



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

1187 C.R. 128 & U.S. Rt. 20

Fremont, Ohio 43420

Pastor Tim Miller

93.1FM

Church: 419-332-6820

faithchurch@amplex.net

www.faithfremont.org

26th Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024

Setting 3 with Holy Communion

*Congregation please stand as you are able.

Introduction

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

Prelude:

Simple Gifts

John David Peterson

Welcome & Announcements: Joys and Concerns

Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

Noisy Offering: The Noisy Offering is given so children from our Companion Parish of Bumila Lutheran Church have the opportunity to attend school in the Mpwapwa Region. Thank you for your support of the children of our sister congregation in Bumila, Tanzania.

Opening Hymn: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* **ELW 693**

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***Greeting**

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.**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our refuge,
our delight,
our beginning and our end.

C: Amen.

P: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us
and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

**C: we confess that sin has taken hold of us
and we are complicit in its power.**

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.

Unbind us and set us free.

**Lead us again to the waters of rebirth,
that we may live just and generous lives
for the good of your world
and the care of our neighbors,
following in the servant way of Jesus.
Amen.**

P: These words are trustworthy and true:
Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross,
swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are † forgiven
and God remembers your sin no more.

Let your heart be glad again,
and rejoice in your salvation.

C: Amen.

*Canticle of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading:

Daniel 12:1-3

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

R: A reading from Daniel, the 12th chapter.

¹“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.

²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 16

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

²**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are
pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading:

Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

R: A reading from Hebrews, the 10th chapter.

¹¹ Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “he sat down at the right hand of God,” ¹³ and since then has been waiting “until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.” ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,”

¹⁷ he also adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke

one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

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**

Mark 13:1-8

In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹ As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” ² Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Rev. Dane Meuschke

*Sermon Hymn:

My Lord, What a Morning

ELW 438

*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

R: Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

R: O God, in the washing of water you set us free from the power of sin and death. Unite all the baptized in the covenant you have made with us, as we strive for your justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: By your merciful might you sustain all creation. Stir us from complacency with the harm we inflict on the earth, and urge us to adopt sustainable ways of life that protect and restore our planet. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: With a selfless power you protect all who take refuge in you. As nations rise against nations, defend all who are displaced or affected by war or violence. Empower all people and nations to pursue peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: In your presence you give fullness of joy. Care for all for whom joy feels distant. Be present with persons experiencing depression, anxiety, addiction, or any mental illness and with all who suffer in any way, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for people to be named)*. Bring them healing and wholeness. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: Through the years you have gathered your church and this community for worship, fellowship, formation, and service. Enable us to look beyond the walls of our building to perceive where you are calling us forward. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: With thanksgiving we remember saints and angels who delight in your everlasting presence. As their lives inspire ours, provoke us always to love, holding fast to the confession of our hope in you. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

R: We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(10:30) Sr. Choir: *Trust and Obey* **D. Towner/arr. V. Whaley**

*Offering *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***Offering Prayer**

P: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself
in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life.
Fill us with your abundance,
that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger,
trusting in your name.

C: Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of
everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*Thanksgiving at the Table

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Behold, God is making all things new.

Take your place in the new creation.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion

Communion will be continuous. The ushers will invite you to come forward by the center aisle. You will be handed the bread with the words, "The Body of Christ given for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!". Step to the Communion Assistant and take the cup. They will speak the words, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!" Empty cups may be placed in the basket as you return to your seat by the side aisle.

If you prefer gluten-free bread, please let the Pastor know. If you prefer grape juice, please let the Communion Assistant know. If you prefer not to receive or have children who have not yet received, please let the Pastor know and he will offer a blessing.

Communion Hymn:

ELW 689 *Praise and Thanksgiving*

ELW 694 *Sing to the Lord of Harvest*

*Post Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***Prayer After Communion**

P: Faithful God,
you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink
in the body and blood of your Son.
Now send us out to labor with you,
in service to the world you have made,
and among the people you have made your home,
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Blessing**

P: The Ancient One, enthroned,
the Crucified One, now risen,
the Indwelling One, poured out,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** *Let All Things Now Living* **ELW 881**

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude:** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* **M. C. DeJong**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB150404.
New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National
Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Permission was gained thru CCLI License #1176607 for streaming and recording. Song *Praise and
Thanksgiving*, Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
Song *Let All Things Now Living*, Text © 1939, 1966 by E.C. Schirmer Music Company.
Permission was gained thru One License #A-739669 for streaming and recording.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

JESUS, AS YOU PREDICTED, wars and disasters abound. Help us to not be led astray but to trust in your power and goodness. (Mark 13:5-8, 26)

AIR CONDITIONING FUND – The Air Conditioning Fund is being closed. Please direct your funds to another of our needed areas. Thank you.

FUNDS YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO ON THE “SPECIAL” LINE OF YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPES:

Food Pantry	Habitat for Humanity	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Share ‘N Care	Initial	Pastor’s Helping Hand
Memorials	Liberty Center	Tanzania Scholarships
Faith Youth	Sunday School	Music Enhancement Fund
Endowment	Community Outreach	Thanksgiving Offering
Card Ministry	New Housing Ohio	Ash Wednesday
Sound System	Christmas Offerings	
Lenten	Maundy Thursday	
Christ Care	Faith Fellowship Club	
FLCW Fellowship & Service (sewing ladies)		
Handicap Accessibility Updates		

THE WOMEN WILL BE COLLECTING FOOD ITEMS for the Sandusky County Food Pantry all during the month of November as part of our Thank Offering donations. Thank you.

FAITH WOMEN’S GROUP are excited for their upcoming program on **Tues, Dec 10th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Trinity Lutheran Church and School from Toledo has a special program that interacts at various settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, and schools to name a few. Nancy is the special handler of two golden retrievers, Claudia and Lorenzo, who have had special training to be comfort dogs. **ALL are welcome** to come and hear how this program came about and enjoy the love from two beautiful dogs.

OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL DINNER OUT will be held on Tuesday, **November 19th, at 6:30 p.m. at Buffalo Wild Wings** in their party room. You will be ordering from the menu and can get a burger or large salad for \$10 to \$13. There is a sign-up sheet on the Women's Bulletin Board in the coat room area. Please consider joining us for this festive night out.

TERRA COMMUNITY CHOIR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

Faith Lutheran Church Women's Group are honored and blessed to Welcome back the Terra Choral Choir on **Tuesday, December 3rd, at 7:00 p.m.** **All are welcome** to come and enjoy beautiful voices as well as light refreshments to prepare us for the upcoming Christmas Season. The women would welcome your help in providing cookies and brownies for this event. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

THE TOLEDO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

CONCERT will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 705 W. State St., Fremont, on **Friday, December 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** in the church sanctuary. Tickets can be purchased at Grace Lutheran Church Office Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or Fridays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Adults \$10; Seniors (65 & Over) \$8; Students (18 & Under) \$5. Cash or Check only.

THE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS is studying the importance of making time for God using the Impact Video Series. We meet in Room 8 on Sundays, and start around 9:30 a.m., giving you plenty of time to have some breakfast!.

THE WOMEN OF ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, ROCKY RIDGE, invite the ladies of your congregation to join us on Saturday, November 30, at 9:30 AM, as we gather for our 27th Annual Advent Brunch. Enjoy a morning of reflection, songs, and flute music, all centered around stars. After the program, join us for fellowship and a delicious brunch. This year's Brunch proceeds after expenses will go to benefit the Todd Hablitzel Do-It-Best for BCS fund, which will support families in the Benton-Carroll-Salem School District who are facing the challenges of cancer. Reservations of \$10, along with names of those attending, may be sent **by TODAY, November 17th** to Ann Schimming, 12351 W. State Route 105, Oak Harbor, OH 43449. Seating is limited, so please reserve your place soon.

SHOEBOXES SHIPPING – You may give your \$10 for the shoebox shipping charge to the church to send in if you'd like (others have). Please put it in a separate envelope with your name on it, not with your regular offering. Thank you.

NEW ADDRESS – Millie Fetterman is now living at Elmwood Assisted Living. Her new address is 1545 Fangboner Rd., Room 102, Fremont, OH 43420. Phone number remains the same.



IF MY PEOPLE – As our prayer group gathers we have our conversations with God, praising him, offering thanks for all he is and all he does and putting our cares and concerns before Him. One of those concerns is this country of ours and the cares of the entire world. We ask that you join us in a 40 day prayer journey for our leaders and the future of our country, using the 'If My People' devotional.

“If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

(2 Chronicles 7:14)

These devotionals will be distributed on Sunday mornings at worship and will be available on the shelf in the narthex. We hope that you will pray with us as we continue our faith journey. Blessings to you.

TASTE OF THE SEASON DINNER AND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT featuring the music of the Fremont Ross Choir along with other seasonal musical talents will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church, 204 N. Wayne Street, Fremont on **Sunday, December 8th**. Concert begins at 7:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public (a good-will offering is taken and donated). Dinner begins at 5:30 pm and will feature: Appetizers, Homemade Soup, Veal Cutlet Parmesan, Baked Pasta, Vegetable, Cheesecake Toll-house Dessert, and Beverage. Dinner tickets are \$16.00 and you may call Terri at 419-332-8167 for dinner reservations/tickets. Deadline for reservations is December 1st, 2024.

PRAYER SISTERS FOR 2025 – You have the opportunity to be matched up with a prayer sister for 2025. Prayer sisters keep in touch with each other throughout the year. This can mean meeting for lunch or dinner, sending greeting cards, praying for each other regularly and anything else fun that you can think of to do together. **It really is quite rewarding!** If you would like to have a prayer sister please let Barb Kocsis know (567-219-2603). Thank you.

Fremont, Ohio

ADVENT TOUR OF CHURCHES



Tour the inside of
**CHURCHES
IN FREMONT**
Historical Buildings
Stained Glass
Music & More

SUNDAY AFTERNOON
1-4 pm

DEC

15th

2024

You drive past them and wonder, now come and see.
More info at LIFTCHURCHES.ORG



ASSISTING TODAY

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dane Meuschke

Organist: Parm Boyer **Sr. Choir Director:** Darla Brown

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Greeter: Bill & Ruth Ann Seibert Gary & Mary Lou Cooper

Lector: Becky Fox Julia Norris

Acolyte: Easton Root Julia Norris

Communion: Becky Fox/J Seibert Carol Trick/Randy Brown

Counters: Dave Kocsis* & Judi Neill

Fellowship Time Host:

Altar Guild: Bonnie Overmyer & Debra Fahle

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Parm Boyer **Pianist:** Becky Fox

Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown **Flautist:** Marilyn Ring

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Greeter: Easton Root Pat Forsyth & Kathleen McClain

Lector: Miranda Garlock Annie Gazdecki

Acolyte: Robert Fought Lauren Gazdecki

Communion: M. Fought/K. Smith A. Gazdecki & Paul Antesberger

Counters: Annie Gazdecki* & Anne Gerner

Fellowship Time Host: Wasserman/Gazdecki

Altar Guild: Bonnie Overmyer & Debra Fahle

PRAYING DAILY



For healing and hope: Pat Copley, Connie Diekman, Della Humbarger, Denny Krumnow, Bill Leutenegger, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Letty Rusch, Bob Schneider, Dorothy Swedersky, Janet Tressler, Carnetta Weber, Linda Woessner, Jay Kinchy, Al & Judi Krumnow, Gayle Maves, LuAnn Sharp, Rose Wensinger.

For the Family of: Nancy Roach, Tonya Ickes

For our Military: Noah Egbert, Troy Halfhill, Jade Kayser, Daniel Linder, Katie Olmstead, Tony Rozzi, Christopher Templeton, & Joshua Tooman.

For our Bishops: Bishop Christian Ndossa, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and NWOS Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff

For our partner congregation in Bumila, Tanzania

And its pastor: Pastor Peter Magasi

FAITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF – Nov. 17 to Nov. 24

Sunday Pastor's Vacation

Nov. 17----- 8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

Monday

Nov. 18----- 10 a.m. Valley View Worship & Holy Communion
 6:30 p.m. Executive Council
 7:00 p.m. Church Council
 7:30 p.m. Dartball - Away vs. St. Paul's

Tuesday

Nov. 19-----2 p.m. Ruth Circle
 6:30 p.m. Congregational Dinner Out at Buffalo W. W.'s

Wednesday

Nov. 20-----6:30 p.m. Bell Choir
 7:30 p.m. Praise Choir
 7:30 p.m. Senior Choir

Thursday

Nov. 21-----9-3 p.m. Fellowship & Sew Day
 3 p.m. Christ Care

Friday

Nov. 22-----

Saturday

Nov. 23-----9:15 a.m. Christ Care

Sunday

Nov. 24----- 8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024: ATTENDANCE: 135 – OFFERING: \$3,764.52

GOSPEL MESSAGE

November 17, 2024

Holy Presence

In Jesus' day the temple in Jerusalem loomed large, both as a central physical structure in the city and as a powerful symbol of God's presence among the people. It was a major part of Jewish religious life of the time, and the location where it stood remains important for many people today. The disciples would certainly have found it unsettling to listen to Jesus forecast the temple's destruction. Would it really fall? How could such an important place ever be lost?

We often look to buildings, institutions, and societal structures for stability. But even our surest foundations can fail, and often do. Jesus reminds us that though stability comes and goes, we are not alone amid the changes. When the world comes apart at the seams, when we don't know what will happen next, God accompanies us through it all. Though wars continue, though death is near, Jesus responds, "Do not be alarmed." We are not alone! Through all the endings and beginnings of our shared human life, God goes with us.

When God gathers us around the font for baptism, we are reminded of how Divine Presence has been with people throughout the ages. The words often shared as water is poured into the font recall scenes from the great flood, the deliverance of the Israelites at the Red Sea, and John baptizing Jesus. God has shown up, again and again! These promises of God's presence are still for us, every day that we live. Whenever we find ourselves interacting with water, we have the chance to be reminded that God has claimed us as beloved, and still carries us through life's hard moments. How might you remember your baptism today? Where is God's presence most important for you?