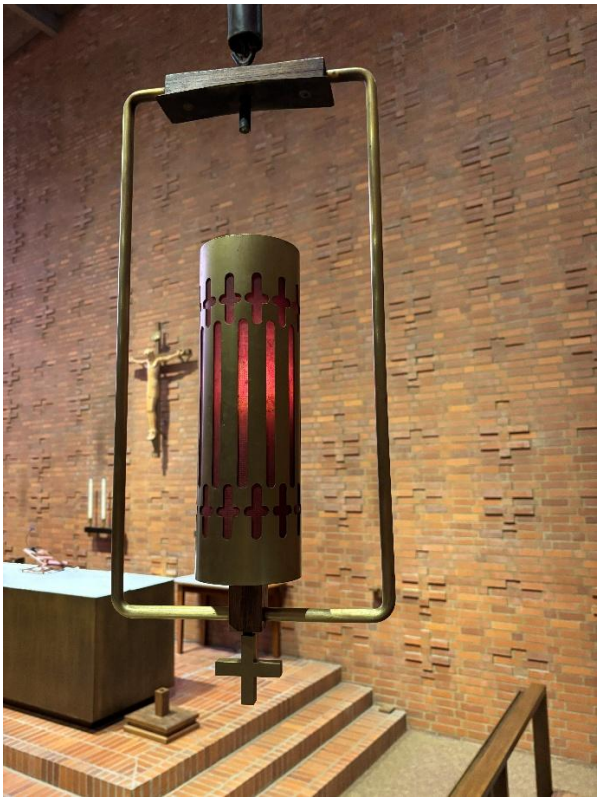
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026
8:30am & 11am Worship



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, OR 97403
www.welcometocentral.org

CENTRAL LUTHERAN'S MISSION

Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

Central Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love.

We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people, regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, economic circumstance, and we firmly commit to racial equity. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, education, fellowship, and service.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN STAFF

Pastor Laurie A Jones
pastorlaurie@welcometocentral.org
mobile: 206-354-6756

Pastor Joel Timmons
joel@welcometocentral.org
mobile: 503-747-9869

Dr. A. ElRay Stewart-Cook
Organist/Choirmaster
aesc@welcometocentral.org

Dr. Lindsey Henriksen Rodgers
Assoc. Organist/Children's Music
lindsey.henriksen@gmail.com

Vicar Robyn Quiring
Seminarian Intern, United & Central
vicar.robyn@unitedlutheran.org

Crystal Miller, Children/Youth
Minister for Central/United/Emmaus
crystal@unitedlutheran.org

Kelly Colvin-Smith
Parish Administrator
churchoffice@welcometocentral.org

Cindy Culpepper
Financial Manager
cindy@welcometocentral.org

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP The Carillon

PRELUDE Toccata VI: Da sonarsi alla Levatione - Johann Jakob Froberger

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please stand as you're able)*
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is the forgiveness of sins and the promise of new life. Receive freely this healing gift of mercy and grace. **Amen.**

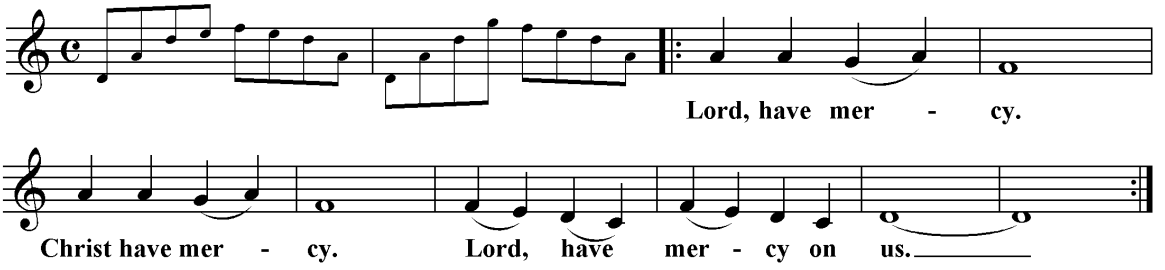
ENTRANCE HYMN #870 We Praise You, O God



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.**

KOREAN KYRIE



GLORIA



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. Amen.** *(please be seated)*

WORD

FIRST LESSON Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

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. 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." 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. 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. 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, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 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. 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. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 90:1-8 [9-11] 12



Lord, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and
the | earth were born, from age to age | you are God.
You turn us back to the | dust and say,
"Turn back, O child- | ren of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night;
you sweep them away | like a dream,
they fade away suddenly | like the grass:
in the morning it is | green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.
For we are consumed | by your anger;
we are afraid because | of your wrath.
Our iniquities you have | set before you,
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.
When you are angry, all our | days are gone;
we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.
The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength | even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly
and | we are gone.
Who regards the power | of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your | indignation?
So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.
Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit.
As it was in the begin- | ning, is now, and will be fore- | ver. Amen.

ANTHEM (8:30) *Comfort Ye, My People* Children's Choir

ANTHEM (11:00) *I Shall Not Be Moved* – Alice Parker Chorale

SECOND LESSON 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. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 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! But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL (8:30)

During the Gospel Acclamation our children are invited to join Crystal in the Chapel for a special message.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand)*



Cantors: Abide in me as I abide in you; those who abide in me bear much fruit. **Repeat antiphon.**

GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

The gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 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.' 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.' 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.' 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.' 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, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 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? 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. So take the talent from him and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

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

SERMON Pastor Laurie A. Jones

HYMN #715 Christ Be Our Light *(please stand)*



APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church throughout the ages, let us profess our Christian faith using the words of 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 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. *(please be seated)*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

When the leader says, "God, in your mercy,"
you are invited to respond, "Hear our prayer."

PEACE

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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

OFFERTORY (8:30) *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* arr. Geer
Handbell Ensemble with Victor Lawton, Clarinet

MUSICAL INTERLUDE (11:00)

OFFERING

You are invited to place your offering in the plate
as you come forward for communion.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(please stand)*
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.

PROPER PREFACE
It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and all places give our thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God… 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:

SANCTUS



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

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. *(please be seated)*

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION

LAMB OF GOD



BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Let us pray. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION *(please stand)*
The Holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always. **Amen.**

HYMN #632 O God Our Hope in Ages Past



DISMISSAL
Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

We invite you to remain seated through the voluntary; however, if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY
Transports of Joy of a Soul Before the Glory of Christ *who is his own. Let us give thanks to God the Father, who made us worthy to share in the inheritance of the Saints in the light... raised us up and made us sit in heaven, in Jesus Christ. (taken from: Paul's Epistles to the Colossians and Ephesians) – Olivier Messiaen from the* ***Ascension Suite.*** While visiting Notre Dame in Paris and other cathedrals in France, one frequently hears this style of music: Loud dissonant chords that almost smash together depicting joy and ecstasy of the Gospel. It is also manifested in their cuisine with strong pungent flavors – very French! AESC

The liturgy is adapted from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006, Augsburg Fortress, with permission to reproduce and podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license A-706755. All rights reserved.

Come one, come all. You are welcome to the table: Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner at 1pm on Thanksgiving Day at Central. Turkey and basics provided. Please bring a side dish to share. Tamara would like to know the level of interest for planning purposes. Contact Tamara (tlee_50@hotmail.com) for more info.

Join in a performance of the Lyle & Iris Jacobson Celebrity Organ Series with Caroline Robinson, Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Michigan, in celebration of the Brombaugh Organ's 50th Anniversary. Robinson performs on the Brombaugh Organ on Sunday, November 22nd, at 4pm in the Sanctuary featuring music by a variety of composers.

Feed the FISH Box located in the Narthex between now and Sunday, November 22nd, with non-perishable food items (canned meats, fruits, vegetables, cereal, etc.).

Dinner Groups are currently being formed. Consider signing up for this opportunity to get better acquainted with members and friends of Central over a shared meal. Each group is ideally made up of 8 people, with the group deciding when and how often to meet (typically monthly). Participants take turns hosting the group for a potluck dinner in your home or at a restaurant where each person pays for their own meal. And, while in past years these social groups have traditionally been called "Dinner Groups," let us know if you'd prefer to be part of a brunch or lunch group. Contact Dick Darst (dickdarst@comcast.net) or the church office to be put on the list or to find out more.

Interested in membership at Central? We will be receiving new members on Christ the King Sunday, November 22nd. To find out more please contact Pastor Laurie or Pastor Joel.

Central will host a Red Cross Blood Drive on November 24th, 10am-3pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter 'centrallutheraneugene' to schedule an appointment.

Plan to join us for *A Procession of Lessons & Carols for Advent* on December 6th at 4:30pm. This long-time Central tradition includes scripture readings and carols and features our amazing Chorale, Handbell Ensemble, Children's Choir and Junior Cantors, along with many gifted instrumentalists. Come and have your soul fed, then stay for the complimentary Soup Supper afterwards. Invite your friends!

For additional information on weekly and upcoming events visit our website welcometocentral.org.