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

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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."

REFORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 26, 2025

October 26, 2025

Reformation Sunday

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE A Mighty Fortress Is Our God – arr. Jacob B. Weber

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.
Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

*GATHERING SONG A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (isometric) (ELW 504) might - y for - tress is God, a sword and shield vic -A our 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill land all threat - 'ning to de the God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and ject ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they fear it; for God him - self fights by side with The glo - rious. old sa - tan - ic wins sal - va - tion God him - self be? e lect ed. You ask who this may can - not o - ver pow'r Let this world's ty - rant rage; weap-ons of the Spir it. Were they to take our house, has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might might - y Lord, The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, doomed to fail; bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way, arms him - self to fight. On earth he qual. has no

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

God's on - ly Son, a - dored.

God's judg-ment must pre-vail!

they can - not win the day.

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He holds the

e

rious.

him.

field vic - to

One lit - tle word sub - dues

The king-dom's ours for - ev

*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 (ELW p. 204)



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM Be Still - Karen Marrolli

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the

poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

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

- ¹ God is our ref- | uge and strength, a very present | help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;
- ³ though its waters | rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-|y of God, the holy habitation of | the Most High.
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken; God shall help it at the | break of day.
- ⁶ The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth | melts away.
- ⁷ The LORD of | hosts is with us; the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- ⁸ Come now, regard the works | of the LORD, what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.
- 10 "Be still, then, and know that | I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."

11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

- ¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.
- ²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

- ³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."
- ³³ They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"
- ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Herb Spomer

*Please stand as you are able for the final verse



Text: Delores Dufner, osB, b. 1939

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.

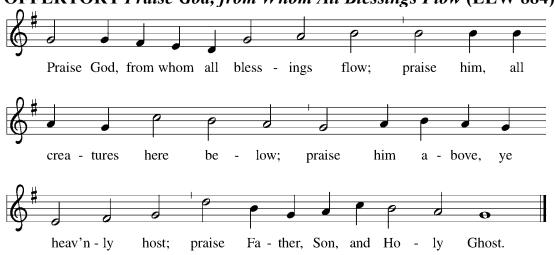
*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Please respond)

P: God of grace, C: receive our prayer.

*PEACE

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

*OFFERTORY Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (ELW 884)



*OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 (Schubert) (ELW 190) God of pow'r and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, full heav-en and earth are full, of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high est, ho - san - na in the high - est. the name of the Lord. Bless-ed is he who comes in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

*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.

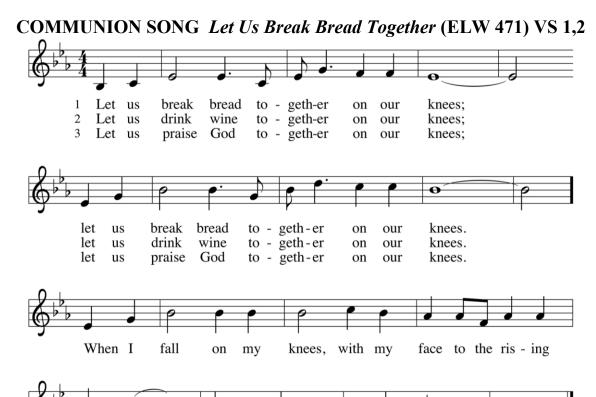
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

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.



Text: African American spiritual Music: Break Bread Together, African American spiritual

Lord,

have

mer-cy

on

me.

O

sun,

COMMUNION HYMN Blest Be the Tie That Binds (ELW 656)



- 2 Be fore our Fa ther's throne we pour our ar dent prayers;
- We share our mu tual woes, our mu tual bur - dens bear, shall be From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove. our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com-forts and our cares. and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear. and per - fect love and friend-ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt. Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

*COMMUNION BLESSING

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

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

*BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free,

bless you now and forever.

 the bless you now and you n

Amen.

*SENDING SONG The Church's One Foundation (ELW 654) church's one foun-da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord; The lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth, 3 Though with a scorn-ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed, 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war, she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One, she his new cre a - tion by wa - ter and the word. her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth: by schisms. . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed, peace for - ev - er waits the con-sum - ma - tion of more; mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is sought her From heav'n he came and be his ho - ly bride; ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food, saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?" yet till vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace, with his own blood he bought her, and for her life died. hope she press - es with ev - 'ry and to one grace en - dued. weep - ing shall be the morn night of and soon the of song. the great church vic - to - rious shall be and the church at rest. we, like saints be - fore that us, may see you face face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

*EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE Ein Feste Burg - arr. Richard Elsasser

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SERVING TODAY

Supply Pastor	Rev. Herb Spomer
Church Office Email Address	
Organist	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher	Janice McEntire
Acolyte	Aaron Shreiner
Lector	Martie Veilleux
Securing Offering	Larry Socks & Martie Veilleux
Communion Set-Up	Marjorie Dale
Communion Clean-Up	Marjorie Dale
Communion Bread	
Communion Assist	Marjorie Dale
Attendance last Sunday	30

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the glory of God.

Please welcome Rev. Herb Spomer with a warm "thank you" for preaching this morning.

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: Kaitlyn Dovey, Norm Kuykendall, Phil Johnson, Nancy Deardorff, Susie Bingaman, Patsy Wildeson, Glenn Wildeson, James Bersch, Evelyn Gomez, Kristen Hardman, Brandan DeShong, Kaitlyn Dovey, Charles Carl, Marty Wenger, Nancy Marshall, Betty Amt, our world & country, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Chuck Bedsworth, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Becky Ensinger, and all the Homebound. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.

Please Be Aware: We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

October 29 - Qigong/Tai Chi 7pm 30 - Choir 7pm

Beginning November 2, we will gladly welcome Pastor Julia Brown to Solomon's as our interim pastor for a contracted period of six months. Beginning that day, our services will begin at 10:45 a.m.

Congregational Meeting Sunday November 16: The annual congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship on November 16. The primary purpose of the meeting is to approve a 2026 operating budget and to elect members to the congregation council. A proposed budget will be sent to all member households and is available in the office. Please review the budget before the meeting. You may contact council president Ron Coldsmith with any questions.

The 35th annual Antietam Battlefield Illumination will take place on Saturday, December 6. 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 than 9:00 AM. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be in the Sunday School room. For further information please contact Bonney Coldsmith.

Our Thanksgiving Dinner is November 15th. Menu: roast turkey, filling, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans or corn, cranberry relish, applesauce, apple or pumpkin pie, roll, coffee, tea, and water. **Price:** Adults \$15.00, Children (5-11) \$7.00, Under 5 – Free. **Serving time** is 5:00PM – 7:00PM.

Pastoral Coverage in Time of Emergency - Until Pastor Julia Brown begins her interim work here on November 3, please notify the church office (717-267-2266/office@solomonslutheran.org) of any visitation requests.

Choir rehearsals continue on Thursday evenings at 7 PM. The choir continues to look for additional voices to help lead our worship services. Experience is not necessary!

During the month of November, Social Ministry will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry. You may place items in the totes under the coat rack at the back door.

Communion will be served on the 1^{st} and 3^{rd} Sunday of each month in addition to all church holidays.

SpiritTrust Lutheran has discount cards for sale, \$5 each good through August 2026. If interested, they can be purchased from Bonney Coldsmith, Marjorie Dale, Becky Pecha, and Frances Reichard.

Qigong/Tai Chi Class - **Wednesdays at 7:00pm** at Solomon's Church main Sunday school room. This is an open class. If you can walk independently, you will survive the class. All exercises are mild. For more information contact: Colleen Johnson.

Power Pack Meals: We are once again collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need during the 2025-2026 school year. Please place the items you donate in the tote in the Sunday School room. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put Power Pack Meals in the memo of your check.

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.

The 2025 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room. The cost of the two vases will be \$60.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$60.00 with the bulletin information.

The 2025 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

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.

Hymn Notes:

This morning, we observe the 508th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. It was on the church door at Wittenberg where Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses on October 31, 1517. That action led to a reform movement, resulting in the formation of national Protestant churches, among them the Lutheran Church.

Martin Luther is remembered as a great reformer, translator of the Bible, political leader, fiery preacher, and theologian. He was also a musician, with a wonderful tenor voice and skills on the lute. Luther wrote at least 36 hymns, but one of the most well-known is one you will hear and sing today in worship. Based on Psalm 46, "A Mighty Fortress" has probably been translated more frequently than any other hymn in church history. The hymn celebrates the sovereign power of God over earthly and spiritual forces, and the sure hope we have in Him because of Christ. There is evidence in many writings that Luther and his followers saw the hymn more as a song of comfort in the face of adversity, confessing Christ as the "Lord of hosts by name," and reminding us that "the kingdom's ours forever." Regardless, the hymn became very popular in Reformed Europe, and has been called the "Battle Hymn of the Reformation." Although there has been some debate on whether or not Luther borrowed the melody, most scholars now believe Luther wrote the melody himself.

There are two different versions in our hymnal (see #503/504). Both use the original melody, but #504 is the isometric version (repeated rhythmic pattern) which we use

regularly. The other version (#503) is the rhythmic pattern, often more challenging to sing! During this morning's prelude, you will hear the rhythmic pattern, while the postlude uses the isometric version.

As Lutherans, we have a tremendous musical heritage. Lutherans love to sing. Luther said, "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." (Robert J. Morgan). With that in mind, sing joyfully as we lift our voices in "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God!" Information from <u>Then Sings My Soul</u> (Robert J. Morgan); Wikipedia; REFORMATION: 50 Reformation Hymns: Chad Fothergill.

This morning's sending hymn, "The Church's One Foundation," was written in 1866 by Samuel Stone. The hymn was written in response to a Bishop in South Africa who challenged the "historicity and authority of many of the Old Testament books," (Quote from Hymnary.org), actually questioning whether or not Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible. Stone wrote twelve hymns based on the twelve articles of the Creed, which included this hymn, based on Article 9: "The Holy Catholic (Universal) Church; the Communion of Saints; He is the Head of this Body." Now an affirmation of Christ as the foundation of our faith, we sing this hymn with those who have gone before us and with Christians around the world, declaring that beyond any theological differences, cultural divides, and variances in practice, we are all part of the same body, the body of Christ. Set to music written by Samuel Wesley (grandson of Charles Wesley), it has become one of the church's best loved hymns and is a fitting sending song o this Reformation Sunday. (Hymnary.org; Then Sings My Soul, Book 2; Robert J. Morgan, page 107).

2025 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 along with a check make payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church, marked "Poinsettia Order." Order deadline for **red**, **white**, **or marble** (**pink & white**) poinsettias is November 9, 2025. 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	White	Marble
Total amount enclose	osed 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.