Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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November 8, 2026
24th Sunday After Pentecost

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

You can find the live stream at the following location:
www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude: "Wedding March No. III" – Ernest Block

GATHERING

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(Stand if you are able)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW 625

Come, We That Love the Lord

We're Marching to Zion



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826–1899, refrain
Music: MARCHING TO ZION, Robert Lowry

INVOCATION

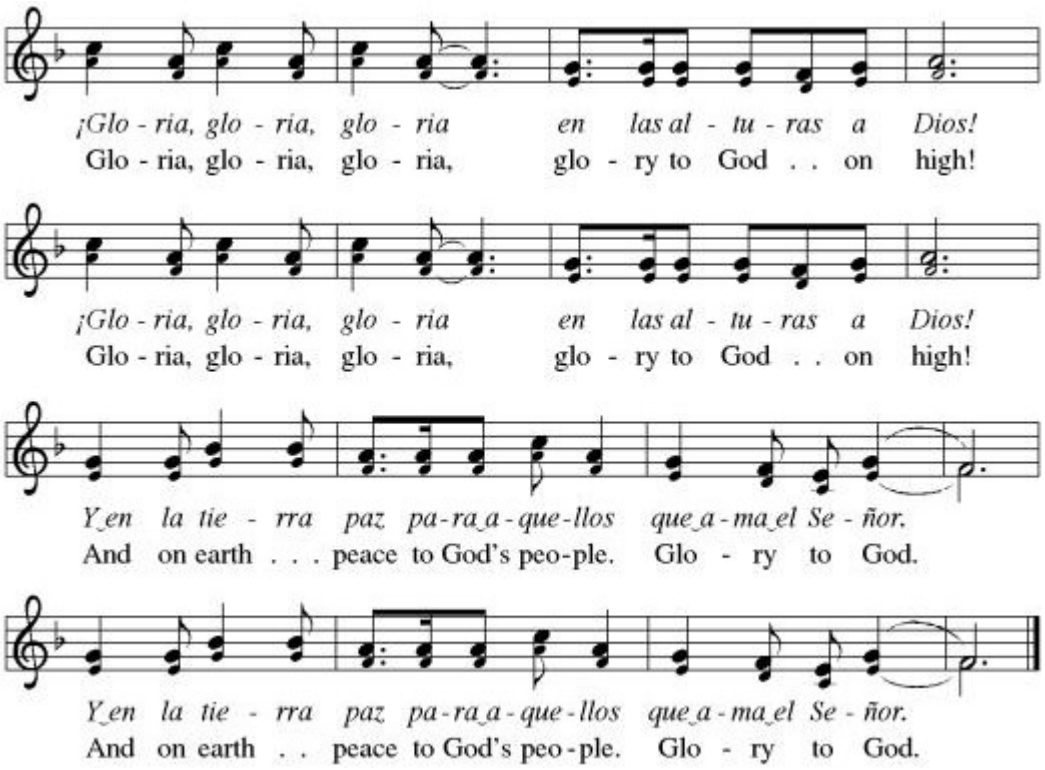
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE-



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray,
O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

First Reading- Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

L: A reading from the fifth chapter of Amos.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It
is darkness, not light, 19 as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went
into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. 20 Is not the
day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your festivals, 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 offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. 23 Take away from
me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. 24 But let justice
roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 70

L: [1] Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me.

C: [2] Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

L: [3] Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

C: [4] Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the Lord!"

L: [5] But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry.

Second Reading- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

L: A reading from the fourth chapter of 1 Thessalonians.

[13] We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so 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 died. [15] For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16] For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: *(Please stand if you are able)*





The Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times..

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: Jesus said to the disciples: [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] 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, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)



Hymn of the Day: ELW 244 *(Stand if you are able)*

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The pastor will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read the other prayer aloud as they feel called. The congregation may turn and face the aisle.

P: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. We especially honor all veterans listed on the last page of this bulletin. God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. We especially pray for those we mention now or in the comfort of our hearts. God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING –

Scan this QR code to give electronically

Choir Anthem: "Higher Ground" -Melvin West

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS-

We Give Thee but Thine Own



Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

Offering Prayer

P: 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.

C: Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

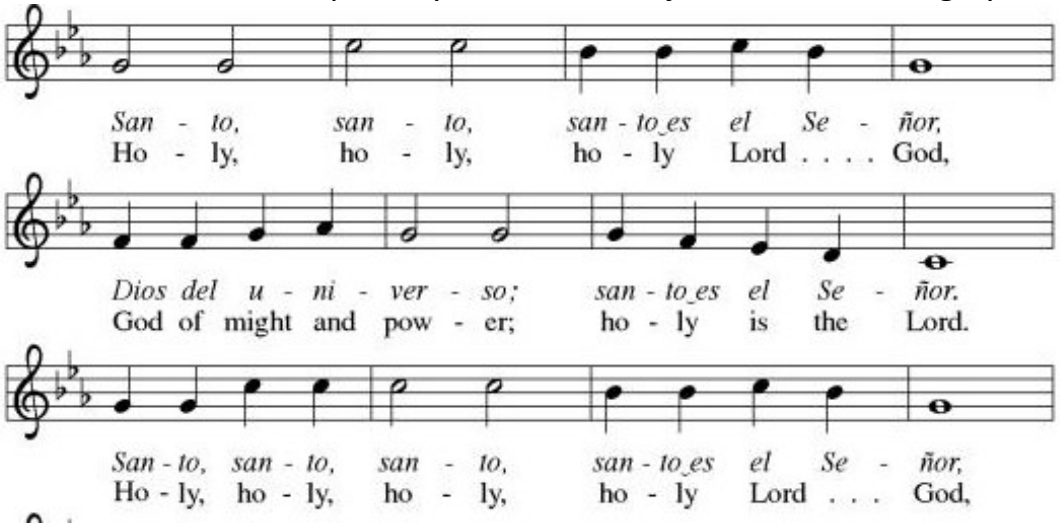
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (said by Pastor)

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

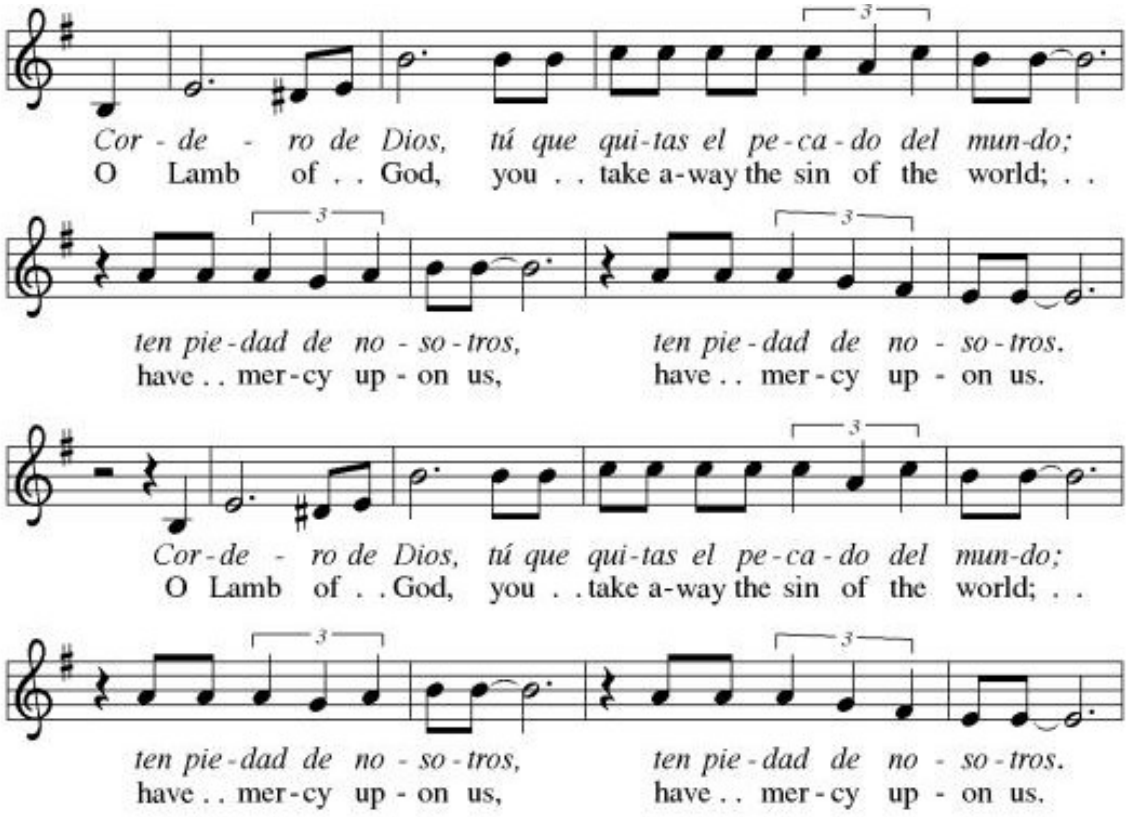
C: Amen.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.





Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow usher)

SONG DURING COMMUNION: ELW 785

When Peace, like a River

It Is Well with My Soul



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

Prayer after Communion

P: Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Announcements

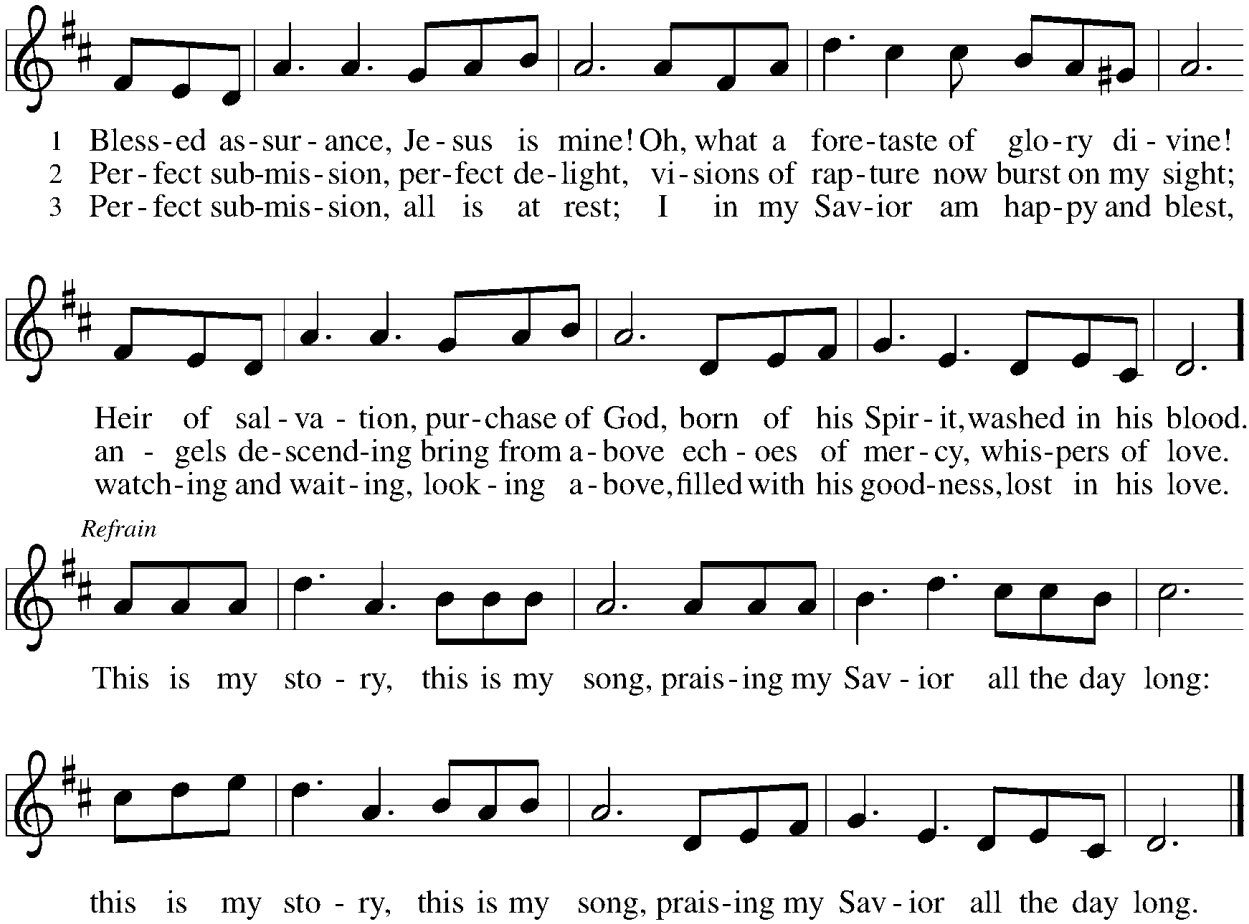
BLESSING

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

C: Amen

Sending Song : ELW 638

Blessed Assurance



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Cortege"- G. Young

Our Outreach envelopes for November will go to Samaritan's Purse.

November	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
8	Serena Ashmore		
9	Lynn Gaun		
10	Martin Luther, Nicholas Phillips		
12	Tom Gaun, Mark Harwick, Matthew Mueller, Cathy Mueller, Edna Still		



Prayer List

For Healing of those in our Congregation: Barbara Altemus; David Antoni; Joey Erceg; Joe Hlavaty; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Bradley Mundt; Barbara Naska; Joanne Ziegenfuss; Pat Zion

For Healing of Friends and Family: Phyllis Allebach; Bob Benoure; Carolyn Berry; Jason Bigley; Brier Bower; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Christine Connelly; Stephanie Courtney; Dan Crooke; David Davis; Nancy Edelen; Marissa Embardino; Carol and Leon Errico; Barbara Foster; Gabriella Froehlich; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Lee & Nate Herkamp; Dolores Hess; Penny Houck; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Priscilla Ballek Kinter; Wally Knight; Tim Koplin; Jim Kreitz; Judy Krick; Carole Korupp; Devon Kramer; Jake Kramer; Lee; Kimberly Litzenberger and family; Linda Lyle; Colleen Marshall; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Connor McDevitt; Jennifer McLeod; Stacy Mecham; Marianne Moll; Helen Mundt; Larry Munford; Hunter Nebbia; Keith Newcomb; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Jax Reidinger; Adrienne Rozzi; Connie Rugen; Patty Seifert; Holly Snyder; Donna Storm; Ellen Sullivan; Lee Taylor; Edward Thaler; Devin Torino; Joe V.; Janet Vanderlely; Karen von Ruffer-Hills; Kelly Walsh; Todd Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Ann & Henry Wong and Family; Barbara Yob; Linda Zerfass.

For those who are Homebound: Cheryl Mesko

For families and friends grieving the loss of: James Altemose ;Al Boorse; Althea Crouse, Esther Crouse; Rev. Dr. Patricia Ann Curtis Davenport; Danny Eck; Rose Elcavage; Steven Galetich; Nancy Hogan; Jayne Miller; Dennis Phillipps; Stephen J Rohs Jr; Ruth Sauter; Laurel Sheetz; Jami Silfies; Lillian Staiger; Jeff Starling; Russell Trauger; Linda Wetherill; Wayne Yeisley; Frank Yhost Jr.

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: joanmammana@icloud.com

Worship Assistants

Pastor	Rev. James Heckman
Organist, Choir Director	Carolyn Williams
Altar Guild	Nancy Moskella and Kris Simmons
Greeter(s)	Nancy Moskella
Acolyte	Oaklee Wagner
Lector	Kat Wagner
Head / Communion Usher	Nancy Moskella
Council Communion Coordinator	Mark Harwick
Counting Team	
Technology & Livestreaming	Ken Anderson
Administrative	Kathryn Wagner
Custodian	Dawn Margeson

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH

Sunday, November 8 24th Sunday after Pentecost	**10:00 AM**	**Communion Worship**
Monday, November 9	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours
Wednesday, November 11	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Office Hours
Thursday, November 12	10:00 AM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 12:00 PM 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal Office hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Bible Study @ the Hlavaty's
Friday, November 13	10:00 AM	WELCA meeting

Upcoming Weeks

Sunday, November 15 25th Sunday after Pentecost	**10:00 AM** After Worship 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	**Communion Worship** Music and Worship Meeting Recycling accepted in Parking Lot see Ken A. Confirmation Class @ St. Luke Ferndale
Monday, November 16	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours
Tuesday, November 17	7:35 PM	Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 18	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Office Hours
Thursday, November 19	10:00 AM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal Office hours Bible Study @ the Hlavaty's

Sunday, November 22 Christ the King Sunday	**10:00 AM**	**Communion Worship** Durham Dialogue
Monday, November 23	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours
Wednesday, November 25	Office Closed	
Thursday, November 26	Office Closed	Happy Thanksgiving!



Veterans - Celebration and Remembrance

James H. Altemose –(Deceased) US Army Reserves - 1958-1964
Austin Apgar - Newly Enlisted in the US Army
Edward J. Ballek - US Army, Battery C, 75th Gun Battalion - 1948-1954
Edward Crouse - (Deceased) Private, US Army - 1948-1954
Leo P. Fox - (Deceased) US Navy, Ship's Cook Class 3 - 1944-1946
Robert Fox - US Army
Scott Gaun - Senior Airman, US Air Force - 1984-1988
Gene Gribbin - (Deceased) Sergeant, US Army - 1950-1952
Michael Hesser - Sergeant, US Marine Corps - 2010-2014
David H. Holland - (Deceased) US Marine Corps - Killed in action 1967
Myron Kressman - (Deceased) US Army - 1969-1971
W. Robert Litzenberger - (Deceased) Corporal, US Army - 1950-1952
John Luther - (Deceased) Private, US Army 351st Infantry, 88th Division, KIA Italy 1944
Paul McGinn – Military Intelligence; Specialist 4, US Army – 1971-1974
Wayne Mesko - Staff Sergeant, US Air Force, 99th Bomb Wing - 1966-1970
James Miller - US Navy - 1965-1968
Robert J Newcomb - (Deceased) Corporal, US Army, Medical Technician - 1951-1953
Harold E. Nicholas - (Deceased) Corporal , US Army, 2nd Armored Division - 1951-1953
David Pyne - Petty Officer 2nd Class E-4, US Navy, USS Gettysburg - 1994-1998
Elizabeth Roberts - US Air Force
Christopher Roberts - US Army
Blake Rodd - US Army - 2010-2014
Silas Rodenbach –(Deceased) US Army - 1952-1954
Christopher S Seifert - (Deceased) Captain, US Army, 101st Airborne, KIA 2003
Hal Taylor - (Deceased) Lieutenant, US Navy, Field Intelligence - 1966-1969
Edward H Xander (Deceased) - Corporal, US Marine Corps - 1955-1959

