

Christ the King Sunday

November 23, 2025



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Christ the King Sunday

November 23, 2025

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

*We welcome back trumpeter Craig Swartz!
Thank you, Craig, for sharing your talents with us on this festival day!*

Prelude: Toccata on “King’s Weston”- arr. Matthew Compton
Memorial Handbells

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.

Gathering Song: “At the Name of Jesus” - ELW #416

Prayer of the Day

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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 23:1-6

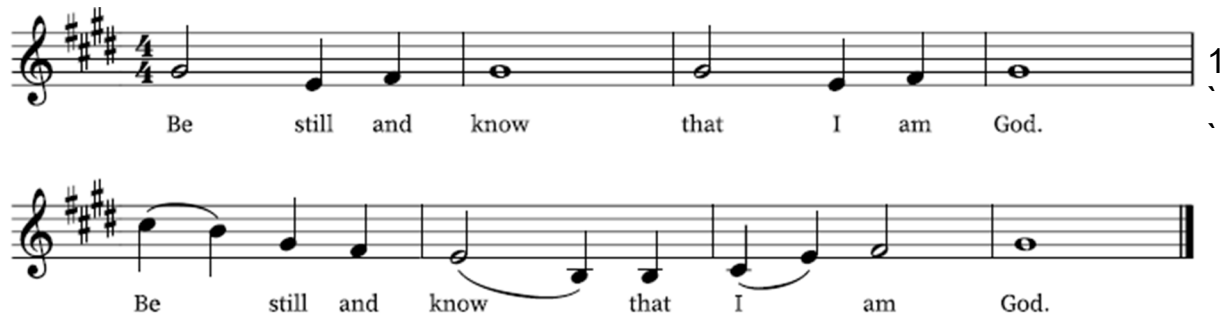
¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

Refrain



- 1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- 3 though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Refrain*
- 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- 5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- 6 The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.
- 7 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. *Refrain*
- 8 Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
- 9 behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields
with fire.
- 10 "Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."
- 11 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. *Refrain*

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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 23:33-43

The Gospel according to Luke
Glory to You, O Lord

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Holy God, Holy and Glorious" - ELW #637

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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

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

Offering

Music Voluntary: *"The Morning Trumpet"* - arr. Lloyd Larson
Memorial Handbells with Craig Swartz, trumpet

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.

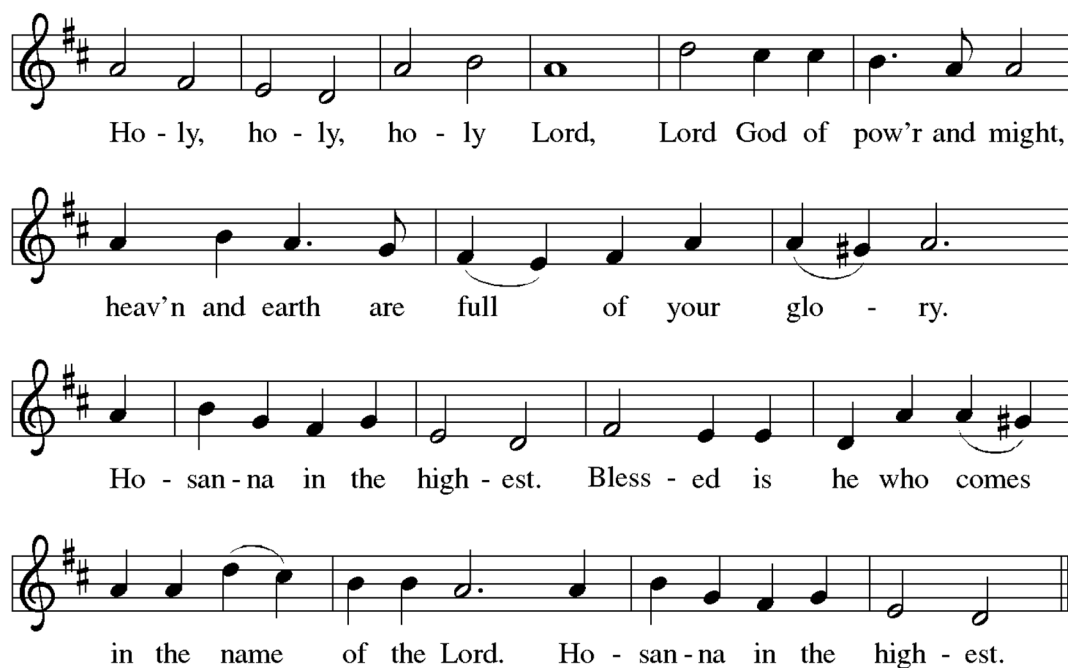
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

"Beautiful Savior" - ELW #838

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.

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: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" - ELW #634,
stanzas 1,2,3 and 6**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

**Postlude: "Trumpet Tune and March" - Jeremiah Clarke
Craig Swartz, trumpet**

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

Joan Stensland	Ken Huffaker	Christina King
Kathy Lynn Johnson	<i>father of Kendra McCauley</i>	Sherry Kluever
Rhonda Thompson	Emma Nelson	Kim Elliott
<i>sister of Shelley Ludeman</i>	<i>granddaughter of Steve & Nan Jungst</i>	Pr. Marcia Kisner
Teresa Krebs	Ardith Forsyth	Marlene Waddell
Kari Toot	Eileen Miller	<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>
Tanya Sorem	Karen Anderson	Carol Vincent
Julie & Craig Sutherland	Caleb Roof	Cassie Harrell
June Copenhaver	Evelyn Onstot	Jean Smith
<i>mother of Diane Martin</i>	Marty Schuler	Easton Farrington
Pastor Andrea Myers	Katy Beno	Janice Hartz
<i>wife of Pastor Ronald Myers</i>	<i>sister of Sandy Christian</i>	Jackie Byers
Charlie Lloyd	Eric Forsyth	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Bert Ann Ray	Crystal Vines	Donna See
Wayne Kinyon	Katie Bass	Norma Dannan
Loren Bryant	<i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
<i>brother of Arlys Neal</i>	Wayne Johnson	Fred Samuelson
Jill Rhodes	Troy Vincent	Jaylee Bartleson
Connie Robinson	Johann Thiel	Janeen Driscoll
<i>sister of Shirley Klonglan</i>	Mike Neal	Jan Cook
Barb McDaniel		

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

TODAY: Help Decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas

Volunteers needed! We are decorating for Advent and Christmas following service this morning. Help prepare the space as we prepare the way for the coming Christ child. Thank you!

WEDNESDAY: Thanksgiving Eve Service (and pie!)

Mark your calendars: Memorial's Thanksgiving Eve service will be held this Wednesday, November 26 at 6:30 PM, followed by delicious pie! All are invited to attend and to bring pie or other treats to share (see the sign-up sheet in the narthex). Please note that Wednesday Night Live will begin at 6:30 PM as usual, but will meet in the Chapel before moving to the sanctuary for service at 7:00 PM.

Christmas Open House - Sunday, December 7, 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Ready to get in the Christmas spirit? Stop by any time during our Christmas Open House for crafts for both kids and adults, a hot chocolate bar and popcorn, cookie decorating, and more!

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

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

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

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.

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 25, 2:00 PM

Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon

When: Tuesday, November 25

Where: Memorial Lutheran Church

Thanksgiving Eve Service (and pie!)

When: Wednesday, November 26, 6:30 PM

Kids Bells & Youth Bells Rehearsal

When: Sunday, November 30 following worship

Mid-week Advent Worship & Supper

When: Wednesday, December 3, 6:00 PM—Supper; 7:00 PM—Worship

Acolyte Training

When: Wednesday, December 3, 6:30 PM

Christmas Open House

When: Sunday, December 7, 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Stop by any time during the event for crafts for both kids and adults, a hot chocolate bar and popcorn, cookie decorating, and more!

Mid-week Advent Worship & Supper

When: Wednesday, December 10, 6:00 PM—Supper; 7:00 PM—Worship

Mid-week Advent Worship & Supper

When: Wednesday, December 17, 6:00 PM—Supper; 7:00 PM—Worship

Christmas Vespers - “I Believe in Christmas!”

An evening of handbell, vocal, and instrumental music

When: Thursday, December 18, 6:30 PM

Christmas Eve Worship Services

When: Wednesday, December 24, 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM

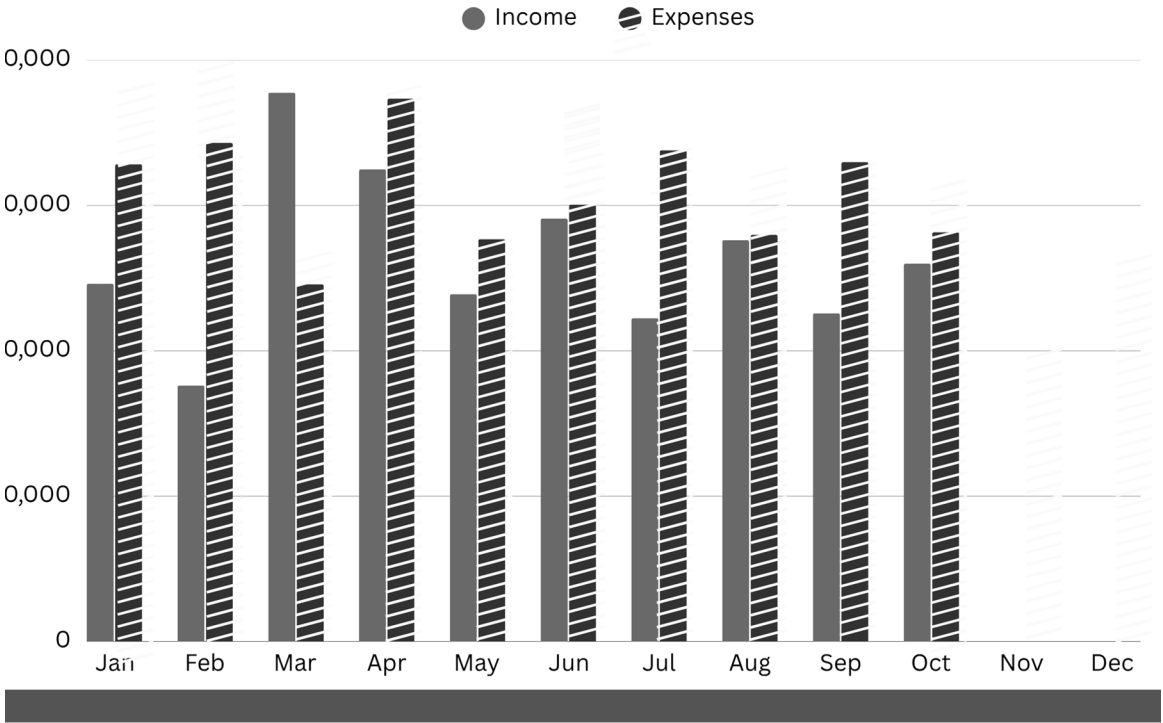
Christmas Day Lessons & Carols Service

When: Thursday, December 25, 10:00 AM

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 24 - Sunday, November 30

24 Monday <p style="text-align: center;">Church Office Closed</p>	25 Tuesday <p>11:30 AM Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon</p> <p>2:00 PM Bible Study in Chapel</p> <p>6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	26 Wednesday <p>6:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service (and pie!)</p>	27 Thursday <p style="text-align: center;">Church Office Closed</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>happy thanksgiving</i></p>
28 Friday <p style="text-align: center;">Church Office Closed</p>	29 Saturday <p>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.</p>	30 Sunday <p>9:00 AM Worship in-person and online</p> <p>10:15 AM Kids Bells and Youth Bells rehearsal following worship</p>	

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM*

**Call 515-382-6509 for appointments outside of office hours*

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▶ 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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