



***"You show us that you are a letter of Christ,
prepared by us, written not with ink but with
the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of
stone but on tablets of human hearts."***

2 Corinthians 3:3

- United Lutheran Church: Season of Generosity -

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost | November 16, 2025 | Worship at 10:15am

CONTINUING THE STORY GOD IS WRITING

- United Lutheran Church: Season of Generosity -

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost | November 16, 2025 | Worship at 10:15am

~ WE GATHER ~

We welcome all to worship at United Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here!

PRELUDE
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
TEMPLE TALK

Gretchen Kindseth
Stewardship Committee

**Please stand
as you are able.*

In preparation for worship we make confession of our sins to God asking for God’s forgiveness for all our failures to live as God intends. “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, [God] who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:8-9)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection

P: Merciful and loving God,
**C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.
We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.**

P: Beloved of God:
Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. You who were lost have been found. Your sins are forgiven + and you are made whole. We are raised up to live as God’s people for the life of the world.
C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN* *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* ELW Hymn #596

GREETING

P: 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.

Prayer of the Day
The main thoughts of the day are collected, or summarized in this short prayer. The prayers for the season of the church year have come to us from the rich treasury of the church’s heritage.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.
All: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

MINISTRY THROUGH MUSIC Cathedral Choir
Michael Marcotte, director with Yen Lee Loh, piano

~ WORD ~

First Lesson
Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that “the day is coming.” On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who honor God.

FIRST LESSON

Malachi 4:1-2a

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither

root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
² **O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**
³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**
⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp,

with the harp and the voice of song.
⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**
⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**
⁹ The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND LESSON

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For

even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

Second Lesson:

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*

from ELW Setting 8



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Please stand
 as you are able.*

GOSPEL

Luke 21:5-19

P: The holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st Chapter.

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

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

Hymn of the Day

This hymn follows the theme of the readings and reflects the message of the sermon.

**Please stand
as you are able.*

Creed

We respond to God's word together when we say the Creed. Creed comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe". In our worship we use either the Apostles' or Nicene Creed. These Creeds were written over 1700 years ago so the world would know what Christians

Prayers of Intercession

These prayers in the service follows the directive of the Apostle Paul to young Timothy, a pastor: "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for Kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness".

The Peace

This is a greeting used by Christians for almost two thousand years as a way to show that we are in God's family and love and care for one another.

The Offering

Another way of responding to God's Word is by giving ourselves and our money for the work of Christ's Church throughout the world.

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸ And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them."

⁹ "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be

dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Rich Kramer

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

ELW Hymn #241

APOSTLES' CREED*

ELW Page #127

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

P: God of grace.

C: Receive our prayer.

GREETING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

~ MEAL ~

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

We Rejoice in the Grace of God

**We rejoice in the grace of God poured upon our lives;
loving kindness has come to us because of Jesus Christ.
We rejoice in the grace of God, our hearts overflow.
What a joy to know the grace of God!**

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray:

God of the harvest, 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, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

The opening dialogue between pastor and people that begins the Holy Communion part of the service. These words, dating from the second century, are likely the most ancient part of the Great Thanksgiving.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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.

COMMUNION

Communion will be served continuously at 3 stations. The ushers will direct you forward.

LAMB OF GOD

from ELW Setting 10



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Distribution

The ushers will direct you forward. All bread is gluten free. Grape juice is available. If you would like grape juice, please indicate that to the server.

The Lamb of God

This is our way of saying to God and to each other that it was Jesus who died for our sins as that perfect sacrifice, that perfect lamb that was slain for our life. It also focuses our attention on what we are about to receive in Holy Communion, which is Christ's true body and blood 'given and shed for the forgiveness of sins'. "The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray:

Bread of life, you have filled us with love and life we cannot earn. Make us signs of your peace and abundance on earth, for we are the body of Christ, and the world is hungry for the wholeness and life we have in Jesus.

All: Amen.

~ SENDING ~

BLESSING

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW Hymn #632

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are sent for the life of the world! **C: Thanks be to God.**

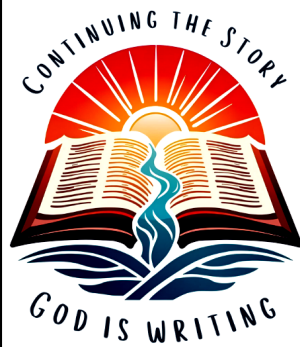
POSTLUDE

Gretchen Kindseth

Blessing/Benediction

This prayer asking for God's blessing upon the assembly as we go out into the world doing God's will.

Hymns for 11/16/2025: ELW #596, My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less, ELW #241, O Lord, Now Shall I Meet You, ELW #632, O God, Our Hope in Ages Past. Gospel Acclamation: ELW Setting 8, pg. 188, We Rejoice in the Grace of God, Lamb of God ELW Setting 10, pg. 208. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under : Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #22289. A-800051. CCLI License # 1621695.



UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH SEASON OF GENEROSITY

*"You show us that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us,
written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not
on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."*

2 Corinthians 3:3

Reminder to turn in your 2026 pledge card. We ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge to United for 2026, which helps us plan for our continuing mission and ministry in the new year.

To make your pledge: Please complete your pledge card found in your bulletin and place in the offering plate, or bring to the church office by Nov. 30. To make your pledge online, scan the QR code or go to our website. Thank you for your support as together, we *Continue the Story God is Writing* at United!

*The Radio Broadcast
of this Sunday's
worship is given
in Honor of
Gary and Sally
Masilko's 56th
Wedding Anniver-
sary! Happy
Anniversary,
Gary & Sally!*

*The Classic
Swing Band
Presents:*
BASICALLY BASIE
A FALL CONCERT
FEATURING THE MUSIC
OF COUNT BASIE
WITH
Michael Marcotte and Misti Koop

16 | NOV. 2025 | 3:00 PM
UNITED LUTHERAN
324 CHESTNUT ST.

THANKSGIVING TOGETHER

Join us as we introduce our newest neighbors and recent refugees to the tradition of Thanksgiving.

**NOVEMBER 17
6:00PM - 7:30PM**

United Lutheran Church
324 Chestnut St, Grand Forks

PLEASE RSVP




Enjoy turkey, stuffing, potatoes, vegetables, bread, gravy, and pie! The evening will include conversation, live music, and a greeting from Global Friends Coalition. Note elevator access at door #2. A free will offering will be collected to support Global Friend Coalition.

This event is sponsored by ELCA Lutheran Churches of Greater Grand Forks, Family of God (ELCA/UCC), St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and Christus Rex Lutheran Center.

**Support United
Lutheran youth on
Tuesday, Nov. 18th**

25 %
OF DEEK'S SALES
towards United Lutheran Youth trip!
Use code "UNITED"
GRAND FORKS Deek's Location 772-3335

Joint Choir Concert
SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 2025 | 2PM
AT CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
**ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS JOINT CHURCH CHOIR
CONCERT FEATURING CHOIRS FROM SHARON, CALVARY,
OUR SAVIORS, AND UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH!**




BREAD *Auction*

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEXT Sunday, November 23, 2025

Following the 10:15am Worship | Fellowship Hall
Benefiting Northlands Rescue Mission Food Bank



How to participate: CALLING ALL BAKERS!! Please bring donations of baked good to United on Sunday, Nov. 23 and place them in the narthex before the 10:15am worship service. They will be processed to the altar during the offering, a sign these gifts are offered for God's work in our world. Then, come down to the Fellowship Hall following worship and bid generously on yummy treats just in time for Thanksgiving!

Beginning Nov. 23: Bins will be placed at the entrances to the sanctuary for food shelf items to be collected and donated to the NRM Food Bank. Please bring any non-perishable food items and place them in the bins provided.

YOUTH TRIP TO NORTH CAROLINA!



ADVENTURE. SERVICE. COMMUNITY. FAITH.

JULY 12-18, 2026



Cost - \$600/youth
Lodging - Luther Rock Camp
Transportation - We're flying!
Adventure - campfires, mountains, & rivers!

Join United Lutheran as we partner with Metigoshe Ministries to trek to North Carolina to support flood relief following Hurricane Helene (2024). Our week will be filled with camp fun and three meaningful days of serving alongside the local community in rebuilding efforts. We'll wrap up with a high-adventure outing—like whitewater rafting or caving—and finish the trip with a celebratory final night in Charlotte, NC. Current 8th - 12th graders are invited!

Register by November 28th
Questions? Email Molly at
unitedgfyouth@gmail.com



United Lutheran Church Women
Christmas Luncheon
"The Lights of Christmas"
Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025
Serving: 11:30am - 1pm
Tickets: \$12
Purchase in advance or at the door

If you would like to reserve a table for 8, call Barb Larson (218-791-2611), Jan Marto (775-7188), Claudette Zimney (330-0692), or the church office (775-4279)

GOOD GIFTS CHRISTMAS FAIR

Sunday, December 14, 2025
11:30am - 1pm
ULC Fellowship Hall

African crafts will be available for purchase.
*\$10,000 in matching funds for all overseas gifts generously provided by the ULC Foundation.

LOOKING AHEAD! PHOENIX ANGEL TREE ITEMS NEEDED

The Phoenix Angel Tree will be set-up in the fellowship hall Wed., Dec. 3rd. **Please bring your gifts and place them under the tree by Sunday, Dec. 14th** so we can get them delivered to Phoenix Elementary prior to their Christmas break. (List available in office.)

- Board Games: Guess Who, Happy Salmon, Shoots and Ladders, Sorry, UNO, Spot It, Candy Land
- Fidgets: Pop It's, Playdough, stress balls, fidget spinners
- Sports balls: basketball, soccer ball, football
- Arts and crafts: paint, beads, string, art pads, paint brushes, popsicle sticks, feathers, googly eyes
- Gift cards: groceries/gas
- Gift certificates (River Cinema, Northern Air, Splashers)
- Kids clothing and underwear (all sizes) boys and girls
- Winter gear: gloves, hats, face masks, boots, snow pants
- Winter coats (all sizes) boys and girls
- Socks/Shoes (all sizes)
- Air mattresses and bedding
- Books and puzzles
- Colored pencils/markers
- Coloring books
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Body wash
- Women's/men's deodorant

Welcome visitors to UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH



Welcome to worship at United Lutheran Church, we are glad you are here.

Our Vision: The vision of United Lutheran is to be an embracing community of joy and hope, nurturing life transforming relationships with Jesus Christ, one another, and the world.

Our Mission: The mission statement of United Lutheran Church: We are United, proclaiming God's salvation by welcoming all to LIVE, LEARN, and SHARE the LOVE of Jesus Christ.

Our Welcome: United Lutheran Church embraces the gift of God's love for all creation. We rejoice in the way diversity informs, nurtures, and enriches the life and ministry we share. In a world that is often unloving, we are called by the Gospel to be workers for justice, peace, and healing. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we welcome all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, family configurations, and economic realities. We commit to the ongoing work of Jesus' welcome for all.

Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card in the pew and place it in the offering plate. Restrooms are located in the Fellowship Hall directly below the Sanctuary at the bottom of the stairs from the narthex.

Check out the calendar below for what's happening at United in the week ahead.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presider

Pastor Rich Kramer

Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Molly Haagenon

Worship Accompanist

Gretchen Kindseth

Special Music

Cathedral Choir

Michael Marcotte, director
Yen Lee Loh, piano

United in Serving

Rick & Linda Westby

Lector

Eric Murphy

Ushers

Larry Heggart

Ken Svedjan

Joel Walz

Rick & Linda Westby

Tim, Shera, Hannah,

Evelyn, & Roland Nesheim

Communion Server

Hayley Svedjan Walz

Lanae Brown

Nesheim Family

Technical Team

Mackenzie Brown

Darren Lee

Jayson and Jonah Helseth

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH

- 9:00am - Breakfast Club (LG)
- 10:15am - Worship (SA)
- 11:15am - Coffee Fellowship (FH)
- 3:00pm - Classic Swing Band Concert (SA)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

- 11:30am - PEO (LG)
- 6:00pm - Thanksgiving Together (FH)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

- 9:00am - Quilting (FH)
- 11:00am - Staff Meeting (RM 106)
- 7:00pm - Community Outreach Ministry Meeting (RM 106)
- 8:00pm - ULC Council Meeting (LG)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

- 6:15pm - Sing and Ring (CR)
- 7:00pm - Cathedral Choir Rehearsal (CR)
- 7:00pm - Confirmation (FH)
- 7:00pm - Faith Friends (Upper Level)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST/OFFICE CLOSED

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD/CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

BREAD AUCTION

- 9:00am - Breakfast Club (LG)
- 10:15am - Worship (SA)
- 11:15am - Coffee Fellowship/Bread Auction (FH)
- 2:00pm - Joint Church Choir Concert (Calvary Lutheran Church)



We are a
Reconciling in Christ
Congregation

United Lutheran Church

324 Chestnut Street

Grand Forks, ND

PH: 701-775-4279

www.unitedgf.org

Office hours:

M-TH: 8am - 4pm

ULC is Home to

United Day Nursery:

701-772-3773



DONATE ONLINE TO UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH!



If you would like to make a
secure, online donation to United
Lutheran Church now, please
scan the QR code provided.