Festival of Christ the King *Last Sunday of the Church Year* November 26, 2023 – 10:30 a.m. *Lutheran Service Book*, Divine Service, Setting Four

Prayer before worship:

Bless, O God, this time of worship and fill us with the light of your grace and mercy in Jesus Christ our Savior, whose promised return we wait and watch for. Strengthen us with your Word and Sacrament this day that we may remain steadfast until Christ shall come again. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Pre-Service Music

"Prelude" (William Harris)

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism

- \mathbf{P} In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **G** who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

G But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared. *Psalm 130:3-4*

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy

of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. [Luke 18:13]

Please kneel or be seated for a time of silent prayer and confession, as able



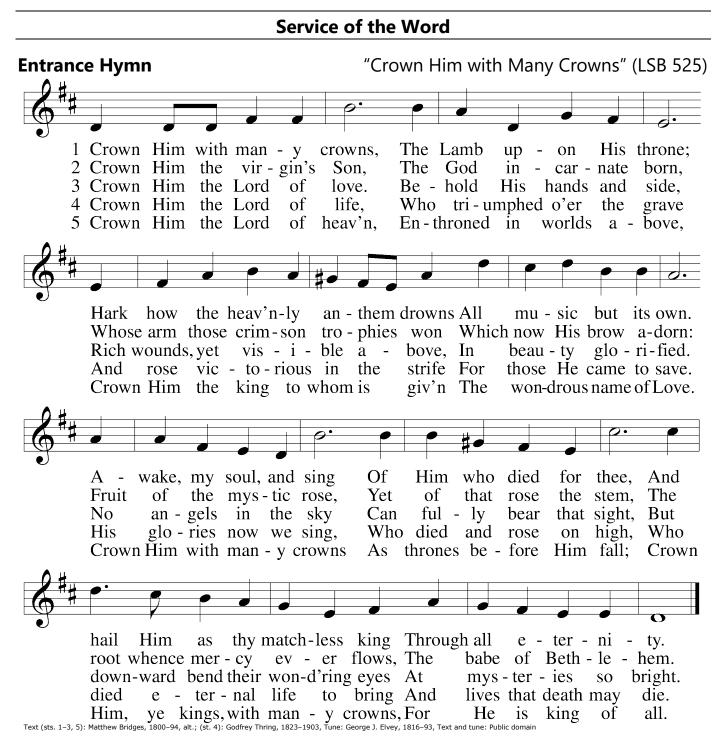
Psalm 124:8

P Almighty God,

C have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
[John 20:19-23]

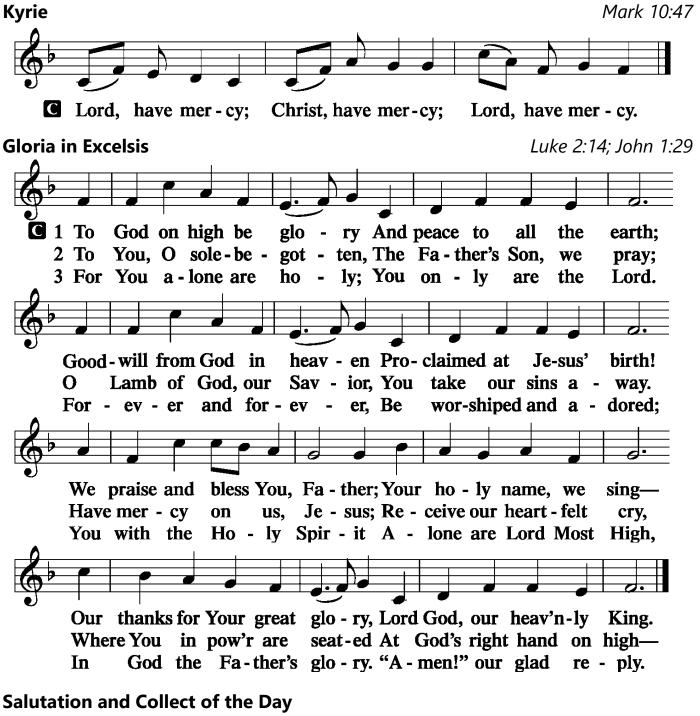
C Amen.



Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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C And also with you.
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- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

P Let us pray:

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

¹¹"For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

²⁰"Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm (read responsively)

- L Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;* let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!
- **G** Let us come into his presence with thanks- | giving;* let us make a joyful noise to him with | songs of praise!
- L For the LORD is a | great God,* and a great King a- | bove all gods.
- **G** In his hand are the depths | of the earth;* the heights of the mountains are his | also.
- **I** The sea is his, for he | made it,* and his hands formed the | dry land.
- G Oh come, let us worship and | bow down;* let us kneel before the LORD, our | Maker!
- I For he | is our God,* and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep | of his hand.

Epistle

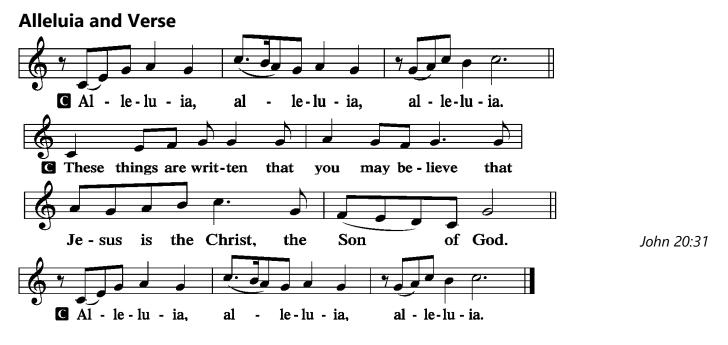
1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

⁴¹"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

"Jesus Shall Reign" (LSB 832) Hymn of the Day 1 Je sus shall reign wher - e'er the Does _ sun its suc -2 To Him shall end less prayer be made. And end-less 3 Peo - ple and realms 'ry Dwell His of ev _ tongue on 4 Bless-ings a - bound wher e'er He reigns: The pris-'ners 5 Let ev - 'ry rise Hon - ors pe crea - ture and bring C Θ His king-dom stretch ces sive jour neys run; from name like His prais - es head: His sweet crown per voic love with sweet est song; And in - fant es The find leap. loose their chains, wea - rv e un cu liar to our King; An gels de - scend with Θ Ο shore Till moons shall wax to shore and wane more. no fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn fice. ing sac - ri pro - claim shall Their ear - ly bless His name. ings on who And all fer want nal rest. suf blest. ter are gain, And earth re - peat the loud songs a a men. _ Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793 Text and tune: Public domain

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in

Sermon

"Measuring What Matters"

accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, + and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Seeking the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in our world, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer. During the season after Pentecost each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your

> mercy." Please respond by saying "Hear our prayer."

The prayers end with the words:

Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may stand and greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

- L Merciful God,
- we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

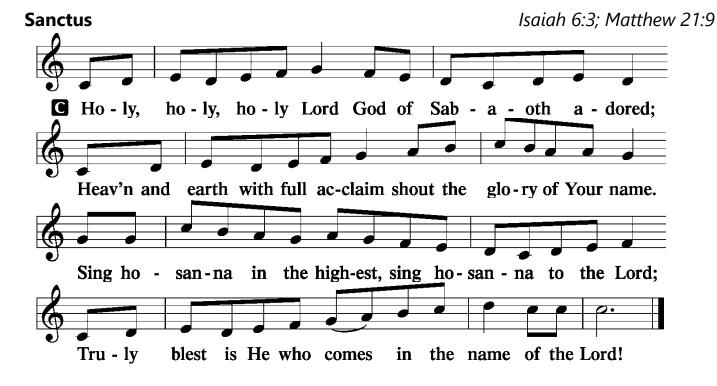
P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



[Colossians 3:1]

[Psalm 136]

2 Timothy 4:22

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

The Words of Our LordLuke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

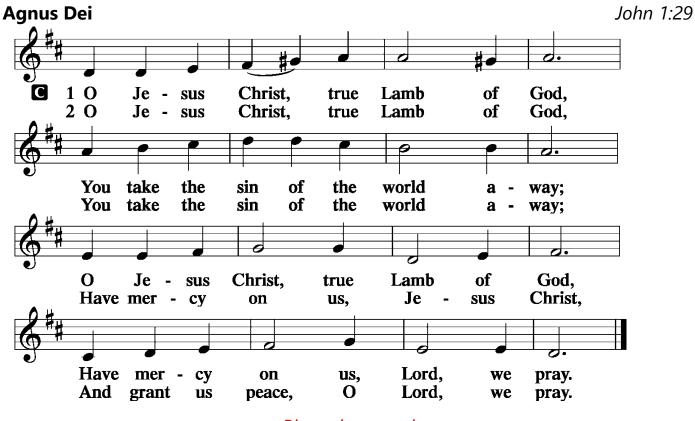
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My
→ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





Please be seated

Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at Distribution:

King of Glory, King of Peace

(Walker/Brewer)

St. John's Choir

King of glory, King of peace, I will love Thee; and that love may never cease, I will move Thee.

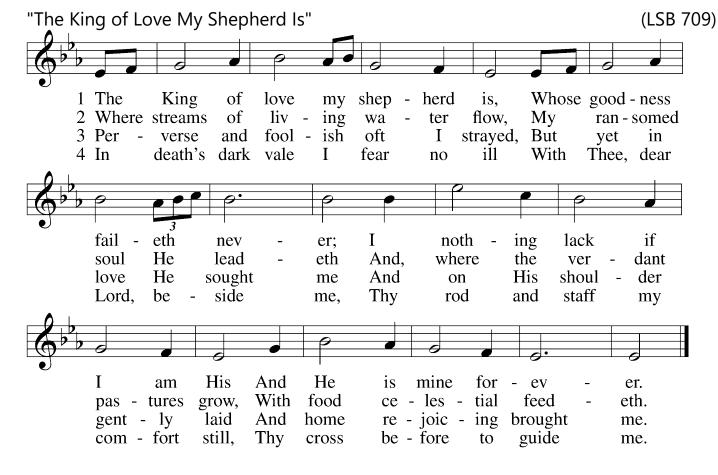
Thou hast granted my request, Thou hast heard me; Thou didst note my working breast, Thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing Thee, and the cream of all my heart I will bring Thee.

Though my sins against me cried, Thou didst clear me; and alone, when they replied, Thou didst hear me.

Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise Thee; in my heart, though not in heav'n, I can raise Thee.

Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll Thee: e'en eternity's too short to extol Thee.



And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth! And so through all the length of days 6 Thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise Within Thy house forever! Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77 Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain (LSB 641) "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" Refrain gift sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart With of fin-est wheat. You sav-ing Lord, of life to eat. Come give to us, O The bread 1 As when the shep herd calls his sheep, They know _ and sing 2 With joy - ful lips You Our praise and we to share 3 Is The blood not the cup we bless and of No 4 The mys - t'ry of Your pres - ence. Lord. mor tal 5 You give Your - self Lord: Then self -Ο less to us. heed his voice; So when You call Your That grat i tude You should count us Christ out poured? Do not one cup, one Whom world tongue can tell: all the can let be, To each oth us serve er Refrain 0. Lord. We fol re - joice. fam - 'ly, low and wor - thy, Lord, То share this heav'n - ly food. de Lord? loaf, clare Our one in the ness Comes dwell. not con - tain in hearts our to

5

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;

Thine unction grace bestoweth;

III I OUF NAME IN truth and char - i - ty. Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, Tune: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–96, Text and tune: © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia, admin. International Liturgy Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318

Dismissal



Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26 **C** Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Soon and Very Soon" (WOV 744)



[Psalm 103:1]

Postlude

+ + +

Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Welcome & Children's Message	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	Steve Tracy
Communion Lay Assistant	Jennifer Hills
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Breanna Tillman
Crucifer	Grace Rempe
Ushers	Jim Lofgren
	Mike Waring
Altar Care	Barbara Pate
AV Operators	Mark Gilbertson
	Greer Putnam
Welcome Host	Jan Swicord
Nursery	Janet Smith

+ + +

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This weekend's **altar flowers** are given by Charles & Mikki Brown fiftieth wedding anniversary

To **view** the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter,

Midweek Update,

scan this QR Code



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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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Director of Discipleship	Jennifer Hills, DCE
Director of Music	David Leahey
Office Administrator	Michelle May
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Communication Specialist	Jacqueline Fuller

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