Christ the King
November 22, 2026
10:30 a.m. Worship



We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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.

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.

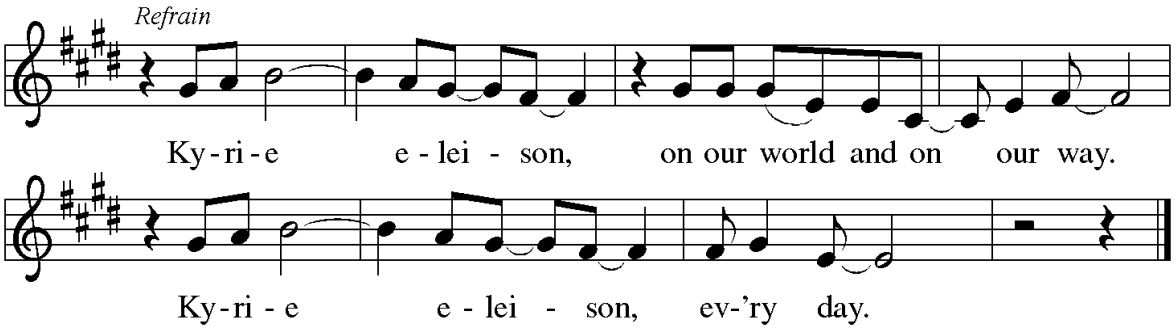
P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. ***C:*** **Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* *ELW #693*

***GREETING**

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** *S184*



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray ...O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***C:*** **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11 Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out.
12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays,

and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

L: The word of the Lord. ***C:*** **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 95:1-7a (*read responsively*)

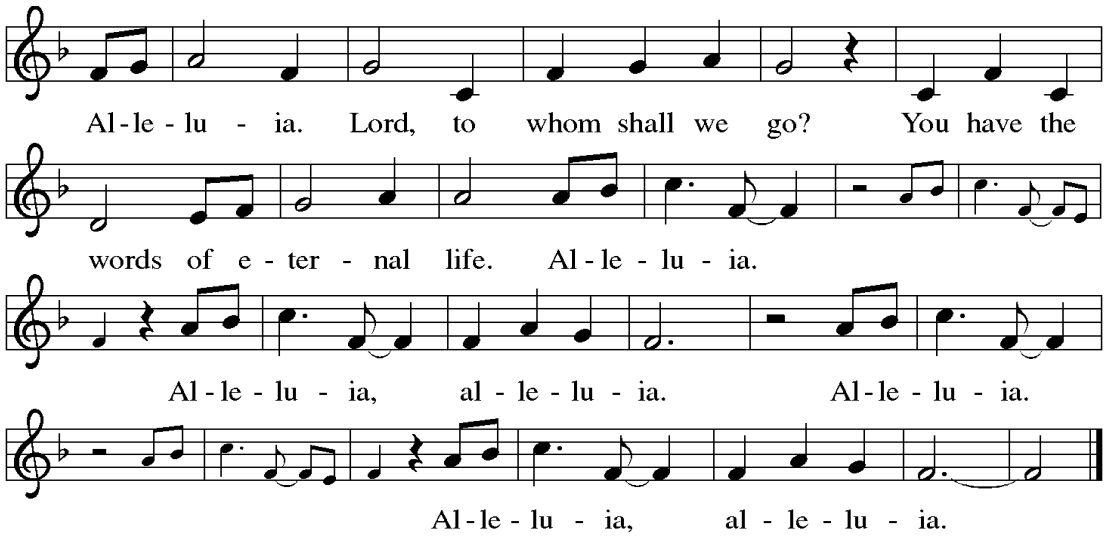
1 Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
2 **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.
3 For you, Lord, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
4 **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are also yours.
5 The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
6 **Come, let us worship and bow down,**
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.
7a For the Lord is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints,
and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in
my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may
give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that,
with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to
which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among
the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who
believe, according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to
work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand
in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and
dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in
the age to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the
head over all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who
fills all in all.

L: The word of the Lord. ***C:*** **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***Gospel:** Matthew 25:31-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the
angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will
be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a
shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his
right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right
hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared

for you from the foundation of the world, [35] for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36] I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' [37] Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? [38] And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? [39] And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' [40] And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' [41] Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, [42] for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, [43] I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' [44] Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' [45] Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46] And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

HOMILY *Pastor Traci*

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Rejoice, for Christ Is King* *ELW #430*

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

***APOSTLES' CREED**

C: **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 THE CHURCH**

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

A: Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care. God, in your mercy, ***C:*** **hear our prayer.**

A: All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination. God, in your mercy, ***C:*** **hear our prayer.**

A: Gather all the nations at your side and teach them the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice. God, in your mercy, ***C:*** **hear our prayer.**

A: Bind up the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all who experience uncertainty, guide all people facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need. God, in your mercy, ***C:*** **hear our prayer.**

A: Accompany communities struggling with conflict. Help us to listen deeply to one another, that we might know one another more fully and release any hurt or anger. Create ways of healing and reconciliation among us. God, in your mercy, ***C:*** **hear our prayer.**

A: Fill us with the spirit of wisdom and perseverance that you grant to all the saints, and bring us, at the last, into the hope of your promised new day. God, in your mercy, ***C:*** **hear our prayer.**

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

***THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave; we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:

*A: 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 hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ***C:*** **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

***PROPER PREFACE**

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.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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.

Remembering, therefore, the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ.

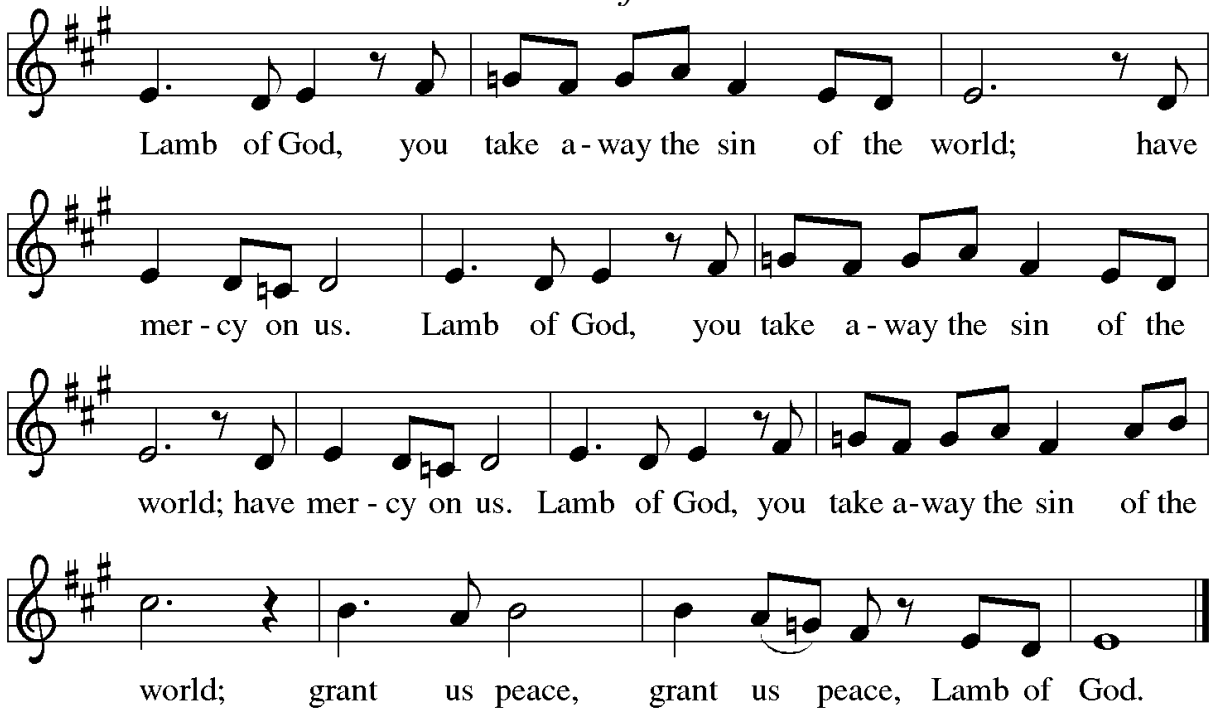
Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. ***C:* Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

***C:* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

***THE AGNUS DEI** *Lamb of God* ELW # S191



***INVITATION**

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared. ***C:* Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION HYMN *Jesus Shall Reign* *ELW* # 434

***BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. ***C:* Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: *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. ***C:* Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

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** *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* *ELW # 536*

DISMISSAL

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

***POSTLUDE**

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Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and
that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God in honor of Laura's parents Mike and Sue Werner on their anniversary and in honor of Shawn's mother Janice Orczeck on her birthday from Shawn and Laura Orczeck.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew
Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott
Our Organist – Mary Nelson
Our Pianists – Ben Decker, Sheila Bumbarger
Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings
Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka
Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck
Our Sexton – Phil Claar
Our Acolytes – Ben Decker, Gavin Kuster, Norah Kuster
Our Assisting Minister – Jean Sinal
Our Lector – Allen Kuster
Our Usher – Stanley Smith
Our Altar Guild – Laura Orczeck, Elaine Buchart
Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster
Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Fourth Quarter Ventures in Faith to "United Lutheran Seminaries"

This Week at St. Matthew: 814-793-2413
Office Hours:

Pastor Traci – Wed. 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Jen – Limited office hours this week. Please contact Jen on her cell for immediate office concerns or to schedule an appointment, otherwise please email or leave a voicemail as she will be checking messages regularly.

This Week Events:

Today –	*Christ the King*
	New Member Recognition
	9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Window Room
	10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
	Pie Practice following worship in Fellowship Hall
Monday –	Fellowship Hall in Use Scouts
Tuesday –	Knotty Ladies 12:30-3:00 p.m., Quilting Room
Wednesday –	Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m., Window Room/Zoom
Thursday –	Thanksgiving
Sunday –	*1st Sunday of Advent*
	9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Window Room
	10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Dan Kensinger, Ruth Marshall.

Prayer Concerns: Ben, Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Bill Davis, Julie Dick, Mary Farabaugh, Marilyn Horton, Dwight and Bethany Kensinger and their newborn son, Rachel Kensinger, Kristen Malloy, Pat Mellot, John Murphy, Ellie Post, Dan Ross, John Russell, Dan Sinal, Margie Smith, Joshua Sollenberger, Kaleb Sollenberger, Bill Stahl, Dr. Darwin Stapleton, Jim Stewart, Jennifer Winston, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

Away at School: Mace Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jay Hoenstine, Jeff Hoenstine, Camden Kuster, Lacey Ripka.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep.



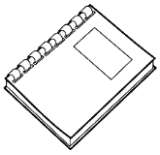
On Saturday November 28th the Social Ministry Committee will be assembling care packages for our college students.

Congregational Meeting



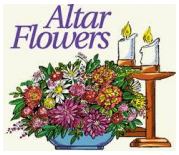
This year's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held at the end of the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 6th. Copies of the 2027 Proposed Congregational Budget, 2027 recommendations for Ventures In Faith and Special Envelopes, and Giving Report are available at the usher station or the church office. The congregation will be asked to approve these proposals for 2027 at the 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting. If you have questions about the budget in advance of the meeting, please contact Finance Committee Chair Jim Barley.

2026 Parish Directory / 2025 Annual Report



Copies of the 2026 Parish Directory / 2025 Annual Report are now available at the Usher Station. There is a copy of the Parish Directory at the Usher Station with a red pen attached to mark any needed corrections/updates that you find. Thank you for your assistance in keeping the Directory current. If you need a copy of the Parish Directory/Annual Report mailed or delivered to you, please contact the church office.

Altar Flowers



The 2027 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Cost is $40.00 with checks made payable to St. Matthew Flower Fund. Questions regarding Altar Flowers can be directed to either Elaine Smith or Mary Nelson.



Martinsburg Food Pantry



We will be open for Food Distributions on Thursdays, December 3 and December 17 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

Volunteers from Redefined Community Church will be assisting along with regular volunteers. There are 12 churches, one for each month, that help at the pantry.

Items most needed for December: Juice, Hamburger/Tuna Helper, Fruit, Peanut Butter/Jelly, Baked Beans, and Paper Products.

We thank St. Matthew Women for the donation in memory of Rev. Shaffer.

Many thanks to those who generously have given all year the Food Pantry!

Linda Smith



Mitten Tree

Coming soon will be the first Sunday in Advent, November 29th when our annual "Mitten Tree" will arrive! Please be thinking as you shop, or make Children's mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, earmuffs, or socks to be hung on our "Mitten Tree" during Advent until December 20th. These will be distributed by the school nurse at the Spring Cove Elementary Schools for children in need. Let's help children have a warmer Winter!

New Bible Study Opportunity

Thanks to the work of the Go Tell It IN The Mountains team, a new Bible Study opportunity will be available each week.

We will meet together in the Window Room and video conference with leaders and other participants from Allegheny, Upper Susquehanna, and North West Pennsylvania Synods. You can also access the study by Zoom from your home. These lectionary studies will cover the upcoming Sunday's gospel and other readings as time permits, from 6:30PM to 7:30PM on Wednesdays.




Journey to Bethlehem
This year the Journey comes to you in a newly staged, accessible performance of the story of Christmas
Sunday, December 20th
Anyone interested in participating in this year's Journey to Bethlehem, which will be adapted for seated performances in the sanctuary, please contact Jane Fagans or Pastor Traci

Allegheny Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

How has God gifted YOU with skills & passion for our shared ministry? We want to know!

Please complete the Allegheny Synod's Life Together Survey to help Bishop Kevin and his staff connect members of our synod with each other and the committees and teams working to spread God's love & light in the world. Access the survey with this QR code or on the Synod website. Contact your church office or the synod office for a paper copy.

Scan me with your phone camera!

***OPENING HYMN** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* *ELW #693*



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Rejoice, for Christ Is King* *ELW #430*



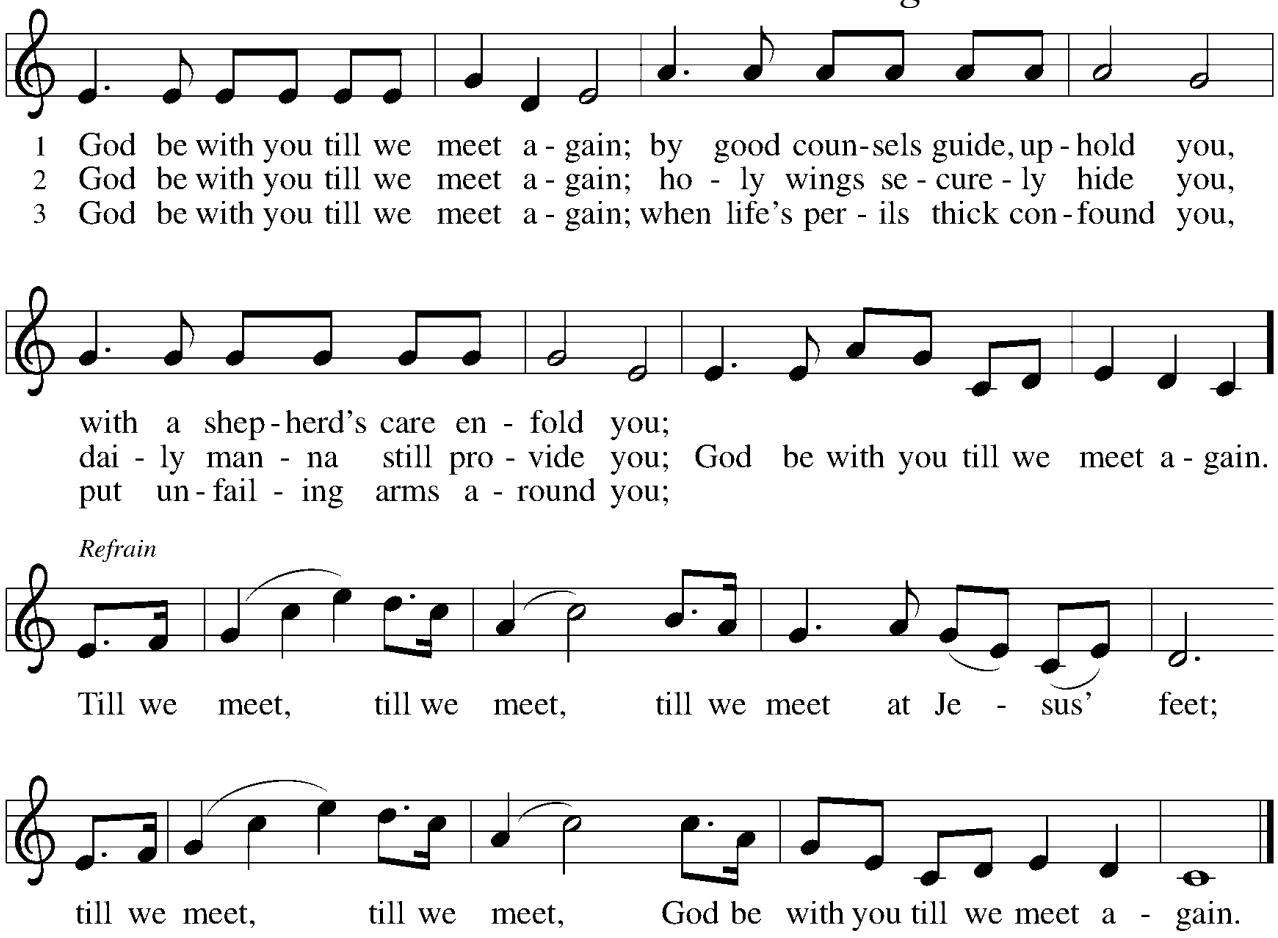
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

COMMUNION HYMN *Jesus Shall Reign* *ELW* # 434



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

***SENDING SONG** *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* *ELW # 536*



Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828–1904
Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833–1896