ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

11213 Highway 49, Gulfport, MS 39503

LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD



First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 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

Stand

Entrance Hymn: 341 – Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in

thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Psalm 80:1-7

P [1]Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!

C **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**

P [2]Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,
stir up your might
and come to save us!

C **[3]Restore us, O God;**
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

P [4]O LORD God of hosts,
how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

C **[5]You have fed them with the bread of tears**
and given them tears to drink in full measure.

P [6]You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh among themselves.

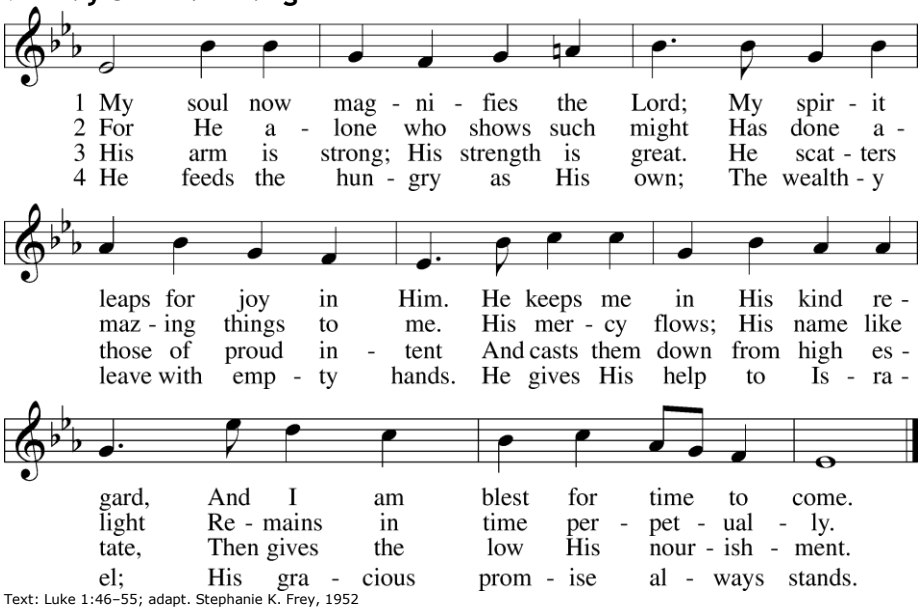
C **[7]Restore us, O God of hosts;**
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Kyrie

LSB 204

C **Lord, have mercy;**
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

934 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord



Text: Luke 1:46–55; adapt. Stephanie K. Frey, 1952
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003232
Tune: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

C **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 64:1–9*

[1]Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—
[2] as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!
[3]When you did awesome things that we did not look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
[4]From of old no one has heard
or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you,
who acts for those who wait for him.
[5]You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?
[6]We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
[7]There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
[8]But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
[9]Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle *1 Corinthians 1:3–9*

[3]Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

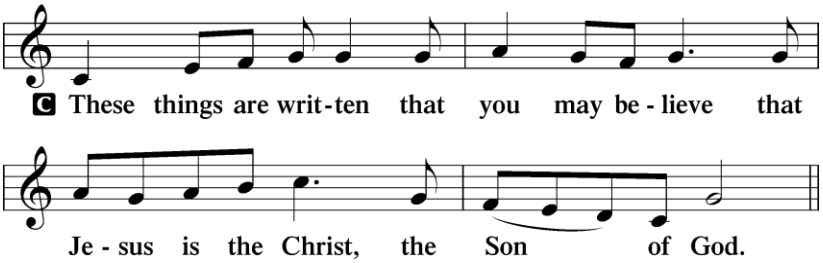
[4]I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, [5]that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—[6]even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—[7]so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, [8]who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9]God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse *LSB 156*



Holy Gospel *Mark 11:1–10*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.

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

[1]When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and
Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his
disciples [2]and said to them, "Go into the village in front of
you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt
tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. [3]If
anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The
Lord has need of it and will send it back here
immediately.'" [4]And they went away and found a colt tied
at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. [5]And some
of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing,
untying the colt?" [6]And they told them what Jesus had said,
and they let them go. [7]And they brought the colt to Jesus
and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. [8]And many
spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy
branches that they had cut from the fields. [9]And those who
went before and those who followed were shouting,
"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord! [10]Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father
David! Hosanna in the highest!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. 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: 343 – Prepare the Royal Highway

Sermon: "Your King Comes to You"
Mark 11:1-10 *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.**

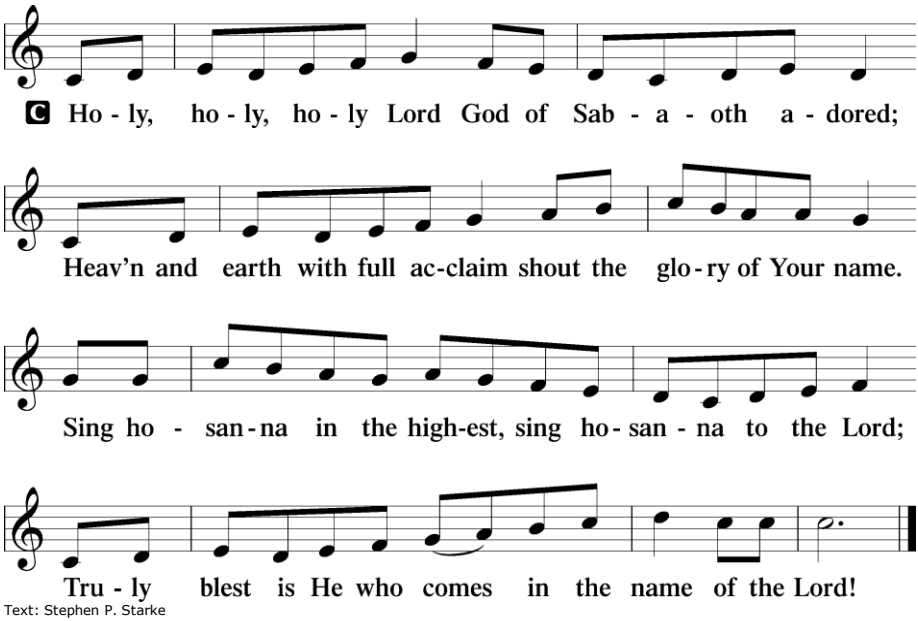
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

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 208*



Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

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."

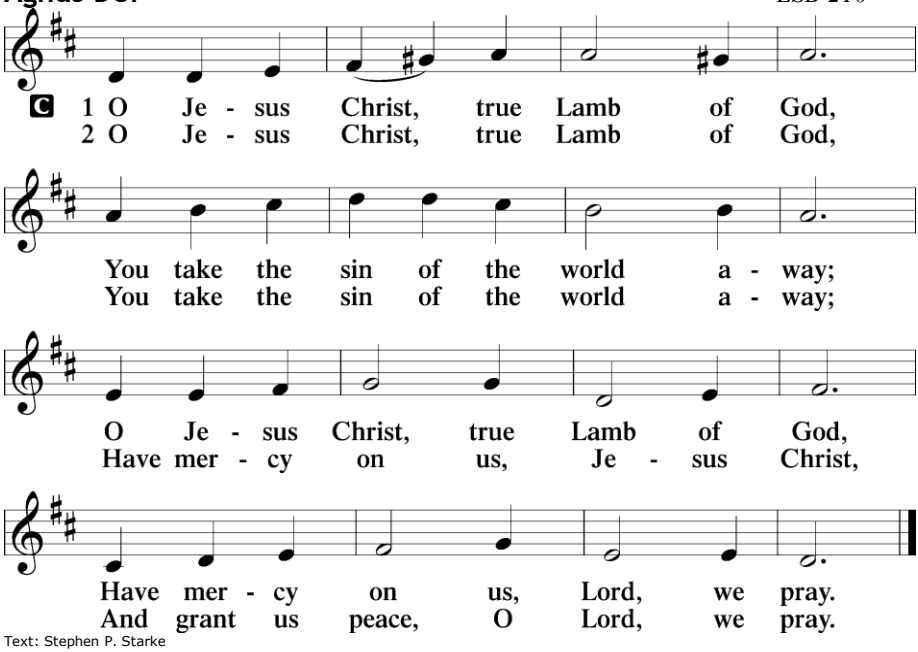
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *LSB 163*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*



Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Hymns during Communion:

624 – The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

333 – Once He Came in Blessing

331 – The Advent of Our King

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.

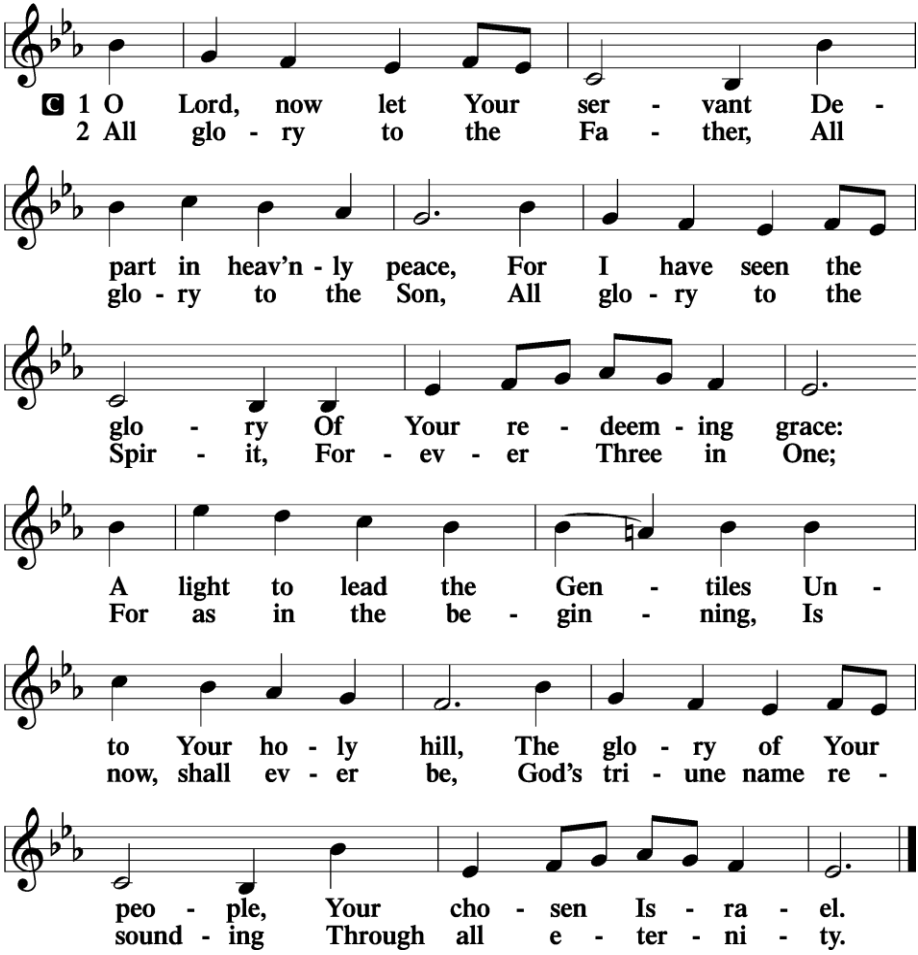
Stand

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.**

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*



Post-Communion Collect

C O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Benedicamus *LSB 212*

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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: 332 – Savior of the Nations, Come

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK
December 6, 2026
Second Sunday in Advent

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm: Psalm 85
Epistle: 2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK		
DATE	**EVENT**	**TIME**
Today	Sunday School/Bible Class Worship	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday 12/2	Soup and Sandwiches Midweek Advent Service	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Thursday 12/3	Quilting Club	10:00 a.m.
Next Sunday 12/6	Sunday School/Bible Class Worship	9:00 a.m. 10:00 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).

HOLIDAY SERVICES:
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.
Advent meals and services. December 2, 9, 16. Meal (soup and sandwich) at 6pm and Service at 7pm.
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.

ANGEL TREE The evangelism committee will be accepting Angel Tree donations soon, prayerfully consider donating when details are provided.

WREATH LAYING December 4th and 5th a group will replace bows (4th) and lay wreaths (5th) at Biloxi National Cemetery. See Will Umphenour for more details.

BAKE SALE Last Sunday's bake sale for Cody Goetsch brought in $475. Thank you to all who baked and bought!

GAME NIGHT December 11. 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 December 18th (Lutherans In Fellowship Together) All welcome! Members, non-members and friends will attend Candlelight Christmas Carols on Strings: Trent Lott Theater, Mary O'Keefe Cultural Arts Center, Ocean Springs. Tickets are $28.50. Please sign up in the Narthex by November 29, or email Cynthia at cchat@bellsouth.net if you are interested.

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.

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 Send your contributions to Helen (helenmarymar@yahoo.com) or Natalie (m1919@bellsouth.net) **by the 25th of the month**.

ROOF FUND Today is the last day to contribute to the roof fund. 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: Ray H.; READER: Alicia P.; USHERS Bea C. & Patricia E.; ALTAR: Carolyn P.; A/V: Paula C..; Organ: Lennox M.

Sunday, November 22, 2026
Attendance: 82 Communion: 72
Offering: $4,547

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

