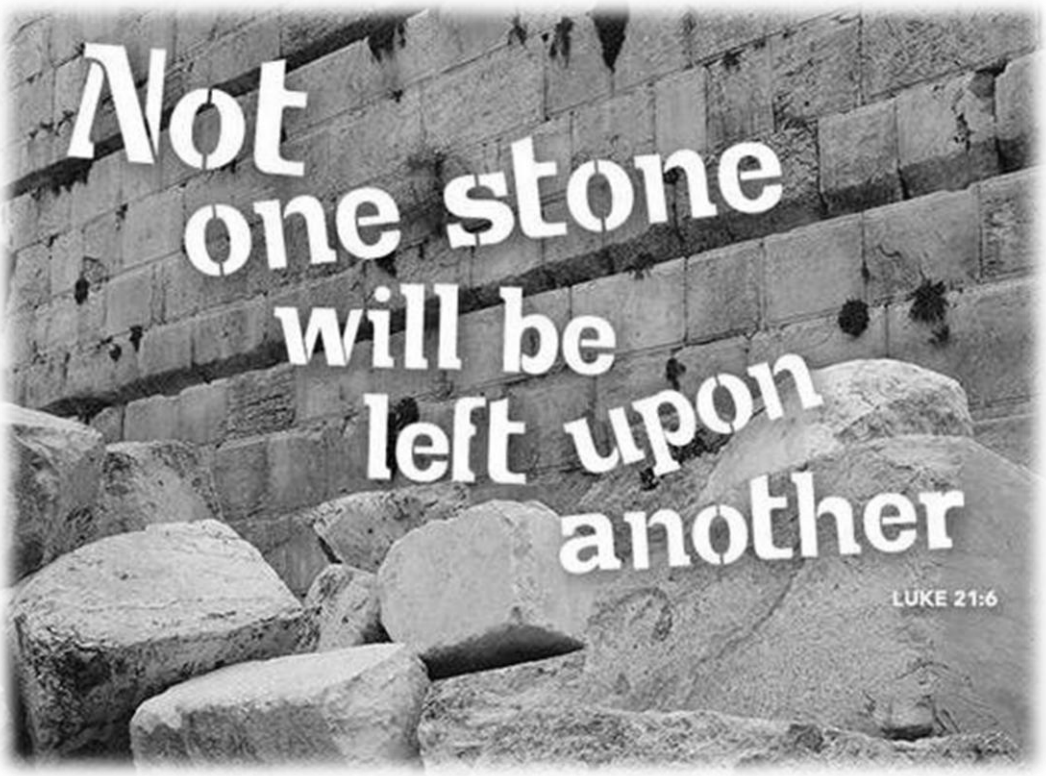


St. Martin's Lutheran Church
203 S. Defiance Street + Archbold, OH 43502
www.the-welcome-place.org

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 2025

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST *NOVEMBER 16, 2025*

In today's gospel, Jesus encouraged his disciples to always be ready for the tests and trials that will somehow surely come. As we grow in obedience, courage, patience, and love we need to keep the faith in difficult times.

Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader
Bold text is spoken by the congregation

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE ***Toccata on "How Firm a Foundation"***
Arr. Craig Phillips

BELL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit. *(Matthew 28:19)*
Amen

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits. The Lord forgives all our sins and heals all our diseases. *(Psalm 103:1-3)*

If we say 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 our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *(I John 1:8-9)* Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

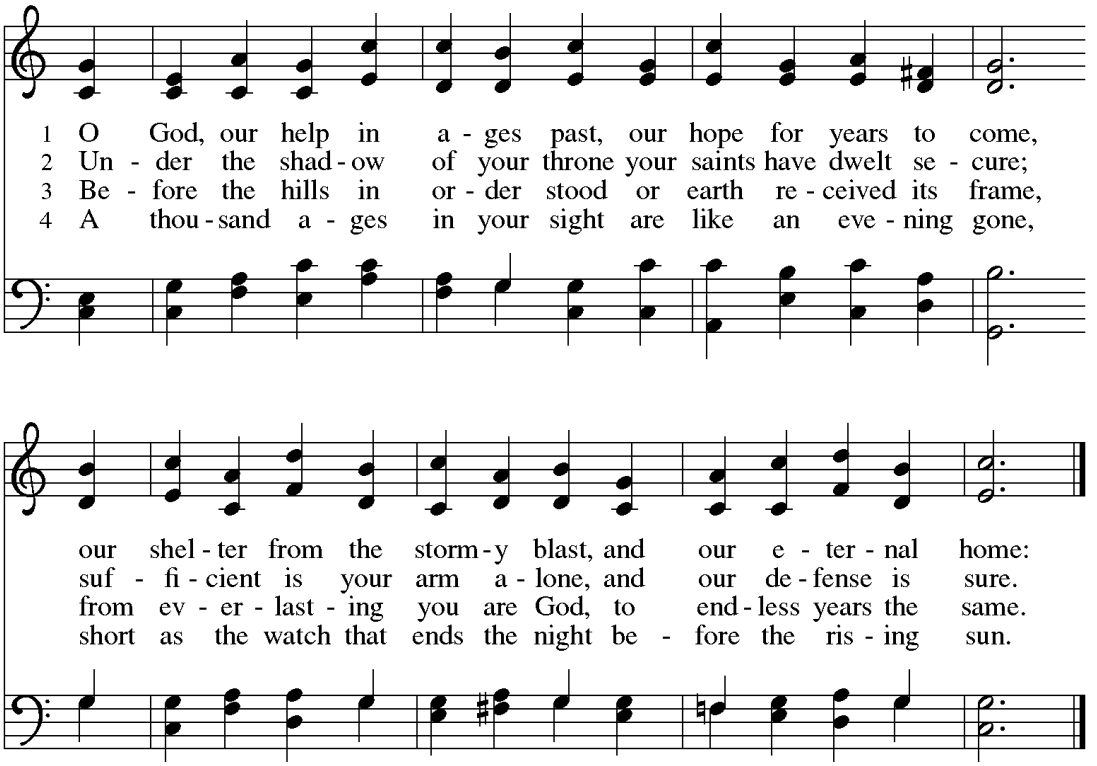
Silence for personal reflection

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are held captive 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith. *(Ephesians 2:4-5, 3:16-17)*
Amen

*Opening Hymn — *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*

Please sing unison on Verses 5 & 6



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

*Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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.

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. Give us courage to stand in the time of trial, and faith to witness to your truth and love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading — Malachi 4:1-2

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. [2]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.

Psalm 98

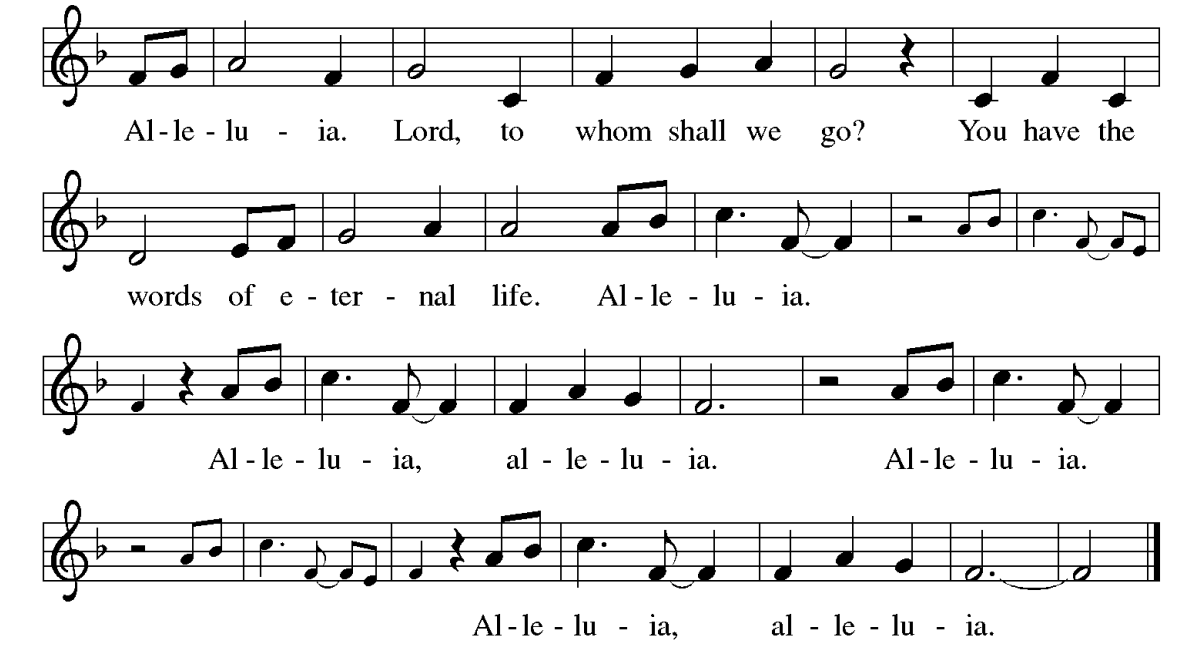
Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
With his right hand and his holy arm he has won for himself the victory.
The Lord has made known his victory; his righteousness he has openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
Lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the Lord.
Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.
Let the rivers clap their hands.
Let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord when he comes to judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

New Testament Reading — 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.

New Living Translation

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

*Gospel Reading — Luke 21:5-19

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

5When 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." 10Then he said to them, "Nation will
rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; 11there 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. 13This will give you an opportunity to testify. 14So make up your minds not to
prepare your defense in advance; 15for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your
opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. 16You will be betrayed even by parents and
brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. 17You 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."

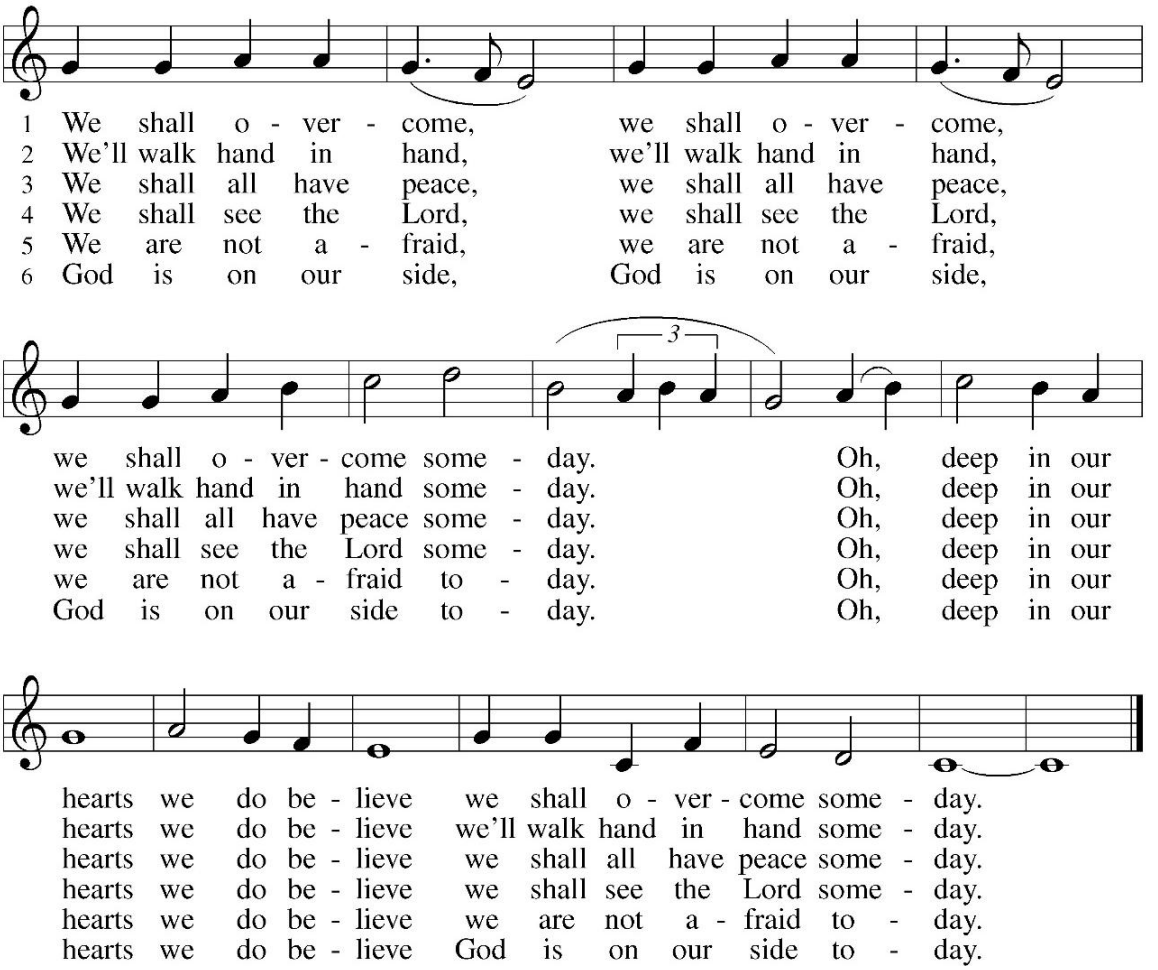
The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE *"See the Glory Through the Fog"*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF THE DAY *"We Shall Overcome"*



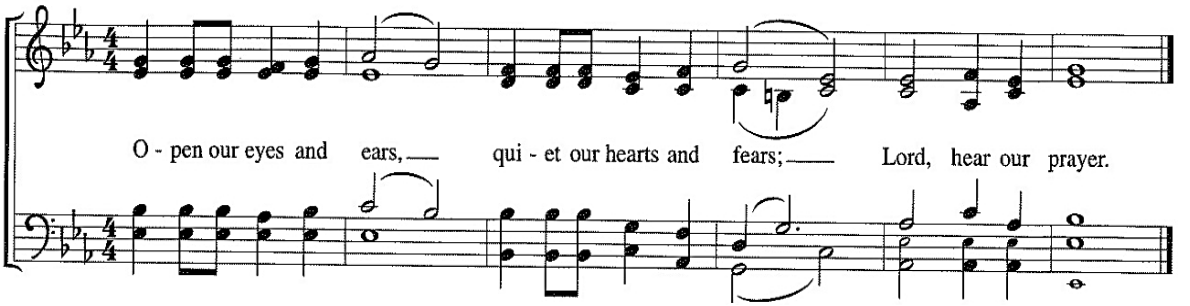
*PROFESSION OF FAITH – *Apostles Creed*

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 into hell.
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 THE CHURCH

The Refrain is sung at the beginning and after each petition…

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you")

OFFERING OF GIFTS

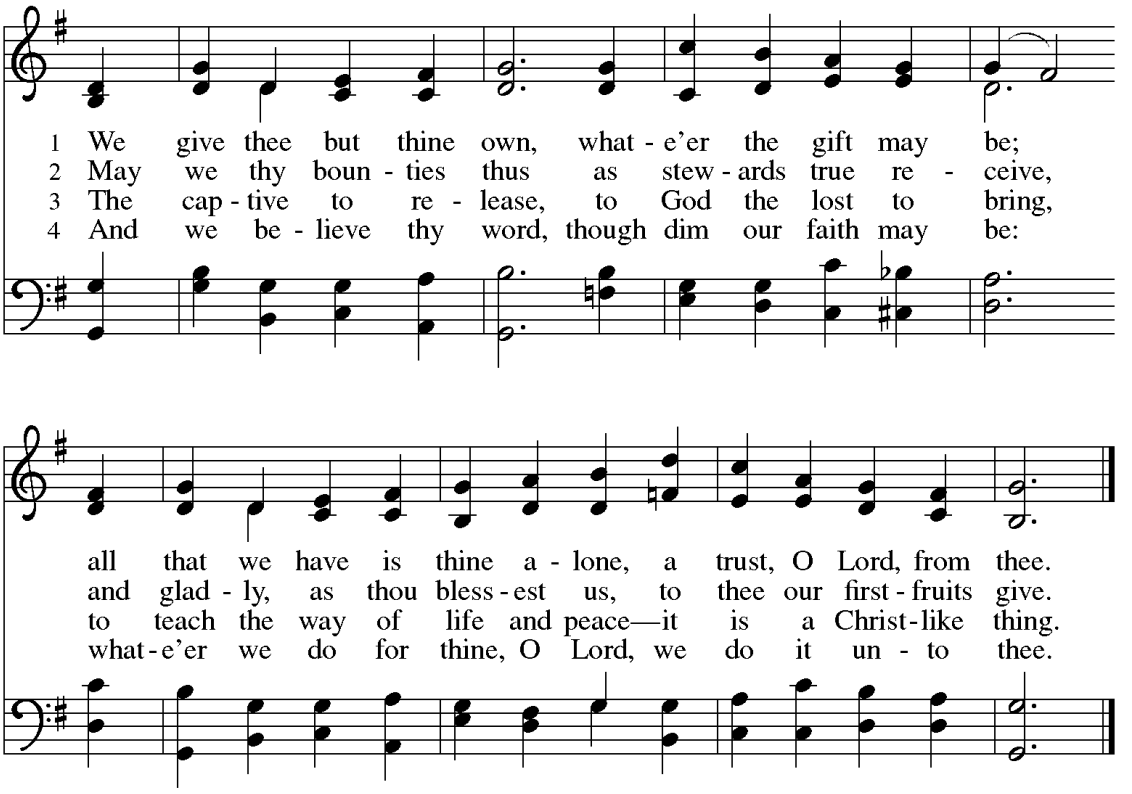
BELL CHOIR

"O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST"

arr. Afdahl

*Offertory

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"



*Offering Prayer

Loving God,

all that we have and all that we are comes from you.
As we return a portion of your blessings,
make us faithful stewards of your grace.
Strengthen our hands to serve others, and open our hearts to share freely—
so that all people may know your compassion and care;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

WE SHARE IN THE MEAL

*THE THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts!
We lift them to the Lord. *(Lamentations 3:41)*
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise. *(2 Thessalonians 1:3)*

*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in 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."

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

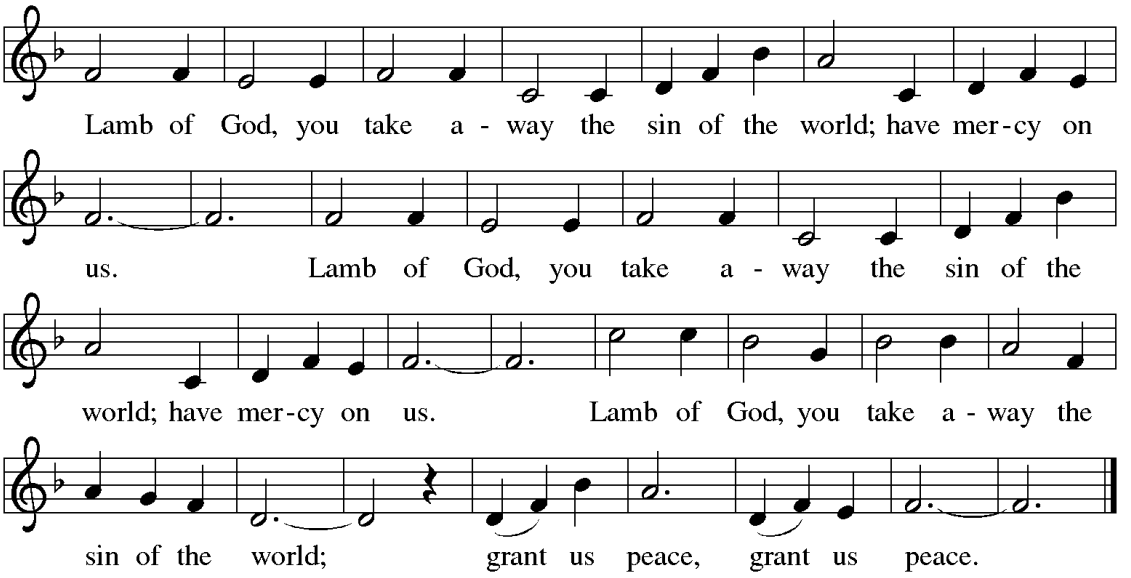
Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world. Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.
Amen.

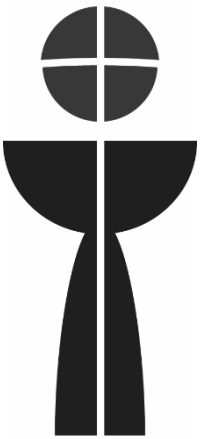
*THE LORD'S PRAYER

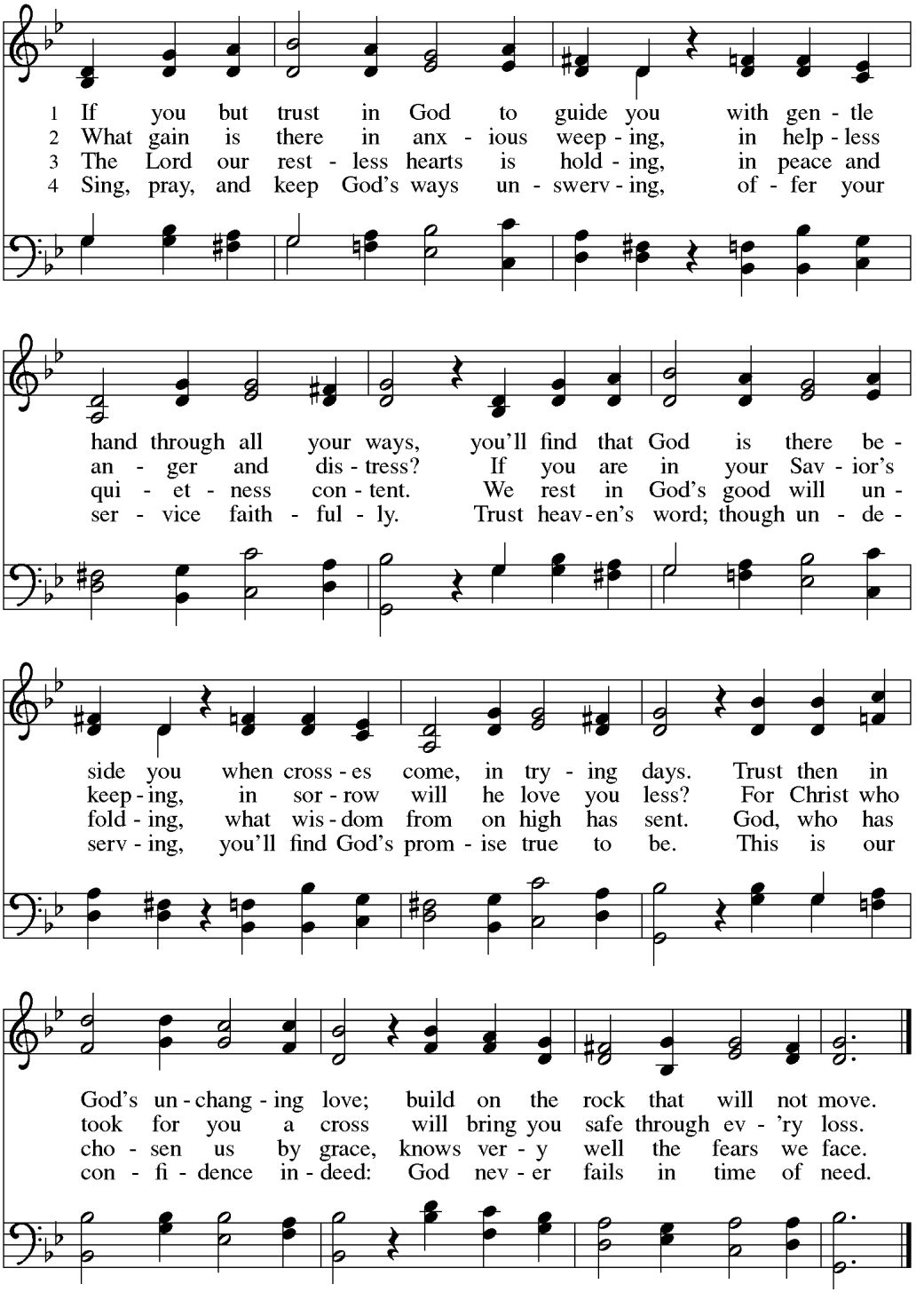
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

"Lamb of God"





Hymn *"If You but Trust in God to Guide You"*

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE

*BLESSING AND PRAYER

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

Amen

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.

* BENEDICTION

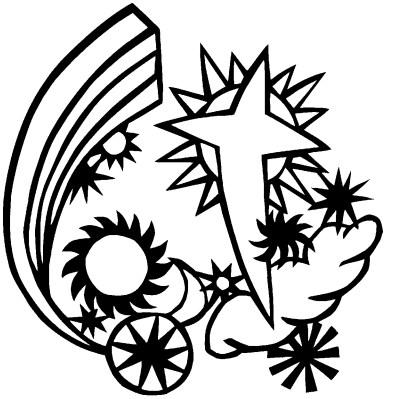
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine brightly upon you and be gracious to you.

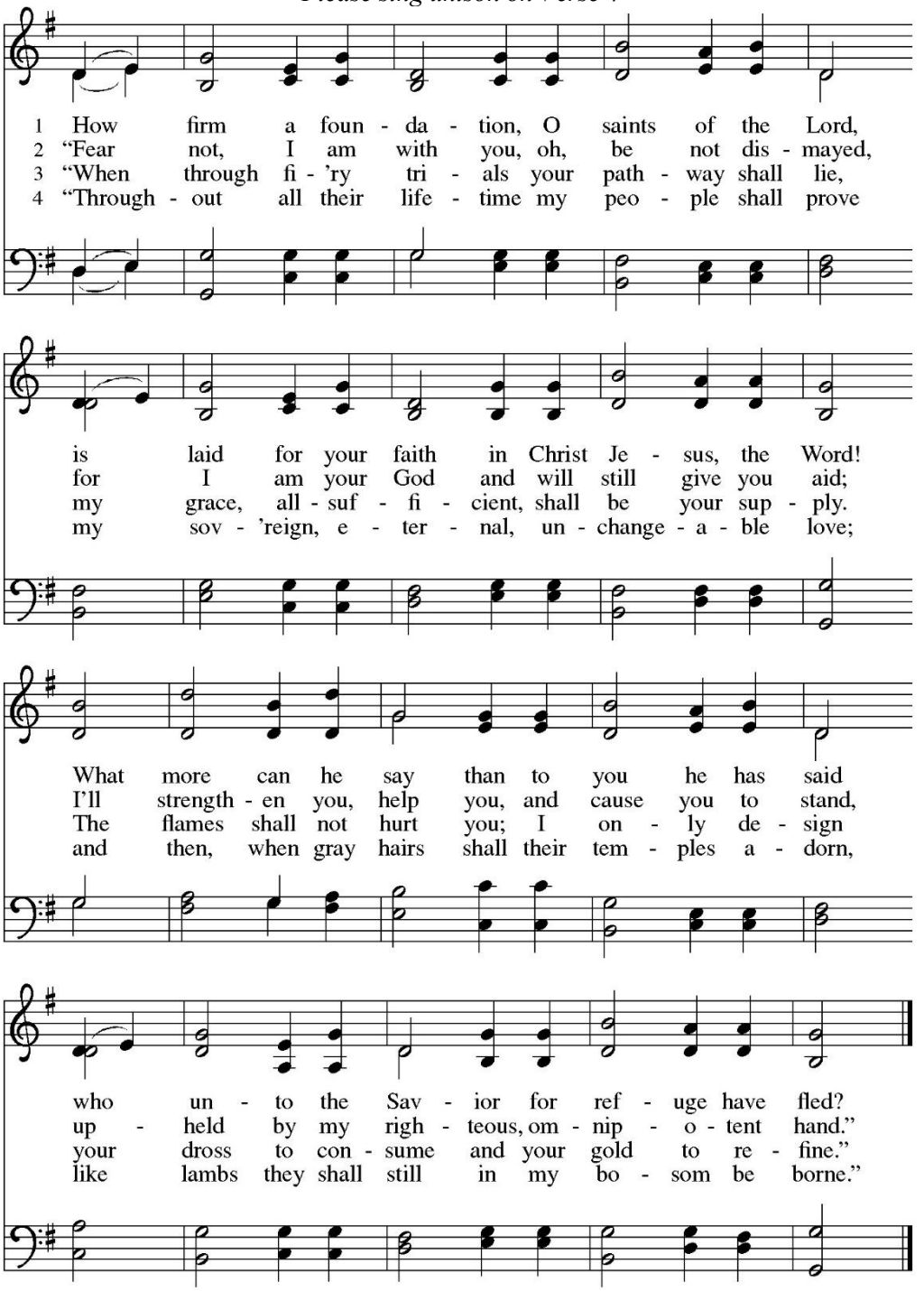
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, ☩ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen



*CLOSING HYMN *"How Firm a Foundation"*

Please sing unison on Verse 4

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+

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St. Martin's Worship Servants . . .

Acolyte	-Jalen Thompson
Lector	-Jim Hartman
Organist/Pianist	-Matthew Wachtman
Percussion	-Mike Short
Usher Team Leader	-Jim & Janet Wyse
Sound System	-Cameron Thompson
Altar Guild	-Joan Meyer & Jessica Short
Offering Counters	-Janet Wyse & Jo Ann Liechty

The St. Martin's Webstore is open! If you would like to order some apparel you can go to https://stmartinsarchbold.itemorder.com, click the link in your Friday email, or scan the QR code provided.

Scan Me

We are looking for people who would like to **provide the Wednesday Night meals**. Erinn Thompson is organizing this, so you can contact her if you would like to help. You can also scan the QR code provided or click the link in your Friday email to sign up!

The Nominating Team is requesting members of Congregation to prayerfully consider serving in any of the upcoming vacancies on Church Council listed below. Any member may submit a name for consideration, but please keep in mind that candidates must be voting members, attend worship and participate in Holy Communion regularly, and be an active participant in at least one ministry team. The following vacancies are available for the 2026-2028 term:

Council President
Council Secretary
Member-at-Large

Please contact Cameron Thompson or a member of the Nominating Team (Janet Wyse or Jan Delaney) no later than December 1st, 2025, with your considerations. Thank you!

If you are out and about and see Candy on sale, please consider donating to our **Parade of Lights** Float in November. There will be a place to leave donated candy in the entryway.

End of Year Giving: If you would like your end of year giving to go toward 2025, please have it in to Jo Ann Liechty by December 20th.

There will be a Parent's Night Out Event on December 13th! Drop your kids at the Outback from 6-8:30pm and get any last-minute Christmas Shopping or wrapping done! It will be a night of games, friends, & faith-filled activities for the kids. Sign up through Jake or the QR code listed in the Friday email or on our website!

NEW MINISTRY CONVERSATION! Jake and Pastor Steve have been having conversations with the Archbold Elementary Principal since the end of last school year. If anyone is interested in being part of developing and implementing an after-school program to provide possible tutoring assistance for students, please reach out to Jake or Steve.

The Church Directory has been up and running for a year and a half now! We are noticing it as a helpful tool for our congregation as it gets a lot of traffic week to week. We'd like to remind you that you can go online and make any changes for you and your family or contact the church office to do it for you. Any changes of address, please send to the church office so the directory and database can be updated. At the beginning of every year, the church office will update anything that we notice needs refreshed. Thank you all for your help and participation making the directory a helpful tool for our congregation.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP with Zion Mennonite, Wednesday, November 26 at 7pm at Zion. The choirs will provide music, and Pastor Steve will preach.

This Week at St. Martin's

TODAY – November 16
Worship, 9am
Sunday School, 10:20am
Adult Sunday School, 10:30am

Monday – November 17
Adult Catechism Zoom, 7pm
Chosen Zoom, 8pm

Tuesday – November 18
Men's Breakfast, 7am @ McDonald's
Community Meal, 5pm @ St. John's Christian

Wednesday – November 19
WPW Meal, 5:15pm
Worship, 6pm
Kids Club, 6pm
Catechism, 6:30pm
Adult Circle, 6:30pm
Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm

Thursday – November 20
Women's Breakfast, 7am @ Home Restaurant
Bulletin Deadline, 8am
Newsletter Deadline, 8am

Next Sunday – November 23
Worship, 9am
Sunday School, 10:20am
Adult Sunday School, 10:30am
High School Youth, 10:30am

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

203 S. Defiance Street Archbold OH 43502
Phone Number: 419-445-4656
Web Site: www.the-welcome-place.org
Email: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org

Office Hours:

Pastor Steve Basselman
steveb@the-welcome-place.org
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. morning
Tues, Wed, Thurs, afternoon
Cell Phone: 419-572-6091

Matthew Wachtman, Music & Worship
matthew@the-welcome-place.org
Tues, All Day
Wed. PM
Thurs, & Fri, AM

Jake Keil, **Youth**
jakek@the-welcome-place.org
Sun, Tues, Thurs. morning
Mon, Tues, Wed. afternoon & Sunday PM

Whitney Wyse, Office Manager
stmartin@the-welcome-place.org
Tues. 8:30-12:00 & Fri. 8:30-12

Worship Services: 9:00 am each Sunday, live broadcast on Facebook
6:00 pm each Wednesday, Informal Service

We welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. – Romans 15:7

Online Giving - Mobile Access

Mobile users can now access the giving page to set up recurring donations or make one-time donations directly from phones using this QR code.
To change or delete recurring donations you will still need to go to: **https://givingtools.com** and sign in to your account.

Last Week at St. Martin's. . .
Week of 11/9/2025, Budget and Year to Date

Operating Contributions	$10,206.01	Budgeted Weekly Operating Need	$7,329.00
Benevolence Received	$1,168.00	Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Need	$713.00
Other Designated Income	$1,200.00	**AS OF 10/31/2025**	
Total Income	$12,574.01	YTD Operating Received	$285,181.20
Worship: Sunday/Wed/Total	108/22/130	YTD Operating Expenses	($299,835.84)
		Net Income/(Deficit)	($14,654.64)

St. Martin's Prayer Line

For our prayers in worship this morning and our daily devotions in the coming week, we remember:

- The Bethel Parish of Dodoma, Tanzania, and Mission Partner Congregation of Redeemer, Toledo, may they continue to carry out God's ministry in their areas of mission.
- Those caught in the fighting between Israel and Palestine, the Ukraine; those recovering from recent natural disasters and the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief and other relief agencies.
- The family and friends of Dan Avers whose funeral is today.

For those who need healing, may they know the healing hand of God:

Bob Alley, Louise Beldon's brother-in-law, health concerns
Tim Anderson, Bjorlin cousin, cancer
Beverly Bettison, friend of Angie Avers, health concerns
Jeff Cook, Ann Ott's son
Jan Delaney, knee replacement
Jim Hayes, brother of June Hayes, health concerns
Jeanise Hoeffel, Jane Sonnenberg's sister
Jayne Jewell, Diana Ziegler's cousin
Shelly Kammeyer, daughter in law of Sharon Blair, Leukemia
Sue Keil, Jake's mom
Bonnie R. Lauber
Nan Levenson, Ken Collins' mother, health concerns
Anne McCarty, health concerns
Ed Miller, Joan Smith's son-in-law
Ann Ott
Dorothy Gifford, Diane Parsons' sister, cancer
Thana Morong
Dick Nagel, health concerns
Conrad and Karen Perry, Andi Erbskorn's brother and sister-in-law
Bruce Pearson, Trudel family friend, cancer
Bill Phelps
Peg Roth
Eric and Susan Rupp, Greg Rupp's brother and sister-in-law, health concerns
Mary Schwartz, Dianne Parsons' sister
Al & Lois Siewert
Joan Smith
Brad Welsh, brother-in-law of John & Chris Shafer, cancer
Joyce Winzeler
Paul Wyse, health concerns
Joe Wyse
Homebound – Milla Kohv, Jerry & Alice Geiger

For those who need God's protection and the assurance of God's presence:
All members, family & friends who serve in our military: Patrick Cirenza (June Hayes), Bradly & Victoria Nilsson, Kennedy Hartung, Brendon Johns, Kasyn Schaffner

Any prayer requests to add or remove can be sent to the Church Office by Thursday of each week: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org **We include a person's name and details only with their permission.**

Take Up Your C.R.O.S.S.

2025 Stewardship Reminder of St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Connect | Relate | Offer | Study | Serve

Offer back to God through His church and those in need what He has already given you

Its not ours

Stay on the altar

No more sacrifices

X marks the spot

X marks the spot

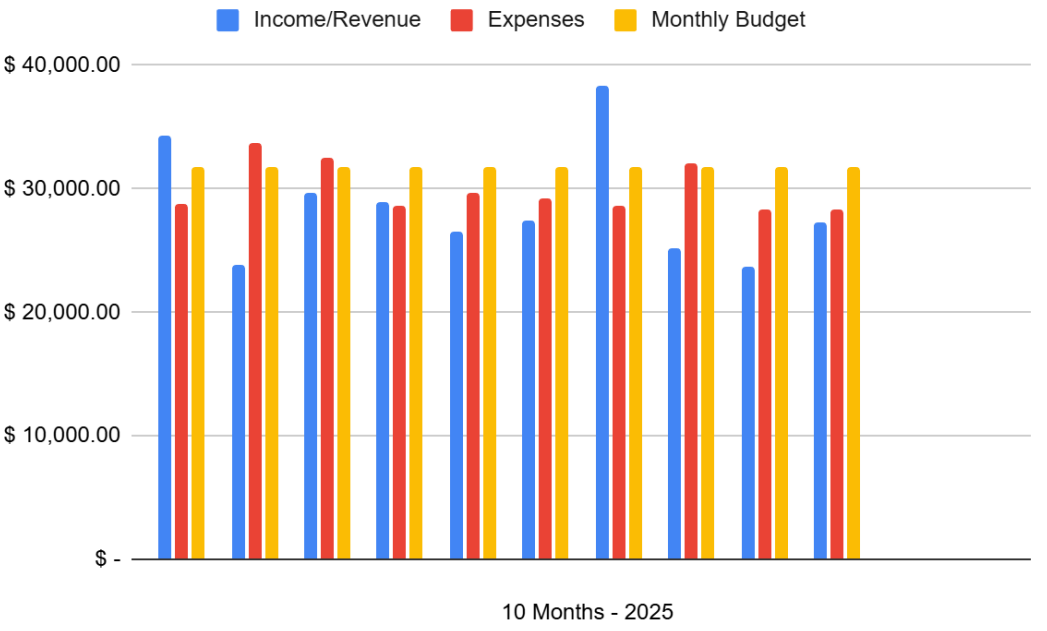
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

I used to not care for Matthew 6:21 very much. I mean it was right there in black and white. You could open my checkbook and see where my heart was. And it wasn't a fact I was going to broadcast from the rooftops. It made me feel guilty. It made me feel like I wasn't a very good Christian. And so, I didn't care for Matthew 6:21 a whole lot.

I knew that my heart was supposed to be close to God. But it wasn't always there. And to be perfectly honest, I didn't lose tons of sleep trying to figure out how to change that. But then one day it hit me. I didn't have to figure it out. God wasn't guilting me with Matthew 6:21, he was guiding me. He was giving me instructions on how to feel closer to Him. This wasn't a shameful fundraising ploy. It was direct instructions to take another step in my walk of faith. And while this is not the only way to do that, our omniscient creator knows what salesmen across the world have known for years – you grow more attached to things that you have already committed resources to. And growing more attached to our Heavenly Father is a good thing – which is why we offer back to Him what He has already given us.

C.R.O.S.S. Challenge | Use the resources we are given to bless others as we have been blessed

2025 Financial Graph

Month	Income/Revenue	Expenses	Monthly Budget
January 2025	$ 34,275.00	$ 28,841.57	$ 31,757.28
February 2025	$23,834.25	$33,681.65	$31,757.28
March 2025	$29,700.44	$32,499.69	$31,757.28
April 2025	$28,954.18	$28,624.22	$31,757.28
May 2025	$26,527.77	$29,645.09	$31,757.28
June 2025	$27,359.09	$29,278.60	$31,757.28
July 2025	$38,347.36	$28,605.62	$31,757.28
August 2025	$25,203.72	$32,036.62	$31,757.28
September 2025	$23,680.61	$28,388.99	$31,757.28
October 2025	$27,298.78	$28,333.10	$31,757.28
November 2025	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
December 2025	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00