24th Sunday after Pentecost **November 8, 2026**

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ***Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*** SETCHELL
Miriam Gibson & Joy Harrison Rust

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, 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 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.**
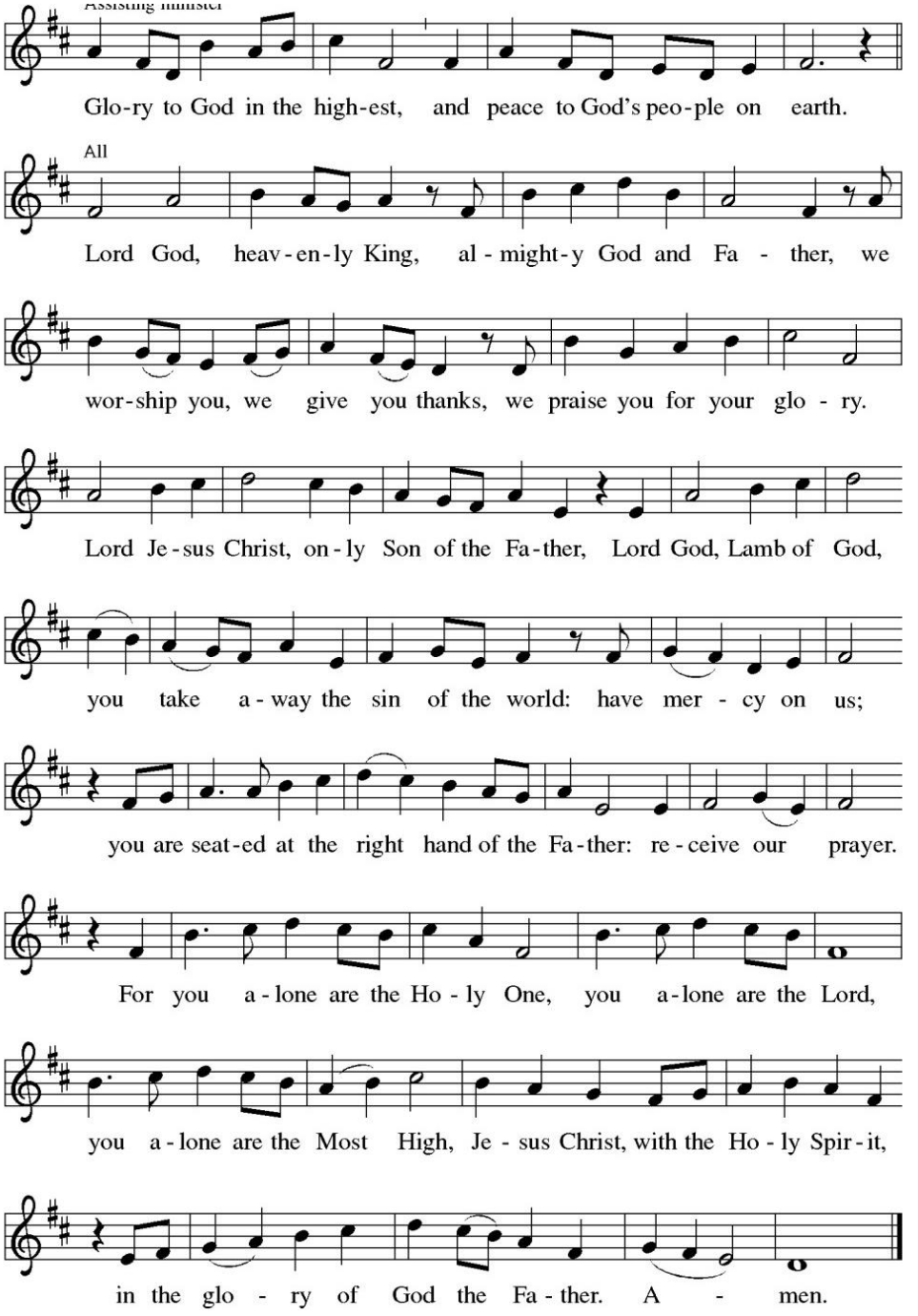
Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

HYMN #710 ***Let Streams of Living Justice*** THAXTED

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (GLORY TO GOD)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. 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.**

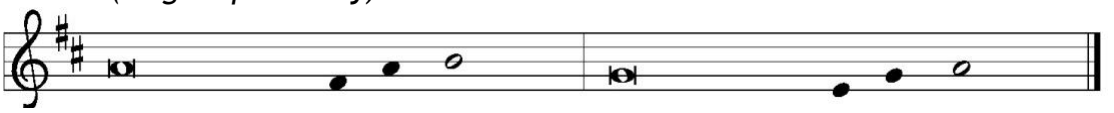
FIRST READING: Amos 5: 18-24

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.

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 70 *(sing responsively)*



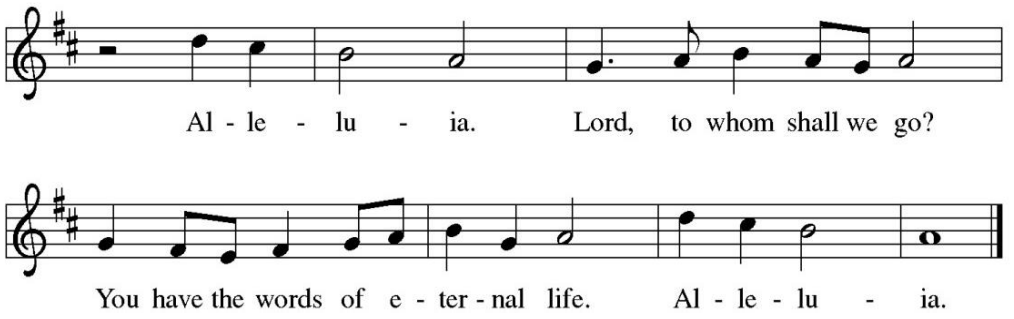
[1] Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O Lord, make | haste to help me.
[2] **Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;**
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced.
[3] Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
[4] **Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the Lord!"
[5] But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, 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.

[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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 25: 1-13
Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.
[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."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON *Rev. Christian Dittmar*

HYMN #638 ***Blessed Assurance*** ASSURANCE

APOSTLES' CREED
With voices united, let us confess our faith
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.

THE PRAYERS

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

A brief silence.

…God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

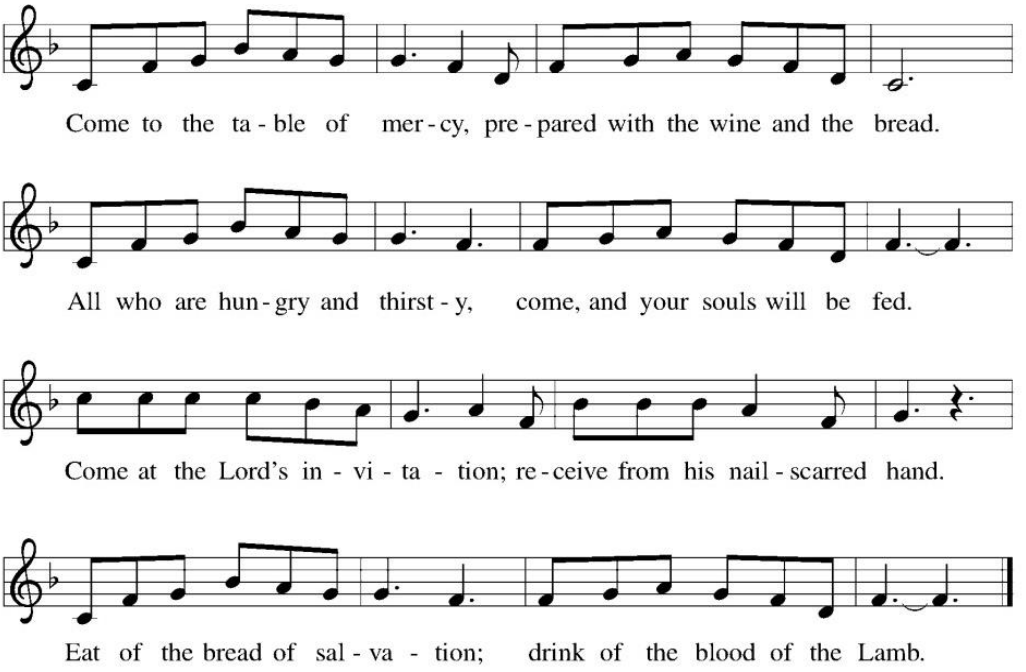
CHILDREN'S SERMON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING ***Blessed Assurance*** CARLSON

Joy Harrison Rust, piano

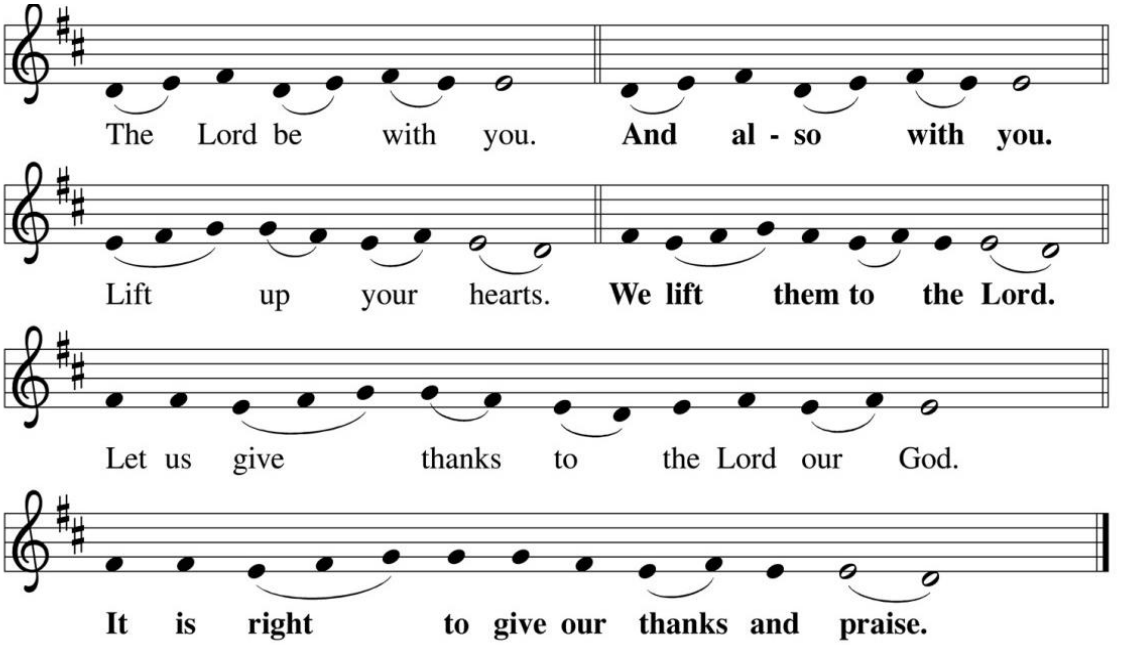
OFFERTORY #481 ***Come to the Table of Mercy*** COME TO THE TABLE



OFFERING PRAYER

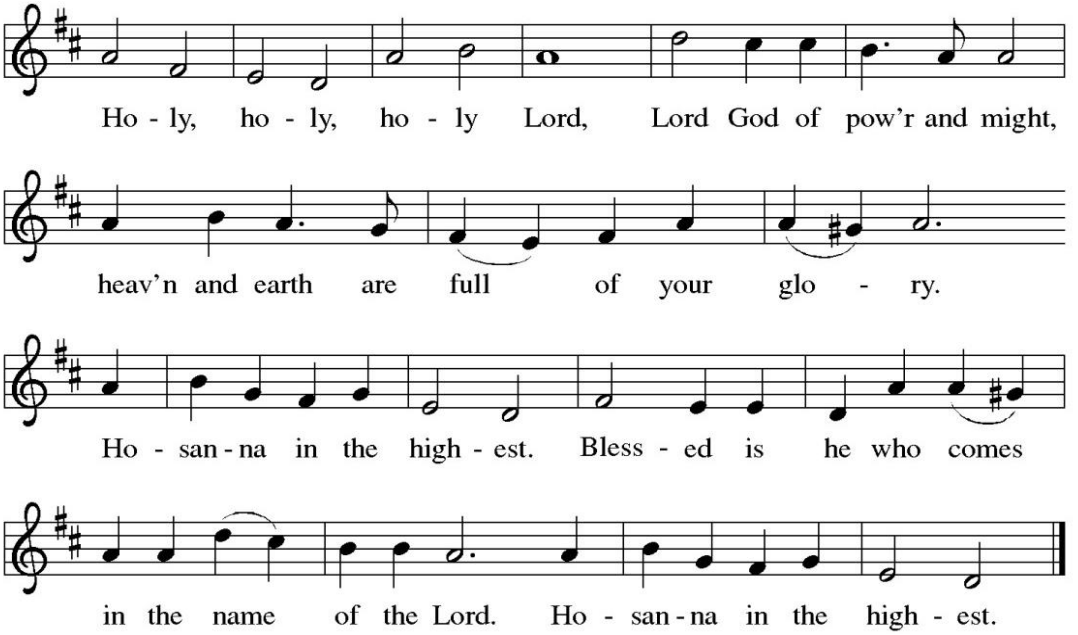
Let us pray. Eternal God, **our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until we hunger no more, and all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS [HOLY, HOLY, HOLY]



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

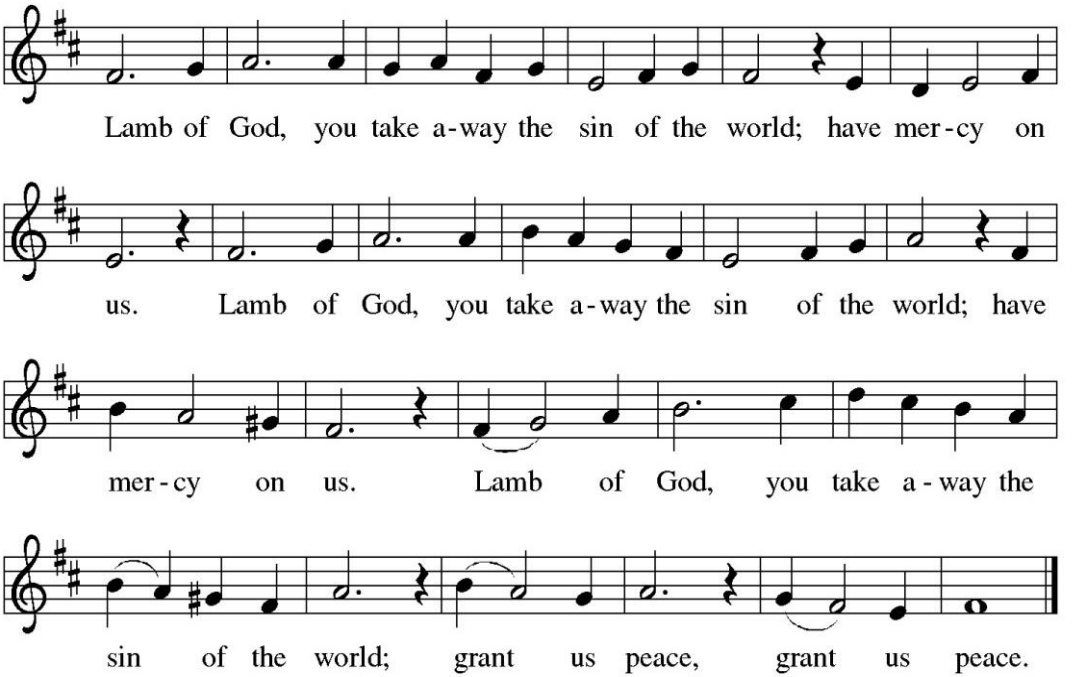
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

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

AGNUS DEI [LAMB OF GOD]



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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. 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. Amen.**

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN #439 ***Soon and Very Soon*** VERY SOON

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE ***Praise to the Lord, The Almighty*** BOCK

Miriam Gibson & Joy Harrison Rust

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First Lutheran



Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine!

Welcome to First Lutheran Church. During our services of Holy Communion, we follow Jesus' teachings that all people are welcome to his table. This meal of faith, hope, and love is meant for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Feel free to come forward and receive the bread, or wheat-free and gluten-free wafer, along with a small cup of wine or grape juice. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign of your preference

WE ASK EVERYONE to complete the "Footprints" and list if you are communing or have a prayer request. You may write your prayer request(s) on the back. Please check YES for the name to be included in the bulletin or NO if you want the name to be known only to the prayer teams. We strive for confidentiality, so be sure you have the person's permission, or use only the first name. There are activity bags for our young worshippers. Please ask an usher for assistance.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God by Ben and Maranda Morrow, in honor of their daughter, Penelope.

THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is next Sunday, November 15th. There will only be one service next week at 9:30am for the WELCA Thankoffering, and the congregational meeting will follow.

COUNCIL CANDIDATES A big thank you to all who have chosen to run for council this year: Crystal Clark, Marilynn Dunn, Kurt Ebersole, Miriam Gibson, Suzanne Kirk, Elaine Miller, and Kris Napier. Take a look at the bulletin board to see their questionnaires about what they would like to bring to the council! They will be elected at the congregational meeting on November 15th.

THE THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE will be held jointly with St. John's, Trinity Arcadia, and Trinity Findlay at Trinity Lutheran Church here in Findlay, November 25th at 7pm with a combined choir and handbell choir.

THE NEW 2027 FLOWER CHART is up in the hallway, across from the church office. There is a full year of Sundays that need flowers to brighten not only the altar, but also either your home or the home of a shut-in. Please consider this ministry as a way to share God's love for His people.

MILITARY MINISTRY Social Ministry is trying to keep the Military Ministry active and going. This would involve contacting families of our military and getting updated photos and addresses. Please pray about trying to help with this project and contact the office or Social Ministry committee if you are willing to assist with this very valuable ministry. Thank you.

SACRED DAILY During Pastor Tucker's sabbatical there will not be a pastor to lead Sacred Daily. The chapel will still be available Mondays through Thursdays at or about 11:30 a.m. for private or group praying of Noon Prayer. The order of service and Bibles are in the chapel pews.

OPEN POSITION: The position of Building Manager is available. Duties include opening and closing the church building, and the keep up and maintenance of the building. If interested, please contact Pastor Tucker or Casey Cox.

SEVERE STORMS, HURRICANES, AND NATURAL DISASTERS across the United States have left many without power and/or without homes. With your support our church stands ready to walk with our neighbors as they rebuild. Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response ensure that survivors don't have to face the road to recovery alone. Through these disasters and others across the United States and around the world, Lutheran Disaster Response accompanies communities for as long as the recovery process takes. Together we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need. There are Lutheran Disaster Response envelopes in the narthex or you may mark your gift Lutheran Disaster Response.

A CARD WRITING MINISTRY has been set up on a table outside the Narthex! The Social Ministry Committee encourages everyone to write a note to an At-Home member, to a member having a birthday, or just to someone you haven't seen in a while! Addresses for At-Home members and a list of monthly birthdays is available on the table. If you put the card in the basket available, the mailing will be handled by the office!