APOSTLES LUTHERAII CHURCH

THE REVEREND JAY SERAFIN

7092 Main Street, Gloucester, VA 23061 (804) 693-9098 | apostles-elca.org | facebook.com/ApostlesELCA



22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOSTSUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024 | 10:00 AM

Our Mission is to be a Caring Inclusive Christian Community responding to God's grace through Worship, Service, and Sharing the Gospel.





WELCOME TO APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH!

It is an honor to worship God with you this morning. We pray you experience the Spirit's loving presence as we share our words, our actions, and the Holy Meal.

If this is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out a card in the pew rack with your contact info. A restroom can be found by exiting the rear door of the worship space. It is directly in front of you to the right. Additional restrooms can be found in the back corner of the fellowship area, near the Pastor's office.

RECONCILING in CHRIST

We, the people of Apostles Lutheran Church, follow Paul's message to the Galatians (3:28): "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Believing that because we are all one in Christ, and created in God's image, all are welcome as beloved children of God. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. **Rejoicing in God's amazing** diversity, we welcome people of all ages, races, gender identities, sexual orientations, and physical and mental abilities. Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down dividing walls and building a community where all are beloved.

FOR PASTORAL CARE

The Reverend Jay Serafin is our pastor. Pastor Jay's **schedule is noted in the calendar on the back of this bulletin.** Call Pastor Jay at 570-205-7506 or email him at <u>j80j84@msn.com</u> (preferred) or <u>pastor.apostles@gmail.com</u>. Messages can also be left on the Apostles answering machine 804-693-9098.

PRAYGROUND

Welcome to our youngest members! The area in the front of our sanctuary is for families and young children. There are quiet toys, books and drawing materials. We ask two things:

1) sit in the front pews near your children and 2) please sit with your children in the pews during the sermon. They may return immediately after. Thank you and welcome!

NAME TAGS

Please wear your nametag! Guests: please fill out and put on a name tag before worship today. Blank nametags are in the baskets located in the pews.

GATHERING

Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

PRELUDE AND SILENT PRAYER

Martin Luther said of music: "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." Please take a moment to **silence all cell phones.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please rise in body or in spirit. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of \pm Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW #358

"Great God, Your Love Has Called Us"



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

Text © 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © Oxford University Press. Used by permission.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

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

Sit

FIRST READING ISAIAH 53:4-12

This reading is from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called "servant songs." Christians are probably most familiar with this servant song. In light of Christian faith, the servant's healing ministry and redemptive suffering are understood to be fulfilled in the life and death of Christ.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.
⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.
⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.
⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.
⁹They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich.

although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

12Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Response after the First Reading
The word of the Lord.

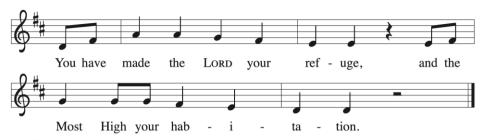
Thanks be to God.

PSALM PSALM 91:9-16



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

- ⁹Because you have made the ¹ Lord your refuge, and the Most High your ¹ habitation,
- ¹⁰no evil | will befall you, nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.
- ¹¹For God will give the angels charge [|] over you, to guard you in [|] all your ways.
- ¹²Upon their hands they will | bear you up, lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone. R



Psalm 91:9 Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

- ¹³You will tread upon the lion ¹ cub and viper; you will trample down the lion ¹ and the serpent.
- ¹⁴I will deliver those who | cling to me;
 I will uphold them, because they | know my name.
- ¹⁵They will call me, and I will ¹ answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and ¹ honor them.
- ¹⁶With long life will I | satisfy them, and show them | my salvation. R

SECOND READING HEBREWS 5:1-10

Using imagery from scripture and from Jewish worship practices, Jesus is presented as the great high priest who was obedient to God's saving plan. Through his suffering and death he has become the source of eternal salvation.

¹Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. ⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son,

today I have begotten you";

⁶as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever,

according to the order of Melchizedek."

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Response after the Second Reading
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or in spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





The gospel is announced.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark the Tenth Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL MARK 10:35-45

On the way to Jerusalem the disciples ask Jesus to grant them seats of honor. Jesus responds by announcing that he and his followers will "rule" through self-giving service.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

The gospel concludes:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON JANET GOMEZ

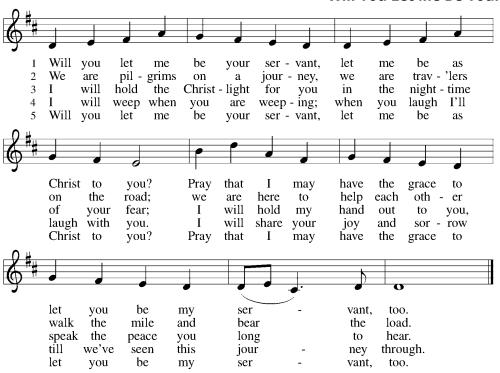
Silence is kept after the reflection.

Please rise in body or in spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 659

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"



Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard

Text and music © 1977 Scripture In Song (c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music)/ASCAP, c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Coady Road, Mobile AL 36695.

APOSTLES CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the 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 power of 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

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share a sign of Peace with our neighbors saying **Peace be with you** to which we respond **And also with you**. Please know that it is fine if you do not want to shake hands but would rather just share a sign of peace.

Sit

Offering

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Servant Song"

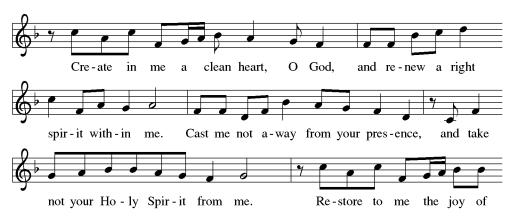
An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. To give online:

- + Visit apostles-elca.org/contributions
- + From your mobile phone, text the word GIVE to 844-215-5453

Please rise in body or in spirit

OFFERTORY HYMN

ELW #186





Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music @ 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sit

RECOGNITION OF MINISTRIES

Dear friends: United with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are joined in God's mission for the life of the world. We are called to that mission in our daily lives and in the ministries we share as the church of God.

Today it is our privilege to recognize and support those who are engaged in the work of this congregation, especially those in all our various ministries.

Let us pray. O God of mercy, your Son washed the feet of his disciples and commanded us to love one another as he loves us. Bless those who carry out ministries in word and deed. Send us all forth with the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please rise in body or in spirit

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission back into the world.

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 \oplus give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW #538

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"



Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP LEADERS

	Serving Today	Serving Next Week
Worship Leader	Pete Liljeberg	Pastor Jay
Preacher	Janet Gomez	Pastor Jay
Lay Assisting Minister		David Leunig
Lector	Sue Turner	Judy Wright
Acolyte	Reagan Jay	Chase Ambrose
Accompanist	Janet Gomez	Janet Gomez
Altar Care		Janet Gomez
Choir Director	Sue Turner	Sue Turner
Communion Bread		Donna Ambrose
Greeter/Usher	Betsy Liljeberg	Judy Wright
Technology	Chris Hawkins	Doug Dalager

SERVANTS FOR THE WEEK

	Serving This Week	Serving Next Week
Cleaning Team	Liljebergs	Scholz/Ambrose
Tellers	Linda Hodges/Betsy Liljeberg	Ben Grimes/Don Garfield
Fellowship Set Up	Ray Scholz	Jennie Hawkins
Fellowship Food		Judy Wright/Alberts
Fellowship Clean Up	Badgers	Scholzs

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

I will write my law in their hearts, says the LORD

Psalm 46

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Justified by God's grace as a gift

Gospel: John 8:31-36

Jesus says, Continue in my word and you will know the truth

LUTHER'S LEGACY FOR LAITY

The study of "Luther's Legacy for Laity" will be held this **Wednesday**, **October 23rd** – we have a sandwich at 6:00 PM and the study starts at 6:30 PM – we would LOVE to have you join us!!

APOSTLES LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Today we gather on the original and ancestral homelands of the Pamunkey, Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Rappahannock, and Nansemond peoples and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE LUTHERAN IN A CRUCIAL ELECTION YEAR?

The **United Lutheran Seminary Kindling Faith** initiative, in collaboration with the Churchwide office of the ELCA, is presenting a series of webinars between now and election day in the fall. As our faith informs our day-to-day lives, Lutherans recognize that "faith is active in love [and] love calls for justice in relationships and structures of society" (ELCA, Social Statement on Church in Society, 1991). We also know the church is called to be a community that prays, deliberates, and acts together when it comes to complex social issues. In this election year, how might our Lutheran faith shape our thinking, acting, and voting on major issues? Join us to learn and ponder timely social teachings of the ELCA and to learn tips for leading discussions in your own community. The last webinar will be Tuesday, October 22nd —watch your e-mail for details.

INDIGENOUS THOUGHT AND THEOLOGY - THURSDAY!!

Please join the Reconciling in Christ this Thursday, October 24th, for **Indigenous Thought and Theology** – we will be viewing a presentation from Vince Blackfox of the ELCA's Truth in Healing Movement – Vince will introduce participants to the wisdom of our Indigenous siblings and examine Indigenous ways of understanding, respecting and interacting with this wondrous world we inhabit. It will start at 3:00 PM – we will have a soup and bread supper after the presentation.

THOUGHTS FOR TODAY SHARING IN YOUR GLORY: SUCCESS OR SERVICE?

"Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." Like James and John, we too are guick to assume that following Christ leads to success, power, and glory. Like James and John we ask for what we know and think we want—and we know that this world rewards success, power, and glory with even more of the same, and we want it! Yet Jesus turns our lust for success, power, and glory on its head: "Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all." This servant leadership that finds power in self-giving is to be a hallmark of Christian community. For this servant-leadership is both modeled on and empowered by the living Jesus himself. His greatness is exactly in his humility, his strength is in his weakness, and his whole life is given a ransom for our sake. Indeed, Isaiah reminds us that "The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous." Those who end up sitting at his right and left hand in his glory will not be the privileged and powerful, or even the disciples, who shrink back from sharing in his cup of suffering. Those at his right and left hand will be condemned criminals, crucified alongside him as he offers himself as a ransom for many. Likewise, those who will be great among us will be servants, finding Christ's strength in their weakness and giving of themselves fully, following their Lord through failure, weakness, and shame into true and eternal glory.

CURRENT EVENT

God judges political leadership consistently according to this standard: that care was given to the poor, the stranger, the prisoner, the hungry, and those who have lost identity and means of support (in scripture that's frequently widows and orphans). As those who live in the United States enter the days before a national election, let us pray for, advocate for, and publicly support candidates who clearly articulate how their platform matches God's vision—whether they invoke God's name or not.

COMMEMORATIONS

"The saints are to be remembered so that we may strengthen our faith when we see how they experienced grace and how they were helped by faith."

- On October 23rd, we remember **James of Jerusalem**, a martyr who died around 62. One of three early-church leaders named James, this man is identified in the New Testament and by a historian of the time as a brother of Jesus. Scholars are uncertain whether this means a blood brother. He was a leader of the church in Jerusalem.
- On October 26th, we remember **Philipp Nicolai** who died in 1608, **Johann Heermann** who died in 1647 and **Paul Gerhardt** who died in 1676. These great hymnwriters all worked in seventeenth-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying." Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

TODAY IS WORLD HUNGER SUNDAY

We receive a special offering for world hunger on the third Sunday of every month – please remember your offering today!! **Until all are fed ...**

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

The outdoor part of God's Work, Our Hands will be this **Saturday**, **October 26**th – we will meet at the church at **9:00 AM** and conclude by **1:00 PM** – lunch will be provided.

THANK YOU TO...

Vanessa Fry for playing the flute for our service today!!

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Manning Freeman, Don Garfield, Ellen Quirk, Michael Schlemmer, Keith & Juanita Sturdy, George Thomas, Jewel Thomas, Lena Woodlief

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Patricia Armentor, Paul Bauer, Darlene Bayline, Karen Bell (Pam Moore's sister), Bob and Dixie, Calli Bonfey, Patricia Boyd & Brad Zelmer, Amanda Brown, David Brown, Sally Burkholder, Amy Carter, the Clements family, Laura Clodfelter, Jackie Collier, Ben Davis (friend of Donna Ambrose), Tommy & Kathie Davis, Jenny DeSha, Colton Elliot (Michael Schlemmer's cousin), Emily, Laura Fleige (Janet Gomez's sister), Teresa Floersheim-Miller (Ingrid Peterson's mother), Suzanne Gibson, Steven Godwin (Juanita Sturdy's grandson), **limmy & Fay Gray** (Chris Hawkins' family), **Bill Grimes, Shirley Grimes** (Ben Grimes' mother), Karen Guire, Mike Hall, Melvin Hawkins (Chris Hawkins' father), Chaneice Hayden (Daniel Hayden), Rosie Heins, Sherry Helpap, Carl & Kaleb Hess, Adam Hewko (nephew of the Hansons), Aris Hibbs (friend of Ray Scholz), Spencer Hodges, Suzanne Kinkade (friend of Ellen Quirk), the Little Family, Marion Lucier, Manuel, Lotte Mathias, Wayne Mathews, Michael, Sylvia Midgette (grandmother of Krystle McMahan), Debbie Minteins, Keith Morgan, Michael Oesterling, Carol Pascale (Lynn Jaeger's mother), Chastity Perkins (co-worker and friend of Donna Ambrose), Brad Person (Lilly Frost's uncle), Dick Peterson & his brother, Monique Raposa, Joan Ritter, Glen Robertson, Carol Schlemmer, James Schollian (friend of Nancy Wagner), Michael Scholz (nephew of Ray Scholz), Scott, Erin Seamonson (Lara Jaeger), Joseph Serafin (Pastor Jay's father), Kathy Shackleford, Elana Sierson, Fred Smith, Tammy Smith, Jean Sterling, Susie, Dave Wagner (husband of Nancy), Cathy Walker (friend of Linda Hodges), Chuck Webb (Tina Britt's father), Makenzie Webb (niece of Tina Britt), Elizabeth & Steven White, Cory Woodlief, Jim Wright (Judy Wright's husband), Logan and Shannon Wymer, Greg Yvonovich (friend of Margaret & Ben Grimes), Derek **Zwiers** (friend of CK Ambrose)

OUR SPONSORED CHILDREN IN GUATEMALA

Amayra, Hugolino and Manuela

PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a book located at the rear of the worship space for you to write any prayer requests you have for today. Fill out a "Prayer Request" (on the back of each pew) and place it in the offering plate to add a prayer request to the "Prayer List" included in the bulletin and the newsletter. **Please print legibly!**

THIS WEEK AT APOSTLES OCTOBER 20, 2024 - OCTOBER 27, 2024

TODAY	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service - World Hunger Coffee Fellowship
MONDAY	4:00 PM - 8:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Pastor Jay in the office Congregation Council AA
TUESDAY	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Election Webinar Al-Anon/AA
WEDNESDAY	4:00 PM - 8:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM	Pastor Jay in the office Worship Ministry Team Luther's Legacy for Laity
THURSDAY	3:00 PM	Indigenous Thought and Theology
FRIDAY		Girls Scouts
SATURDAY	9:00 AM	God's Work, Our Hands
	6:30 PM	Young and Sober
SUNDAY	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service Coffee Fellowship

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ...

Sarah Anby – October 22nd | Lilly Frost and Michael Schlemmer – October 23rd

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...

George and Jewel Thomas - October 21st

The liturgical texts and music are from Sundays and Seasons (sundaysandseasons.com) copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB149450. Hymnody made available through One License Annual License with Podcasting Renewal A-717259. Used by permission. All rights reserved.