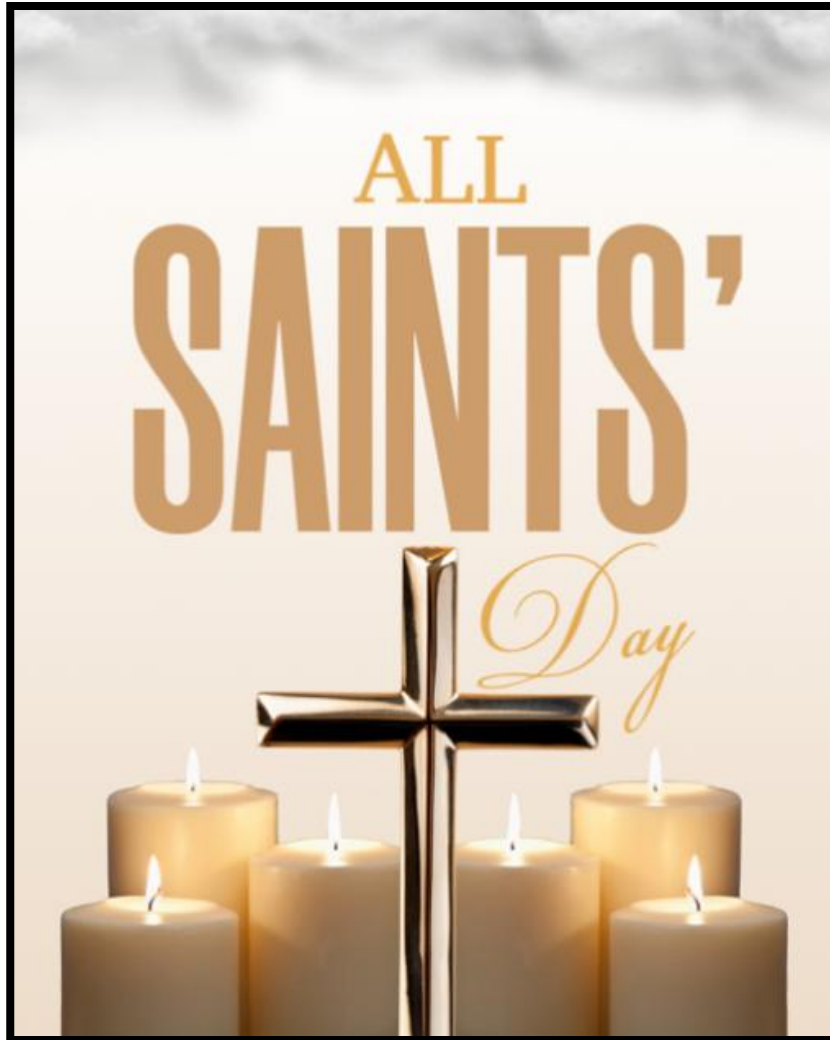


SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others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

ALL SAINTS' DAY
NOVEMBER 1, 2026

November 1, 2026

All Saints' Day

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *Voluntary on "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"* - Jan Bender

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

REMEMBRANCE OF ALL SAINTS:

Let us remember all the saints before God. We praise and bless you, O Holy Trinity. You have taught your church that it is an ageless communion of saints. We thank you for gathering those who faithfully waited in hope for the redemption you promised, and now for adding us who celebrate the love of your Christ for the redemption of the world. Prepare a place for us among those who are already with you. Help us remember them as an encouragement to saintly living, exciting us to love in anticipation of an eternal reunion.

Christ says, Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, **and you will find rest for your souls.** For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. **And you will find rest for your souls.**

The candles will float in the water of the Baptismal Font as a reminder of our Baptisms. St. Paul writes to the Romans. *⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*

Candles are lit for the individuals who died since last All Saints Day and had a service from Solomons. A candle is also lit for any friends or family members you have lost to death that you mourn.

Marjorie McMullen

William Brindle

Carole Darr

Nancy Kuykendall

Carole Rau

Charles (Chuck) Bedsworth

Genevieve Grant

Patricia Yetter

Loved Ones Remembered

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Almighty and merciful God: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, through our own most grievous fault. We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind and spirit, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We ask, O Lord, that you would forgive us for what we have been and strengthen us that we might amend who we are and direct what we shall be. We desire to follow all your commandments, but we cannot do so without the work of the Holy Spirit. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce and declare to all who truly repent of their sins and trust only in Christ, the entire forgiveness of all your sins. I do so in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. May He who has begun this good work in you, perfect in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

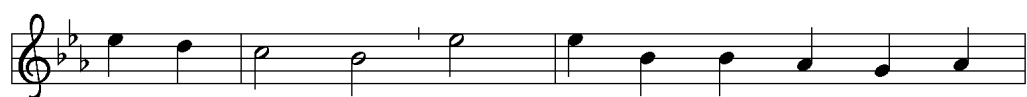
*GATHERING SONG *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones* (ELW 424)



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright
2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more
3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye
4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su -



ser - aphs, cher - u - bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain:
glo - rious than the ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es:
pa - tri - archs and proph - ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia!
per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia!



"Al - le - lu - ia!" Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,
"Al - le - lu - ia!" Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal
Al - le - lu - ia!" Ye ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs
Al - le - lu - ia!" To God the Fa - ther, God the



pow'rs, arch - an - gels, vir - tues, an - gel choirs:
Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the Lord:
strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the song:
Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One:



"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*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 *Holy God, We Praise Your Name* (ELW 414)



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
and the white-robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
set of sun through the church the song goes on.
bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900
Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, abundantly and daily you forgive all our sins. Grant us your Holy Spirit that He may inscribe your mercy in our hearts, in order that we too may forgive those who have sinned against us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

CHOIR ANTHEM *Shall We Gather at the River* - Robert Lowry

Congregation joins in final verse:

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation.

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

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

¹ I will bless the LORD¹ at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be¹ in my mouth.

² **I will glory¹ in the LORD;
let the lowly hear¹ and rejoice.**

³ Proclaim with me the greatness¹ of the LORD;
let us exalt God's¹ name together.

⁴ **I sought the LORD, who¹ answered me
and delivered me from¹ all my terrors.**

⁵ Look upon the LORD¹ and be radiant,
and let not your faces¹ be ashamed.

⁶ **I called in my affliction, and¹ the LORD heard me
and saved me from¹ all my troubles.**

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who¹ fear the LORD
and de-¹livers them.

⁸ **Taste and see that the¹ LORD is good;
happy are they who take ref-¹uge in God!**

⁹ Fear the LORD, you saints¹ of the LORD,
for those who fear the¹ LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰ **The lions are in want and¹ suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing¹ that is good.**

²² O LORD, you redeem the life¹ of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will¹ not be punished.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

A reading from 1 John.

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

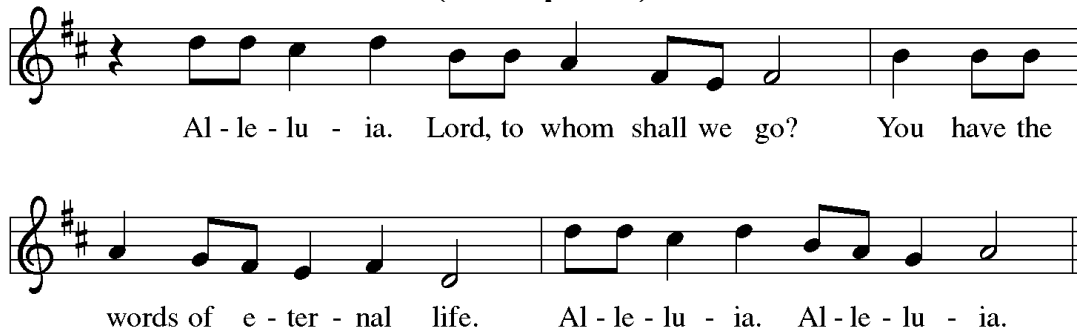
² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)**



***GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Terry Culler

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

HYMN OF THE DAY *For All the Saints* (ELW 422)



1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou,
Stanzas 3–5 below.
6 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day: the
7 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; . .
saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; the
gates of pearl streams in the count - less host, . .



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine, we fee - bly strug - gle,
4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the ear the
5 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west; soon, soon to faith - ful



they in glo - ry shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are
dis - tant tri - umph song, and hearts are brave a - gain and arms are
ser - vants com - eth rest; . . . sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the



thine. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
strong.
blest.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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

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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: Lord in your mercy, **C:** hear our prayer.

***PEACE**

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

OFFERTORY *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (Hillert) (ELW 182)



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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***OFFERING PRAYER**

Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer,
and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

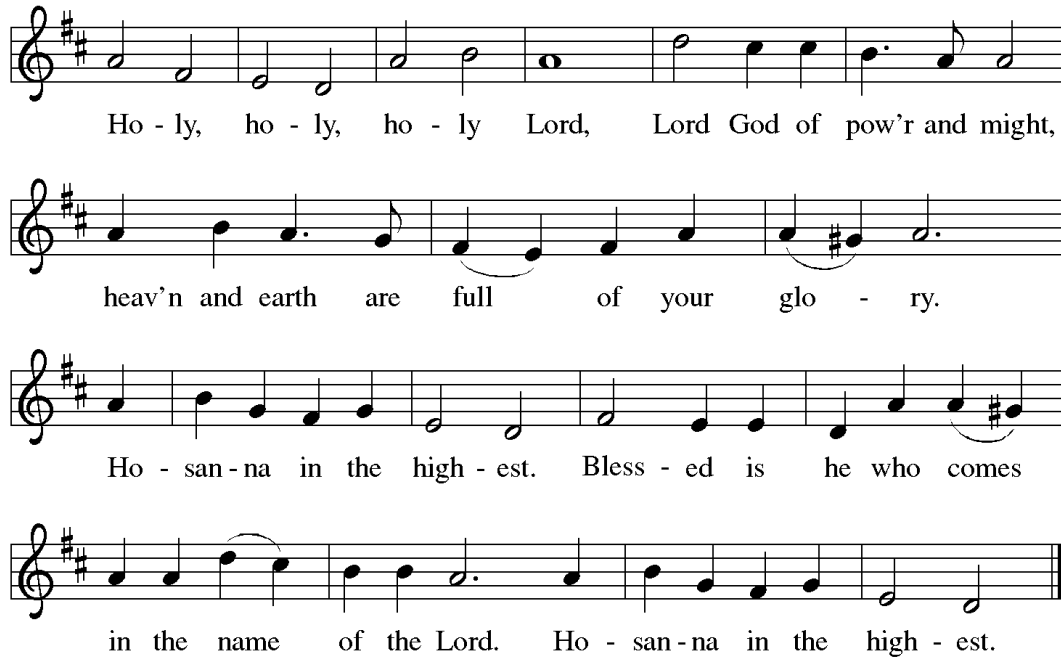
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, almighty and most merciful God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who, on this day, overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened the way to eternal for all who trust in Him. And so, with angels and archangels and all the hosts of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)



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.

In a like manner,
He took the cup after supper and when He had given thanks,
He gave it to them saying,
“This cup is the new Covenant in my blood,
poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in 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**

The table of the Lord is prepared for all baptized Christians who recognize that Christ is truly present in, with and under the elements of bread and wine.

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.

COMMUNION TIME FOR QUIET MEDITATION

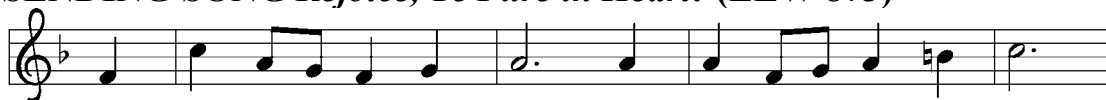
*COMMUNION BLESSING

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

*BLESSING

The holy Trinity,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
Amen.

***SENDING SONG *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* (ELW 873)**

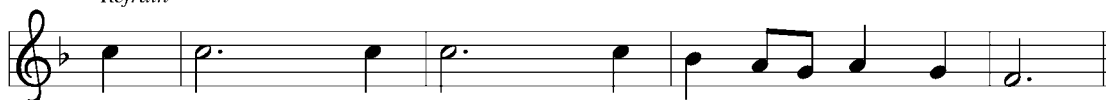


- 1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

- 5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*
- 6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.

Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE *Variation on "For All the Saints"* - Kevin Hildebrand

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SERVING TODAY

Supply Pastor.....	Rev. Terry Culler
Church Office Email Address	office@solomonslutheran.org
Organist	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher	Ron Coldsmith
Acolyte	Aaron Shreiner
Lector.....	Martie Veilleux
Securing Offering.....	Janice McEntire & Kathy Bowen
Communion Set-Up.....	Marjorie Dale
Communion Clean-Up	Marjorie Dale
Communion Bread	
Communion Assist	Marjorie Dale
Coffee Fellowship	Bonney Coldsmith
Attendance last Sunday.....	32

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the glory of God in honor of Virginia Detwiler's 90th birthday given by Donald Detwiler.

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 Christopher Frye, Dean of the Chambersburg Conference at 717-261-1213 (St. Luke's Church, Scotland).

Please welcome Pastor Terry Culler with a warm "thank you" for leading our worship service this morning.

Prayer requests for the following: *Friends and family of Nancy Kuykendall, Clif Rau, Glenn Wildeson, Nancy Marshall, Ellie Martin, Ina Shreiner, Dick & Vicki Reichard, Dick Amt, Phil Johnson, Betty Amt, Marie Dovey, Amy Eichelberger, Paul Steiding, Sam Brooks, Kaitlyn Dovey, Patsy Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Charles Carl, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Becky Ensinger, all the Homebound, and our world & country. 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 1 - W&M 6pm

5 - Finance Noon

Choir 7pm

Book Signing

Pastor Mike has recently published a short memoir based on one of his cruise excursions. On two Sundays in November when Pastor Mike will be preaching here (November 8 and 22) he is willing to offer a book signing, selling the book for \$20 and giving \$15 to a “cause” designated by the Solomon Council. Below is a description of the book.

Reflection by a Cruise Ship Chaplain

Although this is a memoir of a cruise excursion from Seattle to Sydney, part diary and part spiritual journal, it is so much more! These are thoughts, misgivings, wonderings, conflictual musings and calming daydreams. Each day at sea offers a fresh horizon and a gentle reminder that life is a journey of body, soul and mind. We experience moments of serenity and flashes of improbability, yet the ocean teaches us to trust even when we cannot see what lies ahead and what lolls below. We are reminded that every person on board carries a distinctive and exceptional story. A chaplain's ministry is found not only in worship but also in unobtrusive and unpredicted conversations, listening with an open heart, celebrating life's joys, and offering comfort in the midst of life's sorrows or worries. Sometimes the greatest gift is simply presence. In a world that too often moves at breakneck speed, this memoir offers the invitation to slowing reflection, embracing the beauty and noticing the potential danger surrounding and supporting this floating jamboree, continually nudging an appreciation of each new day. This is not a book to be read in a day; rather, a daily devotional to be read slowly, rooted in Spirit and Truth.

Required meeting with the bishop, on Tuesday, November 17 at 5:00 pm. in the church. Members are encouraged to attend.

The 36th Annual Antietam Battlefield Illumination will take place on **Saturday, December 5th**. 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 8:30 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 14th. 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 \$17.00, Children (5-11) \$7.00, Under 4 – Free. **Serving time** is 5:00PM – 7:00PM.

If you would like to remember a loved one or honor someone with a Christmas Poinsettia, please use the order form attached to the end of the bulletin.

Social Ministry is collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry during the month of November. Items needed are toilet paper, paper towels, diapers, Kleenex, etc. Please place items in the container under coat rack next to mailboxes.

Attention all members – Please plan to attend our upcoming Congregation Meeting on Sunday, November 15 immediately following our worship service. We will be electing church council members and approving the church's budget for 2027.

Attention all members – Please plan to attend our upcoming Congregation Meeting on Sunday, December 13 immediately following our worship service. We will be casting our second vote to leave ELCA and join The Association of Free Lutheran Churches.

Bible Study on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Sarge will be leading the study.

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.

Power Pack Meals - Social Ministry is once again collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need during the 2026-2027 school year. Please place the items in the container 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 line, or place cash in an envelope and mark *power pack*.

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, "For All the Saints," was originally written as a processional hymn by the Anglican Bishop of Wakefield, William Walsham How (1823-1897). The hymn was first printed in *Hymns for Saint's Days, and Other Hymns*, by Earl Nelson, 1864, and included 11 verses! It was sung to a tune by Joseph Barnby until the publication of the *English Hymnal* in 1906. This hymnal used a tune by Ralph Vaughn Williams and is the tune we use today. In referencing the 11 verses of the original hymn, Bishop How is quoted as saying, "A good hymn should be like a good prayer – simple, real, earnest, and reverent." During his lifetime, he wrote nearly 60 hymns with "For All the Saints" noted as one of his greatest. The stanzas of the hymn describe the common life of all the saints: the credit due to Jesus Christ for drawing us all to Him, the strength and guidance we continue to draw

from Him, our joint communion in Christ, the continuing struggle against evil, and the coming day when the dead shall rise and we shall all worship together before God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. No matter what path each of us travels, we all will enjoy the same glorious eternal life. What a beautiful and promising thought on this All Saints Day! (Then Sings My Soul, Robert Morgan; Hymnary.org; Wikipedia).

This morning's choir anthem, "Shall We Gather at the River," was written by Robert Lowry (1826-1899), a minister in the Baptist churches in the eastern US during the mid-1860s. He had begun composing hymns and tunes in his childhood, and once he became a minister, he realized he could reach more people through his songs than his sermons! This hymn is one of his best known, often used at baptisms. However, it is more of a song about heaven. He wrote that while he was a pastor at a church in Brooklyn, it was an oppressively hot day. He was lying on a lounge in what he described as "a state of physical exhaustion." His imagination took hold, and he had visions of the future, images of the apocalypse where he saw the brightness of the throne, the heavenly river and the gathering of the saints. The words to the hymn gradually started to take hold, first as a question..."shall we gather"...and then as an answer..."yes, we'll gather." With this question and answer, a hymn developed and later, he sat at his parlor organ and wrote the tune. Rev. Lowry is credited with writing more than 500 hymns, often both text and music. This particular hymn has been published in 695 hymnals, translated into many languages, and is sung throughout the Christian world. We invite you to join the choir on the final verse as indicated in the bulletin. (Then Sings My Soul, Robert Morgan; Stories of the Hymns, Rawson and Tonioli).

2026 Order Form



Anyone desiring to remember a loved one or honor someone with Christmas Poinsettias is asked to complete 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 8, 2026. Cost is \$9.00. 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 enclosed _____ Total Poinsettias ordered _____

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

In honor of _____

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