

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service

November 15, 2026 10:00 a.m.

Live streaming on Facebook at HopeLutheranChurchCbus

Zoom info:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87022443010?pwd=Vb20CctLVvbwCWNabXQoU9d1ebbgip.1

Meeting ID: 870 2244 3010 Passcode: 681468 Tel: +1-309-205-3325

WELCOME

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: We confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" *(ELW pg. 807)*

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Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE "This is the Feast" *(TFF pg. 48)*

This is the Feast, of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain.
Whose blood set us free, to be people of God.
Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the Feast, of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God.
And join in the hymn of all creation.
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the Feast, of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.
For the Lamb, who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia
This is the Feast, of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Righteous God,

C: Our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord GOD, for the day of the LORD is at hand! The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed, for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

R: Word of God, Word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90:1-8(9-11)12

Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.
You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;
you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?

So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING **1Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.

But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

R: Word of God, Word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(TFF pg. 32)*

Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:14-30
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more

talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.

For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUNG PEOPLE SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"If When You Give the Best of Your Service" *(TFF pg. 172)*

Go to This Far By Faith 172

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 THE CHURCH

A: God, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

WE SHARE THE PEACE

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUIET TIME

OFFERTORY **"Let the Vineyards"** *(TFF pg. 36)*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Eternal God,

C: Our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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 God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS **"Holy, Holy, Holy"** *(TFF pg. 38)*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of power and might.
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

COMMUNION HYMNS

"One Bread, One Body" *(TFF pg. 122)*
"Let Us Break Bread Together" *(TFF pg. 123)*

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

CANTICLE "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" *(TFF pg. 38)*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.
Send us with your promises, O God and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving, with shouts of thanksgiving, with shouts of thanksgiving,
Alleluia.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

A: Holy God,

C: We have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen

SENDING SONG "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" *(ELW 886)*

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Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Worship Participants Today
Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Julianne Smeck
Ministers: All worshippers
Bassist: Dan Abell **Guitarist**: Kurt Keljo **Drummer:** Seth Daily **Pianist**: Caitlyn Couch
Reader: Sarah Stone
Worship Assistant: Adam Viney
Usher: Barbara McDaniel

Worship Leaders Next Sunday
Reader: Muriel Scruggs
Worship Assistant: Gay Steele
Usher: Halima Linder

PHONE NUMBERS
Pastor Smeck: (734)972-6126
Office: (614)258-6634

PRAYER REQUESTS

The family of Grace Winfrey, Alan Strahler, Beverly Chavis, Peter Elencovf, Shirley Huber, Gloria Jones, Michel Leonhart, Frank Nelson, Monica Price, Morris Scruggs, Francene Travis, Margaret Belcher, Karen and Travis Davis, Linda Davis-Stewart, Billy Gilyard, Judy Smeck, and Helen Watson.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Lawrence Hendrix (17), Nancy Cofer (19), and Bill Alsnauer (20)

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PLANNING

We invite you to meet at Hope tomorrow, November 16, at 6:00 p.m. to imagine how to best share and teach Black History Month. Our goal is to keep it to one hour.

LIVINGSTONE AREA ASSOCIATION COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Livingston Area Commission will hold two meetings at Hope on Tuesday, November 17. The first meeting, from 5:00-5:45 p.m., will focus on the recent election. The regular monthly meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

5th ANNUAL GIVING THANKS SERVICE

This Wednesday, November 18, is the Eastside Fellowships 5th annual Giving Thanks worship service at St. Philip Episcopal Church, 166 Woodland Avenue, at 7:00 p.m. Gloves and new and gently used coats should be brought to the service.

NO BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

Bible study is paused for this Wednesday due to the Eastside Fellowships 5th annual Giving Thanks service. We'll resume on November 25.

FOOD GIVEAWAY ON NOVEMBER 21

Today is the last day to bring in your food offerings as well as toys and other items to help families celebrate Christmas. All will be distributed at our Food Giveaway next Saturday, November 21, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. There will be no December food giveaway.

WELCA THANKOFFERING SERVICE FOR OUR BLESSINGS

WELCA's Thankoffering service will take place next Sunday, November 22. Initiated by women in the church in the late 19th century, this annual Lutheran tradition provides a tangible opportunity for members to give thanks for the blessings received throughout the year.

Hope Church's WELCA continues this tradition by providing offering envelopes in the rear of the sanctuary to support ministries throughout our community and the larger church. Please pick up an envelope and join the congregation next Sunday as we give thanks and share our blessings with others.

MEMORIAL SERVICE SET FOR GRACE WINFREY

A memorial service to celebrate Grace Winfrey's life will be held at Hope on Sunday, November 22, at 2:00 p.m. All who knew Grace are welcome.

IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

The deadline for ordering Christmas poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary is next Sunday, November 22. The cost is $8.00 each, and they come in red, pink, marble,

and white. Fill out your order form, put it in the special envelope along with your payment, and place it in the offering plate.

THE LORD IS THE POTTER AND WE ARE HIS CLAY: DECEMBER 6

WELCA is pleased to present the 2026 Advent Festival on Sunday, December 6. Based on the scripture from the First Sunday of Advent, November 29, we invite participants to reflect how "we" as a congregation envision how the Lord would shape our ministry in the Driving Park community and within our congregation.

The event, taking place following worship service, will include a light lunch, activities, and Hope-style fellowship. Sign-up sheets to assist with the luncheon (sandwiches, chips, cookies, and drinks) are posted on the kitchen door and also at the back of the sanctuary.

HYMN SING SUNDAY IS APPROACHING

Let us know what hymn you would like to sing on Sunday, November 29. Suggestions are needed for the opening, communion hymns, hymn of the day, and closing song. Send the pastor an email or write down your choice and put it in the offering basket by November 22.

OFFERINGS – NOVEMBER 8, 2026

Received: $127,111
Anticipated: $122,327
Over/(Short): **$4,784**

Capital Improvement: $10,335
(Includes Mission Possible: $8,832)

CLOSING OUT NOVEMBER

Nov. 18: Eastside Fellowship "Giving Thanks" worship service, 166 Woodland Avenue, 7:00 p.m. Information tables 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 21: Food Giveaway, 10:00 a.m.- Noon.
Nov. 22: Memorial service for Grace Winfrey, 2:00 p.m.