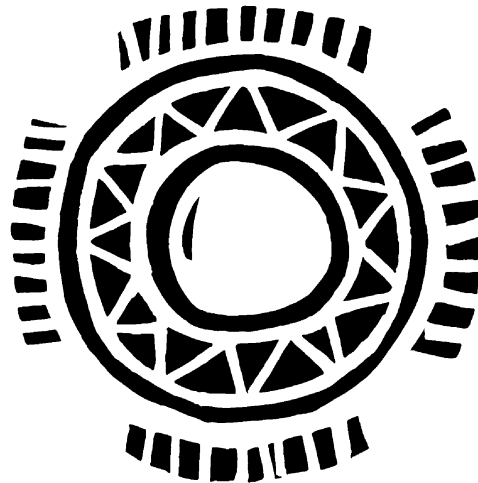


SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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M A L A C H I 4 : 2



The sun of righteousness
shall rise with
healing in its wings

"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 16, 2025

November 16, 2025
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

ORGAN PRELUDE *How Firm a Foundation* - James Southbridge

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Faithful God,
**you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.
We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.
We ignore our neighbors.
We exploit the earth.
We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.
Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.
Amen.**

Hear the good news:
God the Faithful One loves you,
✙ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG *How Firm a Foundation* (ELW 796)**



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

***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.

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.

¹ See, 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98

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

- ¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.
- ² **O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**
- ³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.
- ⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**
- ⁵ Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.
- ⁶ **With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**
- ⁷ Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.
- ⁸ **Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the
earth.**
- ⁹ The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | 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.

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and 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. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ ” ⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Wayne Dale

***Please stand as you are able for the final verse**

HYMN OF THE DAY *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* (ELW 769)



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

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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.

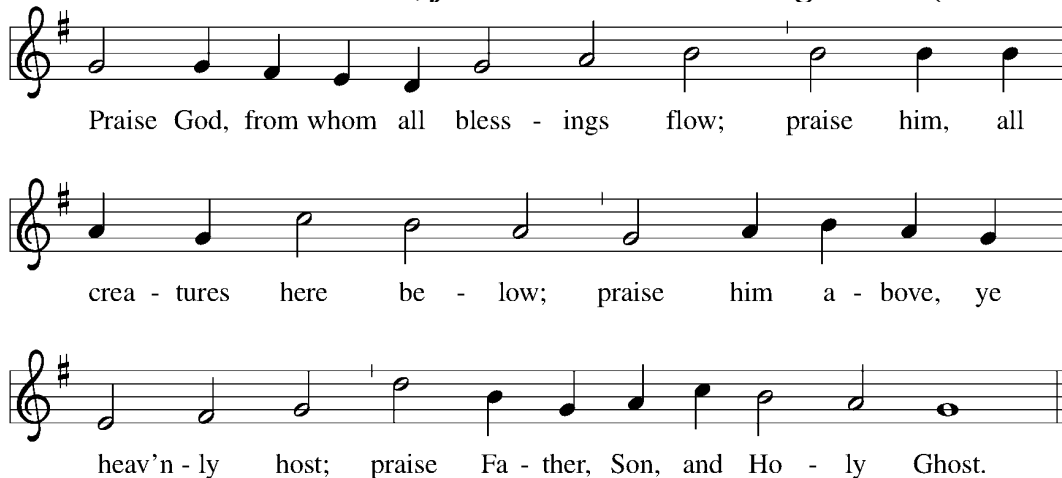
***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** (Please respond)

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

***PEACE**

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

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



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

God of healing and hope,
you bless those who are hungry,
promising to fill them with good things.
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,
now and forever.
Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

O God of justice and love,
we give thanks to you that you illumine our way
through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,
and at the end bring all the world to your feast;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom,
with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
Amen.

***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.**

***BLESSING**

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.
The holy Trinity bless you ✝
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
now and forever.
Amen.

***SENDING SONG *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* (ELW 632)**



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: St. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

***EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER**

PLEASE BE SEATED FOR THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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SERVING TODAY

Worship Leader Wayne Dale
Church Office Email Address office@solomonslutheran.org
Organist Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher Martie Veilleux
Acolyte Aaron Shreiner
Lector Judy Johnson
Securing Offering Janice McEntire & Brian Coldsmith
Attendance last Sunday 30

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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!

Any pastoral care or concerns can be addressed to Pastor Julia Brown by email jlouisebrown@msn.com or phone 703-434-9220.

Prayer requests for the following: *William Brindle, Patricia Yetter, 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:

November 18 - Property 1pm

20 - Choir 7pm

23 - Community Thanksgiving Dinner 5pm

Congregational Meeting Today, November 16: The annual congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship today. The primary purpose of the meeting is to approve a 2026 operating budget and to elect members to the congregation council.

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

Advent Bible Study - we'll use the book *Preparing for Christmas: Daily Meditations for Advent* by Fr. Richard Rohr.

When: Wednesdays, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Where: December 3 - Solomon's UCC

December 10 - Solomon's Lutheran

December 17 - Solomon's UCC

Fellowship Lunch on November 20 - 12:00 at Giacomo's Italian Restaurant in Fayetteville. You are invited to join members of Solomon's UCC for lunch! Every month on the fourth Thursday (third Thursday in November and December) at noon we go out for a fellowship lunch at a locally owned restaurant. Please RSVP by the Sunday before so that reservations can be made. If you'd like to suggest a restaurant, please do so! This announcement will be updated accordingly when we have chosen where to gather and dine.

Weekends of Wonder: Weekends of Wonder is a children's Christian education program offered by Solomon's UCC. On the second Saturday of every month, children ages 3 years and older can join Solomon's from 9:30 AM until noon for stories, songs, and activities designed to teach about God and God's love. Meanwhile, our hope is that guardians are enjoying a well-deserved sabbath! For more information and to download the registration form, visit <https://www.mysolomonsucc.org/childrens-ministry.html>. **If you would like to volunteer, please contact Pastor Julia to get connected.**

Community Thanksgiving Dinner - We are invited to join in a Community Thanksgiving Dinner to be held this year at the New Franklin Assembly of God November 23rd at 5:00 along with Solomons UCC. If you recall, it was held here at Solomons in the SFC last year with Pastor Mike as the speaker. Everyone is encouraged to bring a Main dish and/or Side dish. Beverages will be provided, or you may bring your own. A signup sheet is on the table in the SS room. Please indicate how many plan to attend. Any questions, see Wayne or Pastor Julia.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Music Notes/Hymn Notes:

In 1787, Dr. John Rippon published *A Selection of Hymns from the Best Authors*. The book was an immense success. Among the original hymns in the book was today's gathering hymn, "How Firm a Foundation." Perhaps the most noteworthy and appreciated feature of this hymn is how closely it resembles the words of the Bible itself. Originally having seven verses, our hymnal includes only four. Since its publication, "How Firm a Foundation" has enjoyed wide acceptance, especially in North America. It is known to have been the favorite hymn of General Robert E. Lee and was sung at his funeral. It is also said that once, while conducting evening prayers in Princeton Seminary's Oratory, Dr. Charles Hodge was so overcome with feeling during the last line of the hymn ("I'll never, no never, no never forsake," from Hebrews 13:5) that he could no longer sing but only gesture the words. Pay close attention to the power in these words, as we sing this hymn this morning.

Although not a hymn of Martin Luther, today's hymn of the day, "If You But Trust in God to Guide You," is included in the collection: *Reformation: 50 Reformation Hymns*, compiled by Chad Fothergill. The text and tune were written by George Neumark during the Thirty Years' War. After several unfortunate events in his life, things changed, and in his words, "his fortune changed so suddenly and, as it were, from heaven, so rejoiced my heart that I wrote my hymn." (Hymnary.org). The hymn was published in 1641 and later translated by Catherine Winkworth in 1855. A classic German chorale, this fine text focuses on trust in God's care in all of life's circumstances, both prosperous times and "evil days." As Christians we are counseled to be confident (st. 1), to have patience (st. 2), and to be faithful in service (st. 3). (*Reformation: 50 Reformation Hymns*; Hymnary.org).