Everyone is invited and please bring finger food to share. Blessings, Ron Coldsmith.

**Christmas Party Luncheon** – Sunday December 10, 2023, after Church. Everyone is invited. Sign-up sheet in the Sunday School room. Menu: Make your own Pizza, Veggie Tray, Chips, Cookies & Ice-Cream, Punch, Coffee, Hot Tea & Water. Join us for good food & fellowship.

**Janice McEntire is working on the 2024 contribution envelopes.** Please let her know whether or not you would like to receive the envelopes.

**If you would like to purchase altar flowers, the following dates are still available:**  
11/26 & 12/31.

**Power Pack Meals:** The need for nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need starting in September. Please consider donating individual serving size fruit and vegetable cups, individual packages of mac-n-cheese, Chef Boyardee, 8 oz bottles of water, juice boxes, and yahoo chocolate drink. Monetary donations are accepted as well, please write “power pack meals” in the memo of your check.

**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.

**NOVEMBER 19, 2023**  
**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



*Jesus calls us to action.*

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 25:14-30</b>	<b>Parable of the talents</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18</b>	<b>Judgment of Judah</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1 Thessalonians 5:1-11</b>	<b>Encourage one another</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>James 1:19-27</b>	<b>Hearing and doing the word</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>James 2:14-26</b>	<b>Faith without works is dead</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>1 John 3:18-24</b>	<b>Love one another</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 90:1-12</b>	<b>God is eternal</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 25:31-46</b>	<b>The sheep and the goats</b>

**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'"* **Matthew 25:23 (NRSV)**

**PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Eternal God, you know our frailty and limitations. Give us faith and courage to act with boldness for the sake of your love through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

For this food that nourishes us, for the people that support us, and for your goodness that renews us, we give you thanks through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May you experience the joy of your God through Christ our Lord.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**

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

- What are some thoughts, principles, and beliefs that guide your daily life?
- How does the Christian faith help guide you in your daily life?

## HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Rise Up, O Saints of God!*



## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Matthew 25:14-30.

Jesus' parables, stories that teach a religious lesson, are powerful. They have a message for us. They get into our heads and make us think. In this reading, is God like the master who is *"a harsh man, reaping where [he] did not sow"* (v. 24)? Of course not. Parables are not necessarily stories that place God as one character and us as another. Just as the actions of the master lead to a definite action by the slave, so our God leads us to definite action. Followers of Jesus are gifted with valued contributions for the work of God's kingdom. God's grace and mercy blesses people through our actions. So act, not for personal benefit but for the joy of living in the grace of God. Christianity is not meant to be simply a philosophy that we think about but a life we experience with others and with God. It includes a *"wise heart"* (Psalm 90:12) that gives attention to what matters and what brings kindness and joy to the world.

*Discuss:* What gifts and opportunities has God given you to care for others and give witness to the love of God in Christ?

*Pray:* **God of abundance, your judgments are true and full of compassion for all that you create. Give us wise hearts to give you praise and serve our neighbor in love through Christ. Amen.**

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others with acts of kindness that reflect the abundant love of God?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The apostle Paul writes *"encourage one another and build each other up"* (1 Thessalonians 5:11). Think or talk about ways you can be affirming and encouraging to others. Name one person in particular and write a note to them to tell them a gift you have recognized in them, what you appreciate about them, and give words of encouragement to them. End the note with a blessing: Child of light, may God bless you with faith, hope and love, this day and always. (1 Thessalonians 5:5, 8)