Christ Lutheran Church
1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, MD. 21502-7519
Telephone 301-729-1010
Website: CLCLaVale.org
E-Mail: christlutheran@atlanticbbn.net
Mission Statement – *"Loving God, Loving People"*

21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2026

THE WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:00 AM In-Person & Zoom

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

WELCOME
Announcements
Prelude

* A Call to Worship
P: Come into God's house and see what God is creating!
C: We have come to worship God and to see God's new creation.
P: God's creation has been marred and is flawed.
C: We weep with God over the spoiled creation.
P: God desires to reclaim it and make it new again.
C: Praise be to God who redeems creation.
P: The marred bit of creation is you and me.
C: We know we are not what God intended us to be.
P: Let us open our lives to the God who would renew us.
C: Our lives are God's. May God make of us what seems right in the wisdom of the Most High.

* Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,
C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

P: Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
C: Amen.
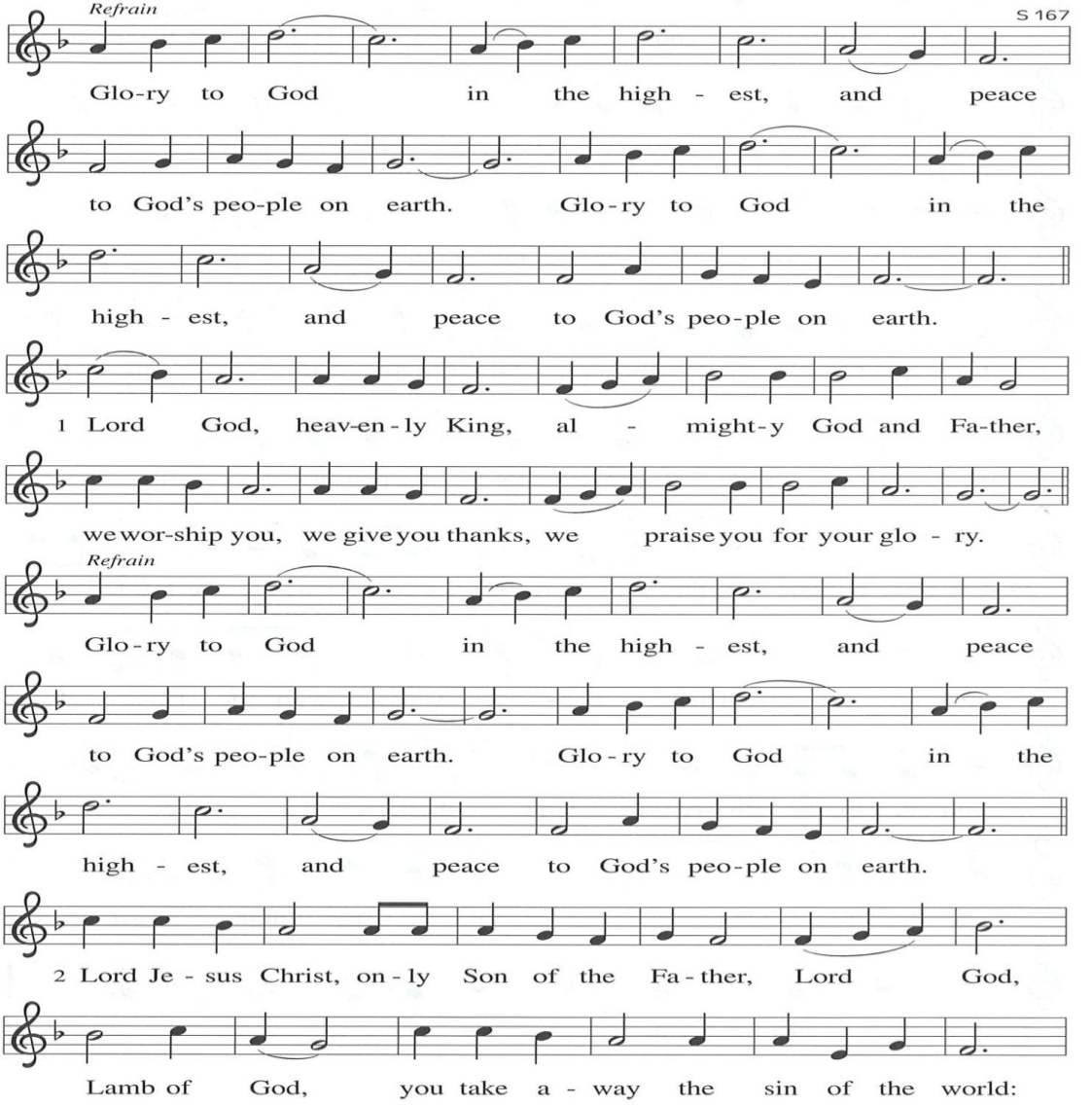
*** Gathering Hymn 526 "God is Here!"**
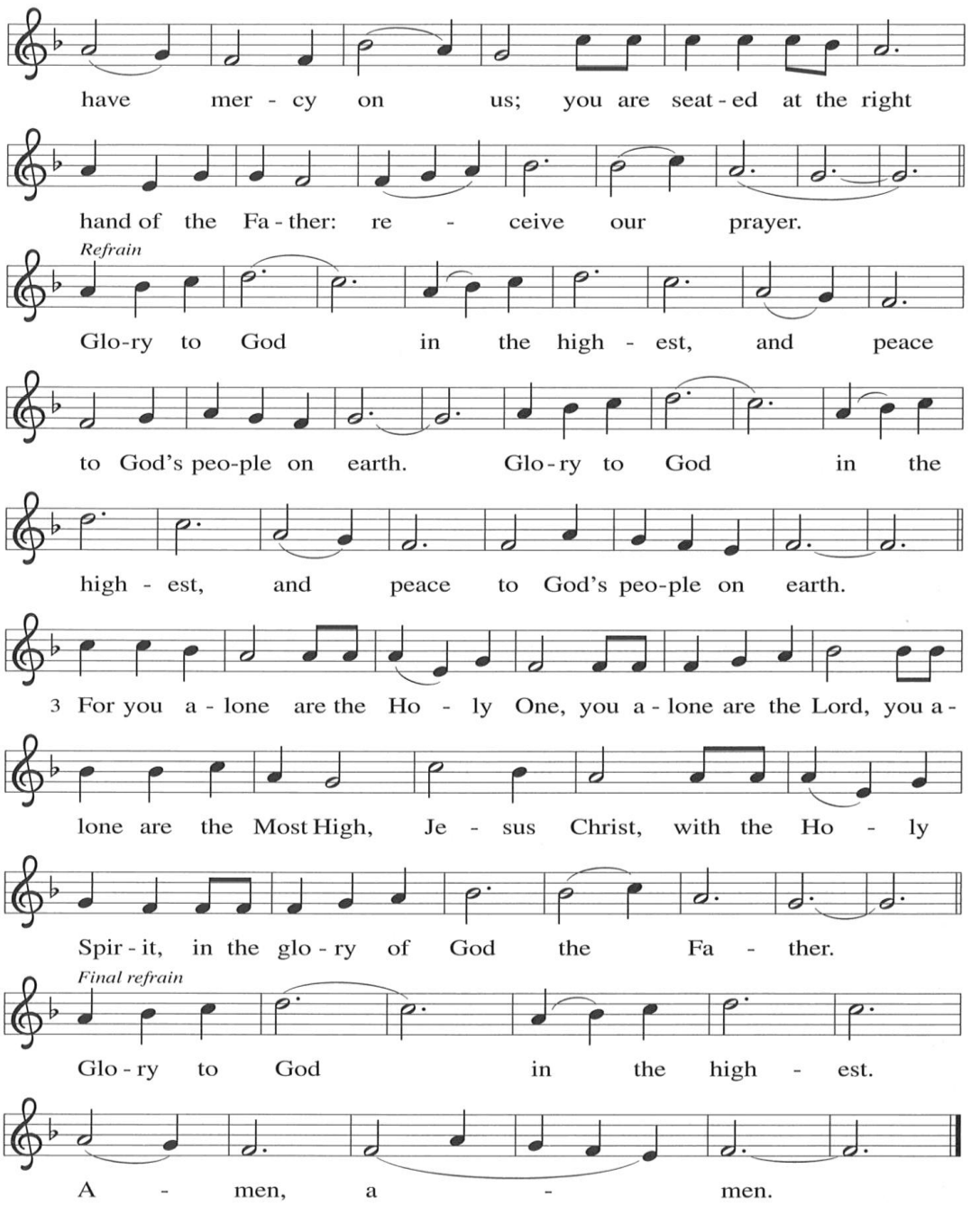
* <u>Greeting</u>

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

* Gloria (Setting 6 – Page 167)




have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right
hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
Final refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
A - men, a - men.

* Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

First Lesson: *Isaiah 45:1-7*

[1] Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
[2] I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
[3] I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
[4] For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
[5] I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
[6] so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

7 I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalm 96:1-13*
1 Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.
2 **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;**
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.

3 Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.
4 **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,**
more to be feared | than all gods.

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.
6 **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;**
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.

7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.
8 **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;**
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.

9 Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.
10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!**
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peo- | ples with equity."

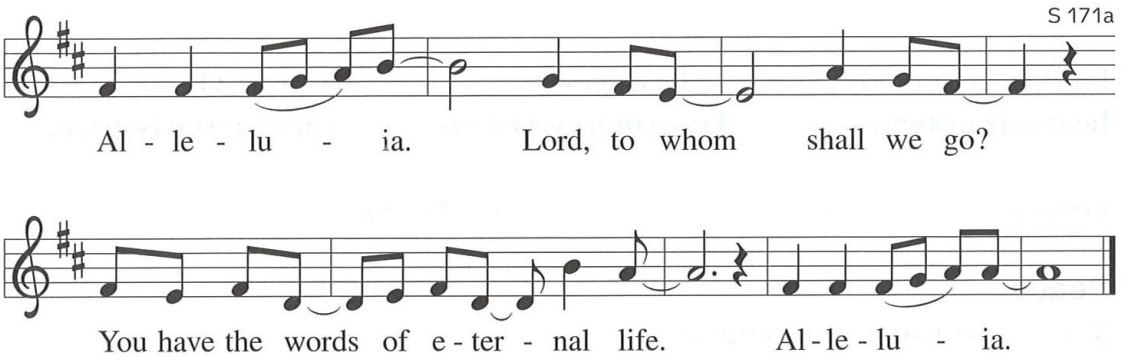
[11] Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and
all that | is therein.
[12] **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your
com- | ing, O LORD, for you come to | judge the earth.**

[13] You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth.

Second Lesson: *1 Thessalonians 1:1-10*
[1] Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

[2] We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly [3] remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. [4] For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, [5] because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. [6] And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, [7] so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. [8] For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. [9] For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God [10] and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel Acclamation (Setting 6 – Page 171)



P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 22nd chapter.
C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 22:15-22*

15 The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. 16 So
they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying,
"Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in
accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not
regard people with partiality. 17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful
to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" 18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said,
"Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19 Show me the coin
used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. 20 Then he said to
them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" 21 They answered,
"Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things
that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." 22 When they
heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Rev. Daniel Swanson

Hymn 824 **"This is My Father's World"**

* Apostles' 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.

The Prayer of the Church

* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord Organ Voluntary

* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

* The Offertory

Hymn **"Bring a Gift of Love"--Mary Kay Bottens**

Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.
Bring an offering to our Lord and King, tell the world he is the Way!"
Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.
In this quiet hour of worship, bring a gift of love.

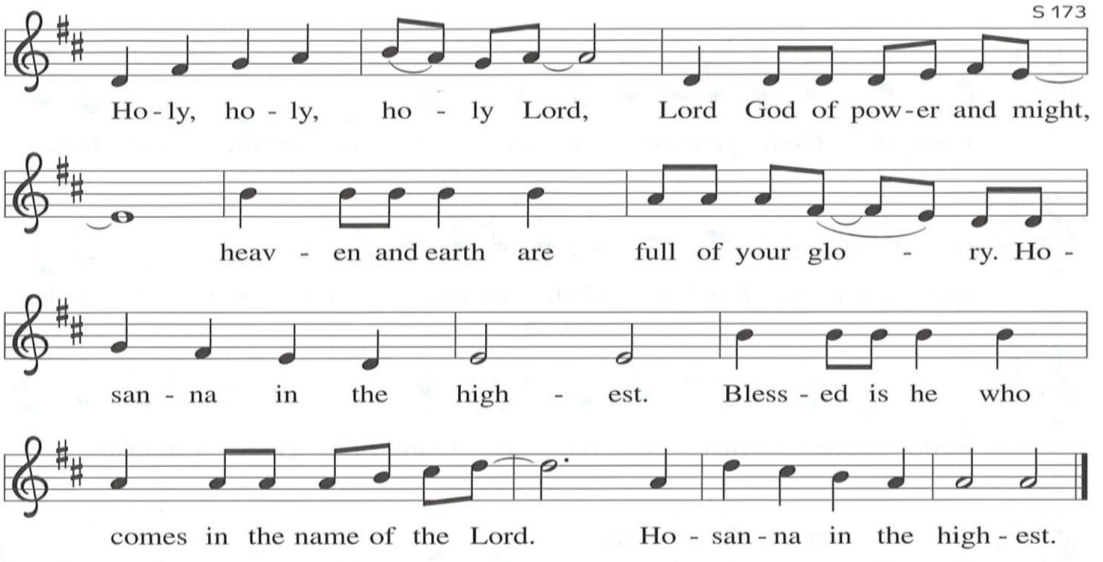
* Offertory Prayer

L: God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always. **Amen.**

* The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
P: It is indeed right ……..and join their unending hymn:

* (Holy, Holy Holy) (Setting 6 – Page 173)



* The Words of Institution

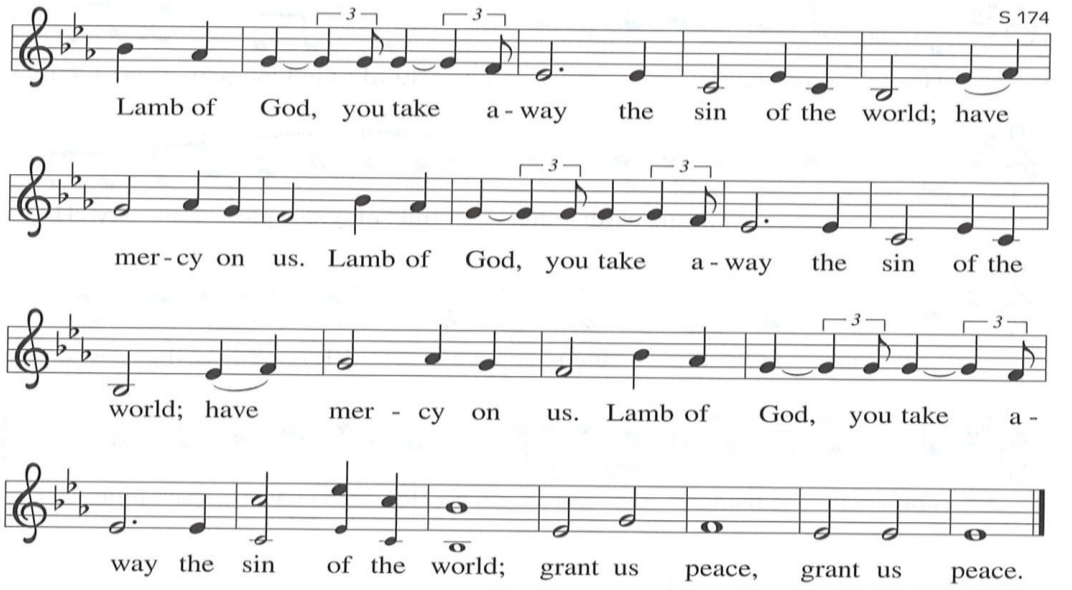
* <u>The Lord's Prayer</u>

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.

P: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

The Agnus Dei *(Lamb of God)* (Setting 6 – Page 174)



Distribution of the Sacrament

* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
C: Amen.

* The Prayer after Communion

L: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen**

* Blessing

P: The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

P: The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*** Sending Hymn 713 "O God of Every Nation"**

* Dismissal

L: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
C: Thanks be to God.

* Postlude

* *

In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.

Lectors for our Services

This Sunday, October 18 – Lydia Martin
This Wednesday, October 21– Debbie Fornwalt
Next Sunday, October 25 – Joint Reformation Service at St Luke
Next Wednesday, October 28 – Paul Chiarenza

Ushers – Ed & Lita Havens
Organist – Rae Ann Smith
AV – Steve Hansrote, Mark Lathrop, Joyce DeMonbrun

We have a hearing assistance system in the sanctuary. If you are having problems hearing our service, please ask the usher for a receiver.

Hope that you have picked up your name tags from the board in the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please return to the board when leaving. Thanks

A sign-up for after church snacks is in the narthex. Please pick a Sunday to share your goodies! Store bought is just fine if you need easy! Thanks.

The Bulletins for last week (9/11/26) have been given to the glory of God in recognition of Paeton Buser's 22nd birthday by Sally Buser.

The Bulletins have been given to the glory of God in honor of Aaron & Lindsay Betsinger's first Wedding Anniversary by Jeff & Rae Ann Smith

The October Newsletter has been given to the glory of God in honor of Buser family birthdays: Hansen. 10/6, Brandon 10/8, Paeton 10/11, Sally 10/12

This week –
This Sunday – October 18, Worship – 10:00am followed by Adult Bible Study
Tuesday – Worship & Music Committee – 2:00pm
Wednesday – Evening Worship – 6:30pm
Thursday – Bible Study – 10:30am
Friday – Diane's Music class –10:00, Ladybirds – 11:00am,
Next Sunday – October 25, Joint Reformation Service at St. Luke's Lutheran – 10:00am

Did you know that October is Pastor Appreciation Month? We would like to present Pastor Daniel with a gift to express our thanks for his hard work and service to God and our congregation. If you would like to contribute, please mark on your check or envelope 'Pastor Appreciation Month' and submit it to CLC in the usual manner. For those people who normally use tithe.ly, this will be added as a giving category. Because this is the second week of October already and we will be at St. Luke's for Reformation on October 25th, **we will accept offerings through Sunday, November 1st. His gift will be presented to him on November 8th.** Thank you!

We will celebrate a Joint Reformation Service at St. Luke's Lutheran Church on Frederick Street on Sunday, October 25th at 10:00am. (No service at CLC.) Bishop Bill Gohl will be our preacher that morning. Following the service, you are invited to a luncheon in their fellowship hall. *Menu: buffet featuring Chicken Parmigiana and Bake Ziti (both available gluten free), salad, rolls, and assorted desserts. There will also be water, cold beverages, hot tea and coffee.* We hope that you will join us. To help with plans, they would like to have a "count" of people attending ***by October 18th. If you are planning to attend the luncheon, please sign-up on the paper in the main narthex.***

Offering for the Reformation Service at St Luke's Lutheran will go to a **Scholarship Fund for Student's Education.** *If you wish to contribute to Christ Lutheran for our budget with your white envelope for October 25, please bring to CLC on October 18, mail or bring to church office during the week or put in offering plate on November 1st.* Thanks.

Following the devastating disaster that struck Nepal, where an avalanche-triggered flood hit the northwestern part of the country. Thousands of people have been affected, and many homes, hydropower projects, bridges, and other infrastructure were swept away by the flash flood. **Our church council has designated that we will collect donations through the month of October for Lutheran Disaster Relief for Nepal.** If you wish to donation, please make checks payable to Christ Lutheran, care of Nepal. Thanks you.

Our Emergency Aid Fund is getting low. With fall and cold weather coming we expect that the need will increase. **If this is something that you wish to support, please make donations care of Emergency Fund. Thanks.**

Thanksgiving is coming! Our Social Ministry Committee is inactive at the present time. Council has voted to give market food gift cards only to needy family. **If you would like to contribute to these cards, please donate to Christ Lutheran memo Holiday Baskets. Please donate by Sunday, November 15th.** Thank you for your help.

All Saints Sunday – November 1st - We would like to read the names of the faithful departed who have transitioned to eternal life with their Savior **over the past year (November 2025 – present).** These names will be read at worship in thanksgiving to God for their life and for the gift of eternal life that comes to us through our faith in Jesus. *If you have a loved one or friend you would like remembered, please print their name on a piece of paper and place in the offering plate marked for All Saints, put on Secretary's desk, mail it to church, or call the church office by* ***Wednesday, October 28th.*** *Thanks!*



Garden News!

The garden is coming to a close for this year. It has been an amazing year of new and returning community members, garden classes and fresh produce. With the help of donations from your home gardens, we have delivered over 700lbs of produce to the local food pantry and distributed it from our new Farm Stand table. We are also seeing increasing use of the labyrinth and meditation spaces. God has truly blessed and we thank you for your continued support.

Dementia is a heartbreaking disease, both for the person with the diagnosis and for the caregiver. A support group for caregivers of persons living with dementia **(Walking Together)** will be offered at Christ Lutheran Church. The group will focus on self-care, education, spiritual and emotional support, and most importantly, fun! The group will be facilitated by Rae Ann Smith, OTD, OTR/L and will include special guests with specific areas of expertise at each meeting. ***If you are interested in participating, either as a caregiver member or as a special guest, please join us Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at CLC*** for an introductory gathering, where we will discuss potential topics, the goals of the group, and decide how often the group will meet. Refreshments will be served. (See poster in the narthex.)

You're invited to come for ARTS and CRAFTS! First Fridays 1-3PM
in the upper kitchen at CLC (park and come in by the pavilion)
November 6 - card making workshop
December 4 - iris paper folding workshop

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – October 11, 2026

Attendance In-Person 10:00am = 30 Adult SCS = N/A
Zoom 10:00am = 12
Wed. Oct 14 In Person 6:30pm = 8 Blessing of the Animals
Zoom = 2 4 Dogs present, 3 Dogs online

BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2026		**BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-SEPT 2026**	
Received	= 2,932.00	**Actual Income =**	**$153,543.09**
Needed weekly	= 4,265.56	**Actual Expenses =**	**(161,100.48)**
	($1,333.56)		**($ 7,557.39)**

PRA YER LIST FOR OCTOBER 18, 2026

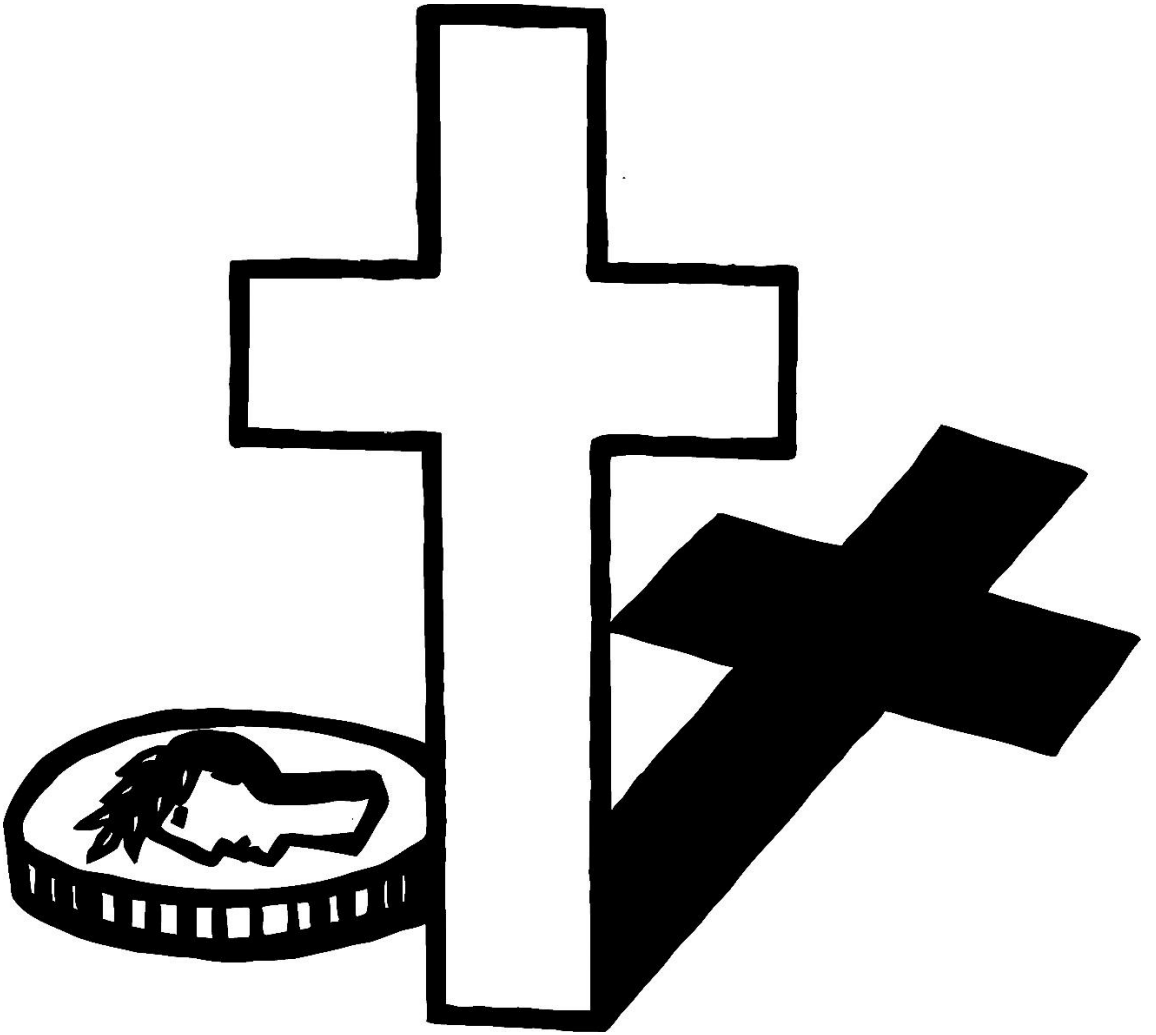
PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

Sandi Shoemaker
Barb Simmons
Pam Mulligan
David Tibbetts
Rae Ann Smith
Jack Zealand
Bill & MarySue Crawford
Linda & Dave McCagh
Mitzie & Jerry Robinette
Doris Baker
Jeff Smith
Terri McCagh
Patty Wilson
Jane Miller
Ruth Chiarenza
Sharon Diehl
Anna Bruck
Ed Havens
Gail Dawson
Clem Dawson
Dave & Lisa Ahern
Kim Shoemaker
Fay Crawford
David LaBuda
Rosey & Becky McIntyre
Jonathan and Danielle Ahern
Tammy Faulkner
Pam & Dave Judy
Joyce DeMonbrun
Kathy Powell
Sharon McKenzie
Nancy & George Small
Martha Macgill

PRAYER RECIPIENT	*Requested by*
Stephen Overtoom	Gail Dawson
Barbara Williams	Sharon M
Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill	Mitzie & Jerry
Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker	Mitzie & Jerry
Nathan Winters	Dianne Short
Arlene Simmons. Charlotte & Ed Troutman, Amy, Jacie Fairall	Barb Simmons
Karen Mackert	Paul & Ruth C
Elise & Henry Jack Balber	Jack Zealand
Tony Greaver, Betty Llewellyn/Cartwright, Cheryl Trusler	Joyce D
Owen Dolan, Shepherd Grace	Sherry Tedrow
Cheri Bielen	Jane Miller
Bernard Michael, Carolyn Farr	Diane K.
Graham Tower, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford	Diane K
Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith	Anne DeVaughn
Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn	Antoinette Royster
Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson	Antoinette Royster
Gretchen Burke	Val & Gary Llewellyn
Sally, Roger, James Tibbets	Dave Tibbetts
Andy Cocco	John Cocco
Ashley Turnbull, Marie Turnbull	Lita Havens
Dan Carr, Matt Doman	Steven Hansrote
Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane	Kristan Fazenbaker
Mary Lou Dorsey	Trina Firey
Vic Werner	Barbara Martin
Marion Boone, Belinda Keller	Linda McCagh
Mandy Getz, Barbara Blough	Janice & Dave LaBuda
Paul Haddle, Galen Dean Krepps	Lisa Ahern
Breanna Brown	Debbie Fornwalt
Kamryn Rice	Corinna Hilderbrand
Candy Heverly	Charlotte Luy
Elizabeth Ororke, Brooks Chamers, Barbara Fridengu	L. Marchini
Erin Morrissey	Terri McCagh
Teddy Rankin	Fred & Kathy Powell
Wilson Scarborough	Rae Ann Smith

Please keep us updated

-the family of Karen Shaffer
-for Nepal
-all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
-all people that are affected by the war
-all elected officials
-those who serve in our nation's armed forces including: Tom Forrest, Luke Smith



October 18, 2026
21st Sunday after Pentecost