

**Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
13047 Greenwood Ave N, Seattle, WA 98133
Worship for Sunday, 25 October 2026
+ Reformation Sunday, Year A**

Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community

Prelude

Largo

George Frederic Handel

Confession and Forgiveness

Please Stand

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

You may be seated.

Gathering Hymn NCH #454

African-American spiritual

I Want to Be a Christian

Deut. 6:5-6; 10:12-16



1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart,
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

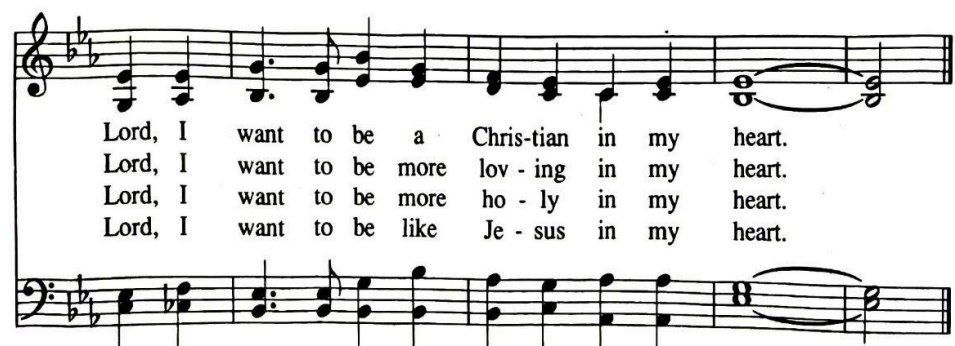


Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Refrain



In my heart, in my heart,
 In my heart, in my heart,



Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Many of the enslaved of antebellum America did not want to become Christians because they did not want to adopt the religion of their captors. But this spiritual attests that the Christian faith was an internal strength and aim for many.

Tune: I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
 8.6.8.3. with refrain
African-American spiritual
 Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

Apostolic 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.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

Assisting minister

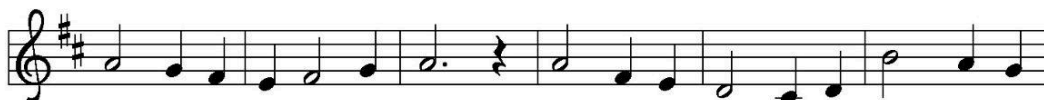


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray:

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. We pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with your truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was married to them, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields
with fire.

**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the
earth.”**

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For “no human being will be justified in the sight of God” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by God’s grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in divine forbearance God had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that God is righteous and that God justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

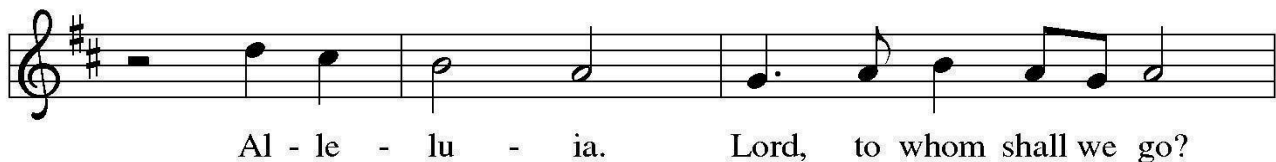
Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Please Stand



Gospel John 8:31-36

P: The holy Gospel according to John, the 8th Chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Judeans who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. “So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

1 A migh - ty for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 If we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing turns to
 3 Though all the world with dev - ils fill and threat - en to de -
 4 God's Word shall stand a - bove the pow'rs, shall end all their thanks-

fail - ing; our help - er frees us from the flood of
 los - ing; the righ - teous one fights by our side, the
 your us, we trem - ble not, we trust God's will: they
 giv - ing. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe,
 one of God's own choos - ing. You ask who this may be:
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Though Sa - tan rant and rage,
 God with us is liv - ing. Let goods and kin - dred go,

for - sworn to work us woe, with guile and dread - ful might
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.
 in fierc - est war en - gage, this ty - rant's doomed to fail;
 this mor - tal life al - so; though all of these be gone,

is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no e - qual.
 No oth - er God we claim! None else can win the batt - le.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word shall tri - umph.
 they yet have noth - ing won. The king - dom's our for - ev - er!

Prayers and Peace

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

From your place in the congregation, feel free to share a sign of peace with other members of the assembly.

Offering

Offertory *Woke Up This Morning*

Sung by: LMLC Chancel Choir

Offertory Prayer

Please stand

P: 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.

Great Thanksgiving

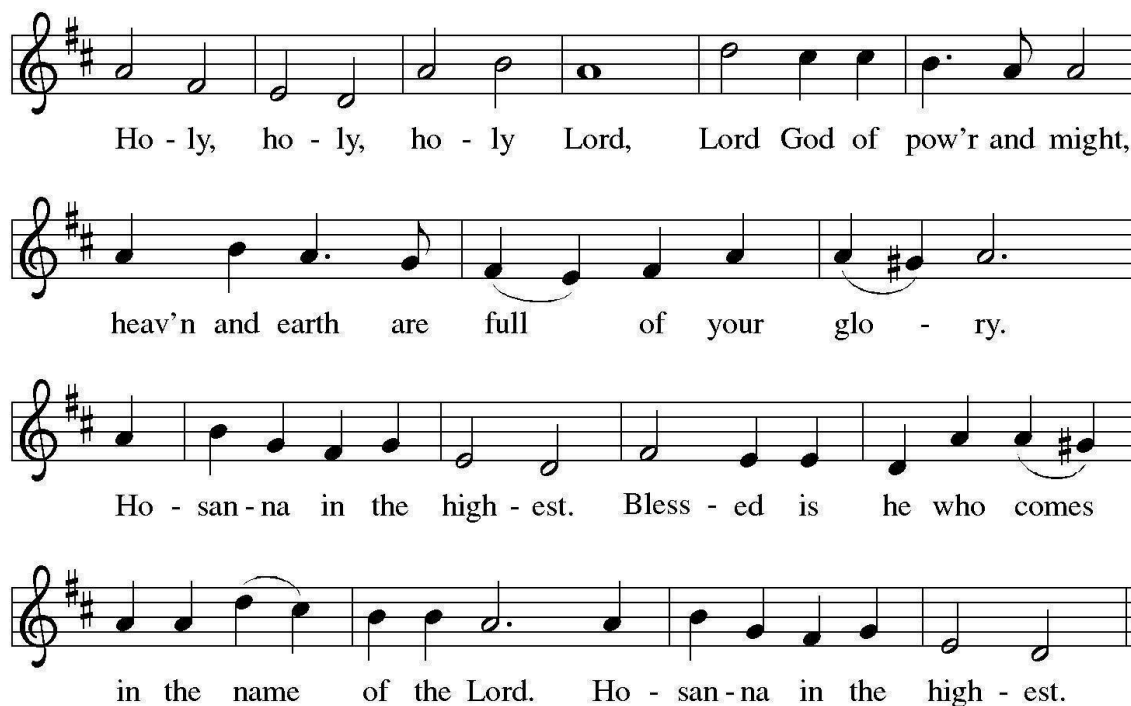
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



Eucharistic Liturgy

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
but guided us into the path of love and light.
In every age you sent prophets
to make known your loving will for all humanity.
The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.
In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,
to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.
Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Distribution of Holy Communion

You may be seated

Please proceed up the center aisle to pick up a piece of bread from the Presiding minister and a glass of either wine or grape juice from the assisting minister.

There will be a basket off to the side where you can dispose of your used cup. The communion bread is all gluten free, but does contain honey. All are welcome to receive from Christ's table.

You may also come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing.

Communion Hymn #515

Break Now the Bread of Life

1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
 2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
 3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly

broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
 blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
 word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live

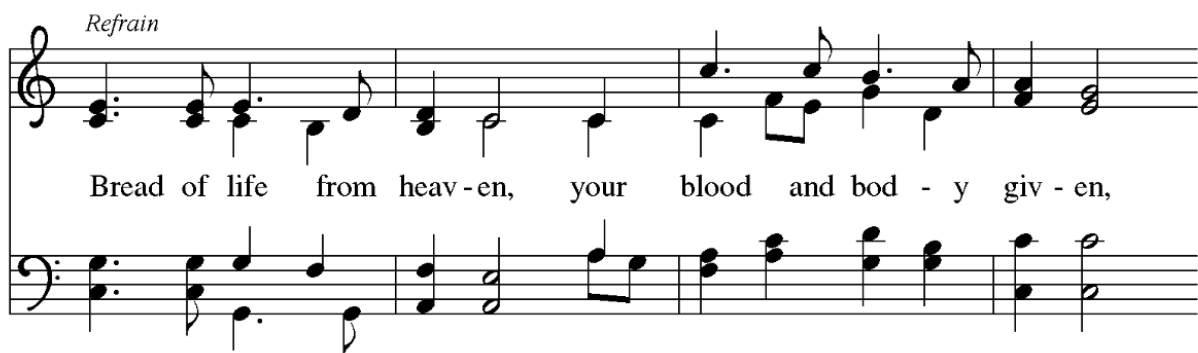
I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
 all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
 with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.
 Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

Communion Hymn #474

Bread of Life from Heaven

Refrain



Bread of life from heav - en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,



we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----|------|-------|------|----------|------------------|------------|
| 1 | Break | now | the | bread | of | Christ's | sac - ri - fice; | giv - ing |
| 2 | Seek | not | the | food | that | will | pass a - way; | set your |
| 3 | Love | as | the | one | who, | in | love for you, | gave him - |
| 4 | Dwell | in | the | one | who | now | dwells in you; | make your |
| 5 | Drink | of | this | cup | and | de - | clare his death; | eat this |



thanks, hun - gry ones,	gath - er round.	Eat, all of you, and be
hearts on the food	that en - dures.	Come, learn the true and the
self for the life	of the world.	Come to the one who is
home in the life -	giv - ing Word.	Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
bread and be - lieve	Eas - ter morn;	trust his re - turn and, with



sat - is - fied;	in Christ's pres -	ence the loaves	will a - bound.
liv - ing way,	that the full -	ness of life	may be yours.
food for you,	that your hun -	ger and thirst	be no more.
One of God,	and be - lieve	in the truth	you have heard.
ev - 'ry breath,	praise the one	in whom you	are re - born.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas

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Post-communion Prayer

P: Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve your world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
C: Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Hymn #878

Soli Deo Gloria



1 O God of bless - ings, all praise to you! Your love sur -
 2 All praise for proph - ets, through grace in - spired to preach and
 3 All praise for mu - sic, deep gift pro - found, through hands and
 4 All praise for Je - sus, best gift di - vine through word and
 5 A bil - lion voic - es in one great song, now soft and



rounds us our whole life through. You are the
 wit - ness with hearts on fire. Your Spir - it
 voic - es in ho - ly sound; the psalms of
 wit - ness, in bread and wine; in - car - nate
 gen - tle, now deep and strong, in ev - 'ry



free - dom of those op - pressed; you are the com - fort of all dis -
 choos - es the weak and small to sing the new reign where might - y
 Da - vid, and Mar - y's praise, in word - less splen - dor and lyr - ic
 love song of bound - less grace, priest, teach - er, proph - et in time and
 cul - ture and style and key, from hill and val - ley, with sky and



tressed. Come now, O ho - ly and wel - come guest:
 fall; with them may we live your gos - pel call:
 phrase, with all cre - a - tion one song we raise:
 space, your stead - fast kind - ness with hu - man face:
 sea, with Christ we praise you e - ter - nal - ly:



So - li De - o glo - ri - a! So - li De - o glo - ri - a!

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: SOLI DEO GLORIA, Marty Haugen

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Postlude

Mazurka on B Flat

Frederic Chopin

Dismissal

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Today's Worship Leaders:

Pastor Sara Funkhouser

Chrissie Goldstein

Julie Moe

Mark Chapman & Christine Lawson

Gordon Trombley (1st & psalm)

Allene Steinberg (2nd)

Lollie Ellingson

Preacher/Presider

Musician

Communion Assistant

Ushers

Lectors

Altar Care

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: *Revelation 7:9-17*

Psalm: *Psalms 34:1-10, 22*

Second Reading: *1 John 3:1-3*

Gospel: *Matthew 5:1-12*

Additional Financial Reports

As we did not have all of the reports last week before printing the bulletin, here are the additional reports that are usually included.

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church

Memorial Garden

Donations as of September 30 2026	4050.00
Costs to September 30 2026	<u>(6,839.18)</u> (A)
Uncovered Balance	<u><u>(2,789.18)</u></u>

(A) – Some costs are yet to come, such as a bench. However, the majority of the cost has been experienced.

**Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
Financial Results Through September 30 2026**

	As of 09/30 /2026	As of 09/30 /2026
Revenue	Actual	Budget
Pledges	\$ 98,316.66	\$ 90,475.70
Non-pledged Offerings	3,854.00	976.14
Room Use	6,320.00	4,356.55
Gifts and Income Other than Offerings	1,174.62	554.56
Unrestricted Revenue	\$ 109,665.28	\$ 96,362.95
In Kind Donations	\$ 4,010.81	\$ -
Feeding Ministry	1,505.00	6,459.83
Neighborhood Outreach	0.00	937.50
Restricted Revenue	\$ 5,515.81	\$ 7,397.33
Total Revenue	\$ 115,181.09	\$ 103,760.28
Expenses	Actual	Budget
Staff Compensation (Pastor, Office Admin, Musician, Bookkeeper)	\$ 112,055.76	\$ 101,531.26
Administrative	9,362.42	9,542.56
Property (includes In Kind Giving)	29,982.07	28,477.99
Worship & Music, Education	2,122.85	2,471.74
Fellowship (includes In Kind Giving)	2,785.05	479.17
Synod	6,860.00	5,790.45
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 163,168.15	\$ 148,293.17
Outreach	242.64	937.50
Food Ministry (includes In Kind Giving)	4,557.16	5,874.57
Designated Funds Expenses	\$ 4,799.80	\$ 6,812.07
Total Expenses	\$ 167,967.95	\$ 155,105.24
Operating Surplus/(Shortage)	\$ (52,786.86)	\$ (51,344.96)
Withdrawal from Ministry Growth Fund	34,000.00	36,000.00
Net Surplus/(Shortage)	\$ (18,786.86)	\$ (15,344.96)

Although 'In Kind Giving' does not enter into the budgeting process, there is a desire to know the value of that received and the distribution of its usage. Consequently, the value of the item is entered to an account in the revenue section and, at the same time a charge of equal amount is made to the applicable expense account. The distribution of the \$4,011 In Kind Giving received through August 31 is; Fellowship - \$2,021, Feeding Ministry - \$1,686 and Maintenance - \$304. These entries have no impact on the bottom line.

LMLC's contribution to Synod is a % of LMLC's non-designated revenue. Although listed in the expense section for accounting purposes, it is one effort toward meeting LMLC's mission statement: Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community.

During mid-October, \$14,000 was withdrawn from MGF as included in the 2026 budget passed at the 2026 annual Congregational Meeting.

Announcements:

Pat Yoder's Memorial Service: We apologize for the delay in getting this information to you, but for those interested in attending, Pat Yoder's Memorial Service will be held this afternoon at 2:00 P.M. at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Shoreline.

All Saints Sunday: Next Sunday, November 1st, we will have our service remembering all of our beloveds who have joined the company of the saints in light. As usual, we will read the names of our dear members who have died this past year, and we will have a remembrance table in the back where you can place photos of your loved ones. If you are unable to attend that service, but you would still like to include your loved ones on that memorial table, please bring (or email) a photo of them to the office; we do, however, ask that you please include a note with their name and yours so that we can return your photos to you after the service.

Journeying Together: In an effort to give us more time to engage with one another, our Lutheran tradition, and Scripture, we are going to start a new activity twice-monthly beginning October 11th after worship. Whether you are interested in becoming a member, you're a long-time member, or you're just interested in learning more, all are welcome to join! We will not be meeting October 25th, but we will meet again on November 8th.

We will determine the pattern of the meetings together, but it will include the following components: a brief lesson on a theological topic, Bible Study, small group discussion, and time to gather around a meal together.

November Food Pantry Theme: Holiday Meals

As we head into November and December, we are thinking of holiday foods we might stock in the Free Little Pantry. We are thankful for anything you donate but here are some suggestions:

- Canned chicken or turkey
- Boxed potatoes
- Stuffing mixes
- Gravy (canned or dry mixes)
- Canned cranberries
- Canned pumpkin pie mix
- Olives
- Cake mixes
- Cookie mixes
- Baking chips (chocolate etc.)
- Small bags of flour or sugar
- Baking oil
- Baking soda or powder
- Salt

Thank you so much for your generosity!

Grief Group: Our grief group will be moving to regularly scheduled times on Wednesday mornings, with our next grief group gathering being on Wednesday, November 4th, at 11:00 A.M. at church.

Broadview-Thomson Winter Coat Drive: Our neighbors at Broadview-Thomson want to make sure that kids are staying warm this winter, so, as in past years, they are hosting a coat drive from now until November 13th. You are welcome to donate coats here and we will bring them over, or you can use their online giving page to donate funds which will go toward the purchase of winter gear.

Bell Choir Rehearsals Continue after Worship: In preparation for Christmas, our Bell Choir will be rehearsing after worship! Whether you have been in the bell choir before or you would like to give it a shot, all are welcome to join in joyful bell ringing! Please see Chrissie after worship if you are interested.

Upcoming Events

25	OCT, SUN		9:30 – 10:15am	Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
			10:30 – 11:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship Sanctuary
			4 – 6pm	Skandia Society Rehearsal Celebration Hall
			6:30 – 7:30pm	NA Pink Progress Club Celebration Hall
26	OCT, MON		6:45 – 7:45pm	NA - Afterparty Group Celebration Hall
28	OCT, WED		9:30 – 11am	Seekers Bible Study Library
29	OCT, THU		6 – 9:30pm	Sound Harmony Sanctuary
30	OCT, FRI		12 – 1pm	Pause for Prayer Zoom

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