

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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WHAT NO EYE HAS SEEN
NOR EAR HEARD
NOR HUMAN HEART
CONCEIVED... THESE
THINGS GOD HAS
REVEALED TO US



THROUGH THE SPIRIT

1 CORINTHIANS 2:9,10

"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."

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 8, 2026

February 8, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *Arietta* - Dennis Eliot

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in ✙ Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG** *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* (ELW 553)



- 1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,
- 2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;
- 3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri - umph o'er the shades of night;
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

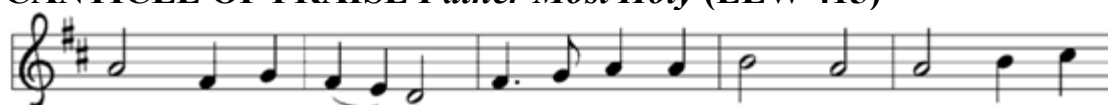
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

***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 *Father Most Holy* (ELW 415)**



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our

4 Lord God Al - might-y, un - to thee be glo - ry, one in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,

per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, light nev - er wan - ing.

praise thee and a - dore thee, now and for - ev - er.

Text: Latin hymn, 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.

Music: CHRISTE SANCTORUM, Paris *Antiphoner*, 1681

Text from *The English Hymnal* outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM *Jesus, the Light of the World* arr. George D. Elderkin

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

A reading from Isaiah.

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

¹ Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

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

- ¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who ¹ fear the LORD
and have great delight in ¹ God's commandments!
- ² **Their descendants will be mighty ¹ in the land;
the generation of the upright ¹ will be blessed.**
- ³ Wealth and riches will be ¹ in their house,
and their righteousness will ¹ last forever.
- ⁴ **Light shines in the darkness ¹ for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full ¹ of compassion.**
- ⁵ It is good for them to be gener- ¹ ous in lending
and to manage their af- ¹ fairs with justice.
- ⁶ **For they will nev- ¹ er be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlast- ¹ ing remembrance.**
- ⁷ They will not be afraid of any ¹ evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting ¹ in the LORD.
- ⁸ **Their heart is established and ¹ will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- ¹ on their enemies.**
- ⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands ¹ fast forever;
they will hold up their ¹ head with honor.
- [¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and ¹ pine away;
the desires of the wick- ¹ ed will perish.]**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God.

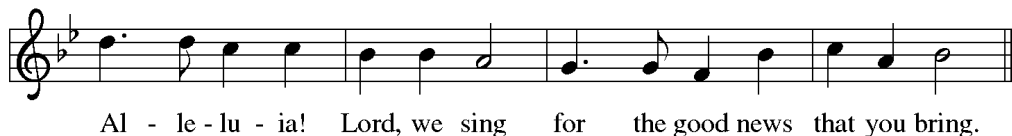
¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God’s Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else’s scrutiny.

¹⁶ “For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”
But we have the mind of Christ.]

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW S 205A)**



***GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God’s commandments.

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Julia Brown

***HYMN OF THE DAY *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

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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: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.

***PEACE**

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

***OFFERTORY (VS 1 & 3) *For the Fruit of All Creation* (ELW 679)**



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.

3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.

For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,

For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.

most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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***THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD:**

Holy God,

Light of the universe, Teacher of truth, Giver of goodness,

we hear your Word in the scriptures,

proclaiming to us your wisdom

and inviting us to follow your call.

For speaking this Word, we thank you, O God.

We thank you, O God.

Your Word came among us in Jesus, our brother,

who preached your righteousness, healed the sick,

and revived the brokenhearted.

For giving us this Word, we worship you, O God.

We worship you, O God.

By your Spirit, bless all who receive this Word,
that upheld by the mystery of the body of Christ,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.
For sustaining us with your Word, we praise you, O God.
We praise you, O God.

Blessed are you, holy God,
around us, with us, and in us,
now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

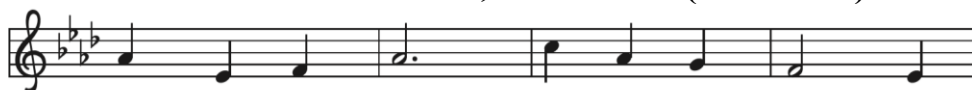
*BLESSING

May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

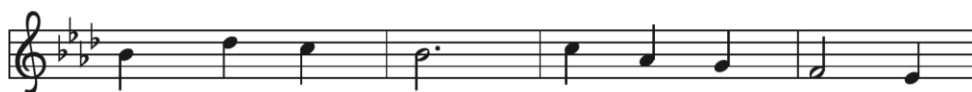
*SENDING SONG *God's Work, Our Hands* (ACS 1000)



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

ORGAN POSTLUDE *Fugue in C Major* - George Frederic Handel

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SERVING TODAY

Interim PastorRev. Julia Brown
Church Office Email Addressoffice@solomonslutheran.org
OrganistMary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher..... Larry Socks
Acolyte Wayne Dale
Lector.....Bonney Coldsmith
Securing Offering..... Marjorie Dale
Attendance Last Sunday.....31

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!

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

- February 8 - Valentine Luncheon following service
- 9 - Council 7pm
- 10 - Christian Ed 7pm
- 12 - Choir 7pm

Souper Bowl time is here! We have two boxes in the Sunday school room, one for the Seahawks and one for the Patriots. Place a can of soup in the box of your choice. Based on the number of items in each box, we will determine Solomon’s Souper Bowl winner. The cans of soup will be delivered to Maranatha.

♥ **Valentine Luncheon** - Today in the Fellowship Center following worship. Sponsored by Crusaders for Christ. Chicken will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring either a salad, a side dish or a dessert. The luncheon is open to Solomon's members, family members, and any guests. Sign-up sheet is in the Sunday School Room. Come join the fun and fellowship!!!

Copies of the 2025 Annual Report of the Congregation are available on the table in the Sunday School Room. Please bring the report with you to the meeting on 2/15.

Our upcoming Congregation Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 15, 2026, immediately following our worship service. We will be reviewing our Annual Report for your approval. Please plan to attend and be a part of our faith community as we continue to grow in God's grace.

Patsy Wildeson will be 89 yrs old on February 16, 2026. Let's celebrate her with a birthday card shower.

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: *Clif Rau, Dennis Hose, Sam Brooks, Ellie Martin, Teahana, Carol Locke, Carole Rau, Peggy Weller, Patricia Yetter, Kaitlyn Dovey, Norm Kuykendall, Phil Johnson, Nancy Deardorff, Susie Bingaman, Patsy Wildeson, Glenn Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Brandan DeShong, 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.*

Bible Study on John's Revelation. Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the fellowship center conference room.

Inclement Weather Cancellation Notification. In the event of inclement weather, Solomon's will announce that our worship services are cancelled by sending an email to the entire membership who have email addresses. Also, the phone message on the office phone at the church (717-267-2266) will state when services are cancelled. **This will be done by 7:30AM Sunday morning.** If you receive an email notifying you of a cancellation and if you know a friend who does not have email, please contact them. **If the church office does not have your current email address, please let Kimberly in the church office know this as soon as possible, so it can be updated!** Above all, safety is our most important concern, so please do not take any unnecessary chances.

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

ASH WEDNESDAY

Solomon's Lutheran's service will be at 7:00 PM with a 6:00 soup and bread meal. Service will include the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. Ash Wednesday begins Lent. The ashes are made from the palms we wave on Palm Sunday. Wearing the ashes reminds us of our mortality and focuses our hearts on our need for repentance. Solomon's UCC's Ash Wednesday service will be at 5:30 PM on February 18.

You are invited to attend worship on Ash Wednesday, February 18 with First Lutheran at 43 W Washington St in Chambersburg. At 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. we will have a 10-15 minute prayer service with the imposition of ashes. This will be held in our chapel on the first floor. At 7:00 p.m. we will have Holy Communion, music, and sermon along with the imposition of ashes. The 7:00 service is held in the sanctuary on the second floor. An elevator is available. May your Ash Wednesday worship experience draw you closer to Christ as we begin the Lenten season. Pastor Jane Nicholson

The first mid-week Lenten service will be held on Wednesday, February 25 at Corpus Christi Roman Catholic beginning with supper at 5:30, followed by worship beginning at 7:00pm. The offering during this Lenten season will be given to Hearken House Ministry. Hearken House Ministry provides a work/training program for those being released on parole from a Pennsylvania state or county jail and who strongly desire to change the way of life they have chosen in the past. Checks to support Hearken House may be made **payable to LARC.**

The 2026 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.

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.**

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 2026 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.

Music Notes/Hymn Notes:

Our Hymn of the Day this morning, "Christ Be Our Light," (also known as "Longing for Light") was written by Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957) and first published in 1993. Each stanza is in a minor key and conveys a "longing" for light in a dark world. The refrain is sung in a major key and proclaims that it is Christ who is our light. The light of Christ can be found in many ways: in worship, in giving, in spiritual formation, in evangelism, in fellowship, and in service to others. Christ has promised to be present when we are busy being the church, and we are busy about being the Church every week. Is your world dark? Do you need the light of Christ? Devote yourself to God and to being a part of God's people. It can be a dark world...Come and find the light of Christ. (maymemorialchurch.org)

Our sending song this morning, "God's Work Our Hands," was written by Hymn Society member Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954). The hymn was selected as the winner of a 2019 contest conducted by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for a hymn to celebrate its annual "God's Word, Our Hands" Sunday. Each September the ELCA designates a Sunday to celebrate "one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor." It is a day to remember that "every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace." What a meaningful way to end worship, remembering we are the ones who do the work of God here on earth. (thehymnsociety.org)