

Reformation Sunday
October 29, 2023
8:30am Worship



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene Oregon
541-345-0395
www.welcometocentral.org

Welcome to Central!

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, or economic circumstance. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

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

A special word of welcome to our guests today: Thank you for worshipping with us. If you are a first-time or occasional visitor and would like to be added to our mailing list, or if you'd like to hear from us, we invite you to fill out the visitor information card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Also, if you wish to find out more about Central, we invite you to visit our website *welcometocentral.org*.

Parents of young children: We welcome the sound of little ones in worship and so we encourage children and parents to worship together. However, if it is helpful to you, you are welcome to utilize the children's space located adjacent to the Narthex (entrance) to the Sanctuary. Additionally, there are children's bags and kid's bulletins available in the Narthex.

Large print bulletins as well as hearing assistance receivers are also available from the ushers. Please note: if your personal hearing device has a T-Coil there are Hearing Loops in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE *Vater Unser (Lord's Prayer)* - Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please stand as you are able)*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most Merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ God gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN #504 A Mighty Fortress is Our God



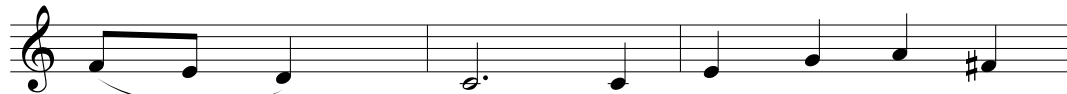
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No



sword and shield vic - to - rious; He
 would be lost, re - ject - ed. But
 threat - ning to de - vour fear us, We
 thanks to foes, who fear it; For



breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal - va - tion
 now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God him - self e -
 trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not o - ver -
 God him - self fights by our side With weap - ons of the



glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic
 lect - ed. You ask who this may
 pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant
 Spir - it; Were they to take our



foe has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful
 be? The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus might - y
 rage; In bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to
 house, Goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a -



might he arms him - self to fight, On
 Lord, God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He
 fail; God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One
 way, They can - not win the day; The

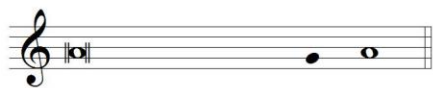


earth he has no e - qual.
 holds the field vic - to - rious.
 lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



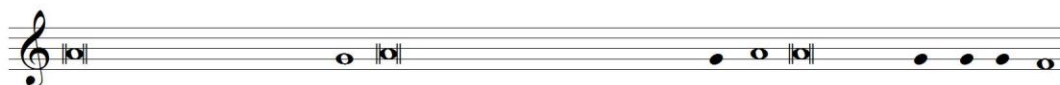
Lord have mer-cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God and for the uni - ty of all,



let us pray to the Lord.



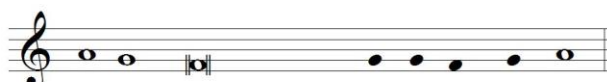
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holyhouse, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



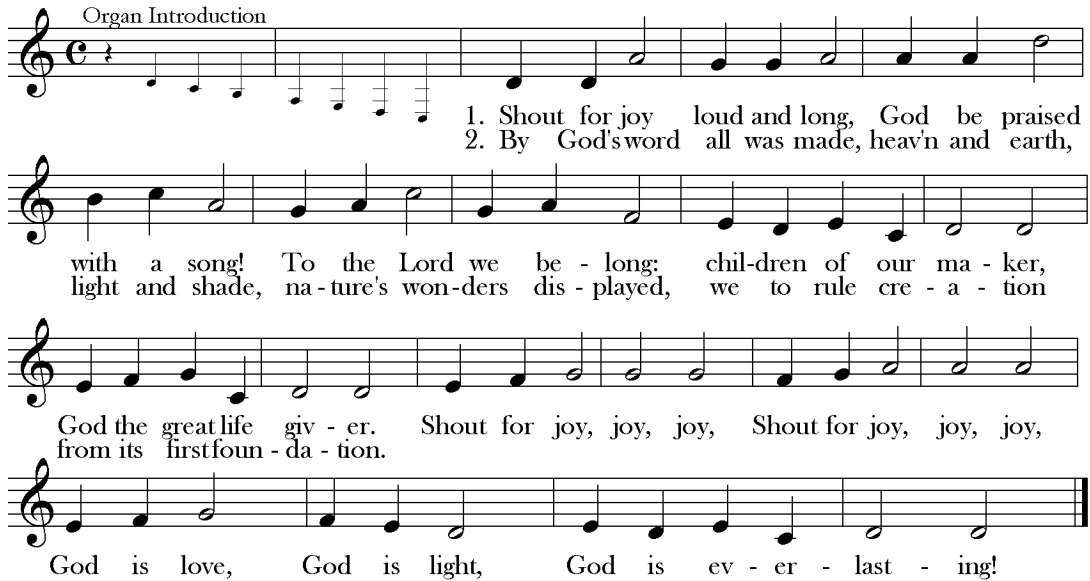
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Organ Introduction



1. Shout for joy loud and long, God be praised
2. By God's word all was made, heav'n and earth,

with a song! To the Lord we be - long; chil-dren of our ma - ker,
light and shade, na - ture's won - ders dis - played, we to rule cre - a - tion

God the great life giv - er. Shout for joy, joy, joy, Shout for joy, joy, joy,
from its first foun - da - tion.

God is love, God is light, God is ev - er - last - ing!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, **we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your people. Keep us steadfast in your word, protect and comfort us in times of trial, defend us against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16).

The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets. ³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of

Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.
³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Psalm 46



¹God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;**

³though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble¹ with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation of¹ the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the¹ break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth¹ melts away.**

⁷The Lord of¹ hosts is with us; the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works¹ of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up-¹ on the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the¹ shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that¹ I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted¹ in the earth.”**

¹¹The Lord of¹ hosts is with us; the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.¹I will exalt you, my¹ God and king, and bless your name forev-¹er and ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the¹ Holy Spirit.

As it was in the begin-¹ning, is now, and will be fore-¹ver. Amen.

SECOND READING Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM/RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Today we are delighted to welcome Kelly & Gary Brown, John McCarthy, and Anna Munson into our family of faith at Central.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY #517 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us steady in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Jesus Christ, your power make known, for you are
3 O Comforter of priceless worth, send peace and

by deceit or sword would wrest the kingdom from your Son
Lord of lords alone; defend your holy church, that we
unity on earth; support us in our final strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise eternal ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand)*

Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy God, through Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death and, as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples and upon us. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took break, 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 in remembrance of me.”

LORD’S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

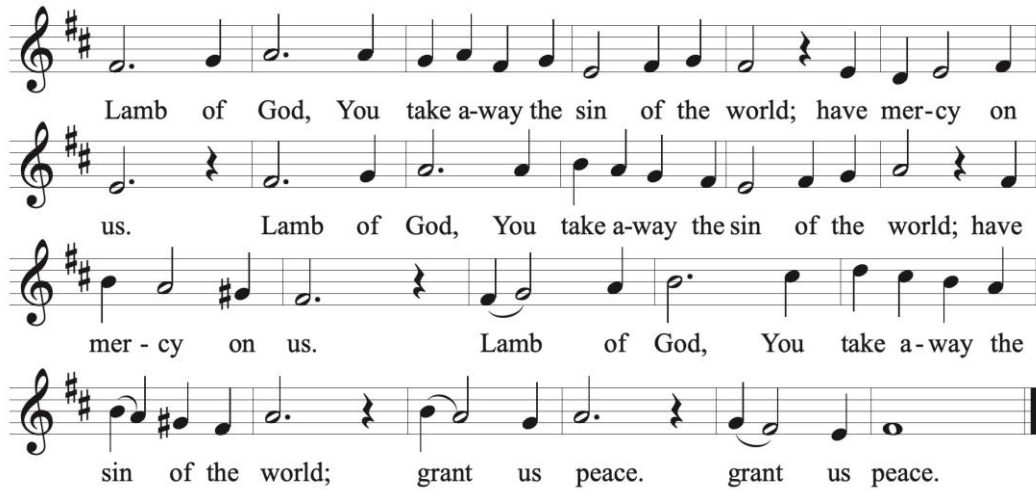
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen. *(please be seated)*

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to feast at the Lord’s table. You are invited to come forward and kneel at the altar rail where you will receive the bread in the form of a wafer along with a cup of red wine or white grape juice. (Gluten free wafers are available.) For those who are unable to navigate the chancel steps, you may come forward and remain seated in the front pew and the communion servers will come to you.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC *Es ist das Heil (Lord, Keep Us)* - Buxtehude

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION (*please stand*)

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

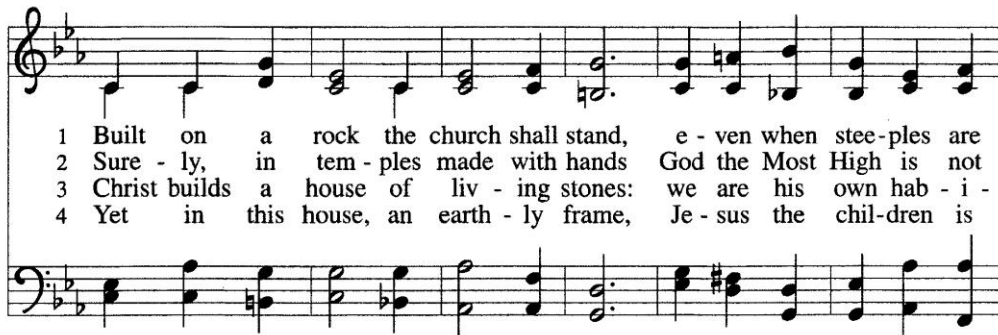
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

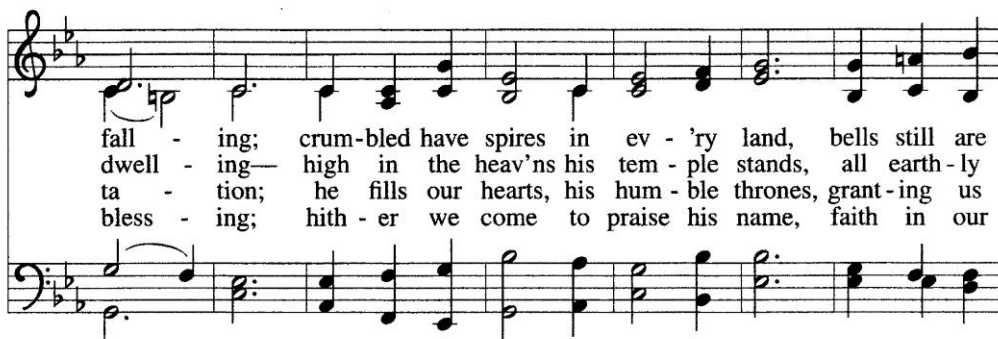
BENEDICTION

The blessing of the living God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen.**

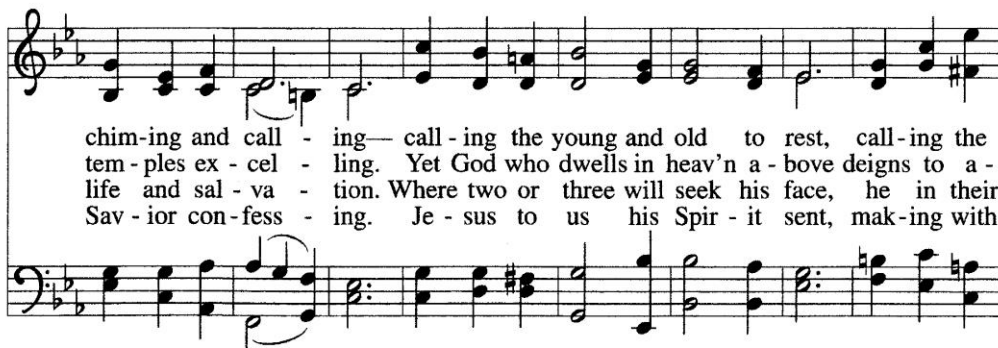
SENDING HYMN #652 Built on a Rock



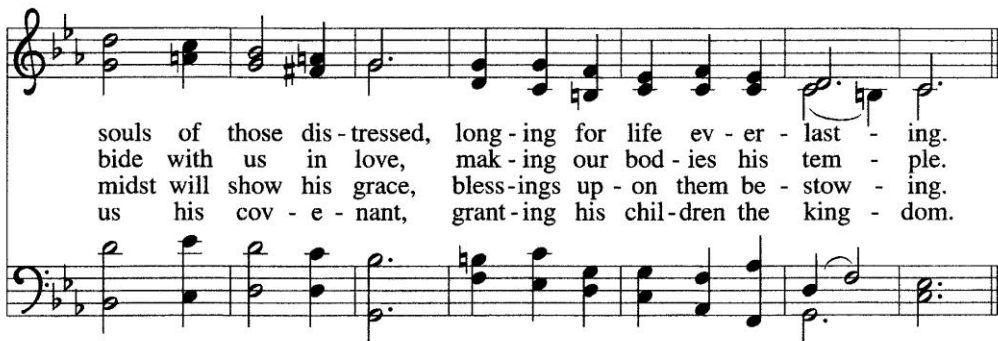
1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

**5. Through all the passing years, O Lord,
grant that, which church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word,
who here this promise is bringing:
“I know my own, my own know me;
you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen.”**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **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 *Fanfare and Gothic March*

Guy Weitz

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Following the service today, please greet our new members in the Narthex while you enjoy coffee and goodies, then join Pastor Ben in the Library for the Adult Education class.

A word of thanks to the many hands that helped at the church workday yesterday.

All Saints Day Service of Remembrance on Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 5pm in the Memorial Courtyard. Please join us for a brief Service of Remembrance for the saints who have gone before us.

Worship with us on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 5 featuring Mozart's Requiem with Central's Chorale and Chamber Orchestra at 8:30am & 11.

Mark your calendars for the Chi Rho Lecture series Nov. 10-12!

Central Lutheran Staff

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

Pastor Ben Nickodemus
pastorben@welcometocentral.org
mobile: 208-290-1165

Deacon Clare Josef-Maier
Christus House/Campus Ministry
clare@begoodsoil.org

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

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

Kristi Hoiland, Parish Administrator
info@welcometocentral.org

Cindy Culpepper, Financial Manager
cindy@welcometocentral.org

Crystal Miller, Minister to Children, Youth
& Families for Central, United & Emmaus
crystal@unitedlutheran.org

Church Council Members

Jean Clancey, President
clanceyhome0@gmail.com

Debbie Knebel, Vice President
knebels@gmail.com

Jack Bennett, Secretary
jbennett@uoregon.edu

Brent Moeller, Treasurer
bmoeller17@yahoo.com

Ron Fenchak
rfenchak@comcast.net

Terie Gillis
teriehansen@gmail.com

Matt Haugen
Matthewhaugen65@gmail.com

Howard Kallinen
hkallinen@msn.com

Jill Liedtke
jill.liedtke@gmail.com

Todd Shorack
shorax@gmail.com

Chuck Swenson
chucks@apioregon.com