

Advent

Luther Memorial Church & Academy

8 November 2026

The First Sunday of Advent: *Wachet Auf*

10:30am

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106

THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.
Cantor
THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL,
THE REV. BRIAN MORAN
THE REV. KAREN PARSH,
THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON
Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM
LMA Principal
JAN MACINNES
Care Ministry
BETH KELLER
SARAH PRYLINSKI
Youth and Family Ministry

WELCOME!

Luther Memorial Church and Academy are located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Erie people. These lands were ceded by the people of the Six Nations on October 22, 1784 in a treaty ratified by the United States Government in 1785 and never ratified by the people of the Six Nations. We gather in this place indebted to these peoples for their forced generosity. While some peoples were successful in resisting assimilation and genocide, and still live on dwindled homelands now, many were absorbed into other peoples, exiled, or annihilated by the United States government for their land. For those who remain and for the land on which we gather, we give thanks to the Creator and to those who have been custodians of this part of Turtle Island since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

~ Here are a few notes to help you participate in worship today: Almost everything you need is in this bulletin, including hymns. You are invited to participate with the words in **bold type**. You are invited to stand as you are able where indicated. Hymns are included in this bulletin, however if you need larger print, hymns may be found in the back of the red hymnal using the number indicated (#). Please join in singing all the music! Today especially we raise our voices in praise!

~ **You don't need to disconnect here**! You don't need to turn off your phone, but please place it in silent mode. Feel free to take pictures—of our building, of worship, but ask permission for any people-pictures. We ask that you not use flash during this worship service. Post your favorite quote from the sermon or verse from a hymn…just be sure to check in and let your friends know where you are!

~ We welcome all of God's children **no matter your age**. Wriggles, dancing, and singing welcome! Together we raise a joyful noise. If you would like a children's bulletin, a soft toy, or a book, they're near the ramp door (out the doors next to the pulpit on the long Welcome Table).

~ **Restrooms** may be found out either door at the front of the Sanctuary. There is an accessible ramp through the doors near the pulpit. At the top of the ramp(s), follow signs to the restrooms. A fully accessible restroom is available through the parlor.

\+ + +

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE – "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" J. S. Bach

The assembly rises in body or spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place. People of God,… we confess our sins together.

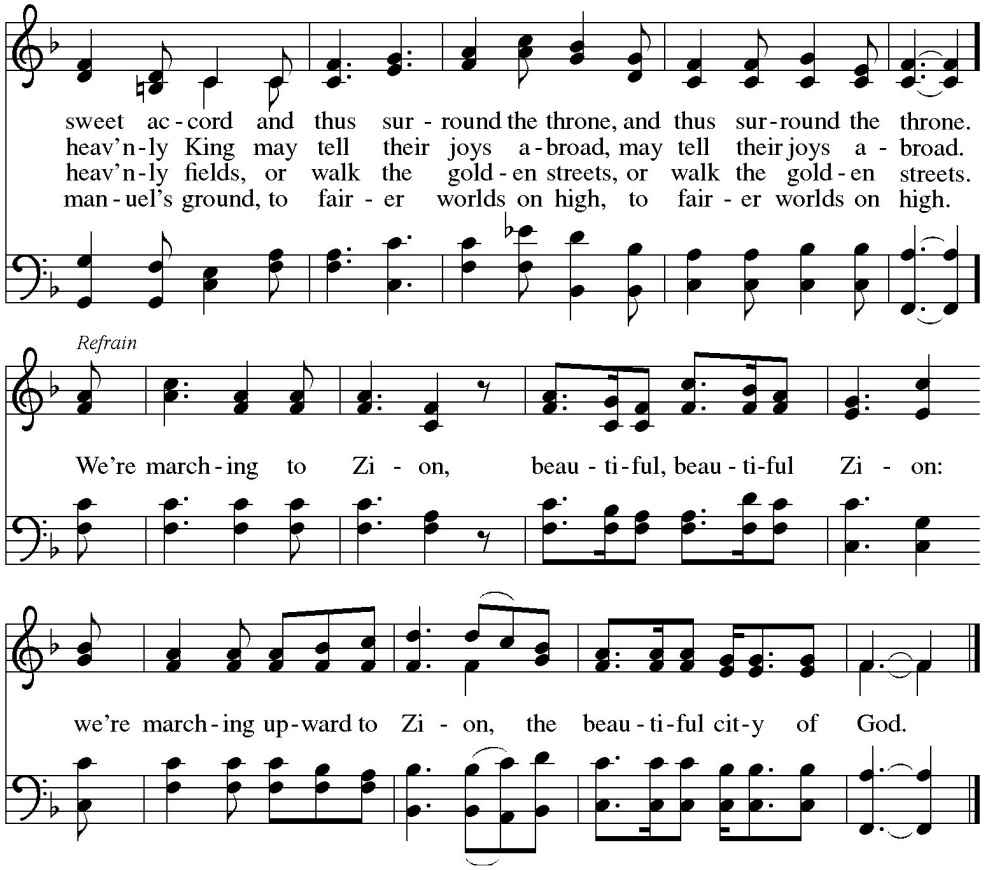
Brief pause

Holy One,
We have not stayed awake.
We have missed you when you appeared
in our neighbors,
in strangers half a world away,
in the suffering planet.
We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us
and assumed we were powerless to mend
the breaches in our world.
Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love.
God, is it too late for us?
Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts.
Tear open the heavens
and heal what we have done.
Amen.

People of God, God's judgment is certain and God's forgiveness is lightning fast. Hear this good news: in the name of Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven. Forgiveness gives us the courage we need. Wherever we wait for God's time to come, we will witness wonders. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 625





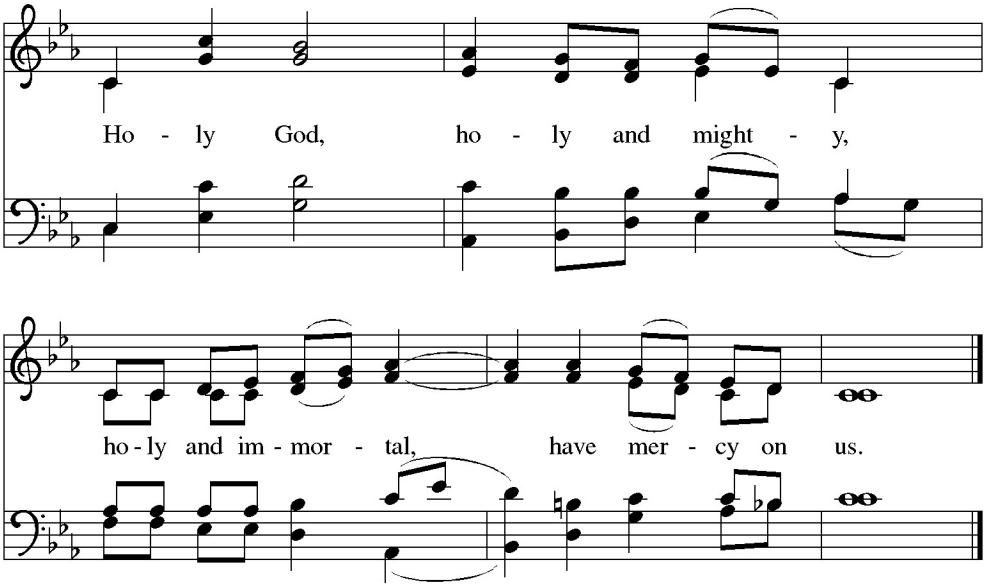
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826–1899, refrain
Music: MARCHING TO ZION, Robert Lowry

GREETING

Grace to you and peace from the everlasting God, the God who watches over us, the God for whom we wait.
And also with you.

TRISAGION

Sung once by the choir. Sung twice by the assembly.



Music: Mark Mummert, b. 1965
Music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Stir up your waiting people, O God, and illumine our way in life by the word of our coming Bridegroom. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through that same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

The Spirit and the Church cry out: **Come, Lord Jesus!**
All who await his appearing pray: **Come, Lord Jesus!**
The whole creation pleads: **Come, Lord Jesus!**
Come to us, Lord Jesus,….our strength and our redeemer.
Amen.

WORD

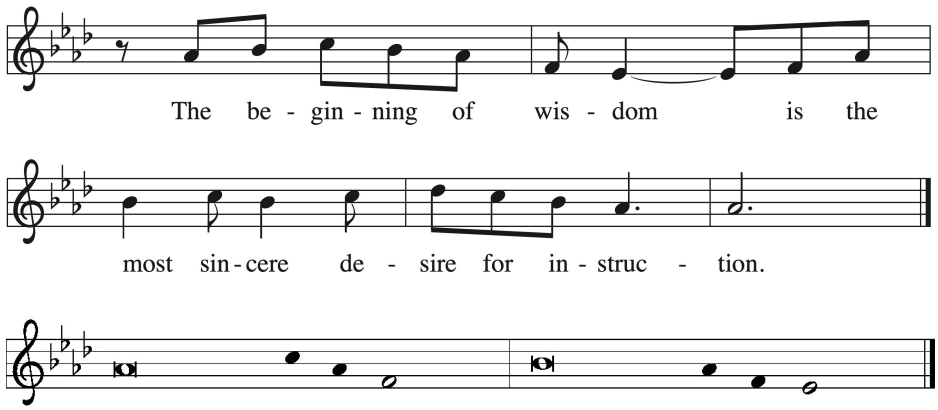
God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING: Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths and meets them in every thought.

Hear the One for whom we wait. **Come, Word of God.**

PSALMODY: Wisdom 6:17-20
*The choir introduces the antiphon. All repeat and again where indicated (**A**). The psalm is chanted responsively according to Tone 11:*



The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire | for instruction,
and concern for instruction is | love of wisdom,
and love of wisdom is the keeping | of wise laws,
and giving heed to wise laws is assurance of | immortality,
and immortality brings one | near to God;
so the desire for wisdom leads | to a kingdom. ***A***

SECOND READING: I Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, dear family, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 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. For that very Lord, 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. 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. Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

Hear the One for whom we wait. **Come, Word of God.**

Having heard from the God who is still speaking, and as we await the coming of The Word in our midst in this season, we light our candles of waiting.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

(Our first candle will be lighted by Ron & Zachary Middaugh.)

"Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

(Matthew 25:13)

Let us pray. God of alreadys, nevers, and everything in between: It is hard for us to sit with uncertainty. We do not know when you will return, we do not know if it's too late to prepare, we do not even know exactly how to get ready. As we light the first candle, dwell with us in this uncertain time. Meet us in the space between always and never. Help us name our grief for what's past, and our hope for what's to come.
Amen.

The assembly rises in body or spirit to greet the Gospel.



TEXT: LINNÉA K. CLARK WITH EMILY TRUBEY-WELLER MUSIC: LINNÉA K. CLARK © 2023 BARN GEESE WORSHIP. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

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

Jesus said to the disciples: "The dominion of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 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.' 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. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Sir, sir, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

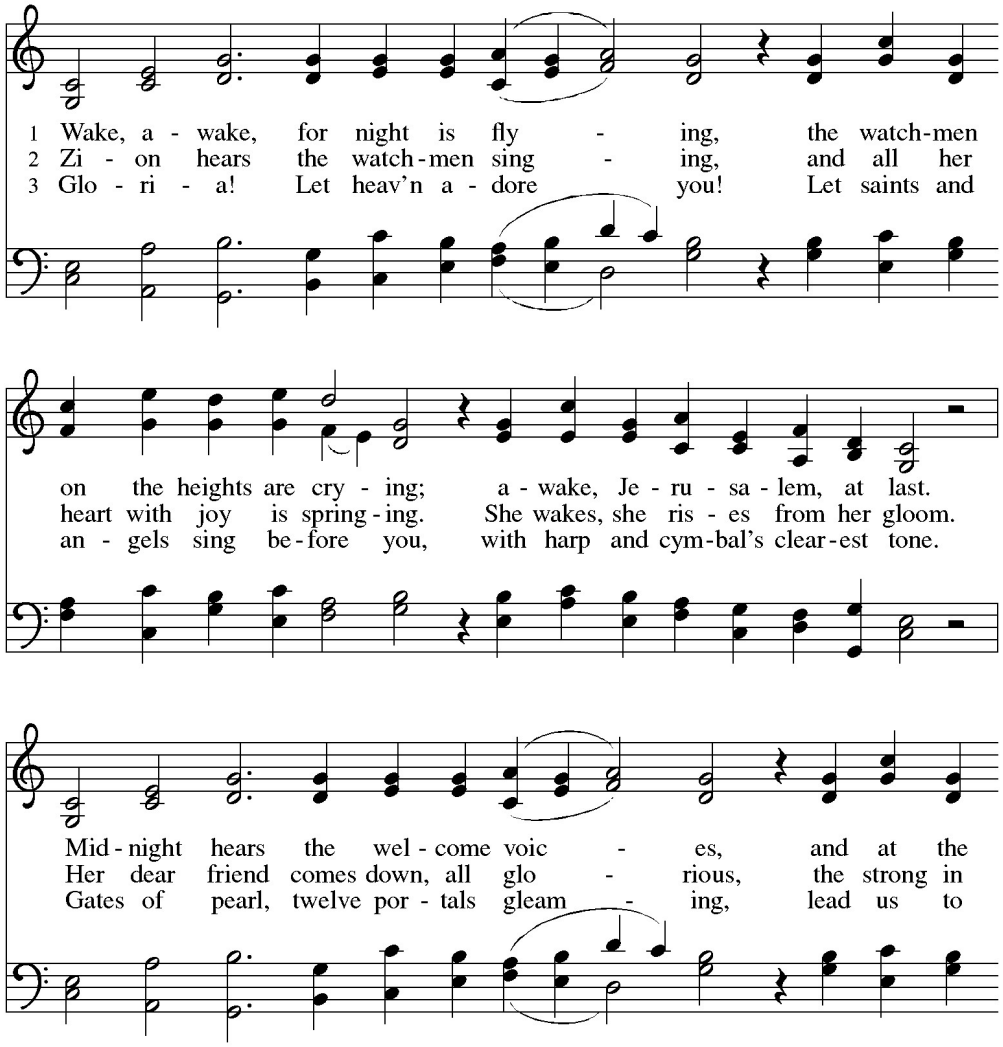
The assembly may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND SERMON Pastor Jay

After a brief silence for reflection, the assembly stands to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 436

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying





Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

NICENE-CONSTANTINOPOLITAN CREED

Siblings in Christ, let us confess the faith of the Church:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through whom all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The assembly kneels or sits as is comfortable for the prayers.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

People of God, we are each other's kin, and we are family with all creation. As we wait and yearn for God, we pray together for our community, for the church around the world, and for every need.

For the nations and their leaders: God, the heavens tremble, the stars fall, and the earth quakes. We pray for places in conflict . . . *[name places experiencing civil wars, international conflict, violence closer to home, or persecution].*
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers.
Tear the heavens and come down.

For the natural world: God, you garden in the wilderness, even where it seems like nothing can grow. We pray for all creation, especially . . . *[name places in your community and around the world facing pollution, environmental disaster, flooding, fire, storms, or drought; you may also name local waterways, forests, or migration routes].*
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers.
Tear the heavens and come down.

For healing: God, you create accessible paths through rough terrain, and you love the bodies and minds of your people. We give thanks for diverse abilities and we pray for people in need of healing, especially . . . *[you may insert your congregation's prayer list here, or you may name different groups of people, such as those living with addiction, mental illness, cancer, etc.].*
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers.
Tear the heavens and come down.

For justice: God, you call us to rebuild ancient ruins, but we need your help to finish the work. Our need for healing is urgent. We pray for your justice and peace, especially . . . *[name situations related to justice, locally or abroad]*.
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers.
Tear the heavens and come down.

For understanding: God, you show us how to perceive each other with the eyes of the heart. We pray for understanding in a divisive time. We pray especially for . . . *[name a situation in which people misunderstand each other, such as intercultural conflict, political tensions, or local disagreements]*.
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers.
Tear the heavens and come down.

For uncertainty: God, nothing is impossible with you, but it is hard for us to trust what we can't observe ourselves. We pray for your presence with us whenever we are uncertain or unsure, especially . . . *[name situations in which people struggle to choose a way forward]*.
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers.
Tear the heavens and come down.

For certainty: God, you connect us together with all the faithful who have gone before us and with all who will be baptized after us. The love you wash over us in baptism is everlasting and beyond time itself. We give thanks especially for Bea, Jax, and for… *[name those you hold dear who are preparing for baptism or who have claimed their baptismal promises]*.
Hurry, God. Hear our prayers.
Tear the heavens and come down.

God, you are always with us. We gather these prayers together, and we entrust them to your endless love in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

The assembly may rise in body or spirit.

THE PEACE

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

The assembly shares a sign and greeting of peace. Please be mindful of others' comfort with touch. After, the assembly is seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

God feeds us with Jesus Christ.

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church.

MUSICAL OFFERING – "Wachet auf, Pastorale"
"*Zion hears the Watchmen singing…*" W. Wold

The assembly rises in body or spirit and the offering is brought forward.

OFFERTORY HYMN



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ for whom we wait.
Amen.

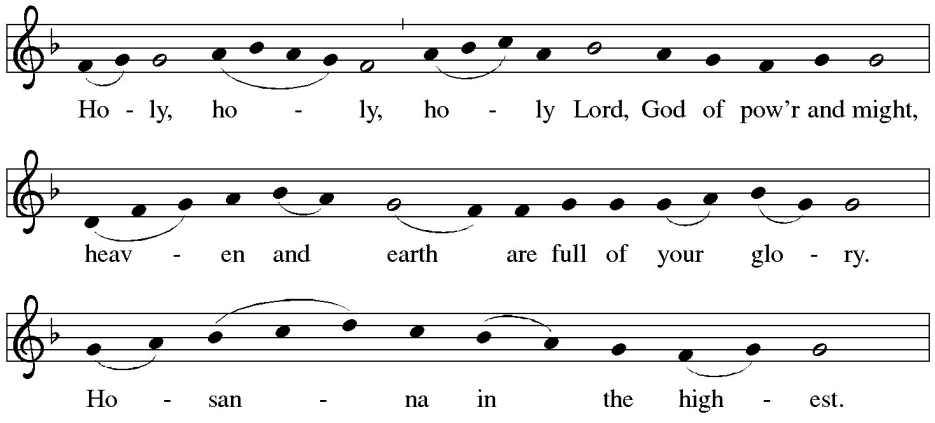
THE EUCHARIST

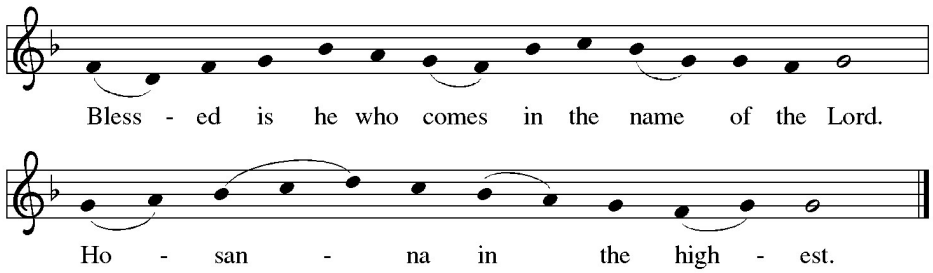
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.

God our Creator, the abundance of your goodness overflowed into creation—earth, sky, water, plants, animals, and human beings all came to be and you called us good. Down through the generations, your goodness continued to flow: in friendship with humanity, in acts of liberation, in provision for your people. In all of this, you prepared a way. And so, with joyful hearts, we join the angels in their song…





Finally, when the time was right, you entered our human existence in Jesus, who was born humbly, who spent his life with the unlikely and unloved, who healed and taught and preached the good news of your way.

On the night when he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying,
"Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, 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 in remembrance of me."

Whenever we share this bread and cup, Jesus is here with us, in this moment, in this time and place. Whenever we share this bread and cup, God takes us out of time and joins us with God's people in every time and place. Whenever we share this bread and cup, we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Send the Spirit of your presence on us now, O God, so that we too will overflow with goodness. Strengthen us by this meal, so that through us, your presence will flow out in friendship, in acts of liberation, in provision for others. In this, we prepare the way for your arrival again, when you will return to remake all of existence into your kin-dom of perfect mercy, justice, and love.
Amen.

Lord, remember in your sovereignty and teach us to pray:
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 THE TABLE

Here is the One promised from of old: Son of Mary and Savior of humanity. Come, receive the One for whom we wait. The time is now! Taste and see God's goodness!
Amen. We come.

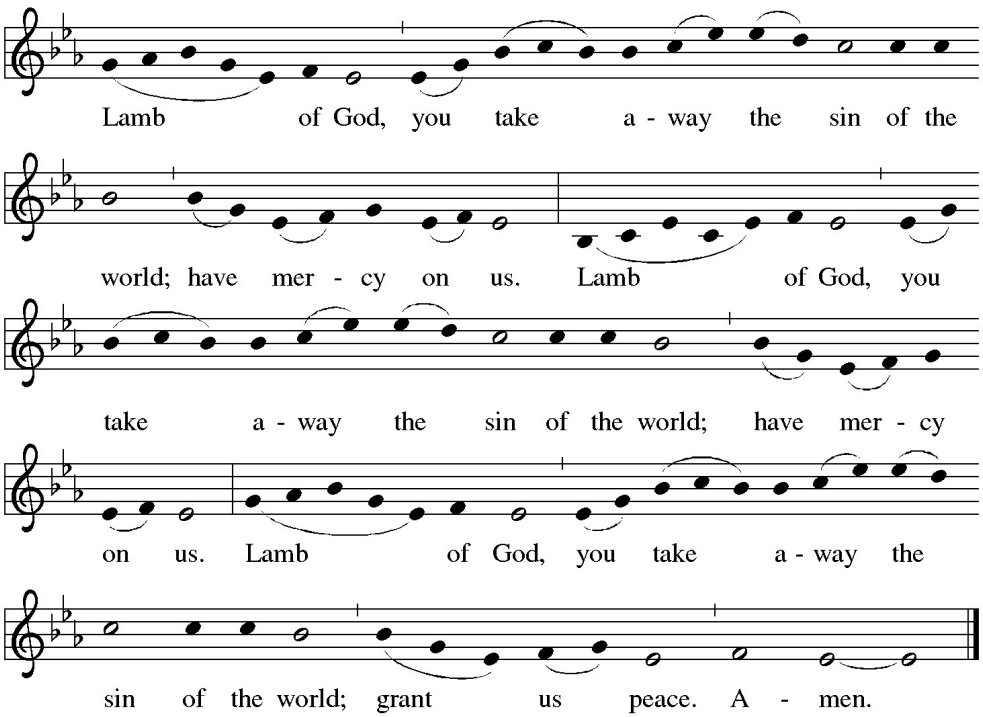
For those communing at home: take, eat, drink: the Body and Blood of Christ for you.

The assembly may be seated.

Distribution of the Sacrament

This is Christ's Table and Christ is present whenever we feast together. ***<u>You</u>*** *are welcome to the feast! Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle. Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle. Non-alcoholized grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine. Receive the bread in your open palm. If you need gluten-free bread, please inform the presiding minister. Then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill. As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray. All are invited to the meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor. If you cannot come to the Table, the Table will come to you. Just let a neighbor know to inform the presiding minister.*

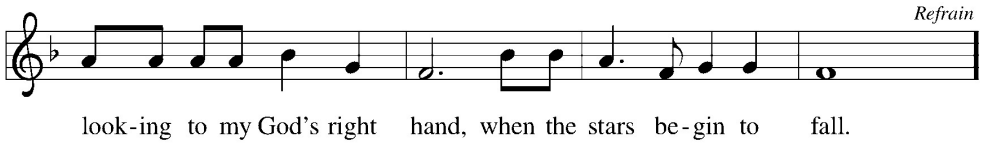
Singing during the Distribution



ELW 438

My Lord, What a Morning





Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

ACS 949

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning



Text: African American spiritual
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

After all who so desire have received the Sacrament of the Altar, the assembly rises in body or spirit at the invitation of the presiding minister.

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of these your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

As you leave this place, remember: even when you travel through uncertainty,
God travels with you. Keep alert; trust God; seek peace.

God who made the starlit sky; God who arrives at just the right time; God who sparks hope for the hopeless; God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244



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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake! The Bridegroom comes!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Wachet auf, Finale" "*Now let all the Heav'ns adore you…*" W. Wold

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—— EXPECTED TO LEAD IN WORSHIP TODAY ——

PRESIDING MINISTER – The Rev. Jay C. Mitchell
ASSISTING MINISTER – Pat Bellingham
COMMUNION ASSISTANT –Chloe Meucci
LECTOR – Karen Braendel
USHERS – Jane & Dave Kinzig, Pam & George Puskar
ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp
VIDEO STREAMING – Nick Lang

✞ ✞ ✞

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our son, Jax Stone, who passed away on July 27, 2014. We remember him on his 22nd birthday on November 11, 2026. Flowers are given by his family; Tara, Steve, Colton and Cameron Durian and Jordan Stone.

Bulletins are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Veterans Day by an anonymous donor and in grateful recognition of our church member veterans and active-duty military.

Our love and sympathy is with the family and friends of Bea Leemhuis who died Saturday, October 31. Visitation will be at Luther Memorial in the parlor on Monday, November 9 from 10:00-11:00am. A service will begin at 11:00am with a time for fellowship and refresments immediately following. Our prayers are with her children, Susan, Ron and David.

Thank you to the **Mercyhurst Liturgical Dance Department,** under the leadership of C. Noelle Partusch, for providing an extra visual component during the 10:30 service this morning.

Today's Events

FAITH5! will gather in the parlor at 9:15 this morning to make your own Advent wreath. This program gathers all ages around various topics to share in single "eduworship" opportunity. We gather in the Parlor at 9:15am on the Second Sunday of each month and share a chance for everyone from our oldest to our youngest members to share and learn and grow and have a fun time growing deeper and broader and higher and further in faith together! It won't be the same without you!

OUT OF TIME is our theme for Advent this year. Seems appropriate as we start an extended observance. There are devotionals for you on the Welcome Tables this morning to accompany you in the next seven weeks. If we run out, please let Pastor Jay know and we will make every effort to supply more this morning.

Worship *Matters!*

Today we begin. The First Sunday in Advent is the beginning of so many things: The beginning of a new season. The beginning of the wait for the coming of the Christ Child on Christmas Day. The beginning of the watch and wait for the returning Messiah. The beginning of a new Church Year. Today we begin.

And our season *this year* is seven Sundays. Often, Advent is celebrated as four Sundays, though we know that it can often be shorter with only three Sundays before Christmas Eve. In such years, the Fourth Sunday of Advent is everything before sundown and Christmas Eve begins as the sun sets. But…did you know that Advent once was longer than four Sundays?

Advent, as far as liturgical seasons go, is the youngest of all our seasons. Easter is the oldest, Lent—the time of preparation for Easter—is next. Christmas was a late addition to the church calendar. And when this second great feast of the Church was added, there was a time of preparation for it. Mirroring Lent, Advent originally ran from the Sunday after All Saints' Day until Christmas Eve. Later, it would last from the feast of St. Martin of Tours (November 11) through Christmas Eve. In some parts of the church still today, the time from November 11 through the First Sunday in Advent is kept as "Martintide."

The thing is, this makes a lot of sense. Advent is a season of watching and waiting. It is watching and waiting not just for the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day but also of watching and waiting for the return of Christ at the end of all things. The themes of the readings in November—particularly after All Saints' Day—turn our focus from living as the Church in the world for now to living as believers awaiting the coming Savior. Including these Sundays in our observation of Advent makes sense, then, if we are both waiting for the coming *and the return* of Christ.

Additionally, ending the church year with the feast of All Saints—remembering all those who have gone before us in the lives of faith and holy living whom we seek to emulate in our life now—seems a fitting way to draw the year to a close rather than a random Sunday in November.

So, today we begin. Or do we continue? For the cry of this season is the longing of the hearts of every believer throughout time and place and not just in this season: "Come, Lord Jesus…and quickly!"

Faith Formation

Faith Formation brochures are available at the Welcome Table.
Class dates are listed for children, youth, confirmation and adults.

Bible After Dark (BAD) meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at 6:30pm at Calamari's Squid Row (1317 State St.) for a time of conversation and fellowship. ***YOU*** are invited to join us on Tuesday, December 1.

Brown Bag Bible (B^3) gathers on Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. We will continue our study on the book of Revelation. Our next gathering will be Thursday, November 12.

Concert Events

Many Voices, One Song will be presented by Inter-Church Ministries at Luther Memorial Church on Friday, November 13 at 7:00pm. The evening will be filled with offerings from a variety of musical groups; St. Paul's Cathedral Choir, Kelly's World with African Songs, Erie Day School Choir, to name a few. There is no charge; a free will offering will be taken which will benefit Inter-Church Ministries' Voucher System for Emergency Assistance.

Opportunities for Fellowship

L.I.A., Lutherans in Action, gather the second Tuesday of each month to help with community and service projects. Bring the family down and lend a hand. If you are not familiar with the BAND App, contact Sarah Prylinski at 814-882-1695 as outings are also posted on the app. We're hoping you can join us.

Come and join us for an escape from reality. Enjoy a relaxing morning with friends at the Magic Fingers Grace Group as you knit your cares away sprinkled with some laughter. Join us November 10 for knitting and crocheting. We will not meet on November 24. We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Contact Norma in the church office or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Cantor Bryan will visit the OWLS on Wednesday, November 18 at 11:00am to answer all the questions about the beginning stages of our new organ and how the process will proceed. Lunch will be served following the program; please bring a dish to share. Reservations are due to Jan MacInnes, 814-833-0476, or the church office by Sunday, November 15.

Supporting our Youth

Homemade soup will be available following the 10:30 service on Sunday, November 15. The cost is $10.

Holiday meals will be a snap when you order from a variety of delicious meats from Gahr's Hamloaf. Sausage flavors in links or bulk, country style breakfast sausage, Philly cheesesteak and, of course, hamloaf will make everyone's mouth water. Orders are due Sunday, November 29; pick-up is Sunday, December 20. Payment is due with your order; checks may be made to Luther Memorial Church LYO. Order forms are located at the welcome tables and the church and school offices. Proceeds benefit our youth. Thank you.

Christmas Preparations

St. Lucia will be presented at Luther Memorial on Sunday, December 13 at 4:00pm in our main church with a reception following in fellowship hall. Rehearsals will be held Sundays; November 15, 22, 29 and December 6. Rehearsals for 3rd grade youth and older will begin on Sunday, November 15. Rehearsals for children 2nd grade and younger will begin on Sunday, November 22. All rehearsals will be held from 11:45am – 1:00pm. Prior to the St. Lucia program on December 13 a brief rehearsal will be held at 11:45am. Parents are asked to attend the first rehearsal to sign in their child. Please contact Lena Donnelly at 814-403-7825 with any questions.

First, we need to prepare to decorate. Following the 10:30 service on November 22 boxes containing our trees and decorations will be brought upstairs. Please stay after service if you are able to assist. **Hanging of the Greens** will be held Sunday, November 29 following each worship service. Please join us to decorate our beautiful church.

Outreach

The Sisters of St. Joseph Mission & Ministries Foundation will once again provide Thanksgiving dinner for anyone in our area in need of a meal on **Thursday, November 26, 2026**. Reservations for meal delivery will be accepted ONLY on Tuesday, November 17 from 9:00am – 12 noon by calling 814-836-4198. Callers will need to provide their name, address, phone number, number of meals needed and any special delivery instructions. Meals will be delivered on Thanksgiving Day beginning at 8:15am with all deliveries completed before 12 noon.

Items to Note

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

Greeting cards can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for $1 each or 6 for $5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Betsy Brumagin	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	Lois Smith
Diane Parsons	Brian Hubbard	Karen Zamperini	Dennis Martin
Donna Sedelmyer	Mary Mumford	Paul Meucci	

Friends and Family:

Hannah Jacob	Gail Lesuer	Sue Rinder	Erin N.
Brian Doresch	Jim Scobel	Ellie	Peggy S.
Kimberly Dunahue	Peter Maker	Shirley	Brynlee
Ted Kemp	Kathy Colvin	Anthony Benacci	Brooks Davis
Jessica Kinzig	Lynn	Kathy Nicewander	Connor & family
Lisa E.	Mary Phipps	Nichole Jones	Linda & Brian
Abigal & Madison Beatty	Linda Wozniak	Abby Lasky	

Grief:

Bea Leemhuis family	Susan Agens family

Military:

The active military are listed with the Honoring Veterans section in today's bulletin.
In honor of Veterans Day November 11, we place them together so our congregation can lift them all in prayer thanking God for those who served and prayers for the safety of those currently serving.

Honoring Our Veterans and Active Military

Veterans

- ★ Montie Collier .....US Navy
- ★ Robert Collins.....US Army
- ★ Bob Davidson .....US Navy
- ★ Dave Griswold …… US Air Force
- ★ Dave Kinzig …… US Army
- ★ William Soder.....US Air Force

Active Military

- ❖ Lt. Col. Matt Anderson – US Air Force
- ❖ Staff Sgt. Alli Brown – US Air Force
- ❖ Lt. Col. Mark Collins – US Army
- ❖ Staff Sgt. Ben Dixon – US Air Force
- ❖ Captain Justin Gajewski – US Air Force
- ❖ Master Gunnery Sgt. Christoper Rose – US Marine Corps
- ❖ Captain Michael Stickner – US Air Force
- ❖ Tech Sgt. Andrew Watson – US Air Force

We offer this blessing

For everything there is a season.
A time for war and a time for peace. A time for every activity under heaven.
For a season of life, you gave up freedom to become a servant.
For a season of life, you put the lives of others before your own.
For a season of life, you sacrificed for the sake of others.
In baptism, Christ claimed you as his own and grafted you into his servant body.
The burdens you carry are not far from Christ but are taken by our Savior to the cross.
They are swallowed up in his death, and you are raised with Christ to resurrection life.
For our veterans, your season of military service is complete, yet your life in Christ knows no end
We give thanks to God for your season of service and for your life in Christ among us today.
May God bless you with faith, hope and love all your days.
Amen.

Readings and Commemoration This Week

9 November – Psalm 63; Amos 8:7-14; I Corinthians 14:20-25

10 November – Psalm 63; Joel 1:1-14; I Thessalonians 3:6-13

11 November – Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397 – Psalm 63; Joel 3:9-21; Matthew 24:29-35 -- *Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the Roman army. Approached by a beggar, Martin cut his cloak in half and gave part to the man, whom he later understood as representing Christ. He asked to leave the army, but was jailed instead. After his release, he became a preacher, and later a bishop.*

12 November – Psalm 90:1-12; Ezekiel 6:1-14; Revelation 16:1-7

13 November – Psalm 90:1-12; Ezekiel 7:1-9; Revelation 16:8-21

14 November – Psalm 90:1-12; Ezekiel 7:10-27; Matthew 12:43-45

CALENDAR

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9	10:00am	Bea Leemhuis Visitation
	11:00am	Bea Leemhuis Funeral Service / fellowship following
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10	10:00am	Pericope
	10:00am	Magic Fingers Grace Group
	5:30pm	LIA (Lutherans in Action)
	6:00pm	Church Council
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11	11:00am	LMA Student Council
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12	12:00pm	Brown Bag Bible
	1:00pm	Grief Support Group
	5:30pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	6:45pm	Choir Rehearsal
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13	7:00pm	Concert; *"Many Voices, One Song"*
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14		

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

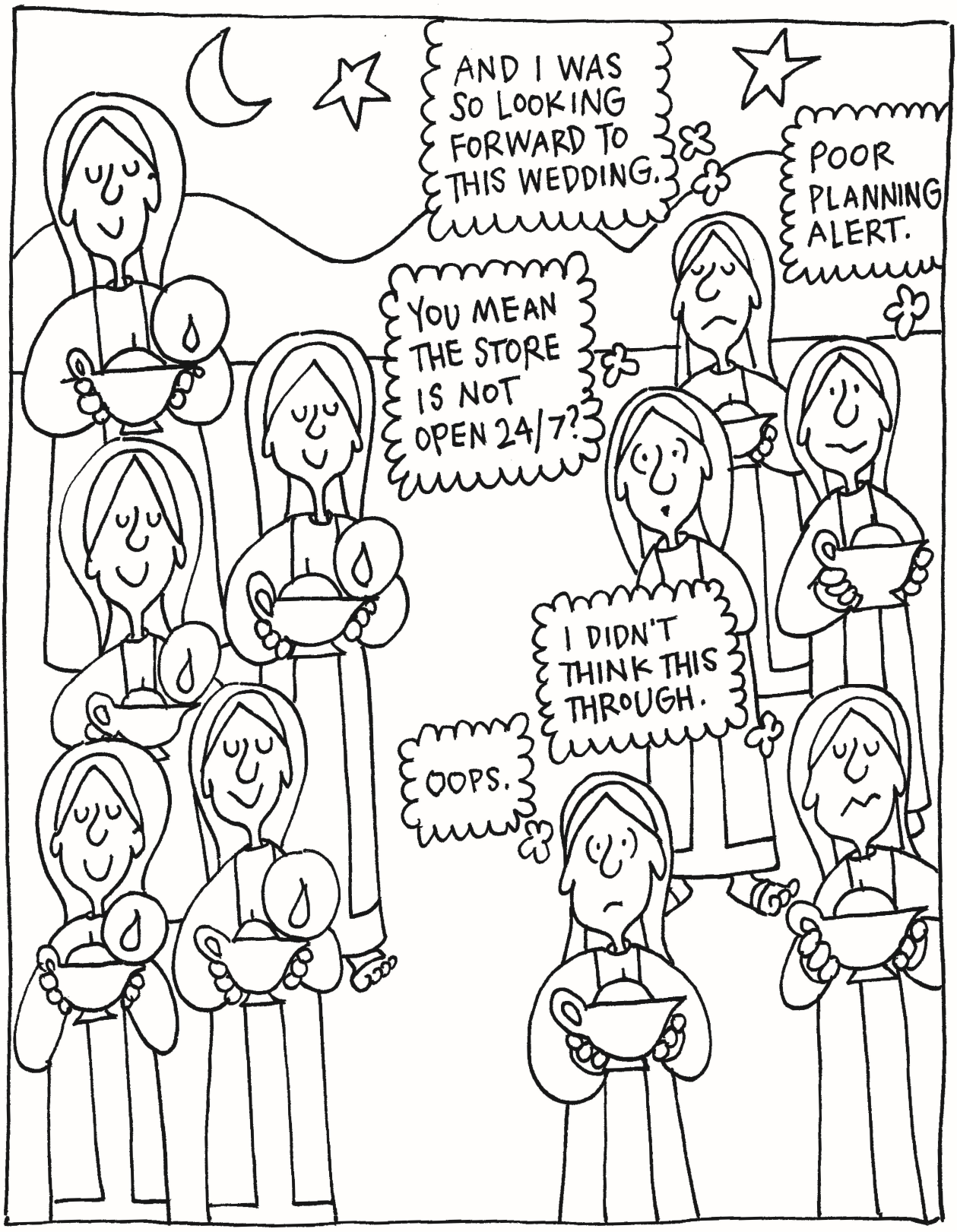
Worship with us at 8:15am in Faith Chapel or 10:30am in the main church.

St. Lucia rehearsal begins at 11:45am.

VASA will meet at 1:00pm.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Rob Benacci
	10:30am	Pat Bellingham
Communion Assistant *(1 needed)*	10:30am	Elaine Kern
Lector *(1 needed)*	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Patrick Cimino
Counters	10:30am	Pat Bellingham, Rob Cooney
Ushers *(4 needed)*	10:30am	Sharon Burke, Carl Moore


AND I WAS SO LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS WEDDING.
POOR PLANNING ALERT.
YOU MEAN THE STORE IS NOT OPEN 24/7?
I DIDN'T THINK THIS THROUGH.
OOPS.