

Stewardship 2026 Join the Journey

*"Trust in God from the bottom of your heart;
don't try to figure out everything on your own.
Listen for God's voice in everything you do,
everywhere you go." Proverbs 3:4-6*



WELCOME TO WORSHIP 9:15 a.m. Worship Express 23rd Sunday after Pentecost November 16, 2025

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz

Lector: Colby Smith

Acolytes: Beckett Nelson & Sadie Soderling

Ushers: David Olson & Austin Gallagher

Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Give Thanks" First Class Ringers

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

C: you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, ✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

C: Amen.

Stand

GATHERING SONG: “Bind Us Together” WOV #748

**Refrain: Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.**

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord;
bind us together in love.**

**Vs. 1: There is only one God.
There is only one King.
There is only one Body;
that is why we can sing: Refrain...**

**Vs. 2: You are the family of God.
You are the promise divine.
You are God’s chosen desire,
you are the glorious new wine. Refrain...**

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.

LITANY

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord.

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

P: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

C: Talk about them when you are home and when you are away, when you

lie down and when you rise.

P: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE: “Blessed Assurance” ELW #638

Vs. 1: Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God,

born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

***Refrain:* This is my story, this is my song,**

praising my Savior, all the day long:

this is my story, this is my song,

praising my Savior all the day long.

Vs. 2: Perfect submission, all is at rest;

I in my Savior am happy and blest,

watching and waiting, looking above,

filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain...*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL CANTICLE: “Help Us, O Lord” Dakota Road

Help us, O Lord, to hear your word.

Open our hearts to feel your word.

Give us the strength to live your word each day.

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Good News according to Luke the 21st Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

Narrator: ⁵⁻⁶One day people were standing around talking about the Temple,

remarking how beautiful it was, the splendor of its stonework and memorial gifts. Jesus said, “All this you’re admiring so much—the time is coming when every stone in that building will end up in a heap of rubble.

People (All): Teacher, when is this going to happen? What clue will we get that it’s about to take place?” ⁸⁻⁹

Narrator: He said, “Watch out for the doomsday deceivers. Many leaders are going to show up with forged identities claiming, ‘I’m the One,’ or, ‘The end is near.’ Don’t fall for any of that. When you hear of wars and uprisings, keep your head and don’t panic. This is routine history and no sign of the end.” ¹⁰⁻¹¹ He went on, “Nation will fight nation and ruler fight ruler, over and over. Huge earthquakes will occur in various places. There will be famines. You’ll think at times that the very sky is falling. ¹²⁻¹⁵ “But before any of this happens, they’ll arrest you, hunt you down, and drag you to court and jail. It will go from bad to worse, dog-eat-dog, everyone at your throat because you carry my name. You’ll end up on the witness stand, called to testify. Make up your mind right now not to worry about it. I’ll give you the words and wisdom that will reduce all your accusers to stammers and stutters. ¹⁶⁻¹⁹ “You’ll even be turned in by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends. Some of you will be killed. There’s no telling who will hate you because of me. Even so, every detail of your body and soul—even the hairs of your head!—is in my care; nothing of you will be lost. Staying with it—that’s what is required. Stay with it to the end. You won’t be sorry; you’ll be saved.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN’S WORD AND WORD

Stand

SONG OF THE WORD: “Soon and Very Soon” WOV #744

**Vs. 1: Soon and very soon we are going to see the king (3x)
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king**

**Vs. 2: No more cryin’ there, we are going to see the king (3x)
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king**

Vs. 3: No more dyin’ there, we are going to see the king (3x)

Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king

Vs. 4: Soon and very soon we are going to see the king (3x)

Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord?

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERING SONG: "Everybody's Got Something to Offer" Dakota Road

**Refrain: Everybody's got something to offer;
young and old the prince and the pauper.**

**Everybody's got something to offer
in the name of the Lord.**

**Vs. 1: To the lost and the lonely ones
the message it is clear;
we have all got a gift to give
our hands, our hearts, our tears. Refrain...**

**Vs. 2: To the believers gathered here
The message it is true;
we have all got a gift to give
in all we say and do. Refrain...**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal. The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Music is played as those who wish to come forward for communion come forward and kneel at the communion rail. Others are invited to commune in your pew.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Faithful God,

C: God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

P: The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you ✠ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE