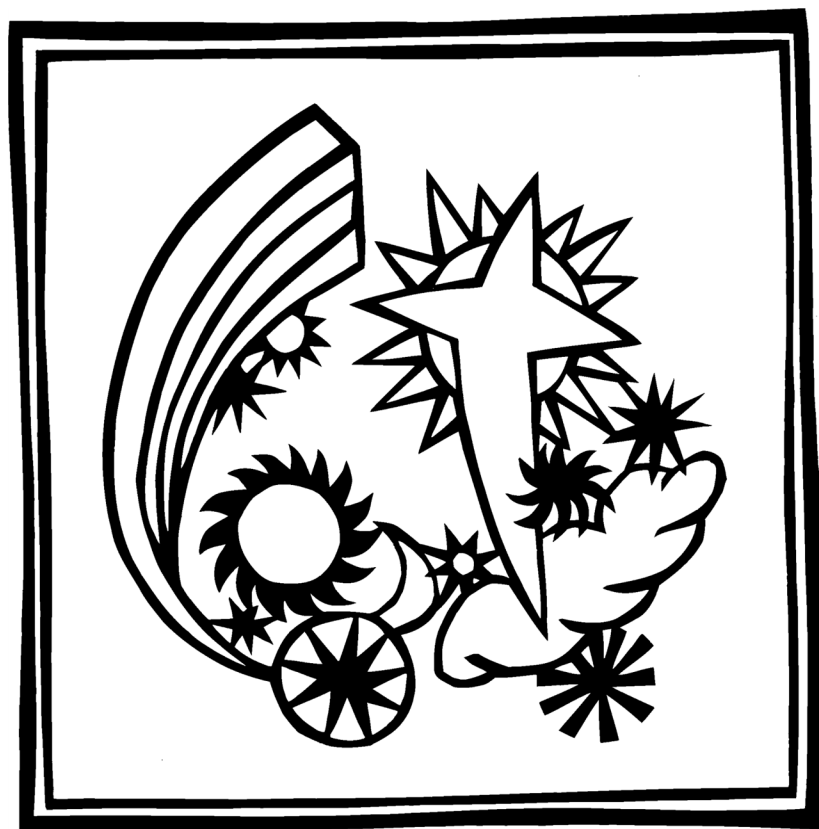


23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 2025



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 2025

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: *“Ancient Words with How Firm A Foundation”* - arr. Carol Tornquist; *“Whosoever Will”* - Philip P. Bliss; *“It Is Well With My Soul”* - Philip P. Bliss
Sue Lekwa, piano

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,
**you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.
We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.
We ignore our neighbors.
We exploit the earth.
We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.
Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.
Amen.**

Hear the good news:
God the Faithful One loves you,
+ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

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.**

Confirmand's Faith Statement

First Reading: 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation - ELW Setting 4

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:5-19

The Gospel according to Luke

Glory to You, O Lord

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.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “How Firm a Foundation” - ELW #796

Affirmation of Baptism

Presentation of Confirmand

People of our congregation, today I am presenting to you Greta Rodgers in the Rite of Confirmation. Let us join our hearts and minds in support of her today as she affirms the promises that God made to her in her baptism.

Profession of Faith

People of God, let us all confess our shared faith in Christ together

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

As we continue with the affirmation, I invite our confirmand to turn to face me and for the rest of our congregation to be seated.

Affirmation

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support Greta as she affirms her baptism and pray for her in her life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Amen.

Let us rejoice with this sister in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Music Voluntary: *"- A Grateful Heart with For the Beauty of the Earth"*

- arr. Brad Nix

Sue Lekwa, piano

Offering Prayer

God of healing and hope,

you bless those who are hungry,

promising to fill them with good things.

Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.

Nourish us with the abundance of your feast

and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,

now and forever.

Amen.

The Meal

This is Christ's table and Christ's meal. All are welcome here. Kids are welcome to commune at the discretion of their parents. If you are unable to come forward please let an usher or the pastor know so that we can bring you Communion at your seat.

The 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” - ELW Setting 4

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

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.

Invitation to Communion

There is a place for you at the table of God.
Come, receive the food that does not perish,
a taste of life eternal.

Hymns during Communion

"Lamb of God" - ELW Setting 4

"When Peace Like a River" - ELW #785

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.

Prayer After Communion

God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world.
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.
Amen.

Council Election

Announcements

Blessing

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.
The holy Trinity bless you +
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Soon and Very Soon" - ELW #439

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Soon and Very Soon" - Mark Hayes
Sue Lekwa, piano

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Please keep Kenzie and Fred Alderson and family in your prayers following the death of Fred's mother Beverly Alderson.

Prayers for Cindy and Kendall Bartleson, Brandon and Kelli Bartleson, and the entire Bartleson family following the death of their son and brother Taylor

Rhonda Thompson
sister of Shelley Ludeman

Teresa Krebs

Kari Toot

Tanya Sorem

Julie & Craig Sutherland

June Copenhaver
mother of Diane Martin

Pastor Andrea Myers
wife of Pastor Ronald Myers

Charlie Lloyd

Bert Ann Ray

Wayne Kinyon

Loren Bryant
brother of Arlys Neal

Jill Rhodes

Connie Robinson
sister of Shirley Klonglan

Barb McDaniel

Ken Huffaker
father of Kendra McCauley

Emma Nelson
granddaughter of Steve & Nan Jungst

Ardith Forsyth

Eileen Miller

Karen Anderson

Caleb Roof

Evelyn Onstot

Marty Schuler

Katy Beno
sister of Sandy Christian

Eric Forsyth

Crystal Vines

Katie Bass
niece of Judy Coverdale

Wayne Johnson

Troy Vincent

Johann Thiel

Mike Neal

Christina King

Sherry Kluever

Kim Elliott

Pr. Marcia Kisner

Marlene Waddell
friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch

Carol Vincent

Cassie Harrell

Jean Smith

Easton Farrington

Janice Hartz

Jackie Byers
daughter of Shellie Black

Donna See

Norma Dannan
friend of Betty Runge

Fred Samuelson

Jaylee Bartleson

Janeen Driscoll

Jan Cook

Hospitalizations: *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

Announcements

Generous Gifts Tree

As you walked into the Narthex this morning, you may have noticed the return of our Generous Gifts Tree! You will see a very colorful little tree filled with all kinds of present-shaped ornaments with different monetary values written on them, and you will notice there are some rather substantial gifts hanging on the tree.

Now if you recall recent communications from our Finance Team and Stewardship Committee, you will remember that we have been (and are continuing to be) behind with our projected giving for the year. As of October 31, 2025, we are **behind approximately \$44,187** for our General Fund income vs expenses. If we were to **all pray, discern, and work together** to be able to generously give what is on each of these ornaments on top of our regular giving, we would be caught up with our projected giving to the General Fund.

We are asking that you would take a look at the tree, talk with others in your household, and listen if God might be urging you to take one or maybe even more gift ornaments to add to your regular giving. Thanks for your prayerful consideration.

Wednesday Night Live Project - Donations Needed for YSS

Wednesday Night Live participants are going to be putting together backpacks of items that can be given to those at Youth & Shelter Services (YSS) for the holidays. The bags can include new or gently used items, hygiene products, games, etc. (see the list below). Donations can be brought to Memorial through Thanksgiving weekend. Thank you for your help!

Personal Hygiene & Care

- Deodorant (unscented and scented)
- Body wash / Bar soap
- Travel size bottle for shampoo, conditioner and body wash
- Shampoo & conditioner (including curly/textured hair products)

- Travel size Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Feminine hygiene products (pads, tampons, liners)
- Hairbrushes, combs, picks
- Chapstick / lip balm
- Lotion / moisturizer
- Razors & shaving cream (sensitive skin options too)
- Face wash / acne products
- Nail clippers, nail files
- Hygiene Baskets
- Towels, rags, loofahs

School & Study Supplies

- Backpacks/ suitcases/ duffle bags
- Notebooks
- Pens, pencils (NO mechanical pencils)
- Water bottles
- Art supplies (sketch pads, markers, colored pencils)

Books

- Age-appropriate fiction & non-fiction
- Graphic novels & manga
- Inspirational or self-help books for teens
- Diverse and inclusive stories

Clothing (New or gently used, ALL sizes)

- T-shirts (plain and graphic)
- Hoodies / sweatshirts
- Jeans / joggers / leggings
- Pajamas / loungewear
- Underwear & bras (new only)
- Socks (new only)
- Athletic wear
- Winter coats, hats, gloves
- Shoes / sneakers / slides

Entertainment & Recreation

- Journals / notebooks
- Headphones / earbuds
- Board games / card games
- Puzzle books (Sudoku, word search)
- Craft kits (DIY jewelry, painting, etc.)
- Sports equipment (basketballs, soccer balls, etc.)
- Gift cards (Target, Walmart, Amazon, fast food, etc.)
- Winter gear, snow boots, snow pants

Comfort Items

- Throw blankets
- Fuzzy socks / slippers
- Stuffed animals
- Stress relief toys (fidget spinners, stress balls)
- Textbooks

St. Patrick Christmas Stocking Giveaway

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Nevada is gathering items for families in the community that may need a little extra help this Christmas season. They are asking for donations for ages 0-18 that may be used to fill stockings. Please see the list in the Narthex for suggestions, but feel free to bring in other items. **Please have the items either to Memorial by Wednesday, December 3 or to St. Patrick's by Monday December 8.**

Host Family Needed for IRIS Exchange Student

Iowa Resource for International Students (IRIS) is in immediate need for a family to host an exchange student from Libya. If you are interested in providing a caring home for a dedicated student, please see Mike Coverdale for more information.

Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon November 25

Nevada Parks & Recreation's annual Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held November 25 here at Memorial. Dine-in will be available at 11:30 AM with carry out / delivery to follow. Please RSVP Nevada by November 10 to 515-382-4352 (Nevada Parks & Rec).

Meal Train for Julie & Craig Sutherland

In the time leading up to Craig's surgery and then after, it would be very helpful for Julie and Craig to have some meals delivered to their home. Please use the QR code to sign up, and contact the church office for their address and any other questions. *Thank you!*



Volunteers Needed: Ushers/Greeters for Sunday Mornings

We're looking for ushers/greeters to be welcoming faces to those worshipping with us on Sunday mornings. If you can help, please see the sign-up sheet on the main door into the Sanctuary, or contact the church office. Thank you!

Volunteer Opportunity: Drivers Wanted

Would you be willing to offer a lift to members of Memorial that need transportation assistance to and from worship? If so, please contact the office so that we can provide you further information. Thank you so much for your willingness to help!

Support Lutheran Lakeside's *For Every Season* Campaign

Memorial has had a long history of sending students and families to Lutheran Lakeside Camp for "the best week ever!" where campers are given unique opportunities to try new things, challenge themselves, enjoy creation, make friends, and grow in their faith. We invite you to join us in giving back to this Lutheran Lakeside through their *For Every Season* campaign, which aims to improve all property and facilities to dramatically increase year-round offerings, as they seek to offer a place of belonging for all people to find joy and purpose in God's Creation. Visit lutheranlakeside.com or use the QR code to learn more and to give. *Thank you!*



Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/> give or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know? In Tithe.ly, you can set up one-time or recurring gifts to the General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Drive for the Drive Pavement Project, Sanctuary Screens Fund, Sanctuary Carpet Fund, and more!***



Stay Connected with Memorial

Keep up-to-date with Memorial and community events, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and more; sign up to receive emails and/or periodic texts at bit.ly/memorialconnect or by using the QR code.



Save the Date

Weekly Bible Study

When: Tuesday, November 18, 2:00 PM

Fellowship & Outreach Team Meeting

When: Wednesday, November 19, 4:30 PM

Wednesday Night Live, Confirmation, and Youth Group

When: Wednesday, November 19, 6:30 PM

Council Meeting

When: Thursday, November 20, 7:00 PM

Weekly Bible Study

When: Tuesday, November 25, 2:00 PM

Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon

When: Tuesday, November 25

Where: Memorial Lutheran Church

Thanksgiving Eve (Pie Night!)

When: Wednesday, November 26

More details coming soon!

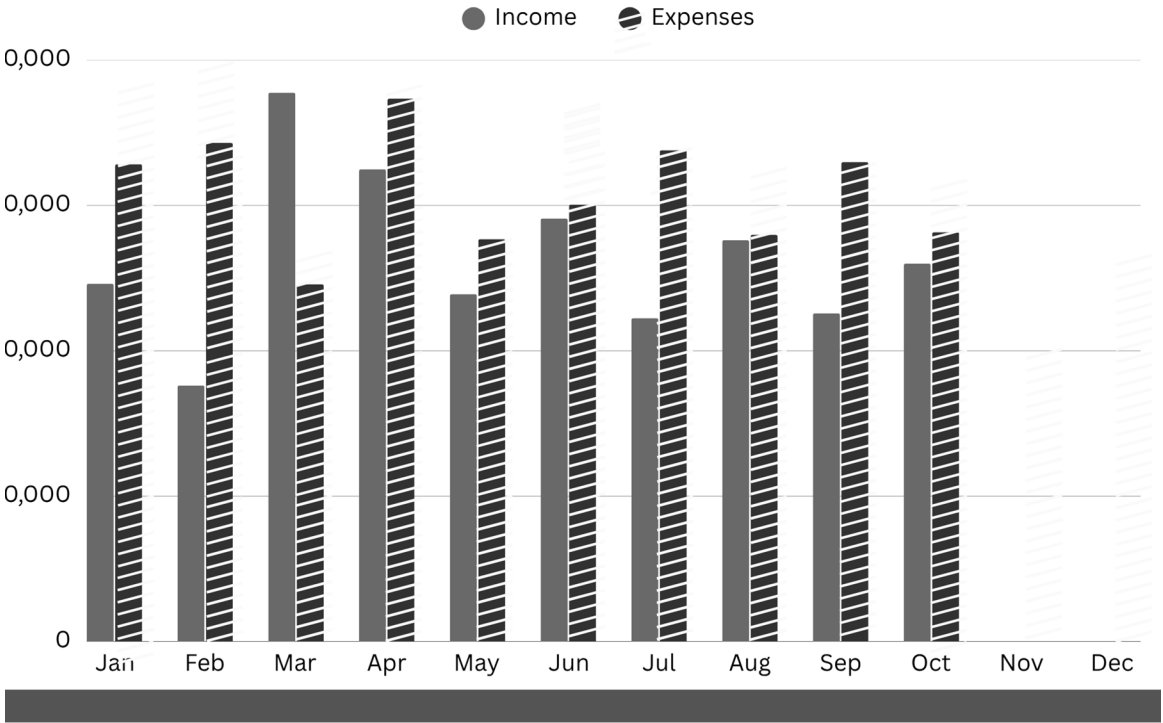
Kids Bells & Youth Bells Rehearsal

When: Sunday, November 30 following worship

General Fund 2025

Cumulative Income vs Expenses as of October 31, 2025

Income: \$263,895 Expenses: (\$308,082) Current Deficit: (\$44,187)



This Week at Memorial

Monday, November 17 - Sunday, November 23

17 Monday Church Office Closed	18 Tuesday 2:00 PM Bible Study in Chapel 6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 Wednesday 4:30 PM Fellowship & Outreach Team Meeting 6:30 - 7:30 PM Wednesday Night Live and Youth Group 6:30 - 7:30 PM Confirmation	20 Thursday 7:00 PM Council Meeting
21 Friday Have an idea for our monthly newsletter? Perhaps a focus on a ministry or group you're involved with at Memorial or in the community? We would love to hear from you! Please contact emily@mlcnevada.org or call the church office.	22 Saturday	23 Sunday 9:00 AM Worship in-person and online	

Office Hours
 Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM*
**Call 515-382-6509 for appointments outside of office hours*

Memorial Lutheran Church
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@memluthnevada

▶ Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
 Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
 Mike Coverdale, Custodian

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