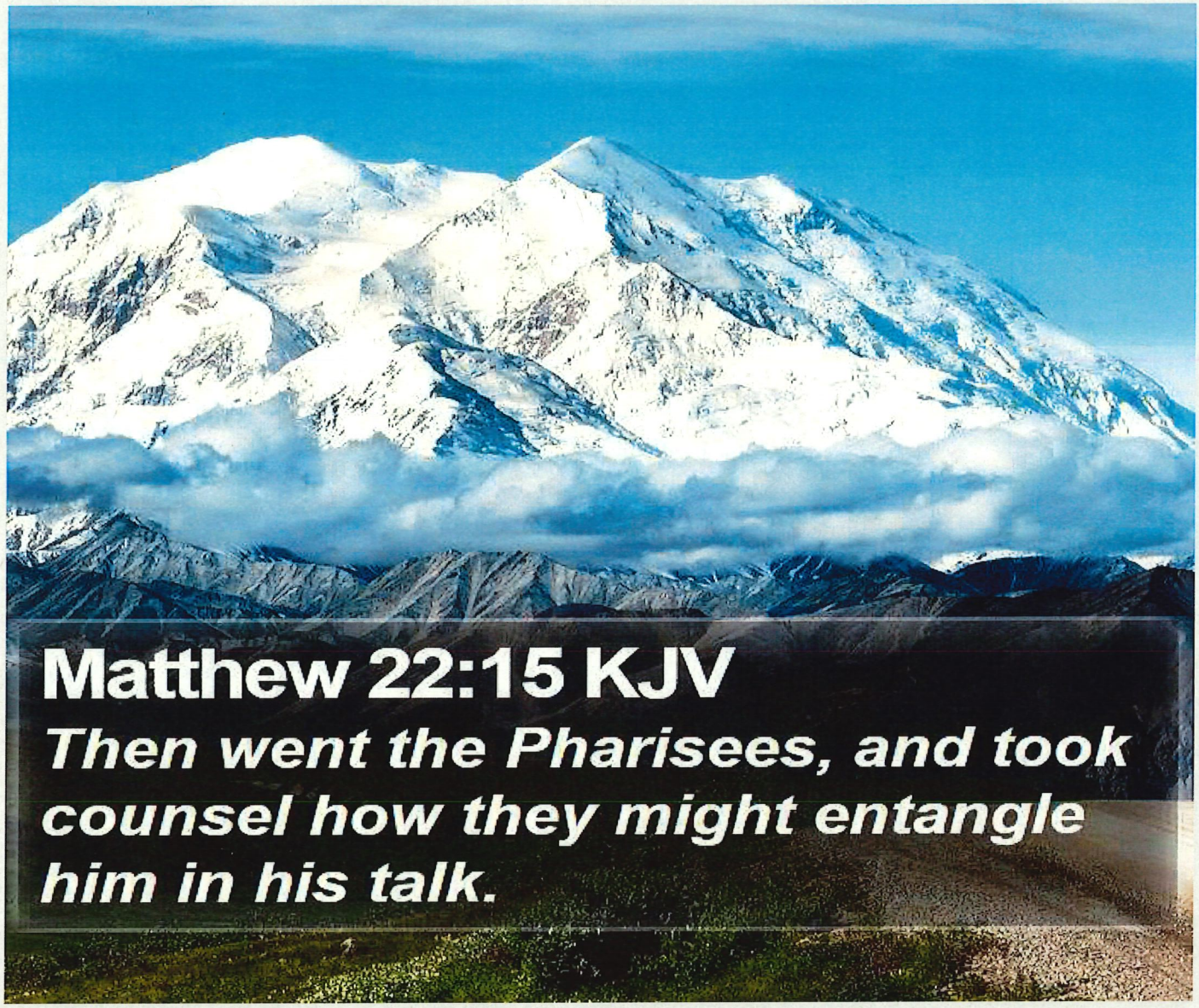


First Lutheran Church

October 18, 2026

Pentecost 21

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

PATMOS *Kristine Langlois*

Take My Life, That I May Be

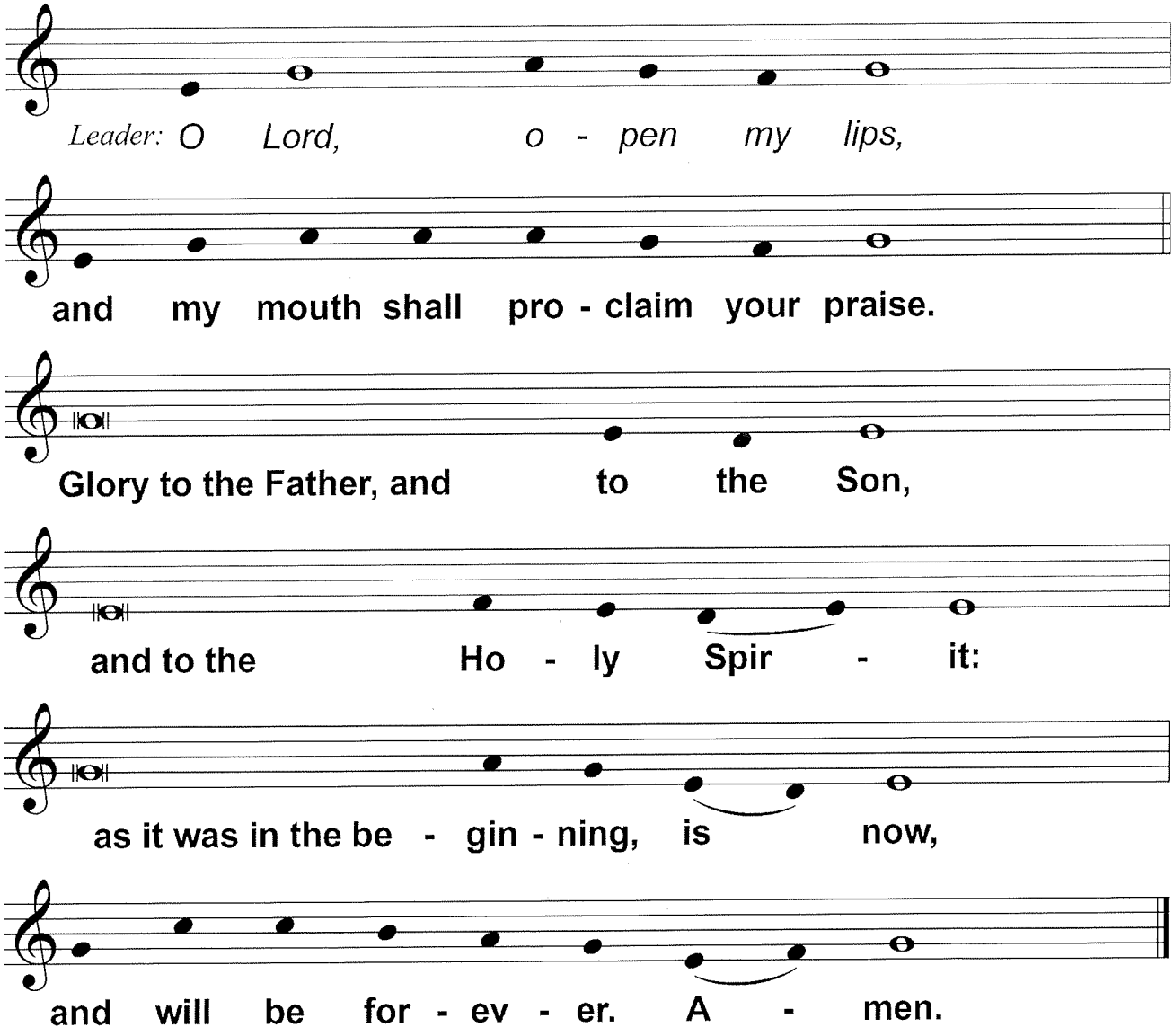
GATHERING

The assembly stands.

INTRODUCTION

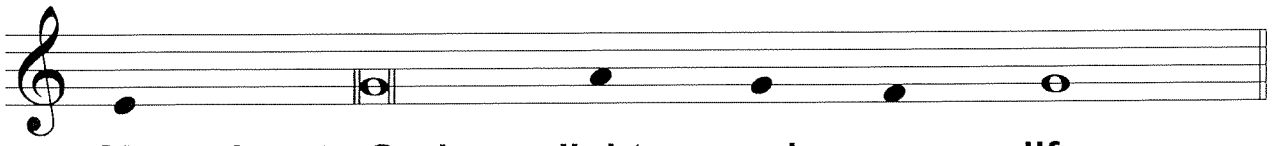
AM: In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

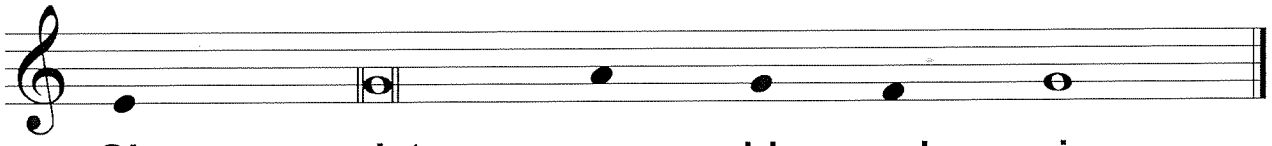
OPENING



PSALMODY

INVITATORY

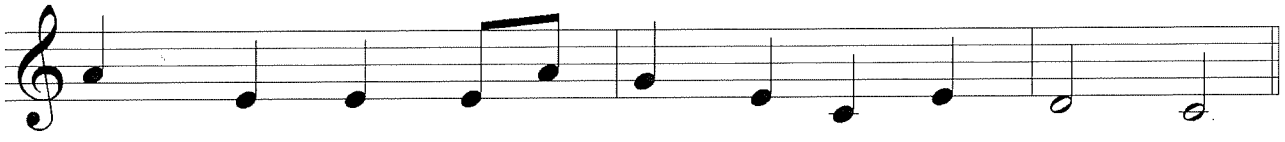




MORNING PSALM OF PRAISE

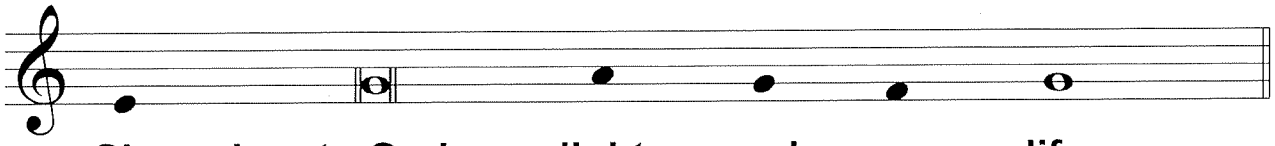
PSALM 95:1-7

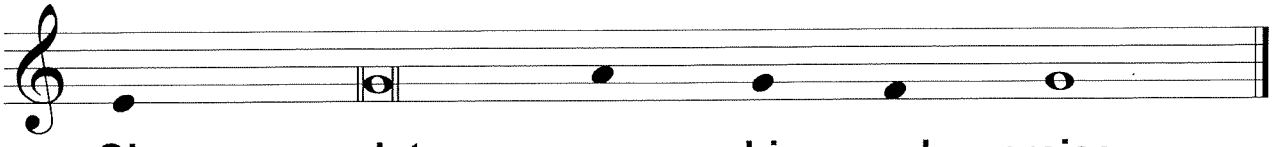




The Cantor will sing the verses.

FINAL INVITATORY





PRAYER OF THE DAY

PM: 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.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

WORD

FIRST READING *ISAIAH 45:1-7*

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

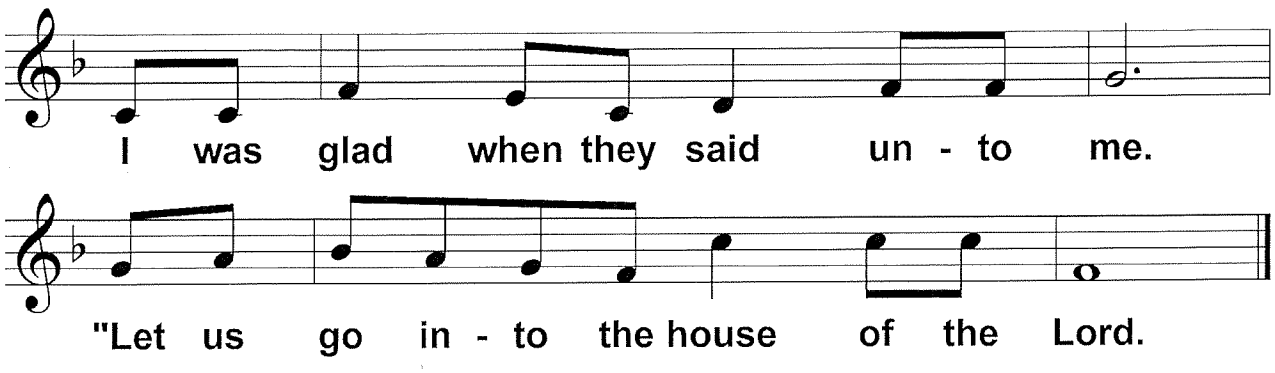
R: A reading from Isaiah, the forty-fifth chapter.

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

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *PSALM 122:1-9*



The Cantor will sing the verses:

[1] I was glad when they | said unto me, "Let us go into the house | of the Lord."
[2] Now our | feet are standing within your gates, | O Jerusalem. [3] Jerusalem is built | as a city that is at unity | with itself; [4] to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the Lord. ***Refrain***

[5] For there are the | thrones of judgment, the thrones of the | house of David.
[6] Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem: "May they pros- | per who love you. ***Refrain***

[7] Peace be with- | in your walls and quietness with- | in your towers.
[8] For the sake of my kindred | and companions, I pray for | your prosperity.
[9] Because of the house of the | Lord our God, I will seek to | do you good." ***Refrain***

SECOND READING *1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10*

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

R: A reading from First Thessalonians, the first chapter.

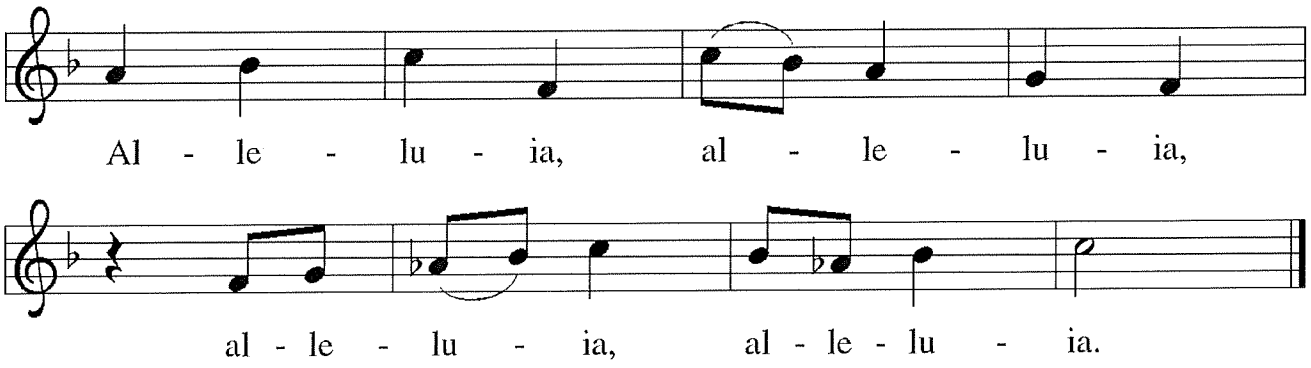
[1] Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. [2] We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly [3] remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. [4] For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, [5] because 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. [6] And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, [7] so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in

Achaia. [8] For 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. [9] For they 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 [10] and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

R: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Cantor will sing the verse: Shine like stars | in the world,
* holding fast to the | word of life. (Phil. 2:15, 16)

GOSPEL *MATTHEW 22:15-22*

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

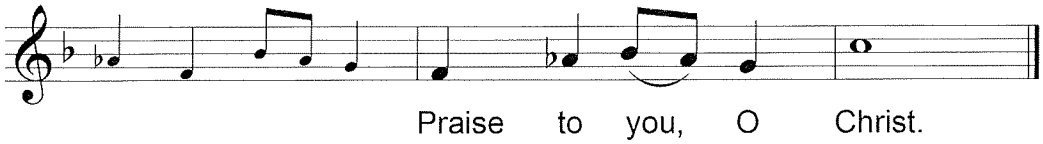
PM: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.



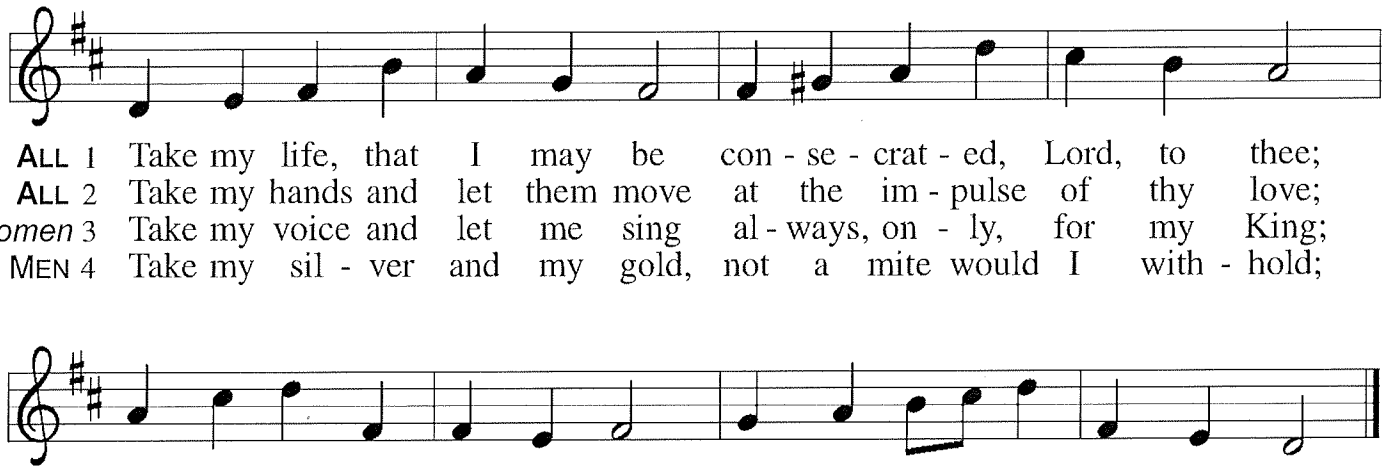
[15] The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. [16] So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to

no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. [17] Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" [18] But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? [19] Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. [20] Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" [21] They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." [22] When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

PM: The Gospel of the Lord.



HYMN OF THE DAY *TAKE MY LIFE, THAT I MAY BE* *ELW # 685*



CANTOR 5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

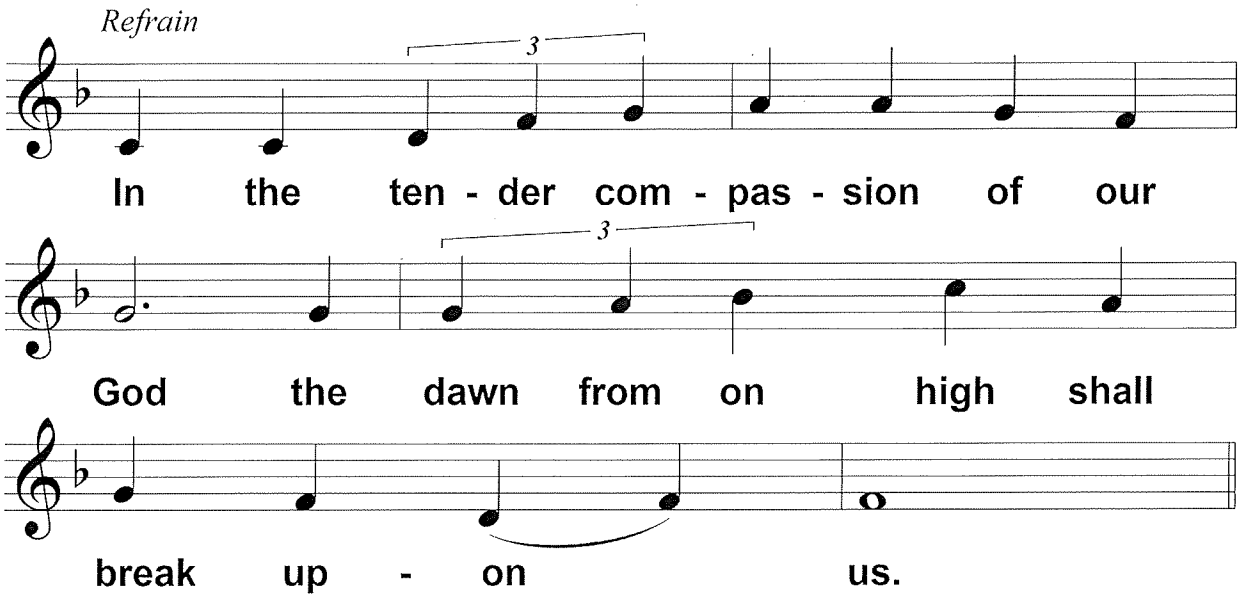
ALL 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON ***PASTOR ROGER MCQUISTION***

The assembly stands.

CANTICLE



The Cantor will sing the verses.

APOSTLES' CREED

PM: Living together in trust and hope, we profess our faith as expressed in the words of the Apostles' 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 catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING AND ORGAN MEDITATION

TEMPLE OF PEACE *David M. Cherwien*

Light Dawns on a Weary World

The assembly stands.

OFFERING SONG *LIGHT DAWNS ON A WEARY WORLD* *ELW # 726*



OFFERING PRAYER

AM: God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

C: Amen.

The assembly kneels.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PM: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new,
we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

AM: Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel.
Give your spirit of love to seminarians
and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry.

Each petition concludes:

PM: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

PM: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers
and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The assembly stands.

LORD'S PRAYER

PM: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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.

SENDING

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

PM: We pray together:

C: Oh, God, your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure.

We are grateful for your goodness and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future.

Bless our community of faith, bless the changes that are before us, bless our pastoral leaders who will shepherd us through this time of transition.

We thank you for the wisdom you show us.

Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry and our future.

Receive our prayer, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. Amen.

BLESSING

PM: The God of love, the God of hope, and the God of grace,
+ bless you now and forever.



SENDING SONG *GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY* *ELW # 705*



DISMISSAL

AM: Go out in joy.
PM: Be led forth in peace.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE
CWM RHONDDA *Clay Christiansen*

Events in Review

Sunday	**Oct 18**
10:00 AM	Pentecost 21
Monday	**Oct 19**
10:00AM	Bible Study at Willows
1:30 PM	Bookworms
5:15 PM	Bells of Praise Practice
Tuesday	**Oct 20**
Wednesday	**Oct 21**
5:30 pm	Council Meeting
6:00 pm	Property Meeting
Thursday	**Oct 22**
1:00	WOFB
Friday	**Oct 23**
Saturday	**Oct 24**

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request for today, please raise your hand during announcements and a host will give you a green card to fill out.

Next

Sunday	**Oct 25**
10:00 AM	Reformation Sunday
4:30 PM	Halloween Hospitality
Monday	**Oct 26**
10:00 AM	Bible Study at Willows
5:15 PM	Bells of Praise Practice
Tuesday	**Oct 27**
Wednesday	**Oct 28**
Thursday	**Oct. 29**
Friday	**Oct 30**
Saturday	**Oct 31**

Next Sunday, Oct. 25. is
Reformation Sunday
Don't forget to wear

RED

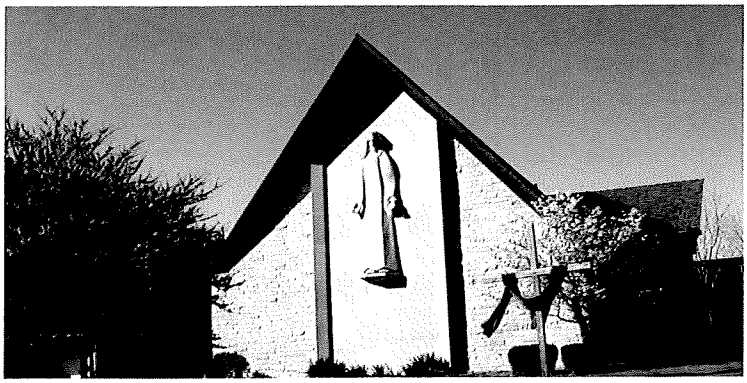


Altar Flowers were given today in honor of **Don & Judy May's** **66th wedding anniversary.** By their family

Halloween Hospitality returns Sunday, October 25

There is a sign up sheet located on the bulletin board for anyone who wishes to help with this event. There is also a donation box located on the hallway table for anyone who wished to donate treats to our goblins.

Contact Us



First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore Street
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

419-447-1323

www.firstlutherantiffin.com
firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

Our Worship Leaders

Altar Guild: The Nominee Family
Cantor: Elijah Shiley
Facebook Camera The Ross Family
Host
Reader: Mike Oberlander
Worship Assistant
Director of Music: Curtis L. King
Minister: Pastor Roger McQuistion
Assisting Minister: Minister Rick Greene

Emergency Contacts

PASTOR MARK SCHURING	740 360-2306
LINDA WARREN	419 618-5207
RICK GREENE (SAM)	419 937-7378
CURTIS L. KING	419 937-7142
GLORIA STACY	419 934-3023
RICK SHOLL	419 939-3436

Interim Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring

(740) 360-2306

theskipster55@gmail.com

Our Mission Statement

"God is among us!"

"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need."

Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003776. Hymns reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, license #A-735756