



So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

*Psalm 90:12*

## Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

10:30 AM

*Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel*

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ’s coming among us.

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God  
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through  
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

**On the center aisle of each pew is a folder known as the Friendship Register.** Please sign the register and check if you are communing today. Be sure to review the sheet to identify visitors. Please hand the completed pages from the register to an usher during the singing of the Hymn of the Day.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Four*

### **✠ GATHERING ✠**

#### **ACCLAMATION**

Timothy Olsen

*Alleluia.* Abide in me as I abide in you; those who abide in me bear much fruit. *Alleluia.*  
(John 15:4, 5)

#### **PRELUDE** Abundant Joy

Sandra Eithun

*Handbell Choir*

*We stand.*

#### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

#### **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 God  
the one who forms us,  
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.  
We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.  
We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.  
For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.  
For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.  
For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.  
Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen.**

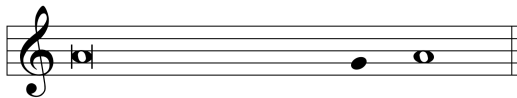
*The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.*

**GATHERING HYMN 261** As the Dark Awaits the Dawn

LUCENT

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.**

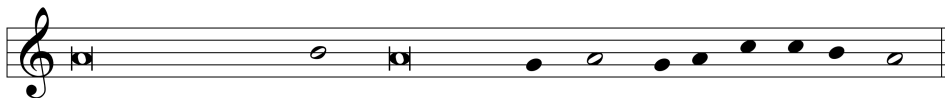
# KYRIE



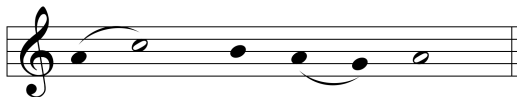
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



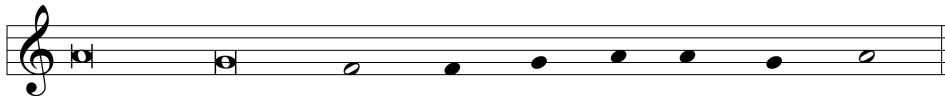
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



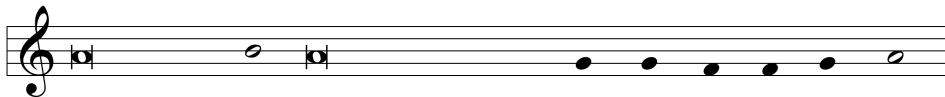
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



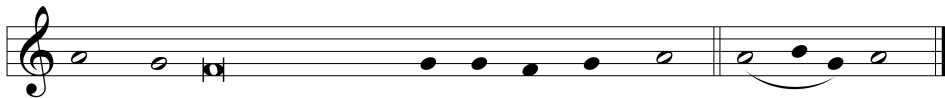
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



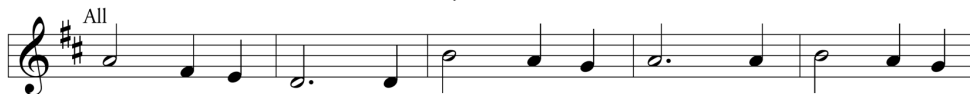
Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich - es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

*After the prayer the assembly responds:* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## WELCOME

# ✠ WORD ✠

### FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

## GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

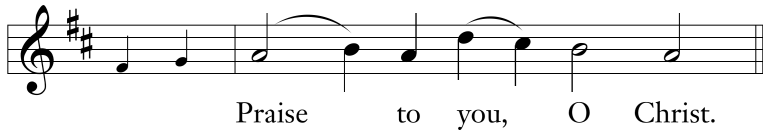
The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?’ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”



The gospel of the Lord.



*We sit.*

## **SERMON**

Rev. Paul A. Wollner

*We stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** 678 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

RUSTINGTON

*We sit.*

## **NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION**

*We stand.*

## **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

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Each portion of the prayers conclude:*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

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

*The congregation is invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another. Please honor those who prefer not to physically share the peace.*

*We sit.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON AND BIBLE MILESTONES

### ✠ MEAL ✠

## OFFERING

*We pass the offering plates in recognition that we are all invited to participate in sharing the gifts of abundance with what God has first given us. We recognize that many share their financial gifts online or at different frequencies; passing the plates connects us in our giving, no matter how we share. Please pass the plate down the pew and then onto the next row.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** All Things Bright and Beautiful    text: Cecil Frances Alexander  
music: Richard Webster

*Refrain*

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flow'r that opens, each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings.    *Refrain*

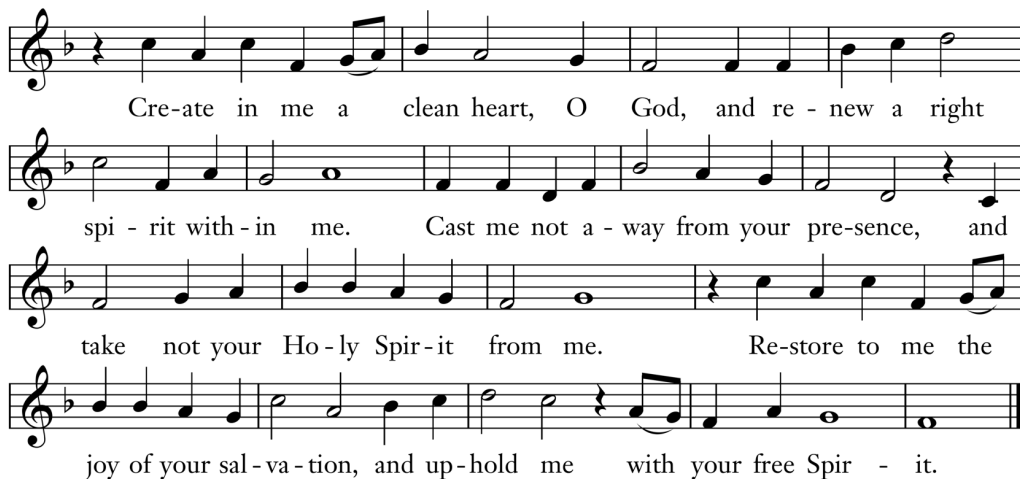
The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,  
The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.    *Refrain*

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden, he made them ev'ry one.    *Refrain*

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.    *Refrain*

*We stand.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spi - rit with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pre - sence, and  
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

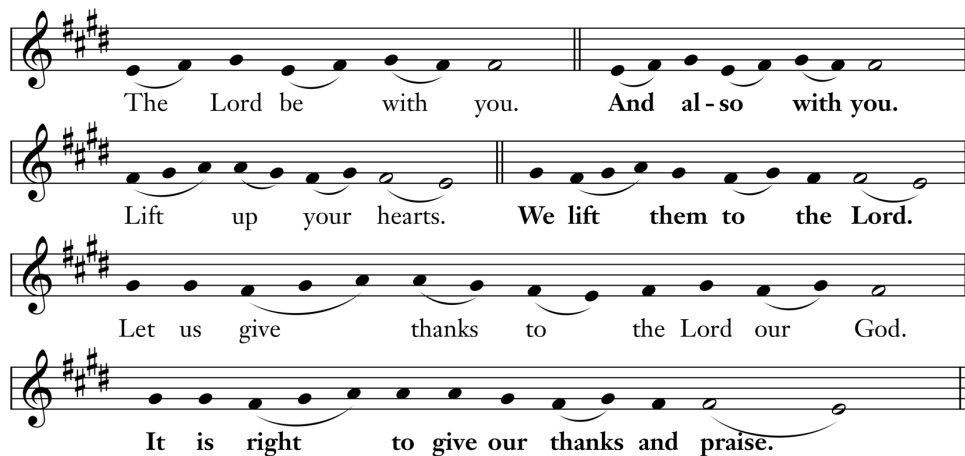
Let us pray.

**Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.**

**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:  
our selves, our time, and our possessions.**

**Use us, and what we have gathered,  
in feeding the world with your love,  
through the one who gave himself for us,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

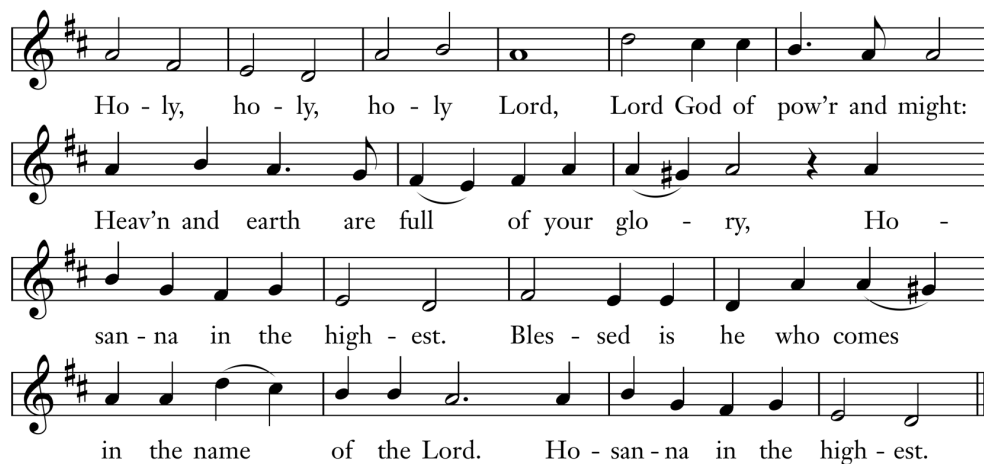
## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al-so 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



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. Bles - sed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.

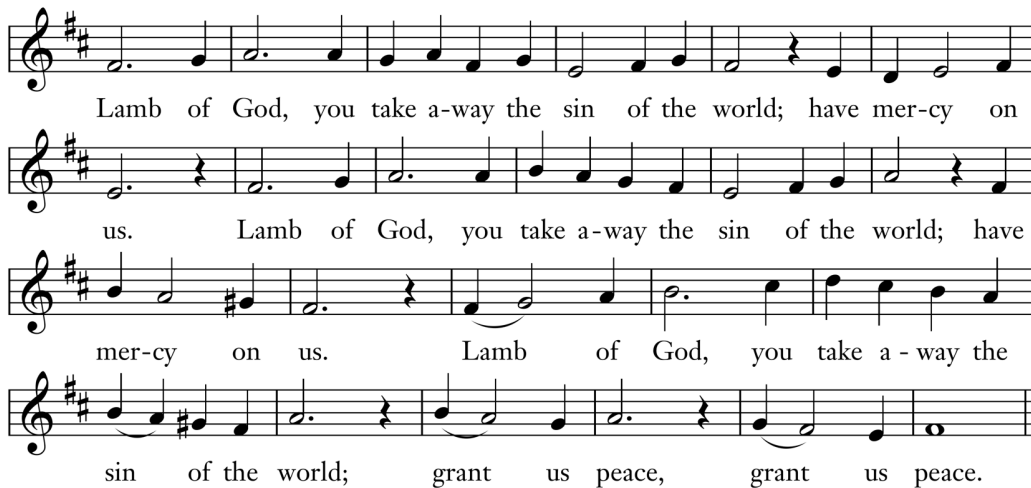
**For thine is the kingdom,**

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

## AGNUS DEI



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.

*We sit.*

## COMMUNION

*Holy Communion is available to all who believe, through two options. Those who are able are invited forward to receive the bread and wine through the method of intinction. Please let an usher know if you need a gluten-free wafer or grape juice option. You may also choose to receive an individual pre-sealed communion kit from an usher that you are welcome to bring forward for the Eucharistic Proclamation. The pastors will come to the pews of those unable to come forward. Those who would like to receive a blessing instead of communion are asked to cross their hands when they come forward.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond Amen.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

**ANTHEM** O Christ the Same

text: Timothy Dudley-Smith

music: Irish tune, arr. John Barnard

**HYMN** 715 Christ, Be Our Light

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

*We stand.*

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

# POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE O Lord, We Praise You

GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET

Oh Lord, we praise you, bless you, and adore you, in thanks -  
giving bow before you. Here with your  
body and your blood you nourish our weak souls that  
they may flourish. O Lord, have mercy!  
May your body, Lord, born of Mary, that our  
sins and sorrows did carry, and your blood for us plead  
in all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

## ✠ SENDING ✠

### BLESSING

The Lord bless you...and ✠ give you peace.

A - - - men.

*The assembly faces the cross as it leaves the sanctuary, following the cross as we follow Jesus into the world. All remain facing the cross for the dismissal.*

**SENDING HYMN** 880 O God beyond All Praising

THAXTED

**CONGREGATIONAL UPDATE**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God!**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** Now Thank We All Our God

arr. Olsen/Saxton

## *Soli Deo Gloria*

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### **AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH**

845 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

www.alcws.org (336) 722-8144

*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod*

#### ***Rostered Ministers of Word and Sacrament***

The Reverend Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Joe Yucha, Associate Pastor

#### ***Rostered Minister of Word and Service***

The Reverend Katie B. Bryant, Youth & Emerging Ministries

Our rostered ministers observe Friday as their sabbath day.

Please refer to the announcement sheet for the pastor on call.

Daniele Olsen: Executive Assistant

Kris Andrews: Interim Financial Administrator

Carl Davis: Sexton

Dr. Timothy Olsen: Cantor

Christin Barnhardt: Handbell & Children's Music Director

Hannah Norem: Vicar & Communications Coordinator

Robin Welch: Youth & Outreach Coordinator

*Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*