

INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ 25th Sunday after Pentecost • November 19th, 2023 ✠

Worship Notes: • Our Lector is Susan McArver • Our Crucifer is Ken Custer •

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: “We gather together,” from Thanksgiving Bells Medley arr. Barbara B. Kinyon

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please stand as able and face the back of the church.*
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 our brokenness before 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 Savior, 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 HYMN: ELW 693

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
ST. GEORGE’S, WINDSOR

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.**

KYRIE: ELW 157

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your
 Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.
 Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

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

Text: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, adapt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen
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NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION: ELW 167

Refrain

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!

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. *Refrain*

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

⁷Be 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. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." ¹³Their 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. ¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵That 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, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. ¹⁷I 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. ¹⁸Neither 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 90:1-8, 12



From *A HymnTune Psalter* © 1999 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

¹Lord, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.
²Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth were born,
from age to age | you are God. **R**
³You turn us back to the | dust and say,
“Turn back, O child of earth.”
⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night; **R**
⁵you sweep us away | like a dream,
we fade away suddenly | like the grass:
⁶in the morning it is | green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried | up and withered. **R**
⁷For we consume away in your displeasure;
we are afraid because | of your wrathful indignation.
⁸Our iniquities you have | set before you,
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance. **R**
¹²So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When 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! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep

at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But 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. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ACS 1035

Though the Earth Shall Change



Though the earth shall change, though the moun-tains trem-ble,



though the wa-ters rage, you, God, are here.



Though the na-tions war, though the peo-ples bat-tle,



though the em-pire fal-ters, we will not fear.

Text: Rolf Vegdahl, b. 1955, and Tom Witt, b. 1957, based on Psalm 46
Music: WE WILL NOT FEAR, Tom Witt

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GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

Please stand as able.

Before the Reading: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then 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.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And 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.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then 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 seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the

bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For 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. ³⁰As for this worthless servant, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

After the Reading: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Emily Willhide

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 679

For the Fruit of All Creation
AR HYD Y NOS

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand as able.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes “*Hear us, O God.*” We respond: “**Your mercy is great.**”

PEACE

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

MEAL

The offering plate will be passed throughout the Congregation.

ANTHEM:

“Table Prayer”

Mike Balhof

Please stand as able.

OFFERING PRAYER

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: p.129

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: ELW 191

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.

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EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

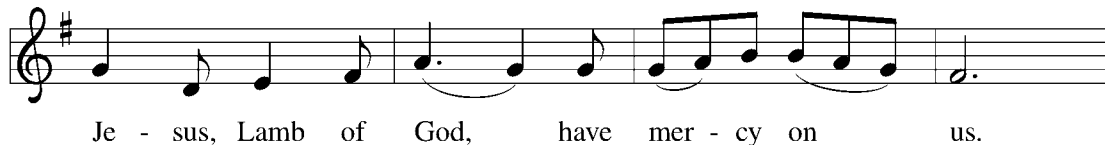
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Welcome to the table of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

COMMUNION - We invite you to join with us in the sacrament of Holy Communion, as Jesus invites us all to the table. Please take an empty communion glass from the trays at the front of the church. The innermost ring of glasses are pre-filled with grape juice for those who prefer juice to wine. There are discard trays by the side aisles. Please follow the directions of the Ushers.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW 199



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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COMMUNION HYMNS: ELW 715

Christ, Be Our Light
CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

ELW 760

O Christ the Same
RED HILL ROAD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as able.

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

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 HYMN: ELW 840

Now Thank We All Our God
NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

DISMISSAL:

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

POSTLUDE:

Awake, Awake to Love and Work

Wilbur Held

Please join us for coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall.

Dear Church *family,*
It's time for a New Directory!



*Celebrating faith.
Connecting families.
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

Directory Committee

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- **Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at church or simply go online and follow the instructions below.** If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- **Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!**
- **Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church!** You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!



*Gathering families,
Connecting generations.*



Online Scheduling Available!

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter sc291 in the Church Code field and enter photos in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time. Please contact the office if you need assistance scheduling.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult and Children's Sunday School: 9:00 am

Worship: 10:00 am

Office Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm M-F

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205 • (803) 256-2381

Prayer List

- Current Concerns: The family of Daisy Mae Davis, Jeff DeJames, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Thom Williamson, Susan Burris, Bill Behymer, Grady Lindler, Bill Lamb, Peace in all places experiencing conflict, and all homebound and caregivers.
- Continuing Concerns: Olivia Spires, Karen Howell, Debbie Sawicki, Elizabeth Johnson, Sue Anderson, Daphne Rushe, Joe DeMichael, Harry Evans, Meredith Schulz
- Military: Hilary Compton, Kim Yerrick's niece; Tyler Owens, Kim Yerrick's nephew.

Hanging of the Greens

Time to put up the Chrismon trees and prepare for Advent! Hanging of the Greens will take place Sunday, November 26th (the Sunday after Thanksgiving), following the church service. We will decorate the Chrismon trees and put out the wreaths and other greenery. We will provide a simple lunch for all - decorators are invited to eat lunch first, while another group sets up the trees in the sanctuary. Decorators will then eat, while the tree group gets their turn to eat. Come help on this festive day!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 19th:

Congregational Meeting after Worship

Tuesday, November 21st:

6:00pm Oktoberfest Board Meeting

Thursday and Friday,

November 23rd-24th:

Office Closed

Sunday, November 26th:

Hanging of the Greens

Tuesday, November 28th:

Free USC Choral Concert at 7:30

Wednesday, December 6th:

6:00 pm St. Nick's Festival and Dinner

Thursday, December 7th:

6:00 pm USC Concert

Friday, December 8th:

6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Parents Night Out

Youth Lock in at 10:00 pm

Tuesday, December 12th:

5:30 pm CDC Christmas Program

Giving to ILC

Please consider giving to Incarnation Lutheran Church's ministries and projects.



STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

NOVEMBER 19TH, 2023

GIVE THANKS TO DRAW OUR
HEARTS OUT TO GOD AND
TAKE OUR ATTENTION FROM
OURSELVES

Please see below directions to schedule your directory photos. If you have any issues, you may contact the office for scheduling. Now is a great time to send us any information you may have such as email addresses, phone numbers, and home addresses that may not be on file or are dated. We would greatly appreciate you taking the time to update and confirm your contact info.

Picture Dates:

Friday, December 15th: 2:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Saturday, December 16th: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Monday, December 18th 2:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Directions to schedule your time:

- *SCHEDULING IS ONLY OPEN ON WEEKDAYS*Go to the Universal Church Directories website (www.ucdir.com)
- Click on the box on the right side of the homepage entitled “photography appointment scheduling login”
- Enter your church code: sc291
- Enter your church password: photos
- Click on the Enter button
- Click on the desired photography date
- Click on the Reserve Time button beside the desired photography appointment time
- Enter the appropriate information in all required fields (indicated by the asterisk)
- Click on the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the photography appointment time in your family’s name
- If you have more than six family members being photographed, please reserve two appointments consecutively (such as 6:00 and 6:10)
- Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your family’s photography appointment
- Contact your church’s online scheduling administrator to change or cancel your photography appointment if needed.
- If you have any trouble scheduling, please contact the office and I am happy to do it for you.



St. Nick's Festival
Wednesday, December 6th
at 6:00 pm



**Grilled cheese, tomato
soup, and chicken
noodle soup provided!**

The poster features a red border and a central illustration of St. Nick, a bearded man in a red and white robe holding a golden staff with a spiral top. The text is bold and black, announcing the festival on Wednesday, December 6th at 6:00 pm. Below the illustration, it lists the provided food: grilled cheese, tomato soup, and chicken noodle soup.