PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In our Hearts and Prayers: Leah Heiman, Sandy Lehne, Mike Roberts, our homebound and in senior living, our Fredericksburg community, our nation, and the military.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Charles Schroeder for the gift of his mother, Ethel Schroeder.

WELCA Thankoffering is TODAY. Please use the blue envelope provided in the bulletin. Your gifts to Women of the ELCA through Thankofferings make our advocacy work, our support of WELCA groups in congregations and synods, resources**,** grants, scholarships, and publications.

The November Special Concern is Tunnel to Towers Foundation.

An Angel Tree has been put up in the Atrium. You have an opportunity to purchase items for our homebound and in senior living members! *(Take an angel, purchase items, then drop off items in the wagon.)*

Your 2027 Offering Envelopes can be picked up from the Atrium.
(Council members, yours are in your mailboxes.)

The 2027 Altar Flower Chart has been posted in the hallway. Write your name down on the Sunday you wish to provide Altar Flowers.

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee's would like to thank the congregation for joining us for our Thanksgiving Dinner! It was such a blessing to see our members enjoying food and fellowship. We would also like to thank Susan Otto and Neal Burnham for bringing up this idea to the committee's and for our committee members working tirelessly to make it a success. We are so blessed to have such awesome members. **Thanks to ALL** those who helped washed dishes and clean up who weren't even committee members.

Thank you for your contributions of $3,461. **Attendance:** 71

ASSISTANT & LECTOR – Sandy Schmidtzinsky
USHERS – Dwayne, Karen & Emily Beyer, Roger Dittmar (Acolyte – usher)

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

TUES – Nov 17	4:30pm	Band Practice
	5:30pm	Choir Practice
WED – Nov 18	**9:00am**	**Laborers of Love – Arhelger House**
	6:00pm	**Council Mtg – Conf Rm**
THURS – Nov 19	*10:30am*	*GCMA Mtg – Conf Rm*
SAT – Nov 21	*8-12:00pm*	*Vereins Quilt Guild – Fell Hall & Kitchen*
SUN – Nov 22	9:00am	Worship with Communion
	10:00am	**Decorate Sanctuary for Advent**
	10:15am	Adult SS – Adult SS Rm & Youth SS – Fell Hall



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fredericksburg, Texas

25th Sunday after Pentecost – November 15, 2026

Video on Zion's YouTube Channel at 9:00AM

(go to www.zion-lutheran.com/youtube)

Broadcast on KNAF (910AM) at 10:30AM

Pastor – Rev. Jonathan Mollenkopf
Pianist – Sheri Robinson; Choir Director – Rhonda Behrends

426 W. Main – PO Box 1571 – Fredericksburg, TX 78624
(830) 997-2195 – www.zion-lutheran.com – email: zionfbg@gmail.com

Go Like Our Facebook Page **@ http://zion-lutheran.com/facebook**
Follow Zion on Instagram **@ http://zion-lutheran.com/instagram**
Follow Zion on X **@ http://zion-lutheran.com/x**

P=Presider **R=Responses** *Please stand, as you are able

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We exist to share the Joy of Jesus by providing multiple opportunities for all people to encounter God through diverse worship, authentic love and intentional acts of service. We Share the Joy. We Worship, Love and Serve.

GATHERING

BELLS AND WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THANKOFFERING

PRELUDE *"It Is Well with My Soul"* by Philip P. Bliss & Horatio G. Spafford; arr. Sheri Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP

A Great and Generous One, you provide abundantly.

R You alone are glorious and worthy of all praise.

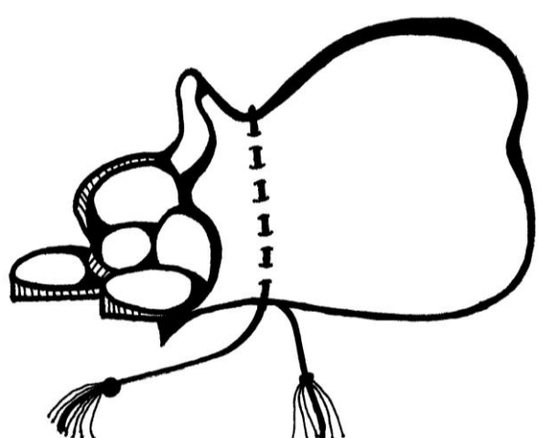
A You provide from the richness of your love far more than daily needs.

R You overflow with belonging, purpose, grace, and wholeness.

A Your saving bounty is for all. Such wonder, such blessing! Hallelujah!

R We join all creation in celebrating your eternal goodness! Hallelujah!

by Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia, http://www.revlisad.com



SENDING

*BENEDICTION

P The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

R Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** *"Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"* **HYMN NO. 890**

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
his truth is marching on.

Refrain:
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat.
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. ***Refrain***

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
while God is marching on. ***Refrain***

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Encourage one another.

R Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"In My Heart There Rings a Melody" by Elton M. Roth

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HYMN *"Jesus Shall Reign"* (vs.1-4) **HYMN NO. 434**

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

"Come Unto Jesus" by Dallas Holm

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

R Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN** *"We Praise You, O God"* **HYMN NO. 870**

We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

R Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

R we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

R Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** **HYMN NO. 167**

Refrain: Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy to the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God.** ***Refrain***

**Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever.** ***Refrain***

**For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God; to make all things new.** ***Refrain***

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray…Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

R Amen.

***PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R And also with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Love is the Reason"* ***Judy McGookey & Greg Oehler***
by Mac Powell

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD, for the day of the LORD is at hand! The LORD has
prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests. 12 At that time I will search
Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste. Though they build
houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink
wine from them. 14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the
sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will
be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a
day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet
blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

P Send now your Holy Spirit… all glory and honor is yours, now and forever.

R Amen.

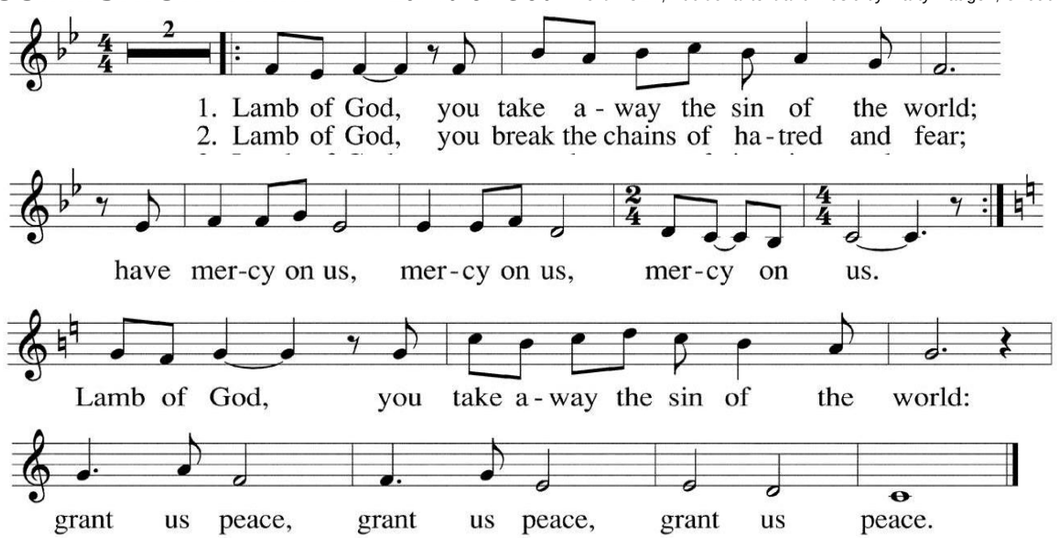
***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

R 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

***DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

All are welcome to share the body and blood of Jesus that are present in the bread and wine of communion. If you do not wish to participate, you may still come forward for a blessing. **If you desire a gluten free wafer and/or white grape juice, please hold up two fingers to the server.**

COMMUNION HYMN *"Lamb of God"* Text: ICET; Additional text and music by Marty Haugen, ©1990



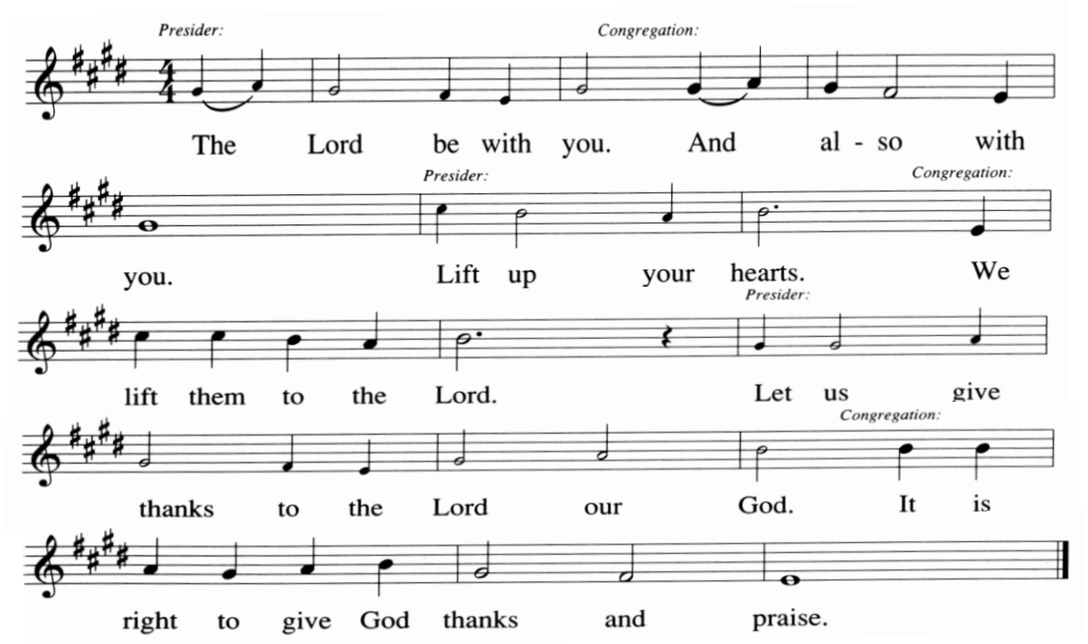
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

MEAL

OFFERING *"We Will Stand"* by James Hollihan, Russ Taff, & Tori Taff

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



P It is our duty and delight…join their unending hymn:

(Sung) **HYMN NO. 191** (Holy, Holy…)

R Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest! Text and Music: Marty Haugen, 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

P You are indeed holy… For as often as we eat from this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
(sung) Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

R *(sung)* Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

17 I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because
they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust and
their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be
consumed, for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

L The Word of the Lord.
R Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90:1-8, 12 *(Read responsively)*

L Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
R Before the mountains were brought forth
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
L You turn us back to dust and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
R For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it
is past or like a watch in the night.
L You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
R in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.
L For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed.
R You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
L So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

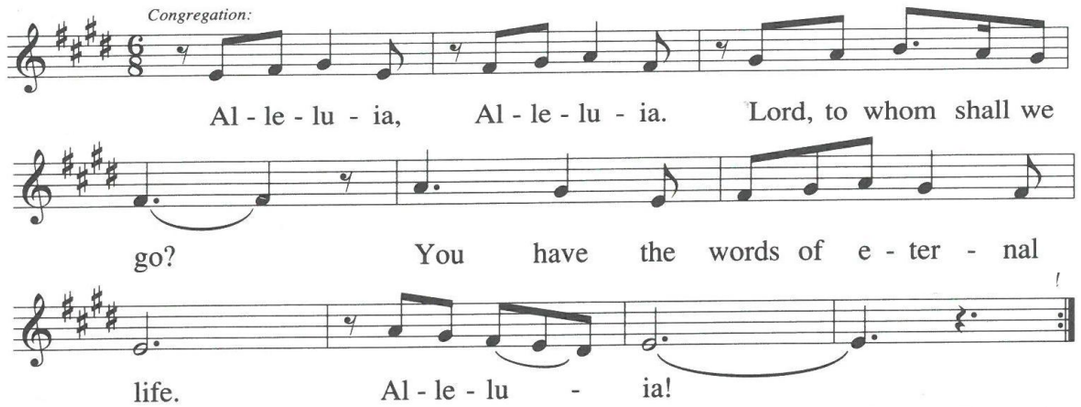
SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need
to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of
the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and
security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon
a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and sisters,
are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all
children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.
6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober,
7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.
8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith
and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for
wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us,
so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore
encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

L The word of the Lord.

R Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th Chapter.

R Glory to you, O Lord.

*GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his
property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to
each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had
received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents.
17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But
the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and
hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and
settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came
forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five
talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done,
good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you
in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the
two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents;
see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge
of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received
the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh
man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I
was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is
yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that
I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter?

27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I
would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from
him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more
will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing,
even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him
into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

P The gospel of the Lord.

R Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *"Who's Counting?"* ***Rev. Jonathan Mollenkopf***

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *"We Give Thee but Thine Own"* **HYMN NO. 686**

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

**May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us, o thee our firstfruits give.**

**The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christlike thing.**

**And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be:
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.**

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

A Let us confess our faith, the faith in which we baptize, in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

R 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 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.