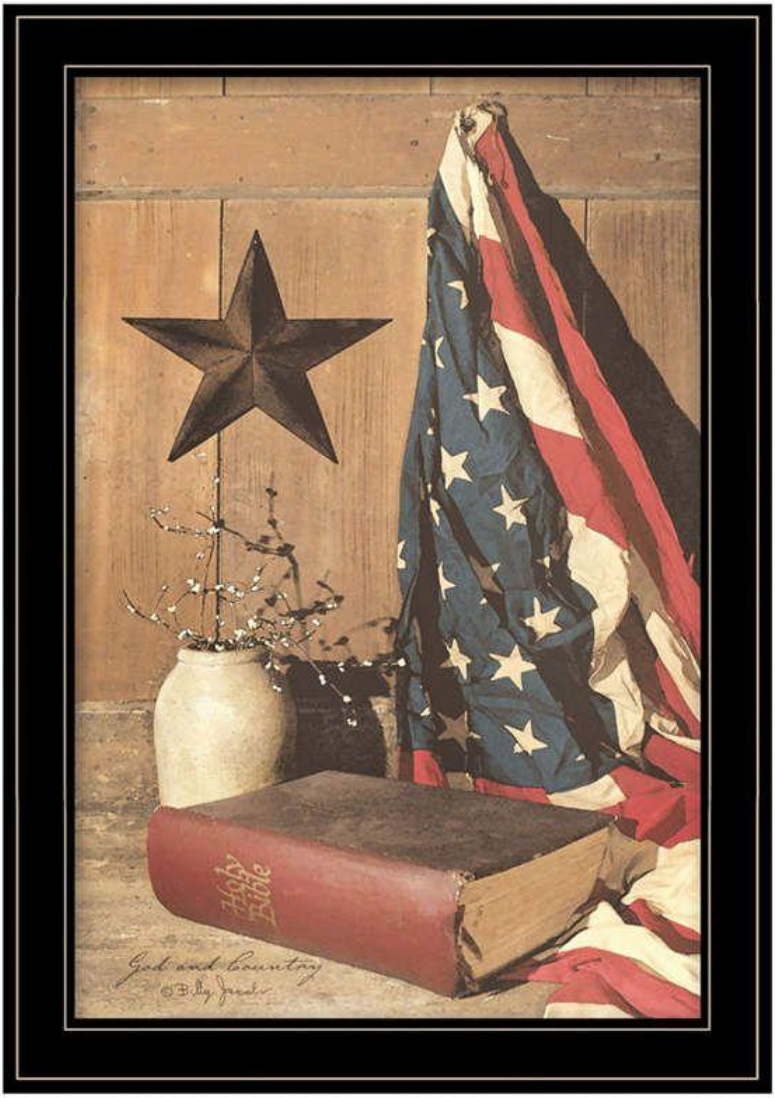
ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

11213 Highway 49, Gulfport, MS 39503

LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD



Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Veterans' Day Service
November 8, 2026

Welcome in the name of our Lord Jesus. Cry room and restroom facilities are available. Please ask an usher for the location. Please fill out the connection card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate during the offering. If your connection card contains a prayer request, the Pastor will come down the aisle and collect it prior to the prayers. Pencils are located by the hymnals at the ends of the pews.

Announcements

Salute to the Flags

(*Before the start of Divine Service, we would like to salute the flags of our country and of our faith.)*

I pledge allegiance to the flag of The United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

And,

I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands; one Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again with life and liberty to all who believe.

Stand

Entrance Hymn: 515 – Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Psalm 70

P [1]Make haste, O God, to deliver me!
O LORD, make haste to help me!

C **[2]Let them be put to shame and confusion**
who seek my life!

P Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire my hurt!

C **[3]Let them turn back because of their shame**
who say, "Aha, Aha!"

P [4]May all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you!

C **May those who love your salvation**
say evermore, "God is great!"

P [5]But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
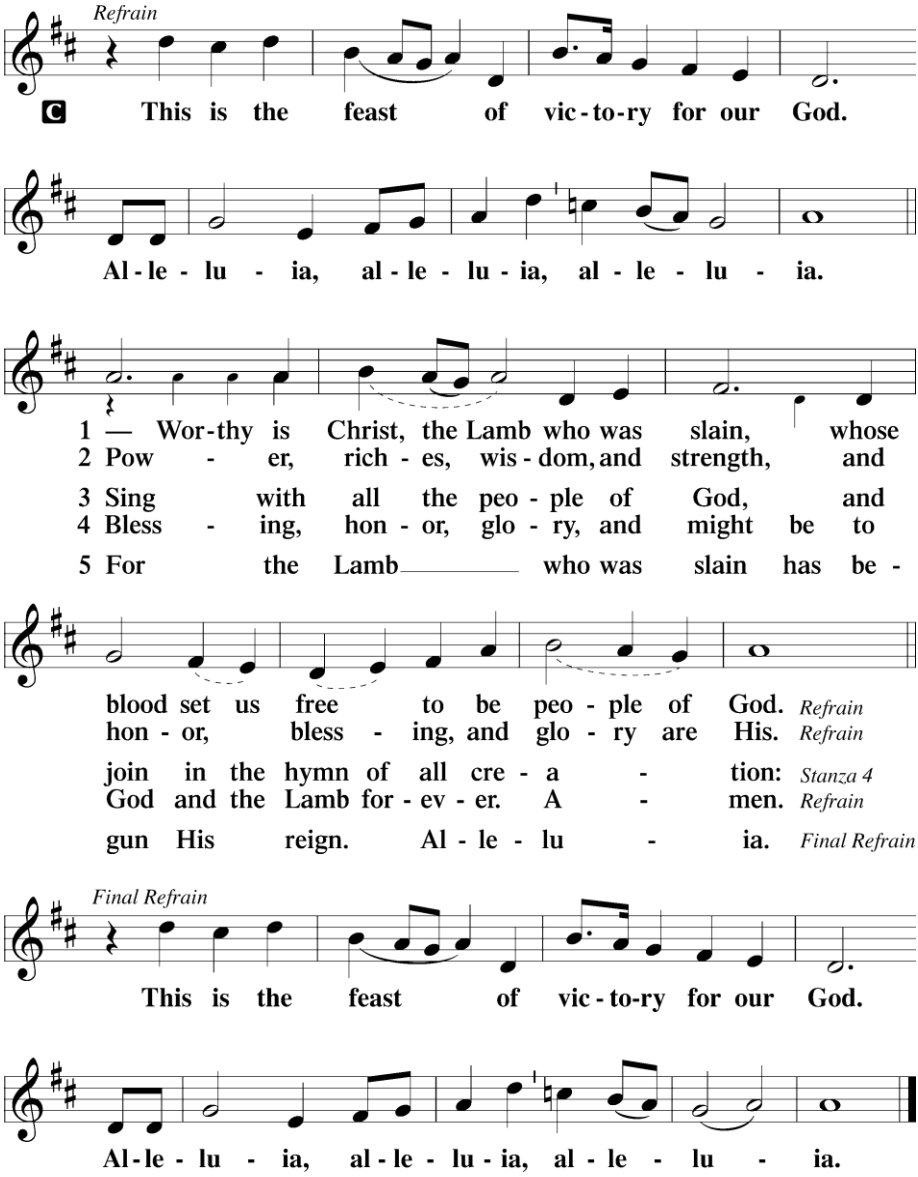
C **You are my help and my deliverer;**
O LORD, do not delay!

Kyrie *LSB 152*

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

This Is the Feast

LSB 155



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

C **Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Amos 5:18–24*

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
19 as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers,
about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as
others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that
Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will
bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we
declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are
alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not
precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord
himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command,
with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the
trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.
17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up
together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air,
and so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore
encourage one another with these words.
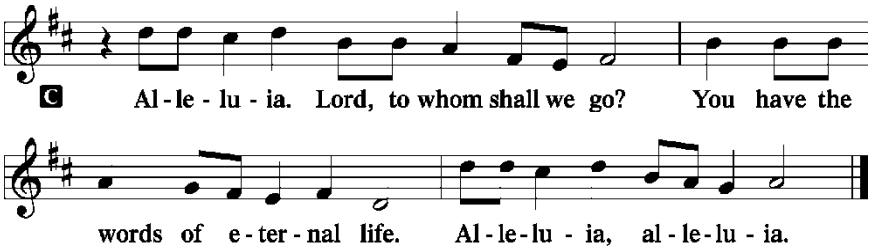
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



Holy Gospel *Matthew 25:1–13*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[1][Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten
virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the
bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were
wise. [3]For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no
oil with them, [4]but the wise took flasks of oil with their
lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became
drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is
the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7]Then all those
virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. [8]And the foolish said
to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are
going out.' [9]But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there
will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the
dealers and buy for yourselves.' [10]And while they were
going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were
ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door
was shut. [11]Afterward the other virgins came also, saying,
'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12]But he answered, 'Truly, I say to
you, I do not know you.' [13]Watch therefore, for you know
neither the day nor the hour."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message
All children are invited to come forward to the chancel steps for a children's message. Parents are welcome to accompany them.

Hymn of the Day: 717 – Eternal Father, Strong to Save
Veterans and Active duty are invited to rise:
Navy, Coast Guard on the 1st stanza,
Army on the 2nd stanza
Air force, Space Command on the 3rd stanza
Marine Corps on the 4th stanza

Sermon: "Trim Your Lamps, Stand Your Watch"
Matthew 25:1-13 *Pastor Linck*

Collection of Prayers The pastor will come down the aisle and collect any prayer requests.

Offering The offering plate will be passed down the rows. Both offerings and the connection cards may be placed in the plate.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Sharing of Peace

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 160*

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
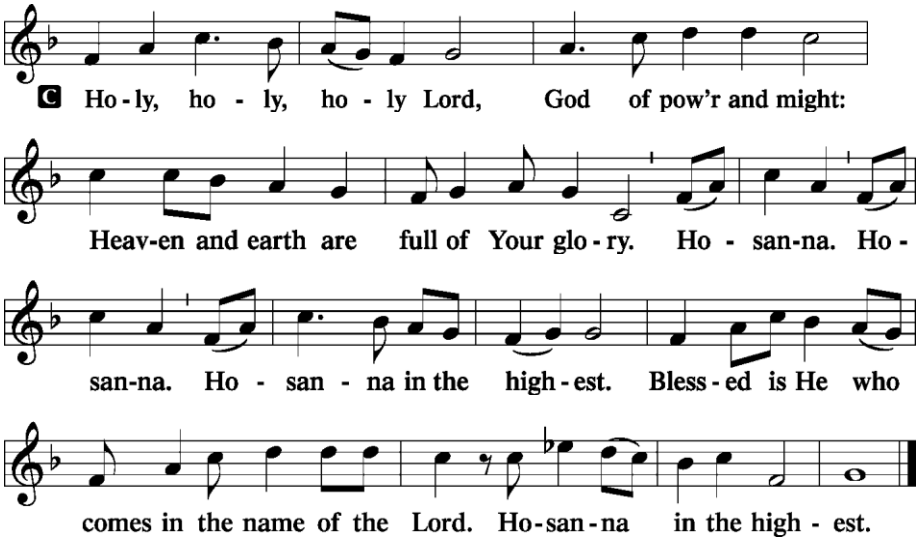
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 161*



Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161*

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the

marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

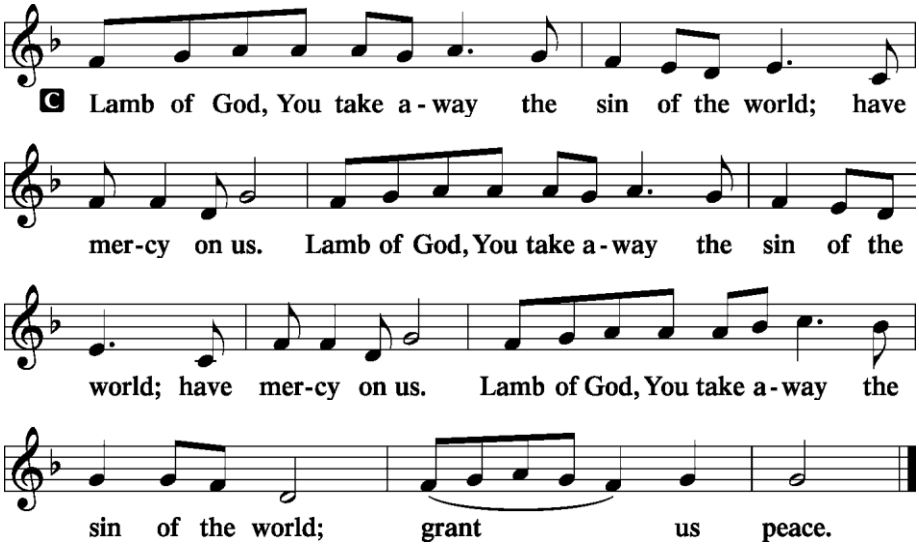
C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is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

Pax Domini *LSB 163*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei LSB 163



Sit

Hymns during Communion:

644 – The Church's One Foundation
680 – Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise
642 – O Living Bread from Heaven

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him distribute to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.
Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.
Amen.

(If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion please cross your hands over your chest as a signal to the pastor.)

Membership in St. Matthew congregation is not required for partaking of the Lord's Supper. Those who commune with us are those who are one with us in faith. We believe that the Lord's body and blood are present in Communion together with the bread and the wine. We also believe God gives us forgiveness of sins through this means of grace and strengthens us for Christian living according to his will. Those who profess our belief, who have been baptized, who have been instructed in the meaning of this Sacrament, and who are able to examine themselves spiritually before partaking of this divine blessing are invited to join us in receiving Holy Communion.

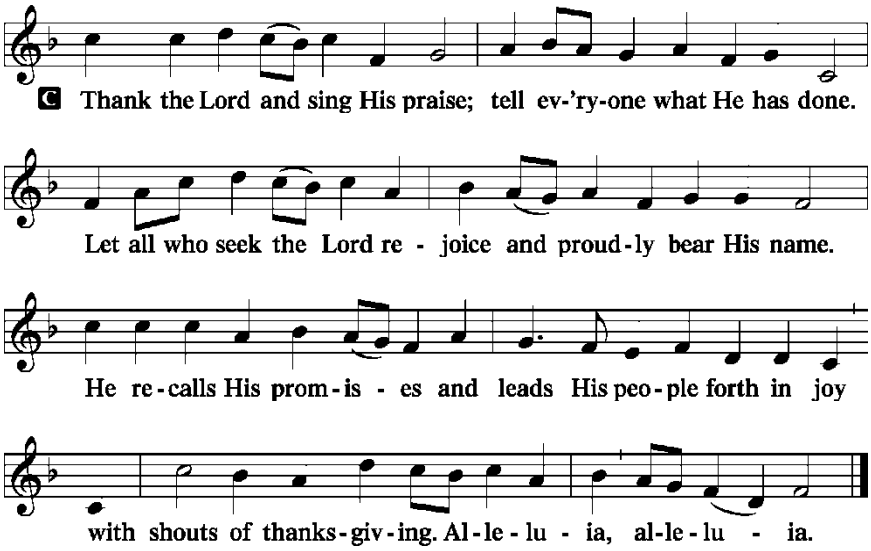
Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

C **Amen.**

Thank the Lord *LSB 164*



Post-Communion Collect

C **We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Benediction *LSB 166*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: 922 – Go, My Children, with My Blessing

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK
November 15, 2026
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 1:7-16
Psalm: Psalm 90:1-12
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:18-26

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK		
DATE	**EVENT**	**TIME**
Today Vet. Day Service	Sunday School/Bible Class Worship	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
Thursday 11/12	Quilting Club	10:00 a.m.
Next Sunday 11/15	Sunday School/Bible Class Worship Voters' Mtg / Potluck	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

VISITORS are always welcome: please let us know who you are, whether you are a snowbird, military, student, or just enjoying the sun, *and if there comes a time you desire to "officially" join our family, please let us directly know that by indicating such on the contact cards.* Also, we would love to make you a name tag, visitor or member, so all may greet you by name. Name tag signup sheet is in the Narthex (lobby).

COUNCIL At the November 15 Voters Meeting, the 2027 Council will be elected. Prayerfully consider volunteering for the Council. These are the openings: Vice President, Secretary, Elder, Property, and Education. If you have questions or want to volunteer, please contact Tim at timdaigle92@gmail.com or Cynthia at cchat@bellsouth.net

VOTERS MEETING The semiannual voters meeting and potluck will be held after service on November 15.

HOLIDAY SERVICES:

1. If you need to be picked up for a service at night, please send me your name, address, and service to be picked up. Please do so ASAP.
2. November 24: Thanksgiving Service 7pm. On Tuesday as people are busy on Wednesday.
3. Advent meals and services. December 2, 9, 16. Meal (soup and sandwich) at 6pm and Service at 7pm.
4. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: December 24 at 7pm.

DECORATING There will be **no** 5th Sunday Potluck, but after the service we will decorate the church for Christmas. Please stay and help.

GAME NIGHT November 13. Game night is the second Friday every month from 6:30 - 8:00pm. Come join in the fun! Bring your favorite game to share or learn a new one such as: Pegs and Jokers, 5 Crowns or Garbage. If you know how to play Pinochle, come and teach us how to play, as we have several people who are interested in learning. Bring a snack to share and beverages will be provided.

LIFT GATHERING November 19th (Lutherans In Fellowship Together) All welcome! Members, non-members and friends will meet at Dewey Dew Bugz in D'Iberville at 6 p.m. Sign up in the narthex.

CONNECTION CARDS There are business/connection cards on the table in the Narthex. Please take some and hand them out while you're out in the community. Give them to your family members, friends, neighbors, or leave them with your tip at a restaurant.

GREETERS If you would like to volunteer to be a greeter, please let Don or Rose Shotzburger know. Greeters will stand by the doors after service, greeting newcomers and encouraging all to stay for refreshments and fellowship.

PLEASE BRING PLASTIC BAGS (from checkout lanes) not tied and put on table by medicine bottles. A member will take them to FMC Long Beach to be used in a charity project.

EMAILS If you are not getting emails from Cynthia about St. Matthew announcements and events, please give her your email address, or email the office at m1919@bellsouth.net.

NARTHEX UPDATE Take a look at the proposed redesign of the Narthex/entryway, which is hanging on the wall near the nametags. Your feedback is welcome to Pastor, Tim, or any member of the council.

CHURCH DIRECTORY needs editing. If you are a member, please check the contact list in the tray on the desk in the office. If your name and contact information are incorrect or missing, please write the correct information on that copy. **Also, please add your birthdays and anniversaries!** We will update our online directory, and get a new paper directory out. Thank you!

ST. MATTHEW COOKBOOK LWML is putting together a church cookbook. We are asking for your favorite recipes that you would like to share. This includes entrees, desserts, salads, hors d'oeuvres, beverages, etc. Please give recipes to Stella Holmquist or email to holmies0707@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER As Helen continues to recover from her surgery, please send your contributions to Natalie in the office (m1919@bellsouth.net) **by the 25th of the month**.

ROOF FUND Members can contribute to the roof fund every Sunday through November 29. A collection plate and blank envelopes are available on the table in the foyer for donations.

BUILDING FUND St. Matthew is continuing the Building Fund Campaign to support the remodeling of our Church Building. Your support of this initiative is appreciated as we continue to modernize our facility. All contributions should be marked for Building Fund.

LAWN FUND The table with sale items is for the Lawn Fund. If you bring any items, please have sale price on the item.

CONTAINERS for medicine bottles, eyeglasses, egg cartons, cardboard rolls and Mardi Gras beads are on the table in the first hall pass the foyer. These items will be donated to charity.

SERVING US TODAY ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION: Larry H.; READER: Don N.; USHERS Rose S. & Patricia E.; ALTAR: Carolyn P.; A/V: Deborah D..; Organ: Lennox M.

Sunday, November 1, 2026
Attendance: 69 Communion: 62
Offering: $4,071



Rev. Stephen S. Linck, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
Worship, 10:00 a.m.
Pastor's Cell: (850) 525-1328
Pastor's Email: pastorlinck@bellsouth.net
Church Phone: 864-6264
E-Mail Address: m1919@bellsouth.net
Web Page: stmatthewgulfport.org