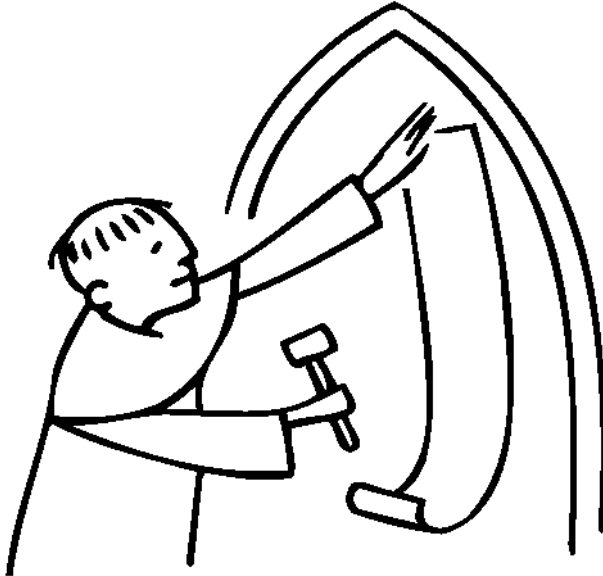




REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 26, 2025



Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

308 Market St. / PO Box 246, New Berlin, PA 17855
www.newberlinlutherans.com | 570-966-2815

Beverly Hoffman, Synod Approved Minister

Please contact Beverly Hoffman for all pastoral needs.

1-570-428-4876 | bevhoff@ptd.net

Christine Rowe, Parish Secretary

christinerowe@newberlinlutherans.com

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

WE'RE GLAD THAT YOU ARE HERE!

Navigating Worship

Congregational responses are written in bold.

** indicates to stand as you are able*

AED Available Downstairs

In case of an emergency, an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is located in the stair tower on the first floor.

Nursery

The nursery is available downstairs—please wipe down toys used.

Streaming Video

We extend our worship from our building into our community on Facebook, and YouTube. The front two pews and chancel are visible on the video.

Today's Worship Leaders:

Presiding:	Beverly Hoffman
Greeter/s:	Deb Wetzel
Lector:	Kathleen Ferster
Acolytes:	Audrey Resseguie
Cantor/s:	Ronald and Frances Blatchley
Music Dir:	Frank Shue
Video Operator:	Kay Trick
Communion Set Up:	Kathleen Ferster
Communion Baker:	Kathleen Ferster
Altar Flowers:	

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WELCOME AND WORSHIP NOTES

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

*GATHERING SONG

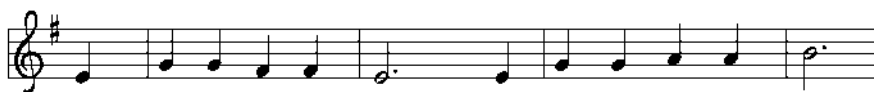
504

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

*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.



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.

2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.

3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re-ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
"Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



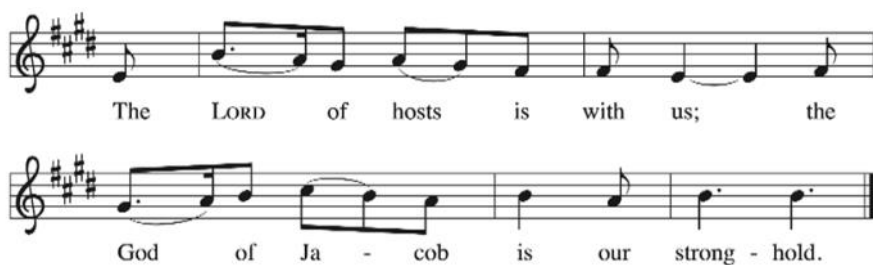
FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

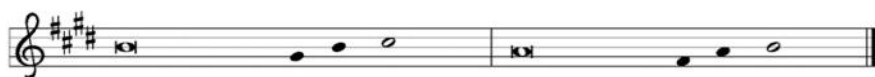
³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was married to them, says the LORD. ³³ 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. ³⁴ 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
Thanks be to God.

Refrain (sung twice at the beginning and once at the end)



Psalm Tone



- ¹ God is our ref-^luge and strength,
a very present^l help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the^l earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths^l of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters^l rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble^l with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-^ly of God,
the holy habitation of^l the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall^l not be shaken;
God shall help it at the^l break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the^l kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth^l melts away.**
- ⁷ The LORD of^l hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob^l is our stronghold.
- ⁸ **Come now, regard the works^l of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up-^l on the earth;**
- ⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in^l all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the^l
shields with fire.
- ¹⁰ **"Be still, then, and know that^l I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted^l in the
earth."**
- ¹¹ The LORD of^l hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob^l is our stronghold. **R (Repeat Refrain)**

¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ 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.

²¹ But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by God’s grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ 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; ²⁶ it was to prove at the present time that God is righteous and that God justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

***GOSPEL**

JOHN 8: 31-36

The holy gospel according to St. John
Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Judeans who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³ 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'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ "So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children make their way up to the front when called

HOMILY

BEVERLY HOFFMAN

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

729

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

PRESIDING BEGINS

**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 Holy Spirit
and 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 to 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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence

Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill. Be our stronghold at all times.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints. Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*PEACE

Feel free to shake hands during Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.



MEAL



OFFERING

*An offering is collected in the plates located in the narthex and by the elevator.
You may give electronically at <http://newberlinlutherans.com/give>.*

CHANCEL CHOIR

GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING

LYRICS BY ROBERT EDWARDS. MUSIC BY ZEBULON HIGHBEN

*OFFERTORY

186

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

*OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

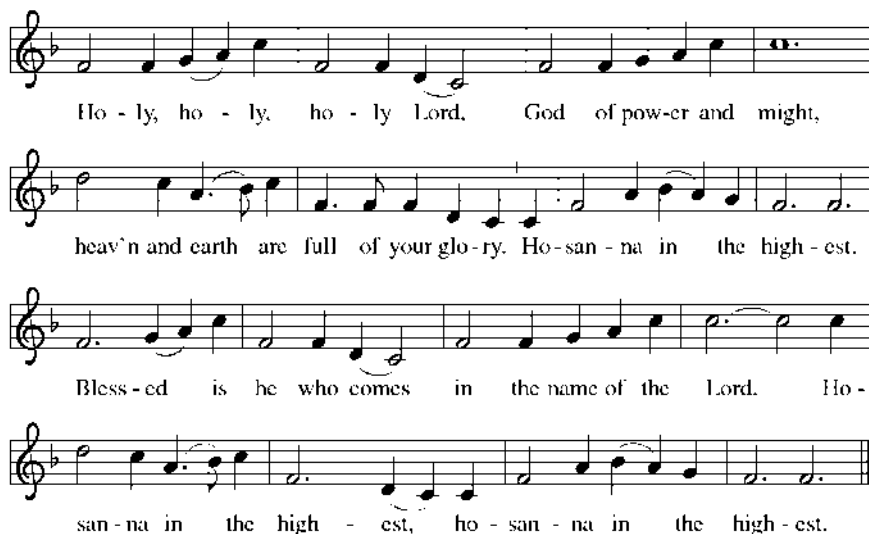
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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:



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel,
the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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 for 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.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

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

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
we are bold to pray as Jesus taught us.

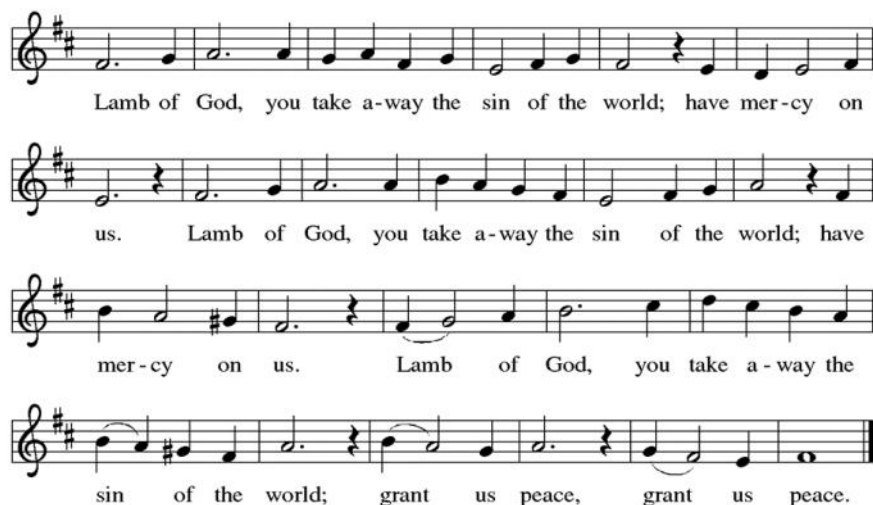
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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.**

*COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*Both sides process forward simultaneously by the center aisle.
At the front pew are empty cups for wine. The cups that are filled are grape juice.*



COMMUNION SONGS

JESUS LOVES ME

595

LET JUSTICE FLOW LIKE STREAMS

717

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us

and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**



SENDING



*BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free,
✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG

BUILT ON A ROCK

652

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

We hear "Built on a Rock" as we go forth to

LIVE GOD'S GRACE; SHARE CHRIST'S LOVE; SERVE THE LORD

All are invited for coffee, snacks, and fellowship in the parish hall.

Fellowship After The Service

*Join us for fellowship every Sunday after the Worship Service.
Today's Fellowship is hosted by Ronald and Frances Blatchley*

Nov. 2

Ginny Engel and Paul Kaler

Nov. 9

Bill and Pat Frank

Nov. 16

Clyde and Diane Walter

Poinsettia Sales

Order forms for Poinsettias to remember or honor loved ones are in the lobby and on tables in the Fellowship Hall. Orders are due no later than Wednesday, November 19! Yes, that's long before we are even able to think about Christmas, but if you fill it out **TODAY** it's one less Christmas detail you'll have to remember. Isn't your church secretary so helpful?!?!



From Mim Keister

Mim would like to thank her church family for the wonderful support she received while laid up with a broken hip. Her loving friends sent get well wishes and prayers for healing, spent time visiting her at home, uplifting her spirits, and provided wonderful dinners. It meant so much to her to receive the outpouring of your prayers, flowers, cards, dinners and loving care.

Making Giving Easy

If you are a Thrivent Member and have never applied (or haven't done so in a long while) for a Thrivent Card to benefit one of our many outreach programs, please consider doing so. This is a great way to support our outreach ministry at NO COST to you! It is one of your benefits! Either Kay Trick or Kathleen Ferster are more than happy to help you apply for a card of up to \$250 in value!





Urgent Prayer Chain

We would like to update our Urgent Prayer Chain. There are 3 ways you may choose to receive notification:

1. Phone Call (Diane Walter, 570-428-3681),
2. Email (Fran Blatchley, fblatchley@yahoo.com) and/or
3. Text Message (Kay Trick, 570-847-4500)

If you are not currently on the Urgent Prayer Chain and wish to be, please reach out to Diane, Fran or Kay and tell them how you would like to receive urgent prayer requests. If you are on the chain and wish to make a change, please contact the individuals listed to do so. We would also like to support Diane, Fran and Kay by having a backup person for each of them. Might this be a way for your hands to do God's work? If so, please reach out to Diane, Fran or Kay and let them know you are willing to cover for them in the event they are not available to send out notifications. If you or someone you know is in need of immediate prayer, you may contact any one of these individuals. They will see that all are notified.

Annual Church Meeting
Sunday, November 23, 2025
Right after the Church Service



October Donation Drive

Messiah Lutheran will be participating in a Donation Drive the whole month of October! Partnering with Community Aid through an intentional donation drive has a lot of benefits. The more we donate, the higher our ranking as a partner. A higher partnership ranking gives us greater access to grant money. All you have to do is bring your clean and gently used items to any Community Aid store in PA. and give them our partnership number when you drop off your items. Pick up a laminated card for your wallet so you never forget our partnership number. You will find these laminated cards at the church and fellowship entry ways. Put our number on each donated box or bag. This further ensures we are credited with the donation. Tell your friends and give them their own laminated card with our partnership number. **October is going by fast, so gather your gently used, unwanted items and donate this week!**

Food Pantry

Monetary Donations are always needed and welcomed!

Please remember to make your donations through Messiah so we can track our giving as a congregation. Our treasurer, Deb Boyer, will send a check to the New Berlin Food Pantry, quarterly, for our collective donations.

Would you like to help with the Pantry? We would love to have you!

We have opportunities on 3 different days throughout the month!

On the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:00 pm, bags are packed. On the 3rd Thursday of the month, starting at 9:15 am, we gather to set up the distribution and greet those in need. There is also a day in the week prior to bagging and distribution that the truck delivers items. There is a real need for at least 1 - 3 able bodied individuals to help unload the truck and stock the shelves and refrigerators. The delivery time varies, but it always takes place during the day. You would be notified in advance with the date and time of the delivery either via a text or email. If you would like more information about volunteering please contact Kathleen Ferster (570-259-1754)

And remember, purchasing Weis, Giant or L and L Gift Cards from Messiah Lutheran helps offset Food Pantry costs.

Worship Leaders for Sunday, November 2, 2025

Presiding:	Beverly Hoffman
Greeter/s:	Jean Sauers
Lector:	John Showers
Acolytes:	John Showers
Cantor/s:	Alicia Saxon
Music Dir:	Frank Shue
Video Operator:	Kay Trick
Communion Set Up:	Deb Wetzel
Communion Baker:	
Altar Flowers:	Mike and Deb Wetzel

Last Week 10/19/25

Attendance: 29

Giving: \$1303.00

Have a prayer request?

Fill out the yellow Prayer Request card and drop it in the offering plate or put it in the secretary's mailbox.

Need immediate prayers? Contact Diane Walter (570-966-0333), or Frances Blatchley (570-966-0288) to have prayers shared on the prayer chain.

Please remember to give Christine Rowe an update on the status of those on our prayer list.

Remember to fill out at least one Communion card each year.

Can't make it to church in-person?

Attend remotely on Facebook, YouTube and the phone. To listen in on the phone, call 570-989-8899.

In our prayers

Healing, wholeness, and encouragement

Long Term

Alicia Saxon, Noah Navickas, Matthew Myers, Steve Boonie,
Lori Haines, Jeffrey Ames, Oliver Auman, Aimee Erdley, Bev Fausey,
Christine Koons, Darrell O'Bryant, Robert "Butch" Hestor, Betty Reber,
Michael Callahan, Angela Golfieri, Todd Miller,
John Hollenbach, Eric Brosious, Kay Fleming, Taryn Myers,
Brantley Herman, Timothy Shomper, Jane Ohlidia, Weston Treas,
Trudy Livingston, Mick Hauck, Lark Springer, Logan Roush,
Katelyn Mattison, Tena Decker-Norman, Mary Hoover,
Laurie Thomas, John Wagner, Beth Ann Troutman,
George Hauck, Sandy Raymond, Kathy Spangler, Dianne Bailor,
Doug Aikey, Loretta Weatherill, Melissa Boonie, Adam Guzenski,
Julia Hauck, Ellie Crane, Jami and Dylan Crane, Paul Burkholder,
Sue Ulrich, Charlie Stabler, Shawna St. Claire, Stanley St. Claire,
Larry St. Claire, Daytona Wentzel, Tim Walsh, Ron Trick, Cameron Osgood,
June Bingaman, Michelle (Pam Erdley's friend), Grant Snyder,
Robert Sauers, Rick Slear, Joe Hoffman, Tommy Ward, Shaun Ray,
Joani Patterson, Randy Witmer, Nick St. Claire

Short Term

Mary Wagner, Carole Jacka, Deb Wetzel, Diane Walter, Randy Rim Fultz,
Mary Lou Shoop, Mary Agnes Hackenberg, Bryce Johnson, Mim Keister,
Ken Moyer, Maverick Resseguie

Providence and Protection for first responders and
military service men and women

Stanley Miller, Benjamin Pilko

Companionship, Prayer and Support for our Homebound

**Carol McJilton, Valda Sassaman, Julia Fetter, Mick and Mary Hauck,
Nancy Hummel, Carole Jacka**

Comfort for those who Grieve:

**For the friends and family of Gary Keister, Brian D. Bryson,
Tracy Sassaman, Carol Muchler**

This Week

Sunday, October 26

9 am Service Of Holy Communion
Fellowship
Sunday School

Mon., Oct. 28

1 pm Knit Wits

Wed., Oct. 29

11:30 am XYZ Luncheon @ Perkins, Lewisberg

6 pm Theology on Tap @ Rusty Rail

Sunday, November 2

9 am Service Of Holy Communion
Fellowship
Chancel Choir Rehearsals

READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Psalm for Monday-Wednesday is Psalm 84:8-12

Mon.	Oct. 27	1 Samuel 2:1-10	1 Peter 4:12-19
Tues.	Oct. 28	Daniel 5:1-12	1 Peter 5:1-11
Wed.	Oct. 29	Daniel 5:13-31	Matthew 21:28-32

Psalm for Thursday-Saturday is Psalm 32:1-7

Thurs.	Oct. 30	Proverbs 15:8-33	2 Corinthians 1:1-11
Fri.	Oct. 31	Job 22:21-23:17	2 Peter 1:1-11
Sat.	Nov. 1	Isaiah 1:1-9	John 8:39-47
Sunday, Nov. 2		Isaiah 1:10-18 Psalm 32:32:1-7 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10	