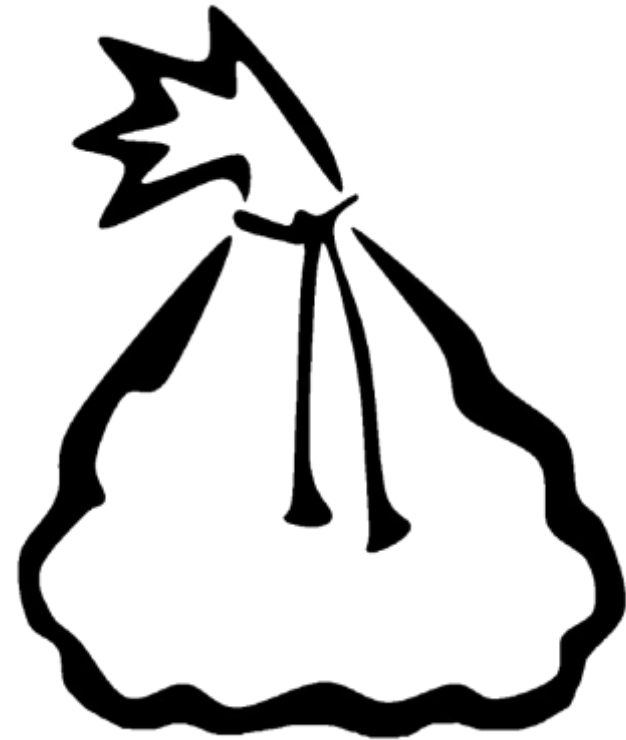


WEST PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

40041 150th Ave

Leland, Iowa



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 19, 2023

Mission: To proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to all through worship, education, outreach, and fellowship.

Communion celebrated
the 1st and 4th Sundays in November
Thanksgiving Eve Service 11/22

Please be advised, the service is livestreamed and posted on the internet.

West Prairie Lutheran Church

40041 150th Avenue, Leland, Iowa

Pastor Tony Scalisi S.T.S.

Pastor's email: prarscalisi@outlook.com

Pastor's phone: 641-529-9476

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Church phone: 641-567-3733

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost November 19, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

(*Stand as you are able)

Prelude/Enter joyously to worship the Lord
Welcome and Announcements

- *Confession & Forgiveness p. 77
- *OPENING HYMN “All Who Believe and Are Baptized” #194
- *Greeting p. 78
- *The Kyrie p. 78
- *Hymn of Praise “Glory to God in the highest...” p. 79

May the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in baptism you pour out upon us gifts of immeasurable, eternal worth — faith, salvation, and the calling to serve as your witnesses in the world. Help us to deepen our baptismal life, walking wet daily and responding with abandon to your gracious gifts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

- FIRST READING **Zephaniah 1:7-16**
- PSALMS **Psalm 90:1-12**
- SECOND READING **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

- *Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” p. 83
- “Glory to you, O Lord” p. 83
- *HOLY GOSPEL **Matthew 25:14-30**
- “Praise to you, O Christ” p. 83

- PULPIT HYMN “Come, Thou Almighty King” #522

Children’s Message
Sermon

Pastor Tony Scalisi

HYMN OF THE DAY “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” #198

*Confession of Faith Apostles’ Creed p. 85

*Prayers

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

*The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Sharing the Peace.

The Offering

- *The Offertory “Create in me...” p. 75
- *Offertory Prayer p. 87

- *The Lord’s Prayer p. 91

- *The Blessing p. 95

*SENDING HYMN “How Great Thou Art” #532

Go in peace, serve the Lord

Thanks be to God

Postlude

†	†	†	†	†	†	†
PIANIST:						Nancy Scalisi
LECTOR:						Julie Reimann

~ Pastor Tony is available for visitations and prayer requests. ~

~ Please call or email with your request. ~

The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew the 25th Chapter.

¹⁴ "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.' ²¹ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' ²² "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.' ²³ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' ²⁴ "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' ²⁶ "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. ²⁸ "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost November 19, 2023

The first lesson is from the 1st Chapter of Zephaniah

⁷ Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near. The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. ⁸ "On the day of the LORD's sacrifice I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all those clad in foreign clothes. ⁹ On that day I will punish all who avoid stepping on the threshold, who fill the temple of their gods with violence and deceit. ¹⁰ "On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will go up from the Fish Gate, wailing from the New Quarter, and a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹ Wail, you who live in the market district; all your merchants will be wiped out, all who trade with silver will be destroyed. ¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The LORD will do nothing, either good or bad.' ¹³ Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. Though they build houses, they will not live in them; though they plant vineyards, they will not drink the wine." ¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near—near and coming quickly. The cry on the day of the LORD is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry. ¹⁵ That day will be a day of wrath—a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness—¹⁶ a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let us pray Psalm 90 (read responsively)

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

² **Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

³ You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."

⁴ **A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.**

⁵ Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—they are like the new grass of the morning:

⁶ **In the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered.**

⁷ We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation.

⁸ **You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

⁹ All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan.

¹⁰ **Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.**

¹¹ If only we knew the power of your anger! Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.

¹² **Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

Amen.

The second lesson is found in the 5th Chapter of 1 Thessalonians

5 Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

- It was suggested to consider a Lenten project that is supported by LCMC. Heifer International was suggested. A pamphlet with information has been placed in the Secretary's minutes binder.
- Cindy stepped down from the council and the church secretary position. She has found a temporary replacement to complete the month of October.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jan, seconded by Terry, motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Durby
Council Secretary

Announcements & Activities

Prayer list:

Robin Ciuffetti, Phyllis Disque, Irene Eide, Joyce Greer, Brittney Hawke, Martha Messner, Ryan Mullins (in the military), Nicholas Oppman, Allen Peterson, Jean Peterson, Jacob Reupke, and ***our sister churches in the LCMC***: St Paul Lutheran Church, Hull, IA, and Skien Lutheran Church, Sloan, IA.

Please let Pastor Tony know of any prayer requests you may have.

Immanuel Lutheran Church's, Forest City

28th Annual Thanksgiving Buffet

Thursday, Nov. 23rd 11:00 am-12:30 pm

Free will donation Proceeds to missions

Reservations, carry out, or delivery

Sign up: call 585-3152

This Week's Activities

Wed., Nov. 22, 2023	7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service with Communion
Sun., Nov. 26, 2023	9:00 am	Worship with Communion, fellowship following
	10: 30 am	Sunday School

November / December Volunteers

Fellowship: Nov. 26 – Janet & John Haugen
Dec. 3 – The Durbys
Dec. 10 – Colette Reimann

Lector: Nov.: Julie Reimann, Dec.: Lanette Branstad

Altar Flowers:

Communion Prep & Clean-up: Dave and Sandy Snider

Baptismal Anniversary: Tristyn Branstad (11/20), Tucker Branstad (11/20), Bristol Swanson (11/20), Gene Fjeld (11/21)

Bible Trivia

Complete the following phrase: "Faith, if it hath not _____, is dead. (James 2:17)

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| A. Works | C. Money |
| B. Tongues | D. Love |

Last weeks answer is The Word.

Church Council Minutes, October 2023

The West Prairie Church council met Wednesday, October 13, 2023. Attending the meeting were Julie Reimann, Jan Reimann, Cindy Sarver, Jodi Fjeld, Terry Durby, Lisa Durby, Pastor Tony, and Ryan Mullins.

The meeting was called to order and the agenda reviewed. Two items were added to the agenda: Lenten project idea and Standard Operation Procedures. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Terry, 2nd by Jan. Motion carried.

Pastor Tony led devotions from Psalms 18 verse 30. He gave an Annual Retreat report and shared copies of the LCMC convention booklet. There are 1,000 LCMC congregations showing an increase of about 60 congregations from last year. Iowa has 66 congregations. Pastor Tony encourages everyone to go to the LCMC website to register for emails and resources. Having clear By-Laws is important. The addition of using SOP, or standard operating procedures, to deal with issues not addressed in the church by-laws is recommended. Rolls, job descriptions and meeting procedures should be clarified.

Pastor Tony submitted his expenses for the Pastor's retreat. Jodi made a motion to pay back \$541.03 for the mileage to Mundelein Seminary and back. Cindy seconded the motion, motion carried. Expenses for the LCMC Annual meeting were also submitted. \$230 registration, \$533.97 hotel, round trip mileage \$498.05 totaling \$1,262.02. Cindy made a motion to reimburse the Pastor \$1,262.02 for annual meeting expenses. Jodi seconded the motion, motion carried. Pastor Tony abstained from voting on the 2 reimbursement items.

The Secretary's report was read. A motion to approve was made by Cindy, second by Jodi, motion carried.

Ryan presented the Treasurer's report. Income for September was \$4,780.66, and expenses were \$8,712.28. The mutual fund went down. Terry made a motion to approve the report, seconded by Cindy, motion carried.

- Discussion was held concerning establishing a committee to clarify the church By-Laws and develop Standard Operating Procedures.

Cindy made a motion to develop a subcommittee to clarify By Laws and put together SOPs to present to the council for the annual budget meeting. The committee will include Terry, Ryan, Pastor Tony, and a congregational member. Jodi seconded the motion, motion carried.

- Carroll has requested permission to purchase a second safety deposit box key. Cindy made the motion to spend \$25 to get a

replacement safety deposit box key. Second by Terry, motion carried. A list of the safety deposit box contents will be recorded.

- Discussion was held about the need to change signatures on the NSB accounts. A motion was made by Terry to add Ryan Mullins as signatory to the NSB accounts (checking, CD, and Visa card) and the safety deposit box. Julie Reimann will be added as a second authorized signatory to the accounts. Second by Jan, motion carried.
- Ramp materials update: Materials cost \$9,000. Concrete and equipment rental \$1,000. Additional lighting for the ramp and steps is estimated at \$300. The project will be done in stages starting with disconnecting the ramp, removing the concrete to place the drainage pipe, replacing the concrete. The new ramp will be installed after the concrete is set.
- The Issacson family would like to share a presentation during coffee. Terry will set up the necessary equipment.
- The school supplies donation made by Danya Swanson of \$396.20 was used to purchase items for elementary schools in Buffalo Center, Forest City and Lake Mills.
- Items delivered to each school included: 7- 24 count crayons, 4-10 count washable markers, 1-12 count 2 pocket plastic folders, 1-6pk scissors, 2 6-pk spiral notebooks, 4-6pk loose leaf wide ruled paper, and 1-30 count pack of glue sticks.
- The Fall dinner brought in \$1,600 plus 4 cookbook sales. Cindy submitted a receipt for reimbursement. Terry motioned to approve \$117.00 be paid to Cindy for Fall Dinner expenses. Seconded by Jodi, motion carried. Lanette also submitted a request for reimbursement for Fall Dinner expenses. A motion was made by Terry to reimburse Lanette for \$189.12 for Fall Dinner expenses. Seconded by Jan, motion carried. It was decided that the proceeds from the dinner be listed under temporarily restricted funds for now.
- A clean up day will be planned for January. Focusing on the furnace room.
- Discipleship: monthly calendars will be mailed out to inactive members.