CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 22, 2026



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

MELLINGERS STAFF

Pastor's Contact Information
Rev. Timothy L. Craven
Home: (717) 738-3838
Mobile: (717) 468-9049
E-Mail: revtlc@ptd.net

Director of Music
Vickie Kissinger (717) 354-6575
E-Mail: vickiekissinger@gmail.com

Director of Christian Education
Diane Adair (717) 715-3124

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the following people:

Rodger Sweigart, Dave Haldeman, Melanie Brubaker, Ethel Sensenig, Jane Pittman, Kelsey Reed Butler, Gil Hulshizer, Theda Raffauf, Lori Oberholtzer, Deb Emberger, Tom Parrish Sr., Kelly Parrish, Jay Weaver, Jay Stoltzfus, Ruth Hollinger, 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
Gardens at Stevens: Nevin McQuate
Ephrata Hospital: Barb Moyer
Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Shirl Tobias and Pauline Sawyer
Luther Acres Health Care: Judy Meckley
Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla
Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine & Janet Hirneisen
Maple Farms: Vivian Gehr
Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin

Please pray for those in the Armed Forces: Chris Weidman

Please pray for friends and family at home:

Pastor Matt Lenahan, Brenda Gabig, Denise Hoffer, Denise Good, 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, Brandi Erhart, Deb Correa, Brooke Stewart, Mary Lou Crum, Lorna Buohl, William Sockriter, Doug Cody, 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:

Donna Sensenig, Barry Kreider, 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 and Peggy French.

✝ WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP ✝

*Please stand if you are able

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude: *"Praise the Lord Ye Heavens Adore Him"* - Lani Smith

✝GATHERING✝

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***GATHERING HYMN: #413** *"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

***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

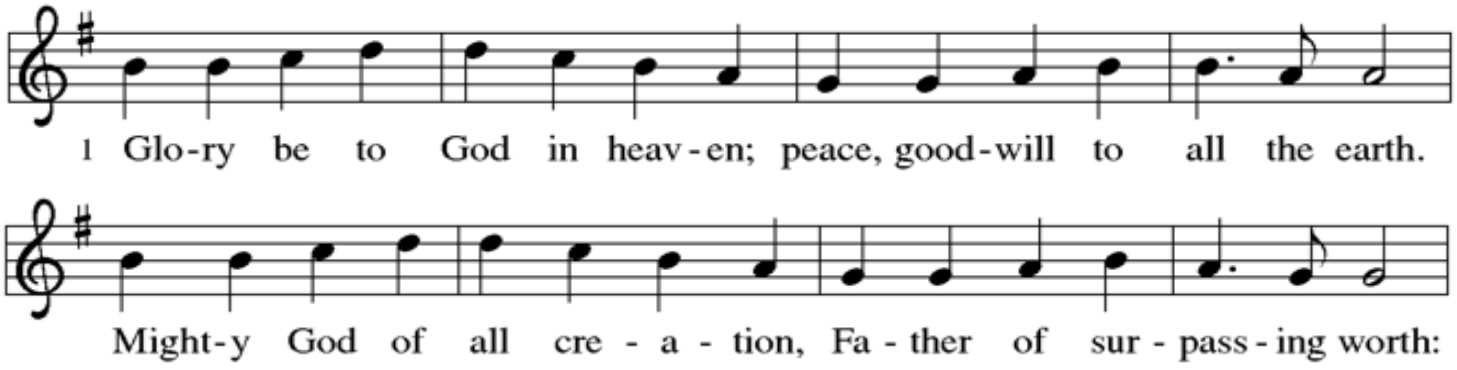
P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of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



HYMN OF PRAISE:





***THE 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

✝ GOD'S WORD ✝

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

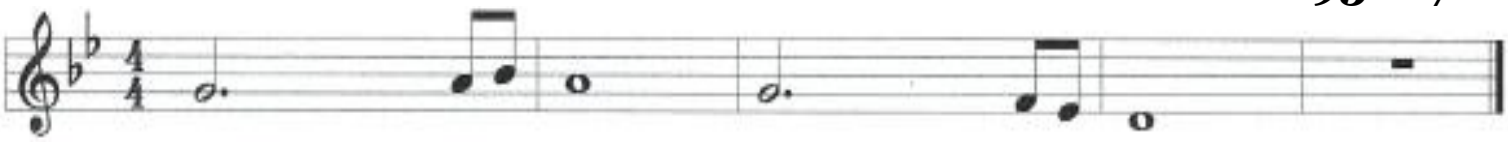
Lay Reader (Martha Petery): A reading from Ezekiel the 34th chapter.

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

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.

THE PSALMODY **PSALM 95:1-7a**



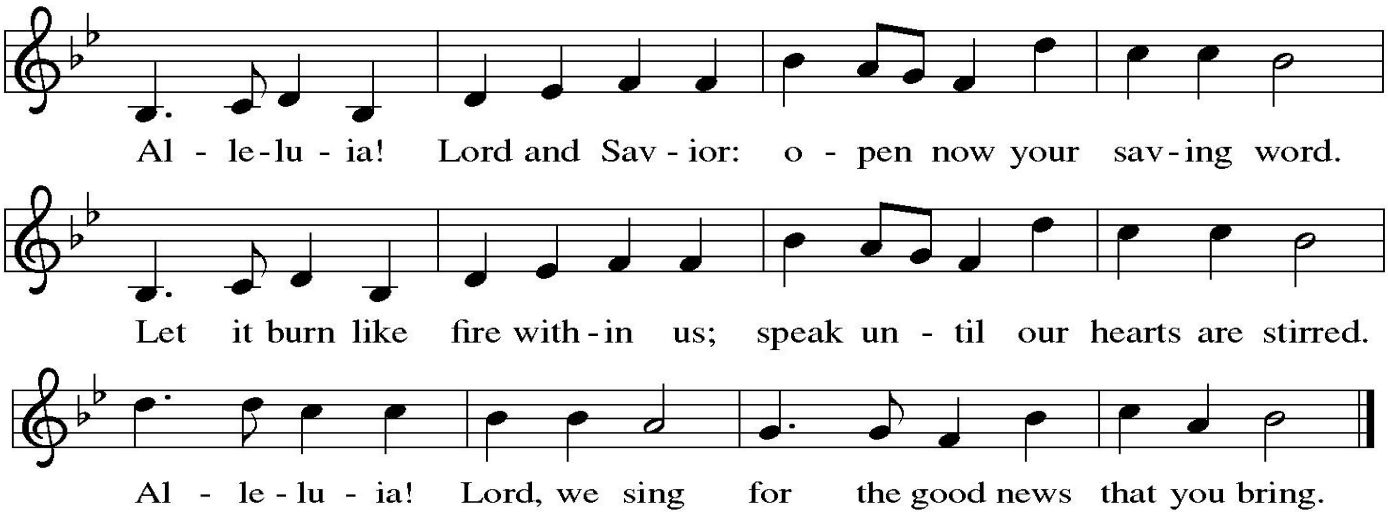
We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

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 a- | bove all gods.
4 **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are | also yours. R
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. **R**

CHILDRENS SERMON -Pastor Craven

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***THE HOLY GOSPEL MATTHEW 25:31-46**

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[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.

MESSAGE: *"Have You Seen Jesus?"* -Pastor Tim Craven

CHOIR ANTHEM: *"O Sing This Anthem, Song of Praise"*
-Jay Althouse

***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: 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.

P: 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 (*places or events may be named*). God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: 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.

P: 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 (*especially*). God, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: 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.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: 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

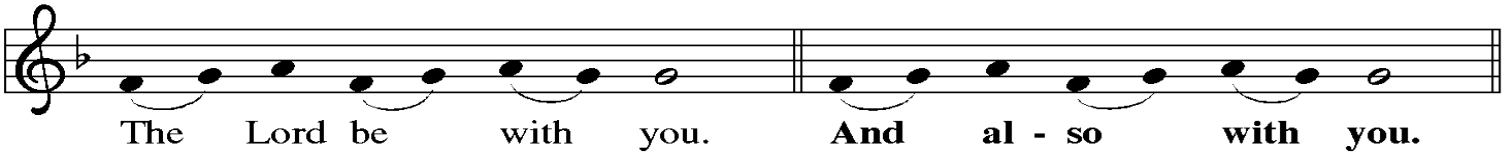
***THE PEACE**
P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.

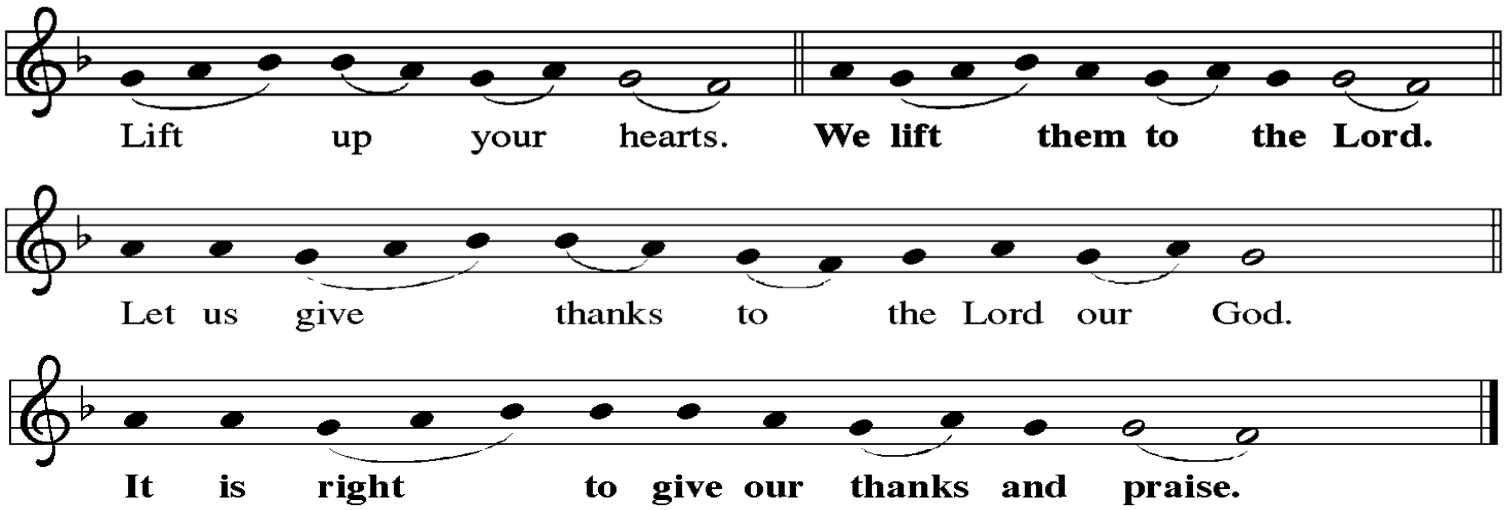
***OFFERING HYMN** *"Here I Am Lord"*
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

***OFFERING PRAYER**
P: Merciful Father,
C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us- our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

✝ WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER ✝

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

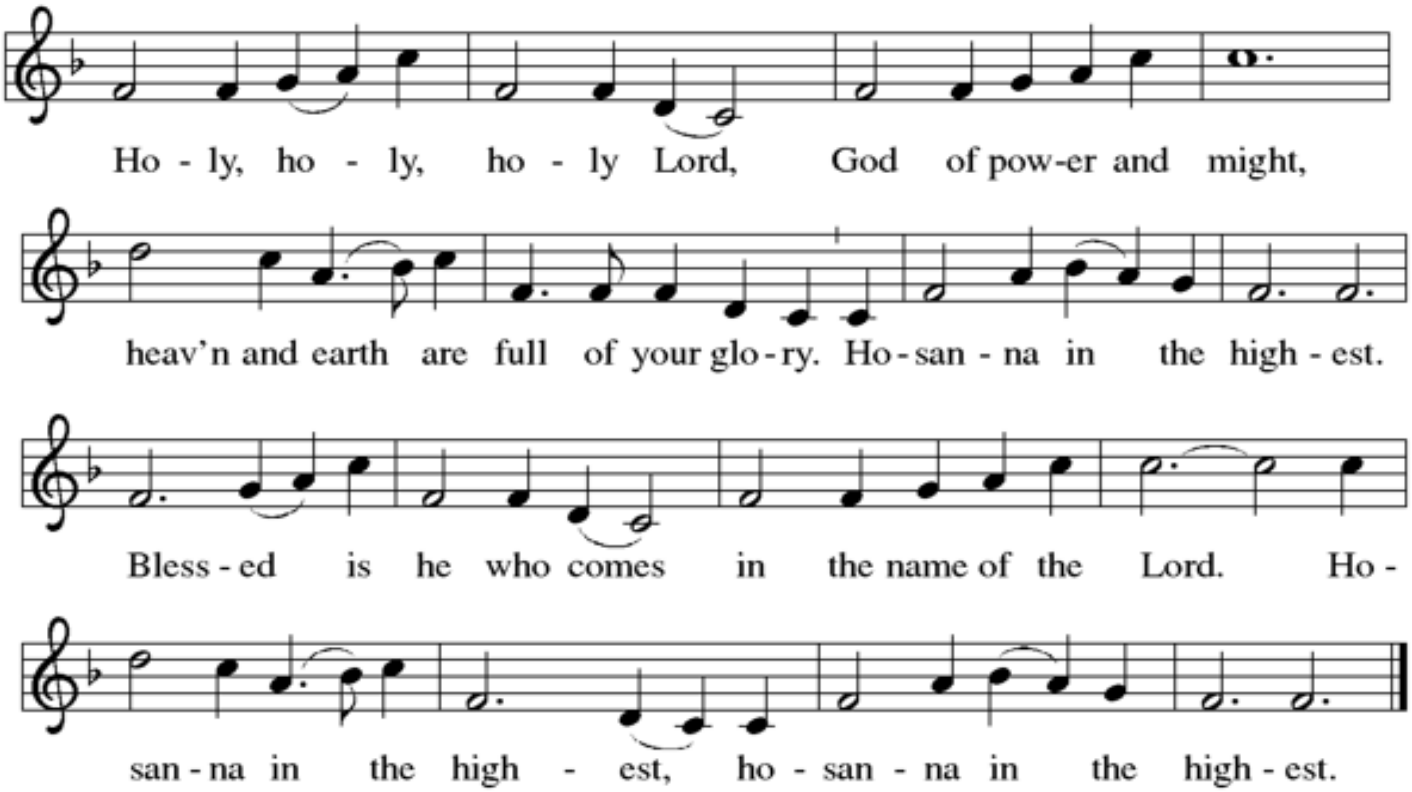




***THE PREFACE:**

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 #592: *"Just As I Am"*
Hymn #608: *"Softly and Tenderly is Calling"*
Hymn #666: *"What Wondrous Love is This"*
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.
Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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: #805** *"Lead on O King Eternal"*

DISMISSAL
P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *"Triumphant Finale"* - Thomas Bliss

Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Timothy Craven
Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold
Organist: Vickie Kissinger
Lay Reader: Martha Petery
Communion Assistant: Lisa Reed
Psalmist: Choir
Videographer: The Boys
Soundboard: Troy Adair
Ushers: Ben Gunzenhauser, Shawn Jeffers and Alternate Vic Richard



The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are dedicated
to the Glory of God by
Martha & Randy Brubaker
in honor of their 44nd Wedding Anniversary

Weekly Receipts Report as of 11/19/2026	
Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)	58
Online Attendance	115
General Receipts	$7,390.00

Please use our QR code to donate via PayPal.

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.

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.



6:00 Wednesday

November 25 @ 6:15

December 2, 9, 16 & 23



7:00 Wednesday

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!



Christmas Party

Sunday December 6th is Hanging of the Greens.
Following the decorating a lunch will be provided in the Fellowship Hall.
The sign-up sheet is on the Narthex table, the last day to sign-up is Sunday November 29th.



Peter's Porch food drive

Collection of food and non-food items will be held until Sunday November 29th.
Reminder to look at gluten free, appropriate for diabetics and food allergies alternatives.
There are lists of what items you can donate at the boxes, contact Ashley if more are needed.



Christmas Toy Drive

Collection boxes for new unwrapped gifts are in the Narthex.
Choose the gift of your choice for a child up to 15 years old.
Sunday December 13th will be the last day to bring in gifts for the children.