

Word of God Lutheran Church  
Grow • Build • Serve



Our Mission:  
With God's help we are called to be a  
multi-generational traditional church, grounded in  
the Bible and focused on service in the community  
and mission outreach.

**Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 12, 2023**

**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
**November 12, 2023**  
**Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

Advent • Christmas • Epiphany • Lent • Easter • **Pentecost**  
*Please refer to the blue With One Voice Hymnal for service.*

**ENTRANCE RITE**

Announcements

Prelude

Call to worship chime

- \* Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness ..... WOV 10
- \* Entrance Hymn "**Arise, Your Light Has Come!**" ..... WOV 652
- \* Greeting ..... WOV 28
- \* Hymn of Praise ..... WOV 29
- \* The Lord be with you ..... WOV 30
- \* Prayer of the Day

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

First Reading ..... Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Psalm (*Read Responsively*) ..... Psalm 78:1-7

Second Reading ..... 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

\* Alleluia Verse ..... WOV 31

\* Gospel ..... Matthew 25:1-13

Children's Sermon

Sermon

\* Hymn of the Day "**Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God**" ..... WOV 783

*Blessing of OCC Shoeboxes*

\* Apostles' Creed ..... WOV 33

\* Prayers ..... WOV 34

\* Share the Peace ..... WOV 34

**SHARING OF THE SACRAMENTAL MEAL**

Offering ..... *Choir*

Offertory ..... WOV 35

\* Offertory Prayer ..... WOV 35

\* Great Thanksgiving ..... WOV 36

\* Holy, Holy, Holy ..... WOV 36

\* Words of Institution ..... WOV 37

\* The Lord's Prayer ..... WOV 39

"Lamb of God" ..... WOV 39

† Communion

\* Blessing ..... WOV 40

\* Canticle "Thankful Hearts" ..... WOV 40

\* Prayer, Benediction, and Dismissal ..... WOV 41

\* Closing Hymn "**At the Name of Jesus**" ..... LBW 179

\* Sending

\* Please stand as able

† All who are baptized and believe that Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine are invited to receive communion and assurance of God's forgiveness. *Children who have not been instructed in the sacrament should fold their hands to receive a blessing.*

**NOTE:** Page numbers are in the front of the hymnal, followed by the Hymn numbers. *LBW* is the green *Lutheran Book of Worship*. *WOV* is the blue *With One Voice Hymnal*.

## **Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25**

24 Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel. And they presented themselves before God. <sup>2</sup> And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Long ago, your fathers lived beyond the Euphrates, Terah, the father of Abraham and of Nahor; and they served other gods. <sup>3</sup> Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan, and made his offspring many. <sup>14</sup> "Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." <sup>16</sup> Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods, <sup>17</sup> for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our fathers up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight and preserved us in all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed. <sup>18</sup> And the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." <sup>19</sup> But Joshua said to the people, "You are not able to serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. <sup>20</sup> If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good." <sup>21</sup> And the people said to Joshua, "No, but we will serve the Lord." <sup>22</sup> Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." <sup>23</sup> He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your heart to the Lord, the God of Israel." <sup>24</sup> And the people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and his voice we will obey." <sup>25</sup> So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and put in place statutes and rules for them at Shechem.

## **Psalms 78:1-7**

78 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

**<sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth in a parable;  
I will utter dark sayings from of old,**

<sup>3</sup> things that we have heard and known,  
that our fathers have told us.

**<sup>4</sup> We will not hide them from their children,  
but tell to the coming generation  
the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might,  
and the wonders that he has done.**

<sup>5</sup> He established a testimony in Jacob  
and appointed a law in Israel,  
which he commanded our fathers  
to teach to their children,

**<sup>6</sup> that the next generation might know them,  
the children yet unborn,  
and arise and tell them to their children,**

<sup>7</sup> so that they should set their hope in God  
and not forget the works of God,  
but keep his commandments.

### **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**† † † † †**

### **Matthew 25:1-13**

<sup>25</sup> "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup> but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup> But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup> And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup> But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup> Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you are physically unable to come to the altar, **communion** will be brought to you at your seat. Please let your usher know so he /she can tell the Pastor where you are seated.
- **Service Committee nominations** are now open for **2** members. Please place your nominations in the white box located in the narthex.
- *Mark your calendars*, volunteers are needed to help assemble the **Real Life Center Christmas Dinner Bags** following service on Sunday, December 10. Many hands make light work!
- **Hanging of the Greens** on Saturday, December 2, at 2 pm. All are invited to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. The Fellowship Team will provide light refreshments. Hope to see you there!
- **Children's Christmas Craft Party** Saturday, December 2, at 11:00 AM in the fellowship hall. Please RSVP on the bulletin tear-off to Karyn Cummins at [karyncummins@hotmail.com](mailto:karyncummins@hotmail.com).
- **Midweek Advent services** begin Wednesday, December 6, at 7:00 PM. A soup supper will be held before service at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall.
- Please join us for the **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** on Sunday, December 24 at 6:00 PM. WoG's **Nativity of Our Lord Service** is at 10:15 AM on Monday, December 25.
- Our next **RLC Warehouse** service opportunity is Wednesday, December 13, at 9:00 AM, and the **RLC Mobile Food Pantry** will be Thursday, December 14, at 9:00 AM. Please sign up on the bulletin tear-off or contact Sue Burnett at [suegburnett@att.net](mailto:suegburnett@att.net) for more information.
- The next **Midwest Food Bank** distribution will be Tuesday, November 14 (8 AM - 12 PM & 6 PM - 8 PM); Wednesday, November 15 (8 PM AM - 1:30 PM); and Thursday, November 16 (8 AM - 12 PM). Lunch is provided each day to all volunteers. Contact Joe Bowler at [ltcbowler@gmail.com](mailto:ltcbowler@gmail.com) or sign up on the bulletin tear-off.
- *Unless otherwise indicated, the **weekly announcement submission** deadline for the Sunday bulletin is the previous **Monday** at 11:00 AM. Please send all announcements to [woglutheran@gmail.com](mailto:woglutheran@gmail.com).*

### October 2023 Report

All donations will be applied to the General, Building, Scholarship, or Fish STIX funds.

Average Weekly Worship Attendance: 153

Monthly Giving: \$38,719

Monthly Benevolence: \$3,8712

Interested in giving online?

Visit [http://woglutheran.org/online\\_giving](http://woglutheran.org/online_giving)

**Upcoming Events**  
**Please Mark Your Calendars!**

- Sunday, November 12**
- *OCC Shoeboxes Collected*
  - **Sunday School, 9:00 AM**
  - **Choir Practice, 9:25 AM**
  - **Worship Service, 10:15 AM**
  - **Discovery Class Brunch, 11:30 AM**
  - **Children's Choir, 11:30 AM**
  - **Worship & Music Team Meeting, 11:45 AM**
- Monday, November 14** - **Midwest Food Bank Distribution, 8:00 AM**
- Wednesday, November 15** - **Midwest Food Bank Distribution, 8:00 AM**
- Thursday, November 16**
- **Midwest Food Bank Distribution, 8:00 AM**
  - **Assemble Bulletins, 1:00 AM**
  - **Fish STIX, 7:00 PM**
  - **Service Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM**
- Sunday, November 19**
- *Children's Sunday School Combined, 9:00 AM*
  - **Worship Service, 10:15 AM**
  - **Children's Choir, 11:30 AM**
  - **Choir Practice, 11:45 AM**
- Monday, November 20** - **Faithful Hands Ministry, 10:00 AM**
- Wednesday, November 22** - **Assemble Bulletins, 1:00 PM**
- Thursday, November 23** - *Thanksgiving, church office is closed*
- Sunday, November 26**
- *Christ the King Sunday*
  - **Sunday School, 9:00 AM**
  - **Choir Practice, 9:25 AM**
  - **Worship Service, 10:15 AM**
  - **Children's Choir, 11:30 AM**
  - **Choir Practice, 11:45 AM**
- Tuesday, November 28** - **Pathways 2 Bible Study, 6:30 PM**
- Thursday, November 30** - **Assemble Bulletins, 1:00 PM**
- Saturday, December 2**
- **Children's Christmas Craft Party, 11:00 AM**
  - **Hanging of the Greens, 2:00 PM**

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