SAINT ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, November 15, 2026
8:00 am

The Good News About Death:
Faith Through Our Fear



GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"* **No. 834 Vs. 1-4**

GREETING

CANTICLE OF PRAISE **P. 140-141**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

READING

A reading from Zephaniah. **Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

The scripture is read.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM **Psalm 90:1-12**

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.

READING

A reading from 1 Thessalonians. **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

The scripture is read.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

P. 142

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter. **Matthew 25:14-30**

Glory to you, O Lord.

The scripture is read.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Lead Me, Guide Me"* **No. 768 Vs. 1-3**

APOSTLES' CREED **P. 105**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The response is: God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

MEAL

HANDBELL CHOIR *"Let us Talents and Tongues Employ"*

OFFERING PRAYER

COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING **P. 144**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY **P. 144**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING & SENDING OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD **P. 146**

COMMUNION HYMNS

"For the Bread Which You Have Broken" **No. 494 Vs. 1-4**

"We've Come This Far by Faith" **No. 633 Vs. 1-2**

"We Walk by Faith" **No. 635 Vs. 1-5**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN *"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"* **No. 551 Vs. 1-4**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship

Pastor & Children's Message - Rev. Jack Busche
Assisting Minister - Lucy Harvey
Director of Worship & Music - Jonathan Smith

Technical Support

Bob Wiederhoeft
Pam Czerwinski
Travis Puig
Cullen Puig

Offerings

We are grateful for a gift of any amount to further support the ministry of Saint Andrew. For the many ways you give, thank you. Offerings will be received during worship or you may give via text by sending a **text message** to 715-800-2369 with the amount you would like to contribute **OR** you may give using the QR code here.

Altar Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Tom and Barb Geiger in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

T-Coil Hearing Loop

The Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop system. Those with hearing devices with a t-coil are encouraged to turn them on.

T Loop facility

Worship Bags

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex for kids to use in worship. Each bag contains ribbons to match to the liturgical color of the day, communion ware, stickers to share during the passing of the peace, and a cross to hold while praying along with the congregation.

Busy Bags

Busy Bags including crayons, coloring books, and quiet toys can be found in the Narthex. Feel free to take a bag into worship and hang it back up when you are done.

Nursery

The nursery is located off the Narthex near the Fellowship Hall doors and is available for all families as needed with books, toys, a rocking chair and changing table.

Prayground

A prayground is located at the front of the Sanctuary for families with small children. There is extra floor space for children that may need to stand or move around and soft and quiet toys for busy hands.

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Announcements

Sunday, November 15

Today's Noisy Offering
A Noisy Offering will be received in worship in support of Feed My Starving Children, a Christian nonprofit organization called to feed God's starving children hungry in body and spirit. To learn more, visit their website at **www.fmsc.org.** Last month we received $508.33 to support St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Menasha with the costs involved in repairing their steeple damaged by hail this summer. Thank you for your generosity!

ONE Winter Clothing Drive
Through February 28
Items are now being collected to benefit several local schools and other charitable organizations that support the homeless community. Please only donate these needed items: hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, winter socks and NEW long underwear (adults); winter boots, sweatshirts and hoodies (children & adults). All items may be donated at anytime, however, on the first Sunday of each month, children's items will be collected so they can be easily sorted and delivered to the schools. Donated items can be dropped off in the Giving Corner. Thank you for your generosity as we care for those in our community!

Family Faith Advent Activity: Advent Wreath Poster
Sunday, November 15; 9:15 am - Parish Room
Get ready for Advent by creating your own Advent wreath poster that you can post on your fridge or bulletin board at home. Each Sunday in Advent you can say a short prayer and add a flame to your poster as you get ready for the birth of Jesus! There will be no Sunday School on this day.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets
Saint Andrew Social Advocacy Ministry is offering Thanksgiving food baskets for those in need this holiday season. Please make requests through the SALC office at 715-842-3333 or **joy@salc-wausau.org** by ***Monday, November 16.*** Distribution will be on ***Monday, November 23, 5:00-6:00 pm*** at the north entrance of the church. Donations of: whole chickens, turkey breasts, canned cranberry sauce, pie crusts, and pie filling will be received until ***Monday, November 16***. Please no whole turkeys. Non-perishable items can be placed in the baskets provided in the Giving Corner. Perishable items can be placed in the refrigerator or freezer on the shelf marked "Thanksgiving Food Baskets." Thank you for your generosity and support as we help others!

Powering our Mission: Proposal for a Roof-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic System
Congregational Forum: *November 22; 9:15 am - Chapel*
To learn about the full project proposal and ask questions, please plan to attend! Over the next few weeks we will highlight key aspects of a proposed solar power system for Saint Andrew. More information can be found in the Network newsletter.

Thanksgiving Shared Worship at First English Lutheran Church
Tuesday, November 24; 6:30 pm
You are invited to gather as a family of faith to a shared worship service with Good Shepherd and First English. Non-perishable food items will also be collected to benefit Maggie's Pop-Up Pantry. Feel free to bring cookies or bars for a time of fellowship following worship. First English is located at **402 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau**. *Please note there will be no Thursday worship on Thanksgiving Day.

Christmas Poinsettias
Help beautify the altar at Christmas with a poinsettia to remember or honor a loved one. Cost is $10. Order forms are available online or in the Narthex. Deadline is ***November 29***.

"Call Me Blessed" - A Youth Musical Sharing the Christmas Story
December 20 - 8 am & 10 am Services
Call Me Blessed shares the Christmas story through original songs and familiar scripture written by Director of Worship and Music Jonathan Smith. Youth ages 4-15 are encouraged to sign up to act and sing, and musicians of all ages can join the band/ orchestra. Sign up or express interest using this QR code.

WausauCARES Matching Funds Opportunity
WausauCares is a shared resource among participating Wausau Area ELCA churches to support neighbors in need. WausauCares has been blessed to receive up to $12,000 in matching funds to raise money for the emergency fund until ***December 1***. If you would like to give, please direct donations to Saint Andrew Lutheran Church.



OWLS Christmas Workshop - Handmade for the Holidays
Wednesday, December 2; 10:30 am
Join us for a morning of Christmas crafting as we make special gift bags for nursing home residents and homebound friends and neighbors. No crafting talent required. We'll finish with a delicious potluck lunch. Santa hats optional!

Church Talents

Have you ever heard someone say: "Oh, she's so talented"? A talent is a gift from God. It is something you are good at. What are your talents?

Look at the pictures below. Place a T next to you the ones that show a talent you have, and an F next to the pictures that show a talent of a friend.



Look at the people with you in worship. What are their talents?

SPARK ACTIVATE FAITH

READER

Pentecost 25

- Today is the **25th** Sunday after Pentecost.
- The Pentecost season is **almost completed** for this year.
- What did you **learn about Jesus** during the season after Pentecost?

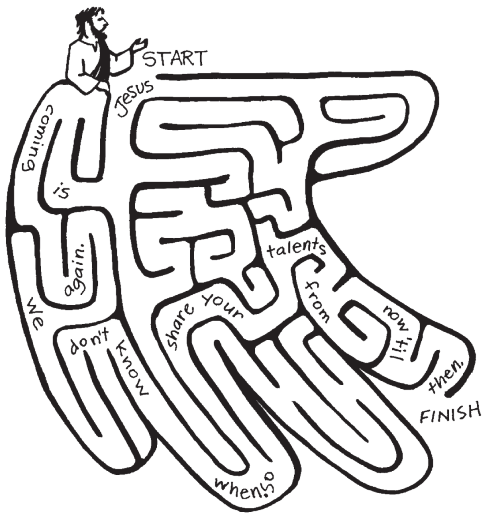
Dig It Up

Jesus tells us not to be afraid to share our gifts. Jesus doesn't want us to bury our talents. Look at the burial spaces under the Pentecost tree. Write the gifts you can share in those spaces. Jesus says, "Don't bury your talents! Don't be afraid to share!"



Follow Jesus

Following Jesus means sharing talents. Follow Jesus' footprints to uncover a poem that can help you remember to share your talents! Write the words you find, *in order*, in the space below.



_____

_____

_____

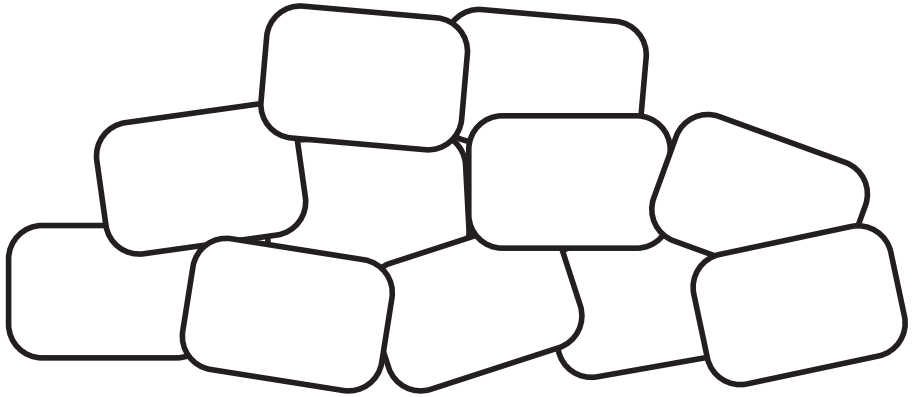
_____

His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave."

Matthew 25:21

Memory Verse

Jesus says when we use what we are given, our love grows and grows. Write one word from the memory verse in each box to create a large pile of goodness.



Everyday Talents

Matthew 25:14-30

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells another parable. This one is about using the talents God has given you to share God's love. Check out the following story. Who used their talents well?



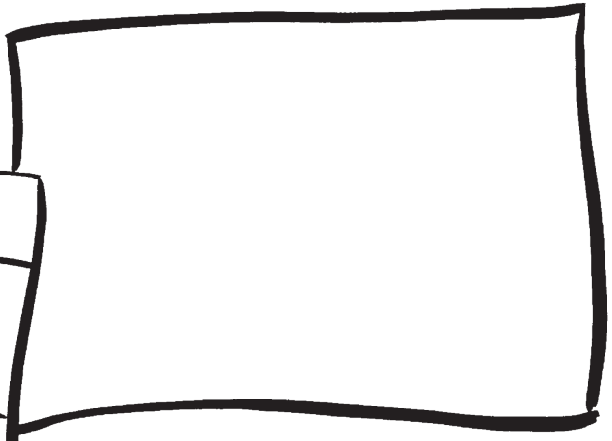
Sam, Karena, and Kelly were friends living in the same apartment building, Sam loved playing football and played anytime, anywhere.



Karena loved to act. She practiced every day, before and after school, and enjoyed finding friends to be in her plays.



Kelly was an amazing videogame player, and would spend time on the weekends working to get to the next level of the game she was playing. She knew all the secret codes and loved winning!



Just before Christmas, a new family moved into their apartment building. Karena and Sam were the first to greet them. Before long, the new kids were creating plays with Karena and playing football in the snow with Sam.

Kelly wondered how she could be a friend. What ideas do you have for Kelly? How could Karena, Sam, and their new friends include Kelly? How might Kelly share her talents?

Write or draw your idea in the box above.

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Jesus knows that every one of us counts!
Count these things in your church.
Put your answers on the lines.



How many candles? _____



How many pews or chairs? _____



How many people? _____



How many instruments? _____



How many crosses? _____

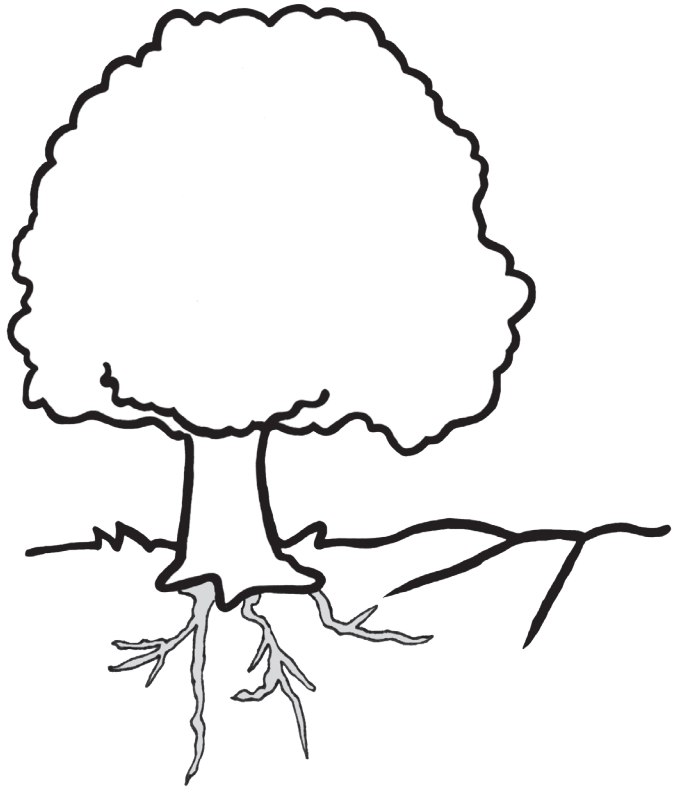
SPARK ACTIVATE FAITH

PRE-READER

Pentecost 25

- Today is the **25th Sunday** after Pentecost.
- Pentecost is a season of **growing**.
- God wants us to grow by **sharing** our skills and gifts.

Some things should not be buried, like God's love. Other things belong under the ground, like the roots of this tree. Roots make a tree strong. Draw more roots to make this tree strong.





One servant was afraid. He dug a hole and buried his talents.

God tells us not to be afraid.

Color the scared man by using shaky coloring. God tells us to be brave and bold and share what we have. Color the brave men by making your coloring strong.



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