

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 22, 2023



WELCOME VISITORS

It is a joy to have you here at worship with us today.

*Visitors are invited to pick up a Visitor's Packet as you leave worship today.
Thank you for joining us this morning! We are blessed by your presence.*

Children are always welcome at worship.

*If desired, there is an unstaffed nursery available for parents and their children
on the first floor near the ramp, across the hall from the bulletin boards.*

*Large print bulletins and hearing devices for today's worship are available.
Feel free to ask an usher if interested.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST October 22 to October 29

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
Tuesday	1:30 p.m.	NTT
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Quilting
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Rose Ringers
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Saturday		Laundromat Day
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School w/Holy Communion
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
		Reformation Sunday (Wear Red)

GATHERING

WELCOME & PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are called to proclaim the good news:
God is at work!

This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:
God is at work in the world still today!

In us and through us,
God is glorified in our work.

When we offer a helping hand,
God is praised.

When we share of our abundance,
God is known in the world and God is at work in us!

In our daily lives, let us live out and fulfill our baptismal calling.
God's Work. Our Hands.

God ☩ bless your hands and your work,
that through you, God's love may be known. **Amen.**

Come, let us worship the Lord with thanksgiving in our hearts!

PEACE

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

Please share the peace of the Lord with those around you.

O God of Every Nation

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

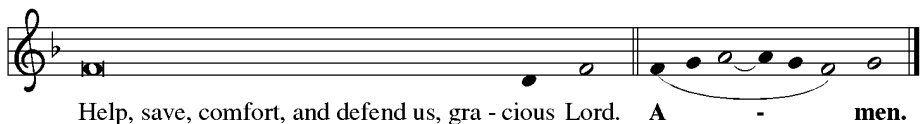
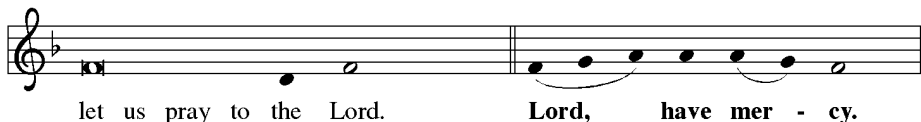
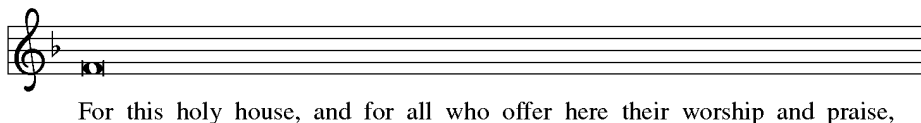
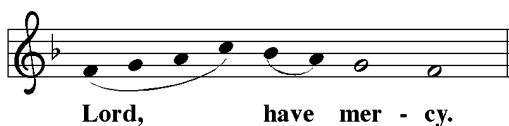
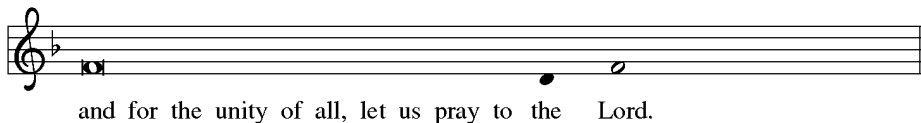
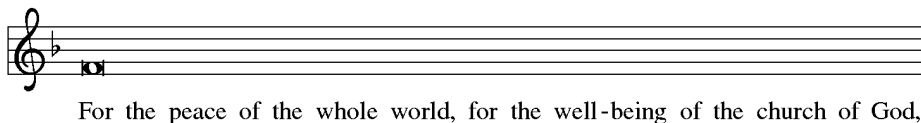
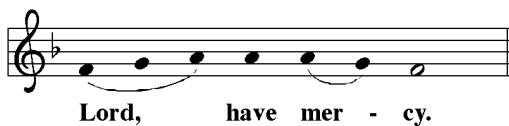
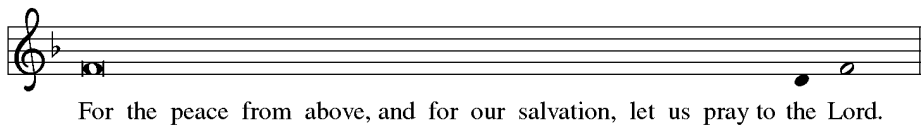
re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind-ness to your way,
 when hope and cour-age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn-ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,

in love and mer-cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser-vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MUSIC

The Butterfly Song

FIRST READING

Isaiah 45:1-7

- ¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed:
²I will go before you and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

PSALM

Psalm 96:1-13

- ¹Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- ²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
- ³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**
- ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
- ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**
- ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- ¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peoples with equity."**
- ¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- ¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood
shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,
for you come to judge the earth.**
- ¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMAION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-22

The Gospel according to St Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for Reflection.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

Music & Text: Georg Neumark



1 If you but trust in God to guide you and place your
2 What gain is there in fu - tile weep - ing, in help - less
3 In pa - tient trust a - wait his lei - sure in cheer - ful
4 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



con - fi - dence in him, you'll find him al - ways there be -
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in his care and
hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er your Fa - ther's
ser - vice faith - ful - ly, and trust his word; though un - de -



side you, to give you hope and strength with - in. For those who
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For he who
plea - sure and all - dis - cern - ing love have sent; doubt not your
serv - ing, you'll find his prom - ise true to be. God nev - er



trust God's change - less love build on the rock that will not move.
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
in - most wants are known to him who chose you for his own.
will for - sake in need the soul that trusts in him in - deed.

OUR RESPONSE

GATHERING OF GIFTS

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Online giving is available at felcc.org

ANTHEM

I Love You Lord

arr by Jack Schrader

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY God's Work, Our Hands

God is at work in and around us: seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored, gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call, sharing the good news of your gospel.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Holy God, giver of all good things, receive the gifts we bring, fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, that they may be used to your purposes for life and love in the world. Amen.**

APOSTLES' CREED

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 INTERCESSION

God, we pray, **open our hands in love.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom 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.**

BLESSING God, the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit bless you this day,
that you may be God's hands and heart and voice at work in the world. **Amen.**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Text: Harry Fosdick Music: John Hughes

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Please remember in your prayers ...

Healing: Scott Carbaugh (11/17), Joanne Fisher (11/4),
Trudy Gearhart (11/28), Tim Gotwald (11/16),
Denise Heinbaugh (10/28), Charles & Gertrude Kampmeyer (11/3)
Sam Mull (11/18), Steve Schumacher (11/2)

Long Term Care: Pat Dent and Joe Pine

Military: Tawny & Brad Arnold, Rubens Paul
and Paul Whelan (imprisoned in Russia).

ADDRESS FOR RUBENS PAUL while in the military:

E1 Paul Rubens
3rd Platoon Spartans Battle Company
4-39 IN REGT, 165th IN BDE
10550 Hampton Pkwy
Fort Jackson SC 29207

ATTENDANCE October 15 53 in person 4 on line

THANK YOU to those who have returned their anticipated giving cards for 2024. There are extra cards at the worship entrances. You may complete them and place them in the offering plate or return them to the church office. Thank you for your stewardship of resources and faithful giving to accomplish God's work.

PASTOR NICHOLSON is out of the office Tuesday – Thursday this week.

Christmas Cantata



CANTATA PRACTICE FOR CHRISTMAS has begun. Please come to the rehearsal on Thursdays at 7 p.m. or see Freda for more information. The cantata will be presented on December 17 at our 10:45 a.m. worship service.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023 If you have a loved one who has entered the church triumphant between November 1, 2022 and October 31, 2023 whom you would like to have remembered by name on All Saints Sunday, please contact the church office and include the spelling of the name, and date of death if available. felccoffice@gmail.com



COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED In November we will be electing council members for a three year term to serve from January 2024 through December 2026. If you have an interest in being nominated or finding out more about this opportunity, please talk with Tim Gotwald.

CROP WALK CHAMBERSBURG on Sunday, November 5. You are invited to walk and/or support the 2023 Chambersburg CROP Walk. Registration is at 1:30 at Zion Reformed Church on Main Street. The walk begins at 2:00 p.m. and is an easy loop around downtown and the Rail Trail. There will be a water and rest stop along the way. CROP raises money and awareness for those whose are hungry around the world and in our community. Ask Bill or Kristy Nienstedt if you would like to register to walk or donate to this program. CROP, the “Christian Rural Overseas Program” of Church World Service was established in 1947 (The same year as Lutheran World Relief) in response to massive starvation in post-World War II Europe. The mission was simple—feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and heal the sick. Today, CROP Walks across the US continue to meet this challenge. Your help is needed and appreciated!



ELCA YOUTH GATHERING is in New Orleans in July of 2024. Kate Nienstedt will be attending along with five youth from Trinity Lutheran. Their first fundraiser is now underway. Kate will be selling Sweet Rollers cinnamon rolls (\$6), packs of 2 chocolate chip cookies (\$5), and bags of coffee (\$12) after church today. See Kate or her mom Kristy to place an order. Items will be delivered on Sunday, November 5th. Thanks in advance for your support!

TRUNK OR TREAT AT TRINITY LUTHERAN on October 28, 6:30-8 pm at Trinity Lutheran parking lot. Please purchase candy and place it in a basket as you enter the sanctuary. You can volunteer at the event and/or decorate the trunk of your car and hand out candy, you do not have to provide the candy. If you have any questions please contact Mary Gotwald.



QUILT AUCTION November 5 (Oct 29-Nov 3 Online Bidding) at Nawakwa 2:00 p.m. Silent Auction, 3:00 p.m. Live Auction. Dinner following Live Auction. All proceeds from the day benefit the Camping Corporation's Endowment Fund, making camping possible for generations to come! Please register for the in-person event by November 1. This is a free event, and includes an evening meal.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>October 22</u>	<u>October 29</u>	<u>November 5</u>
Lector:	Nancy Fricke	Gerry Wilson	Joyce Ray
Soundboard:	Scott Carbaugh	Bob Lawyer	Mark Nicholson
Communion Assistants:		Doris Burdick Ralph Burdick Deb Fleegal	Jim Brown Jane Love Karen Sloan
Greeters:	Bob Wildeson Nancy Wildeson	Bob Wildeson Nancy Wildeson	Bob Wildeson Nancy Wildeson
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods	Barb Evans Karin Woods
Ushers:	Jim Brown Rick Gates Don Shoop Kathy Shoop Bob Wildeson	Jim Brown Rick Gates Don Shoop Kathy Shoop Bob Wildeson	Rick Gates Nickie Johnson Bill McCoy Carol McCoy Mary Beth Warne