



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT

1285 North New Florissant Road, Florissant, Missouri 63031

Church: (314) 837-1224 School/Child Care: (314) 837-1252

www.alcs-web.com

WORSHIP: Saturday 5:30 p.m. / Sunday 9:30 a.m.

November 11-12, 2023

Welcome to Worship at Atonement

We are delighted to have you worship at Atonement today. Wherever you are on your journey of faith and life, we extend to you a warm welcome. May the Holy Spirit richly bless your worship.

We invite you to fill out the attendance form in the bulletin and hand it to the ushers when coming forward for Holy Communion. If you are a guest with us this morning, please leave some contact information so we can get in touch with you about how to connect with what's going on in this faith community.

Sound enhancement receivers for the hearing-impaired and those with hearing aids are available. Large print worship folders are also available. Please ask an usher prior to the service.

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers and refrain from flash photography.

We welcome to the Lord's Table all Baptized Christians, who commune in their home parish and who wish to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. Those with questions about the meaning of Holy Communion or who wish a private confession and absolution should contact a pastor during the week prior to communing.

Both individual cups and the chalice (common cup) are now offered to communicants. The chalice is available only for intinction (dipping the host into the wine). The darker wine in the center of the tray is non-alcoholic. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the pastor. Those desiring a blessing may fold their arms across their chests. Please also continue to practice social distancing. Be assured that all reasonable precautions are being taken to assure health and safety.

Sunday Education at Atonement

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Dismissed today after the second reading during the 9:30 a.m. service. For ages 3 through 12 years.

ADULT FORUM: No forum today.

CONGREGATION MEETING TODAY - Immediately following service. Lunch to be served after.

NEXT SUNDAY: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

24TH Sunday after Pentecost



PRELUDE: *Simple Gifts*

Tom Birchwood

+ + + **GATHERING** + + +

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation.
Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through † Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

Amen.

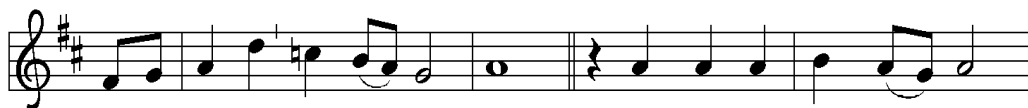
GATHERING SONG #438 *My Lord, What a Morning*

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.

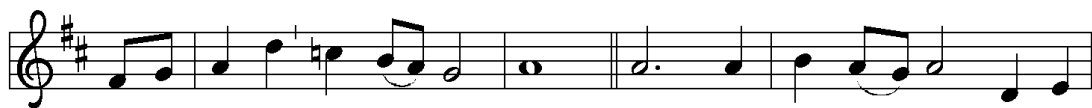
CANTICLE OF PRAISE





Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God of justice and love,
you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

+++ **WORD** +++

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

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

A reading from Amos.

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 70 *read responsively*

¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.
²**Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**
³Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.
⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the LORD!”**
⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them

to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sunday School children are dismissed for class.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord,

lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY #244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

INSTALLATION OF CALL COMMITTEE

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 Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet each other with a sign of peace, and may say “Peace be with you” or similar words. Then the assembly is seated.

+ + + MEAL + + +

MUSICAL OFFERING *We Sing the Almighty Power of God*, John Leavitt (Choir)

OFFERING SONG #695, verse 1 *As Saints of Old*

1 As saints of old their firstfruits brought
of orchard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good,
the source of bounteous yield;
so we today firstfruits would bring,
the wealth of this good land,
of farm and market, shop and home,
of mind and heart and hand.

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

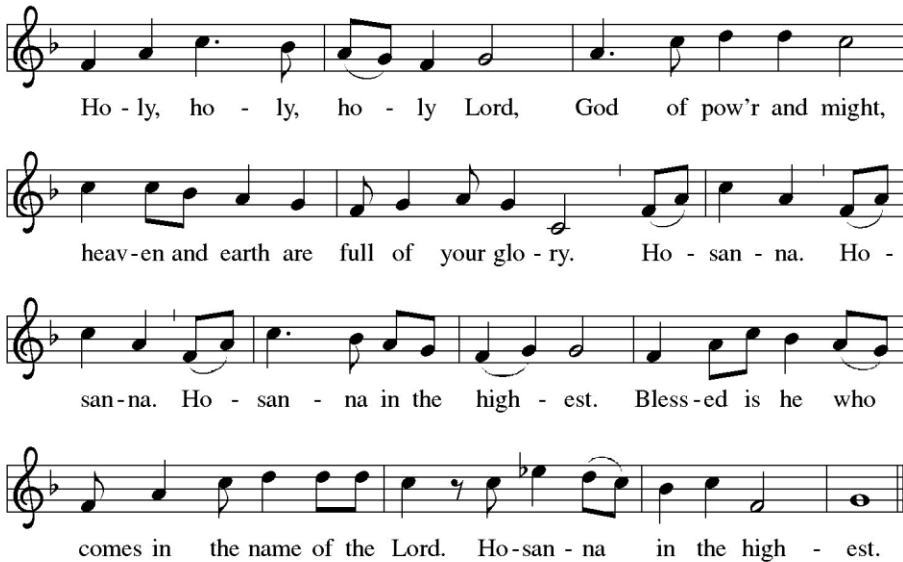
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
surrounded by evil and bordered by death
we appeal to you,
our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace
and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
the sacrifice of his life and death
and the victory of his resurrection,
we await with all the saints
his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine
and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son:
teach us your mercy and justice,
and make all things new in Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us 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.**

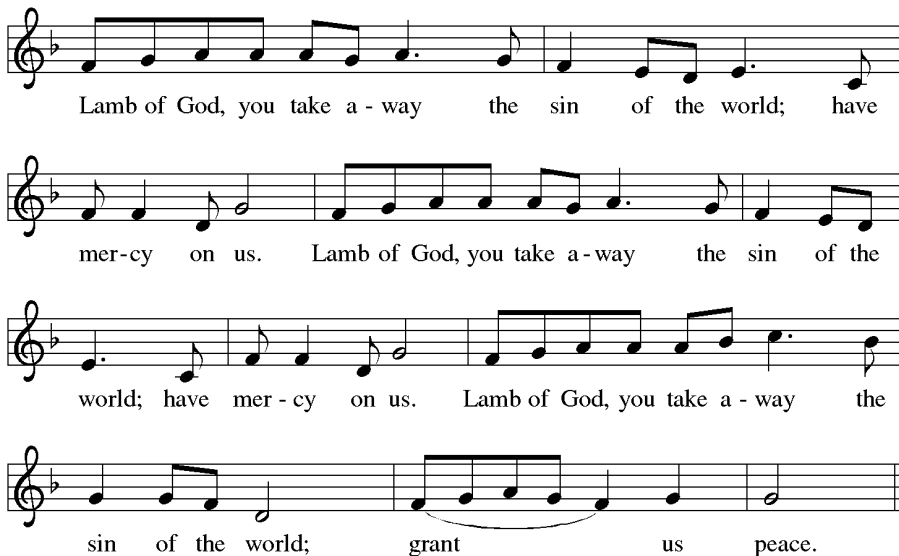
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONGS

#436 Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

#785 When Peace Like a River

The assembly stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet.

Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

+++ **SENDING** +++

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.

BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG #439 *Soon and Very Soon*

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* - Jason Payne

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding and Preaching Minister *Pastor Kendra Nolde*
Assisting Ministers.....(5:30) *Greg Viehman; (9:30) Sara Ruprecht, Don Posey*
Organists.....(5:30) *Julie Binder; (9:30) Cindy Vantine*
Altar Guild(5:30)*Jodi Laffold; (set up) Jack and Bonnie David; (clean) Jan Keppel*
Greeters(9:30) *Mary Beth and Jeff Sandcork, Melanie White*
Counters*Jodi Laffold, Julie Hammer, Lisa Moravec*
Head Ushers(5:30) *Ruth Blundell;*
(9:30) Dave Johnson, Bob Wonsidler, Marge Purgahn, John Yetter
Trustees.....(5:30) *Jodi Laffold*
(9:30) Don Posey, Dave Johnson

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Hospitalized or Ill:

Bob Benne, Ann Behrens, Mia Brown, Kristi Giblittera, LaWanda Hackney, Debbie Hinkebein, Jen Johnson, *Don Kuethe, Karen Meyer, Rachel Moore, Carol Peachee, Carol Ruppap, Elizabeth Stengel, Lyndsie Thurnau

(*indicates new addition)

Our Loved Ones/Friends:

Tina Setterlund (friend of Sharon Carter), Annette Suydam (step-mother of Rycken and Stephen Suydam), Dan Bates (friend of the Eggers)

(Names are left on the prayer list for three weeks. Please contact the church office if you would like your loved one to remain on the list)

Our chronically-ill and homebound loved ones and friends:

Janice Bailey, Estelle Beckermann, Jacki Bickel, Adeline Branahl, Nancy Marxkors, John Meyer, Vivian Meyer, Pat Montabon, Mary Ann Shelvy, Cheryl Tucker, Teri Branhof, Gus and Thelma Carlson

Reminder: Please contact the church office, Pastor Skarstad, or a Parish Nurse if you are Hospitalized. To respect everyone's privacy, please obtain permission to list friends or loved ones in the prayers.

Mission Statement - Lutheran Church of the Atonement

Responding to God's grace, the members of the Lutheran Church of the Atonement serve north St. Louis County with programs of worship, nurture, service, and pastoral care. Our highest priorities are:

- 1- Providing opportunities for Christ-centered worship, focused on Word and Sacrament
- 2 - Offering Christian Education opportunities for people of all ages
- 3 - Developing opportunities for the expression of love and faith through fellowship and service to our congregation community and to the community at large.



NOVEMBER 12, 2023 TWENTY- FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Worship that is pleasing to God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 25:1-13	A parable of the ten bridesmaids
Monday	Amos 5:18-24	What the Lord requires
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	The coming of the Lord
Wednesday	Psalms 106:1-12	A confession of Israel's sins
Thursday	Isaiah 1:10-17	Justice is needed, not sacrifices
Friday	Deuteronomy 16:18-20	Treat everyone with justice
Saturday	Psalms 70	God is wonderful
Sunday	Matthew 25:14-30	Parable of the talents

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. **Amos 5:24 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, we thank you for your call for justice and mercy that gives hope to our lives and to the generations to come through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtimes Prayer:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed; and let there be a goodly share on every table, everywhere. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who shows mercy on the poor deliver you from harm. (Psalm 70:5)



NOVEMBER 12, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Canticle of the Turning



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Why is care for those in need so important?
- What type of worship do you think pleases God? Explain.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Amos 5:18-24.

Amos' prophetic words are not addressed to those who are indifferent or have actively rejected faith in God. His message is for those who worship God. He uses words of caution filled with danger and accusation. The worshiping community becomes shaken out of complacency. What God sees and smells and hears in worship is not pleasing. Worship is offered without concern for the needs of the poor (justice) and the wellbeing of the community (righteousness). Worship that is pleasing to God includes the daily life activity of people that shows compassion and delights in healthy relationships. Worship promotes a faithful way of life that is itself a form of worship and praise to God. It is good to know that the power of God's justice is like a flood of water, a deluge, and God's righteousness is constant like a stream that never stops flowing.

Discuss: How does worship lead you to acts of compassion that serve the needs of others? *Pray:* **God of justice and mercy, may our worship life reflect your compassion for the needy and our need for strong and life-giving relationships through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others to enable them to have life-giving relationships?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Matthew 25:1-13 is the parable of the foolish bridesmaids who did not have additional oil for their lamps. The light in their lamps could not shine. They were not ready. It is important to keep the faith alive and "burning" while waiting for Christ's return. We can do this by being ready to do God's work every day. Light a candle to symbolize the light of Jesus' love shining. While the candle is burning write a list of ways you can do God's work every day.

Pray: **Dear God, be with me each day. Help me to show love, fairness, and care for others through your Son, Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

OUR CONGREGATION

Atonement is a family of professing Christians who are in ministry to serve the Lord Jesus Christ. We have been in ministry since September 30, 1951. Atonement School has begun its 69th academic year with the mission statement “Teaching children of God the skills needed for a lifetime of learning, worshipping, and caring, so that the world see Jesus in them.”

OUR AFFILIATIONS

We are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and support local ministries including Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, Humanitri, Lutheran High Schools, LuMin Campus Ministry, PAKT, and The Emergency Assistance Ministry (TEAM).

OUR TEAM

Rev. Kendra Nolde
Interim Senior Pastor
SeniorPastor@alcs-web.com, (314) 973-7531

Rev. Vern T. Skarstad
Visitation Pastor, (314) 570-0751

Bruce and Cindy Vantine
Ministers of Music

Jim Baumgartner, Worship, Too!
jimstrat@aol.com, (314) 488-6903

Cathy Mifflin
Parish Administrator, (314) 837-1224
Cathy.mifflin@alcs-web.com

Wesley Johnson
Minister of Maintenance

Kimberly Kern
Principal, (314) 837-1252

Angie Kemper
School Secretary, (314) 837-1252
Child Care (314) 837-1252

Joyce Pingel, L.P.N., (314) 740-2137
Tafra Perryman, R.N., (618) 581-1387
Parish Nurses

OUR CALENDAR

This Weekend

5:30 p.m. Saturday, Holy Communion Worship

8:15 a.m. No worship

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion Worship

Sunday School to be dismissed as usual.

10:45 a.m. Congregation Meeting, with lunch to follow

Monday, Nov. 13

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall

6:00 School Board Meeting

7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, Nov 14

Wednesday, Nov. 15

8:45 a.m. Chapel

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall

11:30 a.m. Church Staff Meeting/Lunch

Thursday, Nov. 16

9:30 a.m. Bible & Breakfast

6:00 p.m. Health Cabinet Meeting

Friday, Nov.17

Saturday, Nov. 18

9:30 a.m. Men’s Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Worship, Holy Communion

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