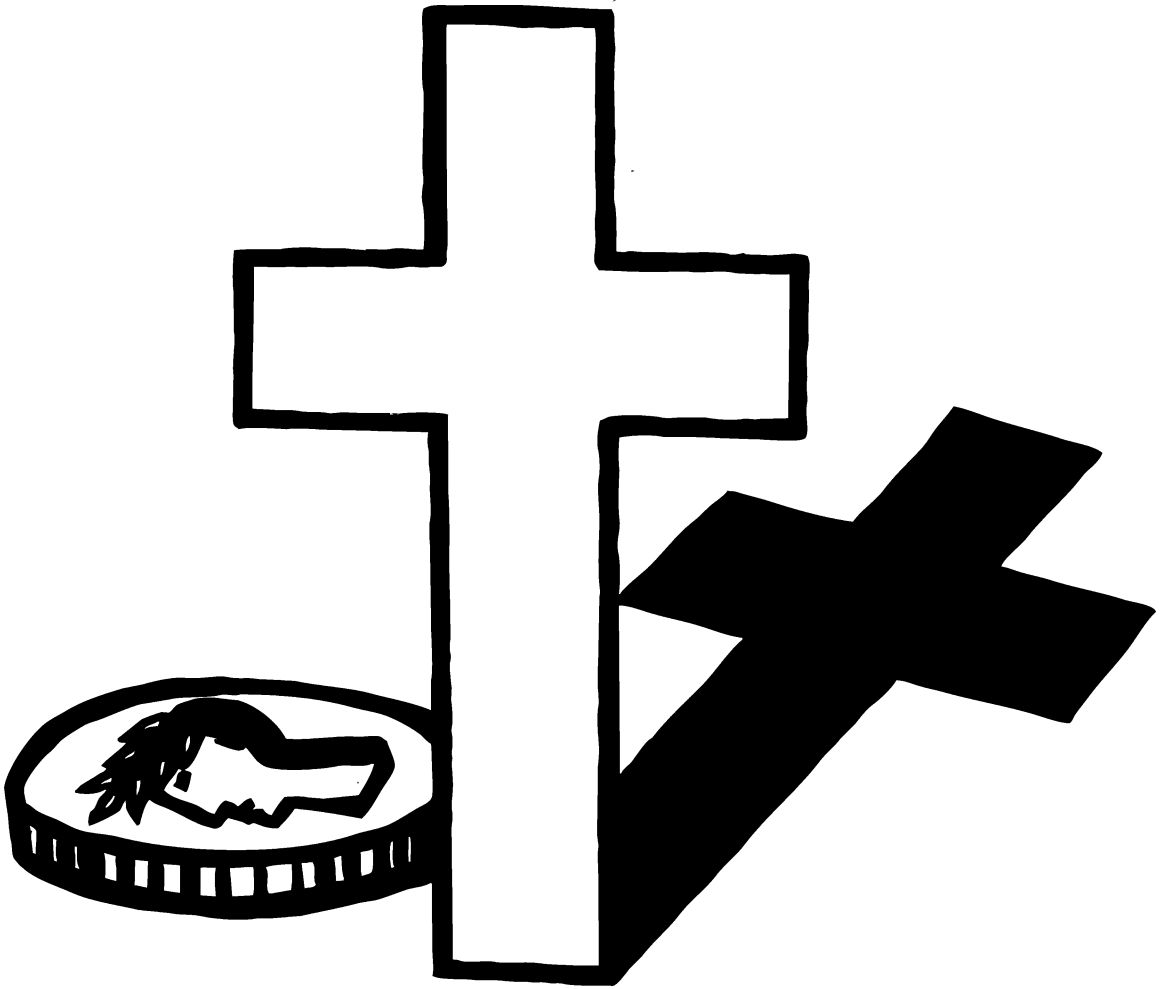


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 18, 2026



Welcome to worship today!

As a reminder our worship services are available online: Zion Website:

<http://www.zionlewistownelca.com/worship/video-services>

YouTube Channel: Zion Lutheran Church, Lewistown, MT

Zion Lutheran Church
October 18, 2026 21th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

L God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

L With joy, I proclaim to you the Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

C **Thanks be to God!**

GATHERING SONG *God Is Here!* VS 1,3,4

(ELW 526)

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

KYRIE

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - men.

Congregation:

NOW THE FEAST

Refrain

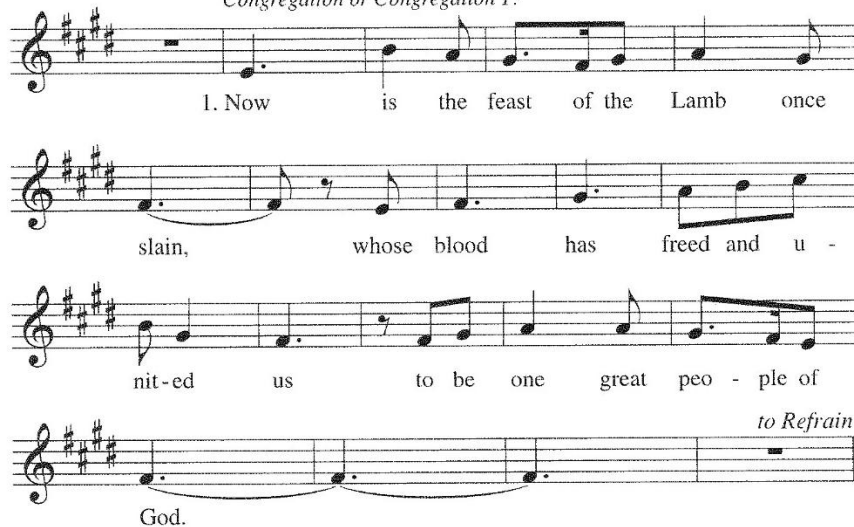
Congregation:



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:



1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

to Refrain

Verse 2

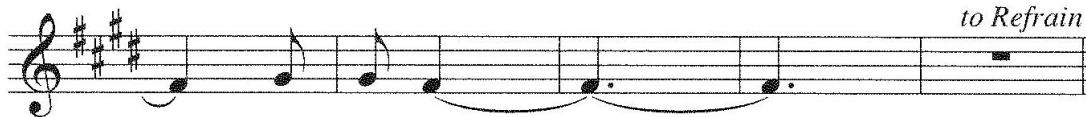
Congregation or Congregation 2:



2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and



might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ

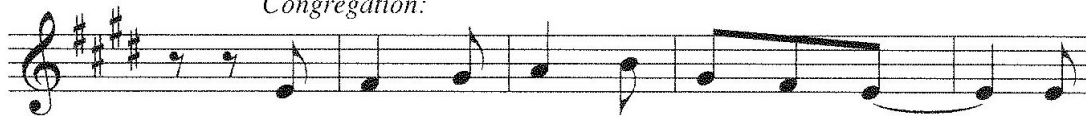


for ev - er.

to Refrain

Verse 3

Congregation:



3. For God has come to dwell with us, to



make us peo - ple of God; to make



all things new.

to Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray.

C **Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

² I will go before you
and level the mountains;

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;

³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.

⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God, word of life.
C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13] (spoken responsively)

- ¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.
- ² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**
- ³ Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.**
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.
- ⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**
- ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**
- ⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love
and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters

beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Word of God, word of life.
C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

L The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

L The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *O God of Mercy, God of Light*

(ELW 714)

RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM

ELW PG. 227

Matilda Bjorkman, parents, Thomas & Alyssa Bjorkman, sponsors Kurt & Anjeanette Carlson are invited to come forward.

PRESENTATION

L God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism.

By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsor/s: We present Matilda Bjorkman for baptism.

L Thomas & Alyssa, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Parent/s: We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

L As you bring Matilda to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that Matilda may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Matilda grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parent/s: We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

L Kurt & Anjeanette as Matilda's sponsors, do you promise to nurture her in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsor/s: We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

L People of God, do you promise to nurture Matilda in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

C We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

L I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C I renounce them.

L Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C I renounce them.

L Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C I renounce them.

Assembly is invited to stand for the profession of faith.

L Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

- L Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C **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.**
- L Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C **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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

- L The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- L We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.
- Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
- At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.
- Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life.
- To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

BAPTISM OF Matilda Bjorkman

- L Matilda Bjorkman, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

L Let us pray.
We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughter new birth, cleanse her from sin, and raise her to eternal life.

(Laying on of hands) Sustain Matilda with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

L (Anointing with oil) Matilda, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C **Amen.**

WELCOME

L Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Candle is presented)

L Let us welcome Matilda

C **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

(Response to prayers)

L Hear us, O God

C **Your mercy is great.**

L Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

L The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

Refrain

Congregation:



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

to Refrain

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L Let us pray.

C Merciful God, everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

L 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

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 6/8. 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 has a 3/8 time signature change. The third staff has a 6/8 time signature change. The fourth staff has a 6/8 time signature change. The fifth staff has a 6/8 time signature change.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

L 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L 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.

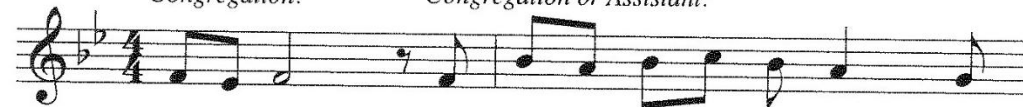
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

SONG DURING COMMUNION *I Received the Living God*

(ELW 477)

- L May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood
 strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.
- C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God,
C **that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

L May God bless and keep us.
May God's face shine on us and be gracious.
May God look on us with favor and give us peace.
C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *I'm Going on a Journey*

(ELW 446)

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

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© copyright 1990 by GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission from Onelicense.net A-725307 All rights reserved. “Meryl McKenna, a Lay Ministry Associate, has been authorized by the Bishop of the Montana Synod to provide pastoral services in this congregation this Sunday.”

Serving Us:

Lay Minister: Meryl McKenna

Pianist: Rhonda Jeide

Lector: Lynette Sallee

Communion Assistants: Anjeanette Carlson & Annette Bjelland

Ushers: Brian Sallee & Kurt Carlson

Greeter: Bob Bjelland

PowerPoint: George Maruska

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Scott, Ed, Norma D., Tia (Pam Bowen's granddaughter), Ken, Mike, Ona, Krista, Tracy, Gordon, Pam, Margie, Maureen, Mark, Wayne, Stephanie & The Family of Scott Seilstad

Please call the office if you would like to join Prayer Partners.

Social Concern for October is Farm in the Dell.

Heart of Montana Farm in the Dell is a non-profit 501c3 organization providing a life-long home in an agricultural setting for adults with developmental disabilities.

The farm will provide residential and vocational opportunities for our neighbors, our friends, and our families who are vital members in our community.

If you would like to contribute to this effort, please mark "Farm" in the memo line of your check.

Week of 10/19 – 10/25

10/19	6:00pm	Council Meeting
10/20	5:30pm	Choir Practice
10/21	12:00pm	Men Over Lunch
	3:30pm	B.L.A.S.T, Rainbow Choir & Confirmation
	4:30pm	Wee Singers
	6:00pm	Youth Bible Study
10/22	9:00am	Quilting
	12:00pm	Zoom Bible Study
10/25	9:30am	Worship
<u>Trunk or Treat after Worship</u>		

Week of 10/26 – 11/1

10/28	12:00pm	Men Over Lunch
	3:30pm	B.L.A.S.T, Rainbow Choir & Confirmation
	4:30pm	Wee Singers
	6:00pm	Youth Bible Study
10/29	9:00am	Quilting
	12:00pm	Zoom Bible Study
11/1	9:30am	Worship

Items needed for LRW School Kits and Personal Care Kits

- 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper 8 x 10 ½ size
- 30 cm rulers or centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- Blunt scissors
- Pencil sharpeners
- Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel)
- Light weight bath towel (between 20" x 40" & 52" x 27") dark color
- Adult size toothbrush in its original packaging