TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 8, 2026



MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH
80 GOCKLEY ROAD
STEVENS, PA 17578
717-336-8800

MELLINGERS STAFF

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PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the following people:

Dave Haldeman, Melanie Brubaker, Ethel Sensenig, Jane Pittman, Kelsey Reed Butler, Gil Hulshizer, Theda Raffauf, Bob Getz, Lori Oberholtzer, Deb Emberger, Tom Parrish Sr., Kelly Parrish, Jay Weaver, Jay Stoltzfus, Ruth Hollinger, Barb Moyer, Fay Weitzel, Shannon Brown, Shirley Sweigart, Molly Brown, Carl Mohler Jr., Elaine Haldeman, Clair Miller, Mary Weidman, and Marty Leed & Family.

Clifton Center in Philadelphia: Mike Sawyer
Faithful Living, Denver: Vivian Gehr
Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Shirl Tobias and Pauline Sawyer
Ephrata Hospital: Barry Kreider
Gardens at Stevens: Nevin McQuate
Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine & Janet Hirneisen
Luther Acres Health Care: Judy Meckley
Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin
Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla

Please pray for those in the Armed Forces: Chris Weidman

Please pray for friends and family at home:

Kathy Lindman, Mary Morton, Pastor Dave Miller, Mary Thorn, Sheri Kiefer, Sam McClearen, Tina Strepko, Scott Coleman, Wendy Bentz, Nancy Good, Kevin Gavin, Brenda Reed, Doris McNally, Amanda Stuck, Tyler Herr, Brandi Erhart, Emily Martin, Deb Correa, Robert Evans, Martha Miller, Brooke Stewart, Mary Lou Crum, Jimmy Vincent, Mary Stewart, Lorna Buohl, William Sockriter, Doug Cody, Mary Morton, Brenda Sweigart, Nancy Bolotine, Karen Leonhard, Mary Sanger, Brian Kerns, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Robyn Redcay and Margaret Weller.

Pray also for the grieving families of:

Dave Bentz, Eugene Hackamn, Pat McQuate, Leroy Landis, Marion Dissinger, Helen Blank, Mike Leed, Nicole Bibbus, Rob French, Donna Kennedy, Robert Hackman, Marion Briere, Carl Usner, Peggy French, Marion Gideon, Bishop Guy Edmiston, Pastor Marty Sheaffer, George Wolf, Sally Wealand, Bob Farr, Cheryl Nixon, Bea Hassler, Mary Moore, Orvilla Oberholtzer, Lowell Haws, Mary Jane Goshert, Ed Sieber, Darrell Buchter, Joyce Pannebecker, Barb Mertz, Beverly Sweigart, Maggie Kiralfy, Dale Firestone and Larry Rabold

✝ WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP ✝

*Please stand if you are able

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude: *"Blessed Assurance"* - Phoebe Knapp

✝GATHERING✝

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.
Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***GATHERING HYMN: #438** *"My Lord, What a Morning"*

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen
P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen
P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
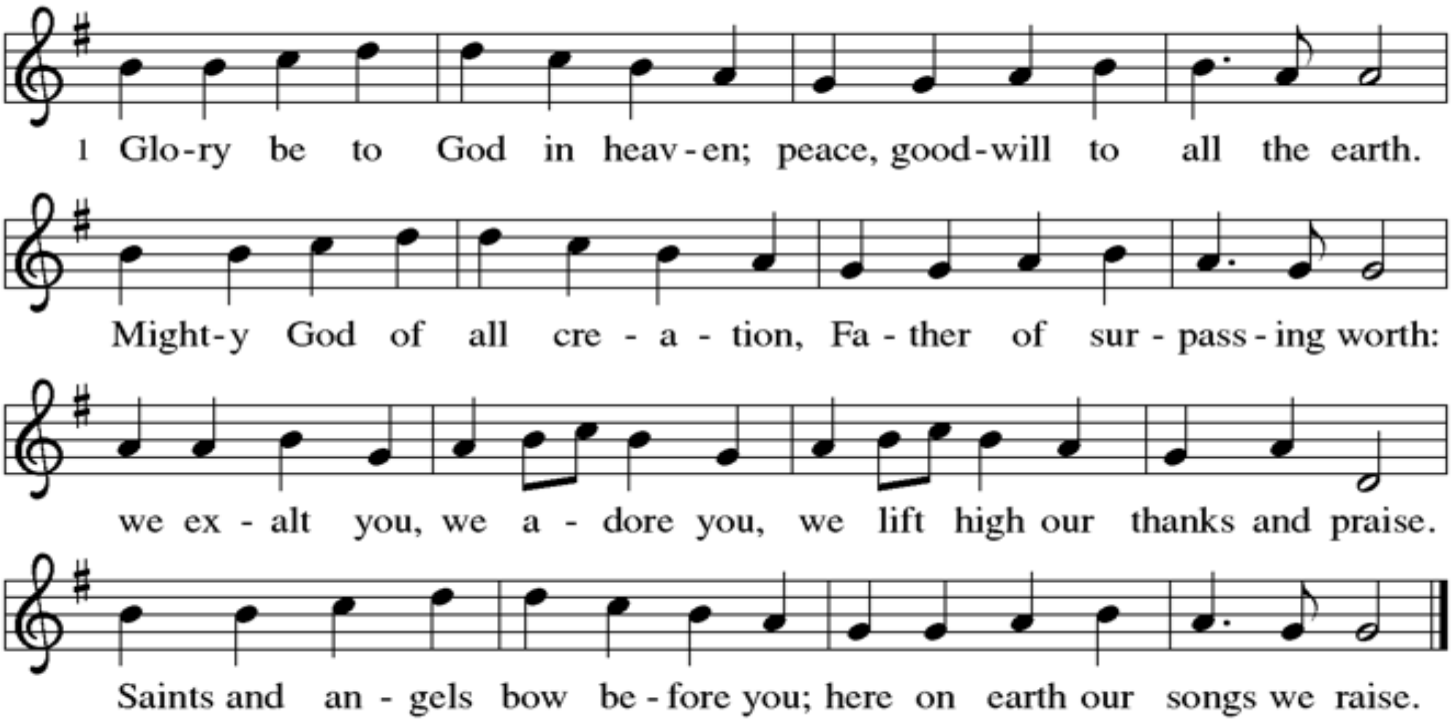
(a brief silence is observed)

P: Most merciful God,
C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen

***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.

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE**



***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**
P: 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

† GOD'S WORD †

FIRST READING **AMOS 5:18-24**

Lay Reader (Randy Brubaker): Reading from Amos the 5th chapter.

L: 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.

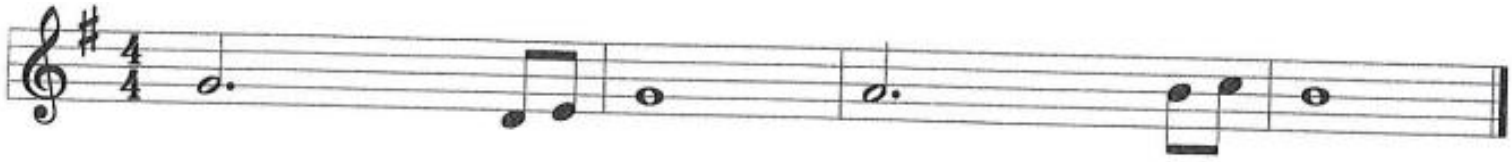
18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALMODY **PSALM 70**



You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry.

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. R

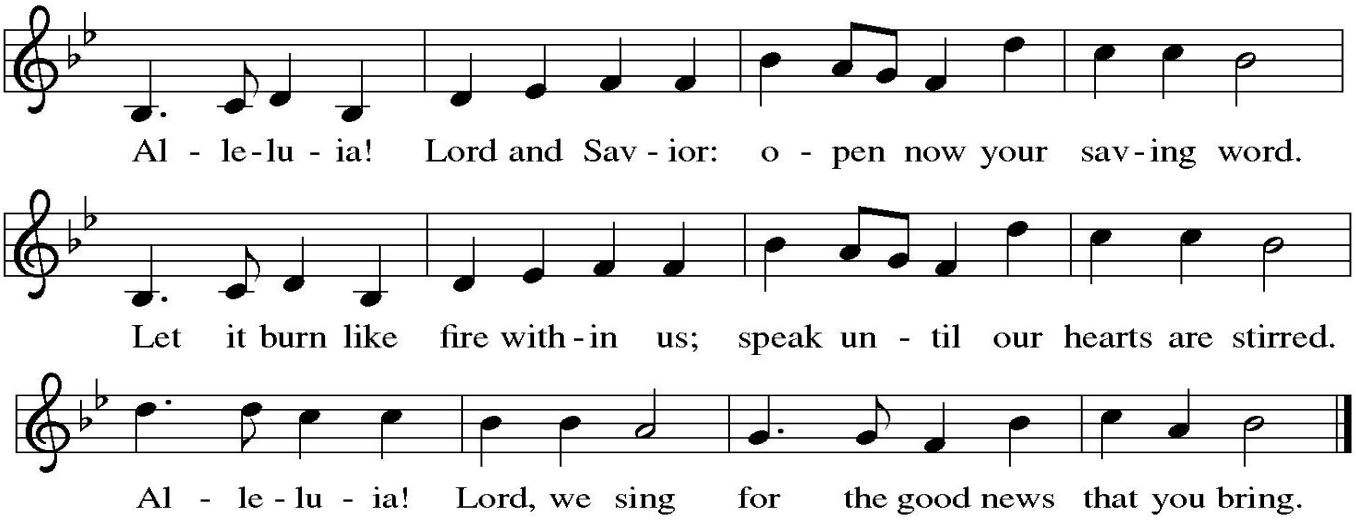
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.

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. **R**

CHILDRENS SERMON

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***THE HOLY GOSPEL** **MATTHEW 25:1-13**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE: *"Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters"* -Pastor Craven

CHOIR ANTHEM: *"Let Us Love One Another"*

***THE APOSTLE'S 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

† Prayers of Intercession †

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

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: 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 (*relief ministries or organizations may be named*). Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: 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 pray especially for*….) God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: 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.
Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: 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.

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.

***OFFERING HYMN** *"Here I Am Lord"*
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

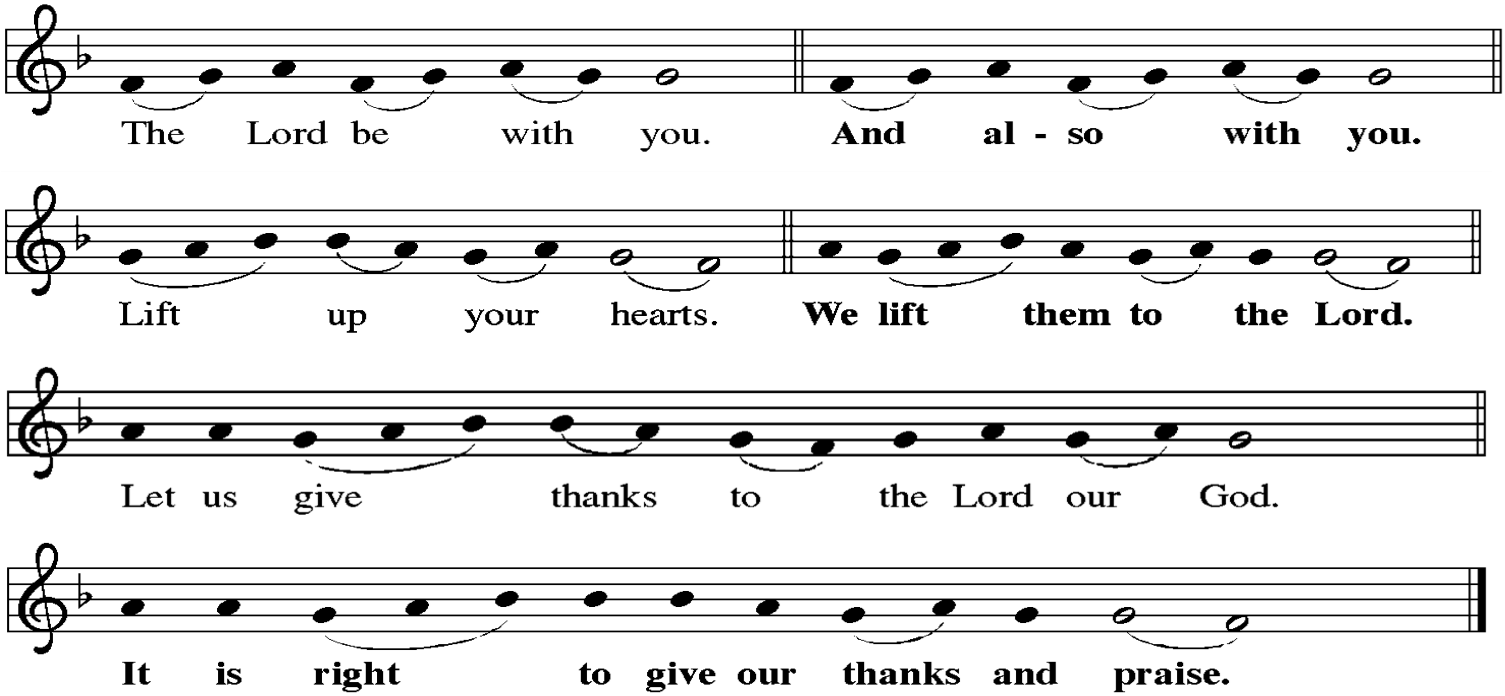
***OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things, through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

✝ WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER ✝

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

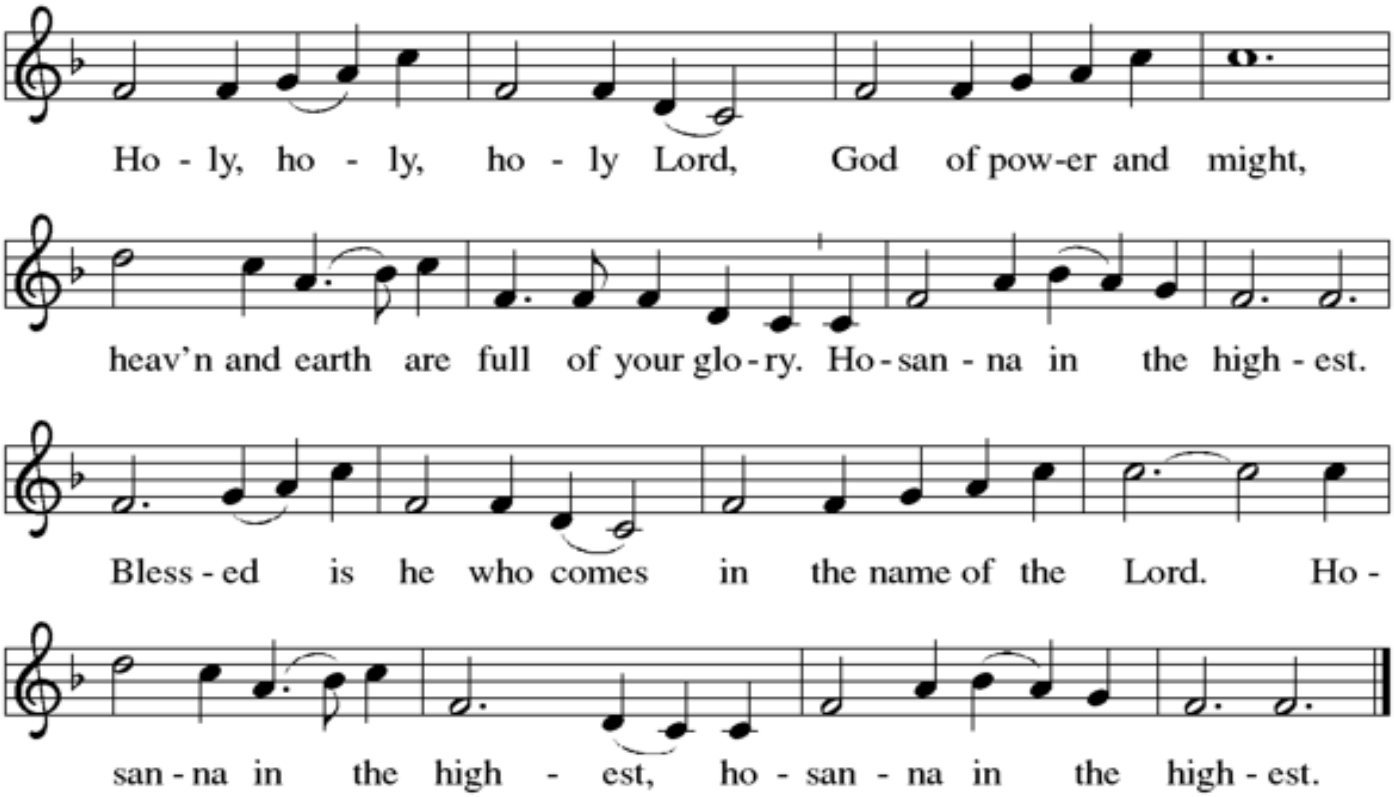


***THE PREFACE:**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....

We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

***THE SANCTUS**



***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**
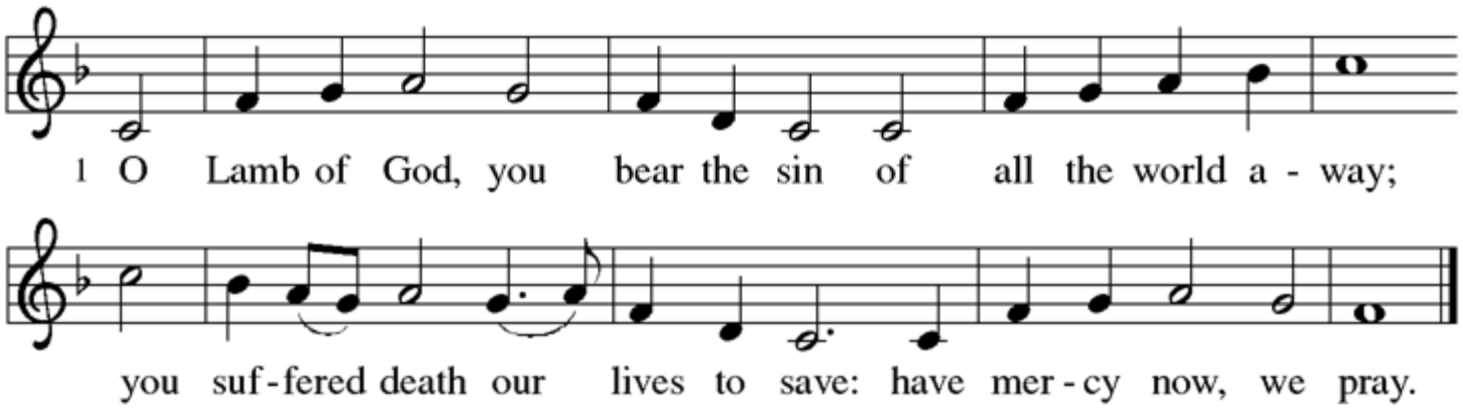
P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying: 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.

***TRADITIONAL LORD'S PRAYER**

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

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE AGNUS DEI



All Baptized Christians are welcome for Communion.
(If you would like baptized, see Pastor Tim.).
We ask parents to bring their non-communing children with them for a blessing. To receive the sacrament wine, take an empty cup from the tray. A grape juice option and gluten free communion wafers provided. If you cannot come to the Chancel, Communion will be taken to you.
Please notify an Usher.
Those in the parking lot partake of Communion at this time.

During Communion
Hymn #501: *"Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus"* Sing x2
Hymn #502: *"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"*
Hymn #779: *"Amazing Grace"*
Hymn #616: *"Jesus, Remember Me"*

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Post Communion Canticle: Hymn #210: *"Blessed Be God"*
Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation,
The spirit of mercy.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C: Amen

✝ WE LEAVE TO SERVE ✝

***BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C: Amen Amen Amen (sung responsively)

***SENDING HYMN: #244** *"Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *"Classical Postlude"* - Franz Haydn

Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Timothy Craven Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold

Organist: Vickie Kissinger Lay Reader: Randy Brubaker

Communion Assistant: Brittany Hartlove Psalmist: Choir

Videographer: John Biles Soundboard: Joe Brubaker

Ushers: Vic Richard, Jean Lausch and Alternate Troy Adair

Weekly Receipts Report as of 11/05/26	
Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)	67
Online Attendance	245
General Receipts	$1,535.00

Please use our QR code to donate via PayPal.



The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are dedicated
To the Glory of God by
Randy & Vicky Meckley
In Memory of Kathryn, Eugene and
Ronald Meckley



6:00 Wednesday
November 11 & 18

November 25 @ 6:15

December 2, 9, 16 & 23



7:00 Wednesday
November 11 & 18

December 2, 9, 16 & 23

Bell ringers needed for Advent and Christmas Eve!

Let me know if you are interested in ringing bells. You do NOT need to be able to read music. I look forward to seeing you ring!

Social Ministry Committee

Please Remember Our Shut-Ins with a card
(Thinking Of You, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.)

There is a table in the Narthex with bags for our Shut-Ins and you can deposit your cards. The Social Ministry Committee will deliver the cards to the Shut-Ins when we visit them the weekend of November 14th.

There is also a list of the Shut-in names on the table for you to use to prepare your cards. **Please have your cards in the bags by Friday, November 13th.**

Let's show our Shut-Ins that we have not forgotten them.



Poinsettia Flowers for Christmas

The time has come to order Poinsettias for the Christmas season. The price for one 6.5" potted, red or white poinsettia with 5 or more blooms will be $9.50. An option to round up to $10.00 will benefit the proceeds contributed to the Needy Fund.

Poinsettias can be purchased to remember and honor loved ones.

On the order form include your name, telephone number, number of poinsettia plants, color(s) and the total amount due. Please list to whom you would like the poinsettias made in memory of or in honor of.

Place your form along with payment in the envelope provided and place in the Special Flowers mailbox or give to Pat Haller at church. Please make checks payable to Mellinger's Lutheran Church.

Last day to order flowers is Sunday November 22.
Please pick up flowers after either Christmas Eve service Thursday December 24.

A correction to the November Newsletter:
Under the Council meeting information it was noted the Cocalico Builders of Hope purchased a house. The following was asked to be stated:
“Cocalico Builders of Hope has yet to find a house and is looking for one to buy. This is for their transitional housing program in conjunction with Community Hive (formerly Ephrata Area Social Services).”

