

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ALL SAINTS' DAY OBSERVED

November 5, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Every year on either November 1 or the first Sunday of November, we pause our busy lives to remember the saints. Lutherans teach that saints are sinners baptized into Christ, they are sinners redeemed by the cross of Jesus, and they are sinners who gave us examples of trusting not in their own heroic feats but in the grace and mercy of God in Jesus. Why remember saints? Our Augsburg Confession of 1530 says it clearly: "Our churches teach that the history of saints may be set before us so that we may follow the example of their faith and good works, according to our calling" (AC XXI 1). Why remember the saints? To thank God for their life and witness, to be encouraged in our walk of faith, and to remember and rejoice for God giving us examples of how grace and faith look in the real lives of people we knew.

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 118:24

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN "Jerusalem the Golden" (LSB 672 – 4 verses)

Jerusalem the golden,
The promise of salvation,
We know not, oh, we know not
The radiancy of glory,

Within those walls of Zion
As saints join with the angels
The Prince is ever with them;
The city of the blessed

With milk and honey blest -
The place of peace and rest -
What joys await us there:
The bliss beyond compare!

Sounds forth the joyful song,
And all the martyr throng.
The daylight is serene;
Shines bright with glorious sheen.

Around the throne of David,
Raise loud their songs of triumph
They sing to Christ their leader,
Who won for them forever

The saints, from care released,
To celebrate the feast.
Who conquered in the fight,
Their gleaming robes of white.

(please stand)

O sweet and blessed country,
O sweet and blessed country
In mercy, Jesus, bring us
With You and God the Father

The home of God's elect!
That faithful hearts expect!
To that eternal rest
And Spirit, ever blest.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Lord, on this All Saints' Day, we gather in Your name to remember and rejoice.

People: **We remember the ones we love - ones loved also by You.**

Pastor: We remember how You embraced them, showed them grace, and filled them with faith.

People: **We remember with heavy hearts. We remember with thankful hearts.**

Pastor: We rejoice in the resurrection life promised in and through Jesus.

People: **We rejoice that Jesus has overcome death forever.**

Pastor: We rejoice that You are God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - who will never leave us nor forsake us.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In Baptism, God welcomes us into the family of Christ and embraces us with His love. Welcomed and embraced, we are free to confess our sins, trusting the power of Christ to lead us to newness of life.

People: **We confess, good Lord, that we have sinned against You and our neighbors in thought, word, and deed. We have hungered and thirsted for unworthy things. Our hearts are not right within us. Forgive us, O God, for the sake of Jesus, our Brother.**

Pastor: Today we hear these beautiful words from John: "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God for our Baptism into Christ!

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT

Pastor: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

People: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Pastor: In You, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

People: Your righteousness deliver me.

Pastor: For You are my rock and my fortress;

People: and for Your name's sake You lead me and guide me.

Pastor: Into Your hand I commit my spirit;

People: You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

People: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy,

People: Christ, have mercy.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, You sustained those who have gone before us in faith, You showed them grace, and in their lives You have shown us examples of good works that are the fruit of faith in Christ. So sustain us in faith and grace, that we bear the fruit of faith with perseverance and joy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen. *(please sit)*

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Revelation 7:9-17

(John catches a glimpse in a vision of God's restoration of all creation.)

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." 13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: 1 John 3:1-3

("The Father loves us and calls us His children.")

1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we

are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

(please stand)

*(Jesus blesses some of the least likely people,
teaching us that He is blessing us in the midst of all circumstances.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. 10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen. *(please be seated)*

HYMN: “For All the Saints” - (LSB 677 - 8 verses)

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
And win with them the victor’s crown of gold!

Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.

We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.

Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
The King of Glory passes on His way.

The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
Alleluia! Alleluia!

(please stand)

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

MESSAGE: “SAINTS: NOW AND FOREVER”

1 John 3:1-3

*Loyce Doublett - Mel Paulson - Ed Funk - Robert Saur
Buck Rogers - Debra Lawrence - Robert Hahn - Bill Dicke*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs . . . Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Father, we commend all for who we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen**

OFFERING

(please be seated)

If you are a **visitor** this morning, you are our guest. Please do not feel obligated to give as the offering plate is passed. The offering is an opportunity for **members** to practice faithful stewardship and to support the ministries of Christ's church. Also, a red booklet, the Friendship Register, will be passed down each row. Please record your presence with us today.

OFFERING SONG: “We Give Thee But Thine Own” (LSB 781 - vv. 1-2)

(Please sing as the offering is presented at the Altar)

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

✘ SACRAMENT ✘

PREFACE

(please stand)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who sustains us with faith, fills us with undeserved grace, and works in us to bear the fruit of the Spirit. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: God of grace and glory, in love You created us and all living creatures.

People: You called Abraham and Sarah to follow Your guidance in a confusing world.

Pastor: You fed the Israelites in the wilderness.

People: You fed Elijah the prophet in a time of drought.

Pastor: Now, in the fulness of time, You sent Jesus, our Lord, who now feeds us with His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

People: Thank You, Lord.

Pastor: We give You thanks for this gift of Christ's body and blood, shared at this altar with angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven. Feed our faith, fill us with Your grace, and guide us by Your Spirit.

People: Amen.

THE 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen

AGNUS DEI

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,	You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,	Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,	You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,	And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(please be seated)

HYMN: "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise" (LSB 680 – 5 verses)

Thine the amen Thine the praise	Alleluias angels raise
Thine the everlasting head	Thine the breaking of the bread
Thine the glory Thine the story	Thine the harvest then the cup
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up	lifted up.

Thine the life eternally
Thine the vision Thine the tree
Gone the nailing gone the railing
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

Thine the promise let there be
All the earth on bended knee
Gone the pleading gone the cry

Thine the truly Thine the yes
Thine the mercy all from Thee
Then the ringing and the singing
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

Thine the table we the guest
Thine the glory yet to be
Then the end of all the war

Thine the kingdom Thine the prize
Thine the banquet then the praise
Thine the glory Thine the story
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

Thine the wonder full surprise
Then the justice of Thy ways
Then the welcome to the least

Thine the glory in the night
Thine the river Thine the tree
Then the holy holy holy
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

No more dying only light
Then the Lamb eternally
Celebration jubilee

HYMN: “Children of the Heavenly Father” (LSB 725 – 4 verses)

Children of the heav’nly Father
Nestling bird nor star in heaven

Safely in His bosom gather;
Such a refuge e’er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish;
From all evil things He spares them;

In His holy courts they flourish.
In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
Unto them His grace He showeth,

From the Lord His children sever;
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth or He taketh,
His the loving purpose solely

God His children ne’er forsaketh;
To preserve them pure and holy.

HYMN “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” (LSB 643 – 2 verses)

Sent forth by God’s blessing,
Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended.
O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching,
Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us
To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving
To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev’ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray. You alone, O Lord, are righteous in all Your ways. We thank and praise You for the gift of Christ’s perfect righteousness given to us in this Holy Sacrament. What we could never do for ourselves, You have done for us in Christ. Send us from this Table with renewed hearts, ready to serve our neighbors with the love You have

first shown us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

HYMN: “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” (LSB 411 – 3 verses)

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain

***Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,

And show me the way to the Father.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

We shall know the joy of Jesus.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

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MESSIAH PRAYER REQUESTS . . .

For continued healing – Judy Beauford - Steven Haberoth - Linda Fults

For Family and Friends

Prayers for Family friends of the **Rutledge Family** as they mourn the loss of **Linda Young** and ask for special prayers for Linda's husband **Rich Young, their children and grandchildren.**

Prayers for **Linda Dicke and family** as they mourn the loss of **Bill Dicke**

Prayers for **Lucky Engelman's** healing after a hip replacement and surgery to clean out infection

Debra Beard requests prayers for **Jenny Heth's** healing following a double mastectomy.

Prayers for **Mark Giardinelli** as he starts training with the **Mission Aviation Fellowship** ministry.

Prayers for the **MAF Family - Will and Jennelle Wolf and their 3 children.**

Prayers for Rolf Schulz and wife, Linda Schulz

Rutledge Family requests prayers for Sister-in-Law **Heather Mulledy** battling breast cancer

Mario & Eve Betancourt requests prayers for **Reese Richeson**, 16-year-old daughter of friends, undergoing treatment for brain cancer

Donna Cifers requests prayers for her 89-year-old mother's health issues – **Margaret Chamness**

Sally Gutierrez Beltran asks for prayer for her husband **Felix** for salvation, deliverance from alcohol and restoration of their marriage

For Messiah's Call Committee and the Pastor God is preparing for us

Prayers for Justice & Peace in the Middle East

For family discord, reconciliation, and healing

Prayers for rescue for those in abusive relationships

Prayers for all those with physical, emotional, or other needs – your will be done

Prayers for all who are lost to hear and receive Jesus' Gospel message

We pray in Jesus's Holy Name, Amen.

NOVEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS

Nov. 5th – Steve & Janet Haberoth – in thanksgiving of God's Blessings

Nov. 12th – Dennis & Sue Parker – celebrating 56 years of marriage

Nov. 19th – Kathleen Jauregui – Jason's Birthday

Nov. 19th – John & Debra Beard – celebrating 25 years of marriage

Nov. 26th – Bill & Linda Dicke – thanksgiving for God's blessings

Nov. 26th – Pam Fields – in memory of Ed Fields

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

WELCOME . . . *Whoever you are . . . Wherever you have come from . . . we are so glad you are here! Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior together. If you are visiting with us today, we'd love to get to know you! Please don't forget to sign your name and fill in your contact information in the red booklets on the inside aisle!*

Pastor's Bible Study in the BEGIN Book - *Pastor will continue with The Gospel According to John.*

Town Hall Meeting TODAY - *following worship service to discuss the 2024 Budget, nominate members for the 2024 Lay Ministry Board and receive update from our Call Committee.*

Voters Meeting Sunday Nov. 19th - *following worship service to vote on the 2024 Budget and Lay Ministry Board nominations.*

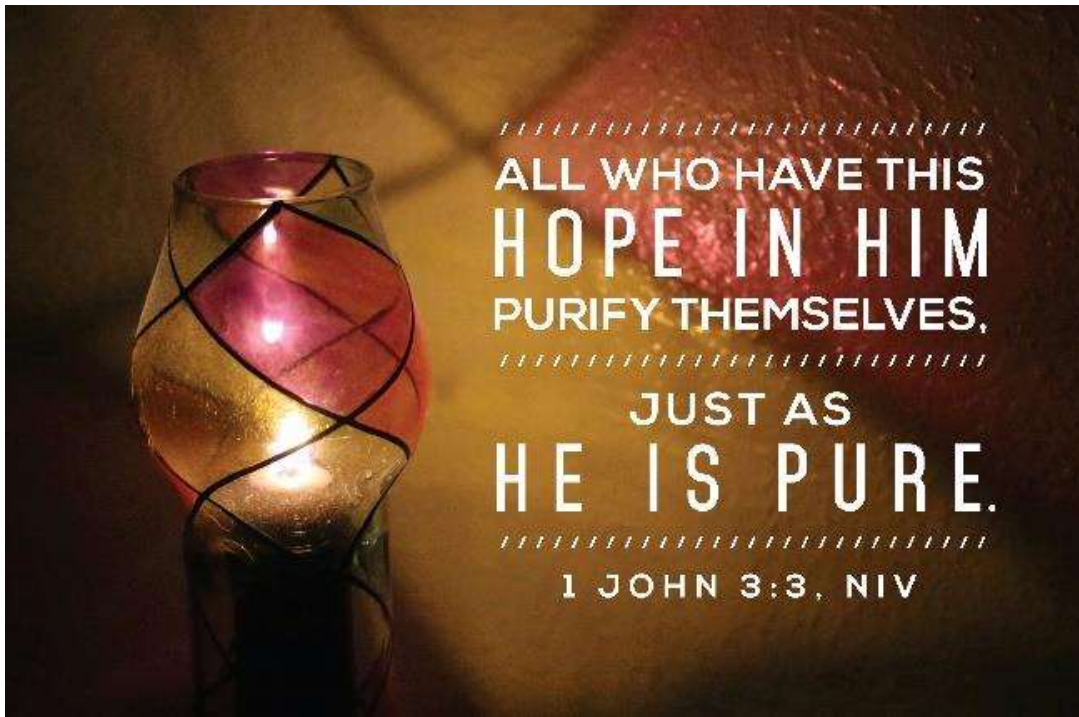
Time & Talent Inventories - *please Remember to turn in your Time & Talent Inventory ASAAP. Complete by Email or print out (or pick up a paper copy at church) & return to Church office.*

Operation Christmas Child – *Each shoebox is a Gospel Opportunity for a child to experience Christ's love. The Shoeboxes need to be returned to the church on Nov. 19th as Mark Giardinelli will lead the church in a responsive prayer of dedication and then deliver the boxes to St. John Lutheran Church.*

Upcoming Events – Detailed information can be found on MLC's website.

- *Nov. 17th - Ladies Day Out Lunch at Alstadt Brewery in Fredericksburg at 12:30 pm. RSVP to Lindy Eschenko 979-229-7760 or email or sign up at church!*
- *Dec. 2nd - Messiah's Adult Game Day at 2:00 pm at the home of Hal & Lindy Eschenko!*
- *Dec. 7th – Ladies Day Out Lunch at 11:00 am gift exchange and lunch at Albe Vita. RSVP to Lindy Eschenko or sign up at church!! Gift exchange is always optional \$10-15.*
- *Dec. 9th – Messiah's Annual Christmas Party sponsored by the Fellowship Committee*

Issues, Etc. - *Educating A New Generation Of Lutherans... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Scientific Vocation, The Movie "The Exorcist: Believer," Lutheran Bioethics, Witnessing to Unbelievers and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.*



ALL WHO HAVE THIS
HOPE IN HIM
PURIFY THEMSELVES,
JUST AS
HE IS PURE.

1 JOHN 3:3, NIV

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Richard S. Lofgren, Pastor

Gina Husky, Director of Messiah's Kids Preschool

David Rhoads, Facilities Manager

Maurine Maloy, Administrative Assistant



Serving us Today – November 5, 2023

Elders: Allen Leitko & Larry Risley
Coffee: Shirley Moore
Treats: Margaret Leachman
Tellers: Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care: Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician: Bob Shoaf
AV: Tony Giardinelli
Reader: Maurice Doublett
Ushers: Eric Sagebiel – Larry Rottman – Russ Leachman – Harold Moore
Greeters: Lindy Eschenko

Serving us Next Sunday – November 12, 2023

Elders: Allen Leitko & Larry Risley
Coffee: Sue Parker
Treats: Melissa Rutledge
Tellers: Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care: Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician: Bob Shoaf
AV: Rutledge Family
Reader: Pam Fields
Ushers: Eric Sagebiel – Larry Rottman – Russ Leachman – Harold Moore
Greeters: Sue Theis & David & Sharon Sattler

Our Response to God Last Week
Worship Attendance: 79 Sunday School: 20

September 2023 Contributions			
General Fund	\$39,564.20	Building Fund	\$1,925.00
Renovation Fund	\$150.00	Family Life Center	\$1,750.00