

\*Prayer after Communion

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

\*Blessing

**Pastor:** May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. C: Amen

**\*Closing Hymn:** I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light **WOV 649**

\*Dismissal

**Pastor:** Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

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Please keep the following in your prayers:

Ida Kerch Dave Lamar Elzy Pauley Carolyn Pinos Vic Schaffranek Ava Stancovich  
Gini Gray Carson Berkheimer

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We welcome Jack Seymore, Lay Minister for the ELCA to lead us in worship this morning.

December 3—Congregational meeting to approve budget for 2024. Copy of budget is in bulletin.

December—4 Council meeting at 6:30 pm.

December 17— Items for the newsletter are due to Sharon Cordwell or Becky Cnaavan. Items may be placed in their mailboxes in the back of the church.

December 17—CORRECTION: We will be decorating the church for Christmas December 17th. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated, We will NOT be lighting the tree or candles until the Christmas Eve Service on December 24th at 7:00 pm.

December 17—Installation of new council members.

December 24—Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm.

If anyone is in need of Pastoral care, please call the Allegheny Synod office to make arrangements at (814) 942-1042.

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Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost  
November 19, 2023

First Lutheran Church (814) 736-3662  
Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.



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*Communion Hospitality*

*Lutheran Christians believe Christ is truly present in his supper. By faith we receive his Body and Blood “in, with, and under” the forms: of bread and wine for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. All baptized Christians who desire to receive Jesus in his sacrament, are welcome to commune.*

*Sanctuary candle is in memory of Dad, Elzy Pauley by Kay. Small candles are in memory of Virginia Pinos by Ruth Elaine. Tall candles are in memory of Virginia Pinos by Ruth Elaine.*

### Setting II

**\*= Stand**      *(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)*

## \*Confession and Forgiveness

**C: Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

**Pastor:** Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open your hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

**Pastor:** Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through + Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **C: Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn** **O God, Our Help in Ages Past** **LBW 320**

**Pastor:** 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** **p. 78**

**\*Hymn of Praise:** p. 79

**\*Prayer of the Day: Pastor:** The Lord be with you. **C:** And also with you.

**First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**      L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**      L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

**\*The Verse** p. 83

**\*Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30** **C: Glory to you O Lord.**

**C: Praise to you O Christ**

**\*Sermon**

**\*Hymn of the Day**                      **Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service**                      **LBW 423**

**\*Apostles' Creed** **p. 85**

## \*Prayers of the Church

**C: Your mercy is great**

**\*Passing of Peace**    **Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.    **C:** And also with you.

*The minister and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord, and then be seated.*

**Offering**                    *The offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

**\*Offertory**                      **“Let the Vineyards”**                      **p. 86**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**Pastor:** 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, our Sovereign and Servant. **C: Amen.**

## Liturgy of Holy Communion

**\*Great Thanksgiving and Sanctus** p. 88

**When our congregation gathered for worship last Sunday, we heard again the story of God's mighty acts and of the love shown to us in Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension, and they shared in the holy meal of the Lord's Supper. Now, I bring to you this same word of life, and this same bread and cup of blessing, so that we may share in these gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.**

Gathered at the Lord's Table, we celebrated with thanksgiving that "in the night in which Jesus was betrayed, he 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me," This is the supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this meal is shared with the assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of the Holy Spirit. This bread and cup, shared in the gathering of our faith, are now given here for you.

**\*The Lord's Prayer** p. 91

**\*Invitation to Communion: Pastor:** There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

**\*Agnus Dei** **“Lamb of God”** **p. 92**

*As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:*

*“The body of Christ, given for you.” & “The blood of Christ, shed for you.”*

*After each, the communicant may say: 'Amen.'*

## Distribution

**Communion Hymn:**

## O Bread of Life from Heaven

**LBW 222**

**\*Post Communion Blessing**

**2p. 92**