NOV 8, 2026

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



CHILDCARE Available for children 5 and under in the nursery.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Meets at 9:45am. Contact Renee at rengen@flcj.org for more information. To register, print form from flcj.orgssreg.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for graciously welcoming us into their space and allowing us to worship together.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

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.

GATHERING

PRELUDE Our God Worship Team

WELCOMING WORDS

stand

As the presiding minister begins, all may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.
We prioritize our attempts to be right
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.

Inherit the riches of God's grace.
✠ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven; you are blessed.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN 625 Come, We That Love The Lord

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

sit

WORD

FIRST READING

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.

SECOND READING

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.

GOSPEL

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

FIRST READING Amos 5:18-24

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.
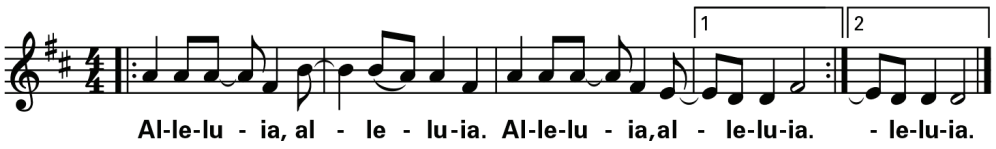
SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

SERMON Good Things Come to Those Who Wait Pr. Jim Johnson

stand

HYMN OF THE DAY 436 Wake, Awake, for the Night is Flying

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

We pray by petition. At the end of each petition, the leader says, "Hear us, O God." and the assembly responds, ***"Your mercy is great."***

PEACE

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

We turn to one another and with a wave or nod and offer a gesture of Christ's peace. We may say these words: "Peace be with you."

MEAL

OFFERING TIME

A story of our ministry...

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

Amen.

SCAN ME

You can give your offering by scanning the QR code above with your phone camera or place it in the offering basket by the entrance way. You can also bring it to the church office or send it by mail.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

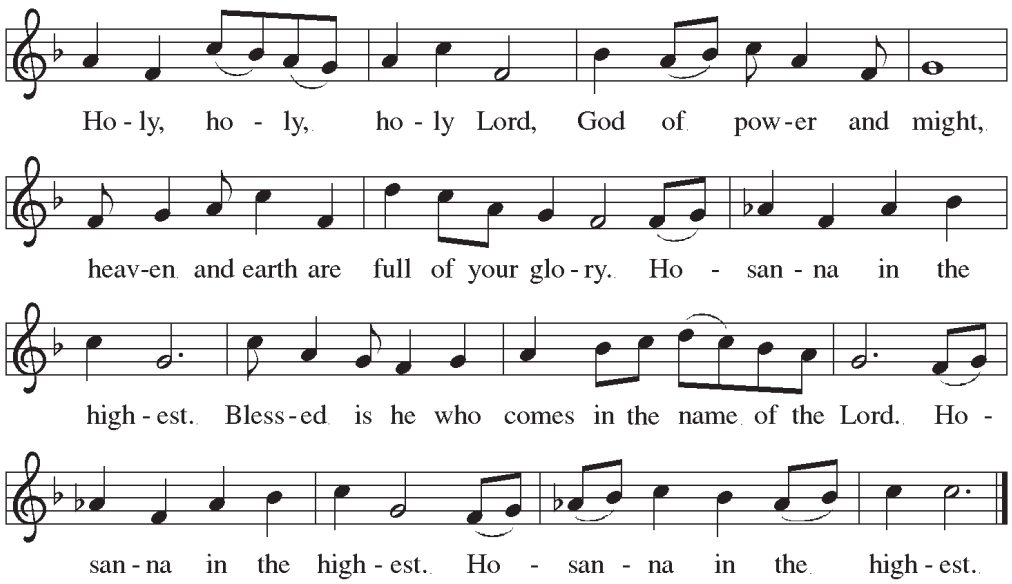
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, for by sealing us with your own Spirit and marking us with the cross of Christ, you set us apart for the rich inheritance you have prepared for all the saints.

SANCTUS



LORD'S PRAYER

sit

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Communion is open to all who wish to receive it. Individual, sealed communion kits available inside the sanctuary doors, for those who prefer them.

If you would like to receive Communion at your seat, please notify an usher.

COMMUNION Remembrance - (Communion Song) Worship Team

When all have communed:

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

Amen.

stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. In this meal, we have again received your never-ending mercy. Now send us out, awakened to your presence, ready to serve in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SENDING

SENDING WORD

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 638 Blessed Assurance

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



LIVING WELL WITH DEMENTIA

Whether we are reacting to an actual dementia diagnosis, or simply sensing that we are not who we used to be, most of us initially want to retreat from life as we struggle to accept our "new normal". We often avoid activities or responsibilities we once handled with ease, those we did automatically, to avoid feeling embarrassed by our decline.

According to Wikipedia, "examples of **automaticity** are common activities such as walking, speaking, reading, bicycle-riding, assembly-line work, and driving a car. The mind is able to focus on other activities or thoughts while undertaking an automatized activity (for example, holding a conversation or planning a speech while driving a car)."

Our best chance to remain independent, for the longest possible time, is to **keep doing what we want to keep doing**. If we want to keep driving, we should try to drive somewhere at least once per day. My favorite daily rounds include stops at the Pig, Target, and car wash. Rather than filling my gas tank when it hovers near empty, I top it off frequently as a means of retaining muscle memory regarding the correct sequencing of the gas pump.

Our loved ones benefit if we gracefully accept our "new normal" and develop strategies that allow them as much time as possible for their own lives as our shared dementia journey unfolds.



PRAYING FOR YOU

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Hospice: Gary Kleinhans
Froedtert Hospital: Barb Evert
Mercy: Janis Metzger
Prayers: Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, Pr. David Andert, Anna Banwell, Nathan & Heather Barlass, Enid Branham, Rick Cleasby, Renee Comstock, Karen Curry, Lynn Dhein, Violette Eichman, Connie Evans, Leon Freeburg, Linda Fronczak, Christine Genz, Jane Gesteland, JoAnn Haeberlin, Kathy Hendricks, Myra Jensen, Janet Klawitter, Marcia Kelleher, Robert Kjendlie, Anita Kropf, Audrey Kvistad, K. Letheby, Marion Maddock, Eli Martin, Naomi Martin, Dale McCormack, Janis Metzger, Kathy Mikkelsen, Samantha Mulderick, Curt Nodolf, Rick Olson, Shirley Pate, Susan Popp, Kevin Punzel, Debbie Rethlefsen, Elaine Schilling, Earl Schultz, Leola Schultz, Helen Strand, Linda Sturdevant, Kamron Schwartz, Jan Wathke
Nursing Home Care: Marlys Carlson, Ardith Eddy, Bill Foss, Kathy Foss, Nancy Guse, Bea Hanson, Rose Jensen, Tilford "Paul" Paulsrud, Doris Roehl, Jan Sampson, Mary Sather
Homebound: Evelyn Dahl, Ray & Liz Decker, Harriet Hanson, Wayne Koste, Shirley Mooney, Lynn Reddel



SUNS, NOV 8, 15, 22, 29

CARDS FOR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

The Relationship Building Team invites you to help us reach out to our homebound members and send an encouraging note to remind them we are thinking of them. Packets of four holiday/seasonal cards with addressed and stamped envelopes will be available for pick up at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church between services starting today. Contact Christine Smith (608.692.6521) for additional information.



TODAY / 3-4:30PM / PARSONAGE

FALL BOOK STUDY

Join FLC's Inclusion and Integration Team this fall for a three-part book study of *See No Stranger* by Valarie Kaur. Together, we'll explore what genuine inclusion means and consider Kaur's invitation to see one another—even our opponents—with wonder, compassion, and a commitment to belonging. We hope you'll join us! For more information and links to purchase the book, visit valariekaur.com.



SUN, NOV 15 / AFTER THE 10AM SERVICE

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCH

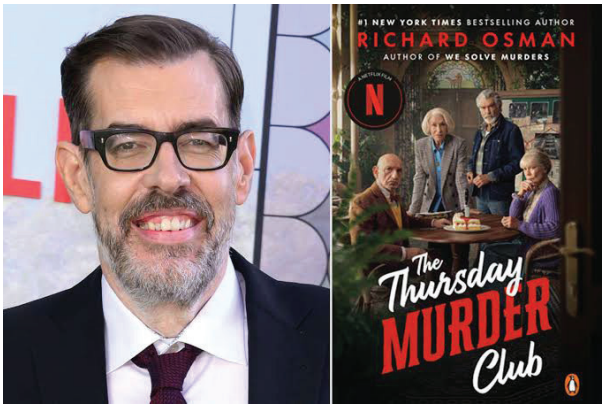
First Lutheran and Good Shepherd invite all volunteers to join us for a special appreciation lunch following the 10am worship service on Sun, Nov 15. This is our opportunity to celebrate you and say thank you for the time, gifts, and dedication you share with our church communities. Your willingness to serve makes a difference, and we are truly grateful for all you do!



SUNS, NOV 23 & 30

WELCA THANK OFFERING

Thank Offering envelopes are available through Women of the ELCA circle members and by the weekly church bulletins. Donations support the national Women of the ELCA's administrative, educational, and missionary ministries. Please return envelopes on November 23 or 30, or include your donation with your regular November offering. Checks may also be sent to the church office with "Thank-Offering" noted. Thank you for your generosity!



TUES, DEC 1 / 5PM
KAREN GRIMSRUD'S HOME

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

The book chosen for this month is *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. All are welcome to join the group at Karen Grimsrud's home for lively conversation and fellowship whether or not you have read the book. Contact Sally Schuenke at 608.754.0407 for more information.

January's book is *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett.



SUN, DEC 6 / STARTING AT 7:30AM

COOKIE WALK

Join us for the 6th Annual Cookie Walk on Dec 6! Starting at 7:30am and continuing until after the second service, fill a box with your favorite holiday cookies and pay by weight. Please consider baking a few extra dozen to donate! Proceeds support youth mission trips.

WEEK OF **NOV 8**

WEB flcj.org | **FACEBOOK** @flcjvl | **ON YOUTUBE**
HOURS MON-THURS 9am-4pm | FRI 9am-Noon
CONTACT 608.752.7434 | office@flcj.org

SUN, NOV 8 - 24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:00am	Worship	Good Shepherd
9:00am	Coffee Hour	Good Shepherd
9:45am	Sunday School	Good Shepherd
10:00am	Worship	Good Shepherd
11:00am	Coffee Hour	Good Shepherd
3:00pm	Book Study	Parsonage
4:00pm	Scout Meeting	Good Shepherd

MON, NOV 9

5:30pm	Building & Grounds Team	Parsonage
8:00pm	Centering Prayer	Zoom

TUES, NOV 10 - PROGRESS DEADLINE

8:00am	BG's	Parsonage
9:00am	Mary Ruth Circle	Member's Homes
11:00am	Staff Meeting	Parsonage
4:00pm	Relationship Building Team	Parsonage
4:30pm	Handbells	First Presbyterian
6:00pm	Youth & Family Team	Good Shepherd
7:00pm	Discipleship Team	Good Shepherd

WED, NOV 11

10:00am	Bible Study	Good Shepherd
1:00pm	Joanna Circle	Member's Homes
6:00pm	Worship Team	Good Shepherd
7:00pm	Youth Group	Parsonage Living Room

THURS, NOV 12

9:00am	Practicing the Way	Good Shepherd
10:00am	Worship	Rock Haven
11:00am	Worship	Oak Park Place
5:30pm	Safe Families	Parsonage
6:00pm	Practicing the Way	Good Shepherd
6:00pm	Young Adult Group	Good Shepherd

SAT, NOV 13

9:00am	Capital Campaign Work Session	Parsonage
9:00am	Stamping	Good Shepherd

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

NOV 15: 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

+ Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
+ Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
+ 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
+ Matthew 25:14-30

STEWARDSHIP

WEEK IN REVIEW

Last Week's Giving:
$7,202.14 *Thank You!*
Avg Weekly Giving YTD: $13,772
Weekly Need: $18,573

The weekly need is calculated by taking the budgeted expenses and dividing by the number of weeks in the year. This budget year, the expected expenses are part of a growth strategy based on insights from members under the direction and oversight of the Church Council. With your support, we are looking forward to the future that is growing at FLC.

ATTENDANCE

8am: 72 10am: 127 SS: 18

Hymns reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-710745. All rights reserved. Sundays & Seasons. Copyright 2021. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #SAS010632

SCAN ME

Scan the QR code to fill out an online Connect Card.

GREETERS
8:00 Don & Joy Lederman
10:00 Spencer & Susie Grager

READERS
8:00 Lynn Kevern
10:00 Lynn Kevern

COMMUNION SERVERS
8:00 Anne & Brian Gohlke
10:00 Gloria Jacobson, Karen Schumacher, Barb Clem

USHERS
10:00 Dennis Garvin

ALTAR GUILD
Tom & Lynn Kevern

NURSERY
Caitlin Twitchett

COFFEE HOSTS
Prayer Team

TEMPORARY FLC OFFICES
Temporary offices are in the former parsonage at 740 N Randall Ave. Easiest access is through the rear porch door, and close parking is available there. Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm, Fri 9am-Noon.

STAFF
The Rev. Michael Mueller SENIOR PASTOR
The Rev. Jim Johnson VISITATION PASTOR
Nan Bandt OFFICE ASSISTANT
Kora Conrad CUSTODIAN
Jason Coon CUSTODIAN
Anne Cresswell NURSERY COORDINATOR
Eric Engen YOUTH MINISTER
Renee Engen SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION
Jessi Garvin YOUTH ASSIST & VIDEO PRODUCTION
Aubrey McMeen MASTERPIECE COORDINATOR
Michael Palmer AUDIO/VISUAL ASSISTANT
Jeanie Pomplun OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Mike Schuler AUDIO/VISUAL COORDINATOR
Christal Swigart COMMUNICATIONS
Dan Talbot WORSHIP COORDINATOR
Jamie Twitchett AUDIO/VISUAL ASSISTANT
Jude Tropp FACILITIES MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR
Arwen Twitchett BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

CHURCH COUNCIL
Jarod Wasson PRESIDENT
Elisa Ried VICE-PRESIDENT
Lexi Frank TREASURER
Tom Dorscheid SECRETARY
Nathan Anderson
Jon Bjoin
Jer Carpenter
Carrie Chesebro
Tammy Eckley
Barb Evert
Kathy Meier
Kurt Saterbak
Christina Zink

WEB flcj.org
FACEBOOK @flcjvl
ON YOUTUBE
HOURS
Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm
Fri 9am-Noon
608.752.7434
office@flcj.org

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH