

Christ the King
November 21, 2021

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Making Christ Known to all Through Grace

2225 Washington Street, Lincoln NE 68502 + 402-474-1505 + www.egrace.org

Network: GLC-Balcony

Password: AlphaOmega

WELCOME to worship

Grace Lutheran Church, a church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been at the heart of the faith community in Lincoln since 1889.

- We follow our mission: "Making Christ known to all through Grace."
- We celebrate our purpose: "That by God's grace we have been gathered to worship, called to witness, and sent to serve."
- We seek our vision: "To become a church with a passion for fostering a welcoming community that strives for peace and a sense of belonging."

Thank you for worshipping with us today and join our community at any time!

WORSHIP notes

Remember your response is marked in **BOLD** font.

Hearing enhancement devices are available in the entry space. Ask an usher to assist you.

Restrooms are located next to our chapel on the other side of the courtyard.

Masks are required for everyone during worship.

INTRODUCTION to worship

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

PRELUDE: "Come Thou, Almighty King", arr. Bill Ingram

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger. We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice. Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen.

God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for † Jesus' sake and remembers them no more. Lift up your heads and your hearts. Yours is the kingdom of God. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Thou Almighty King



1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;
2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be



help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in
hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in



to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.
ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

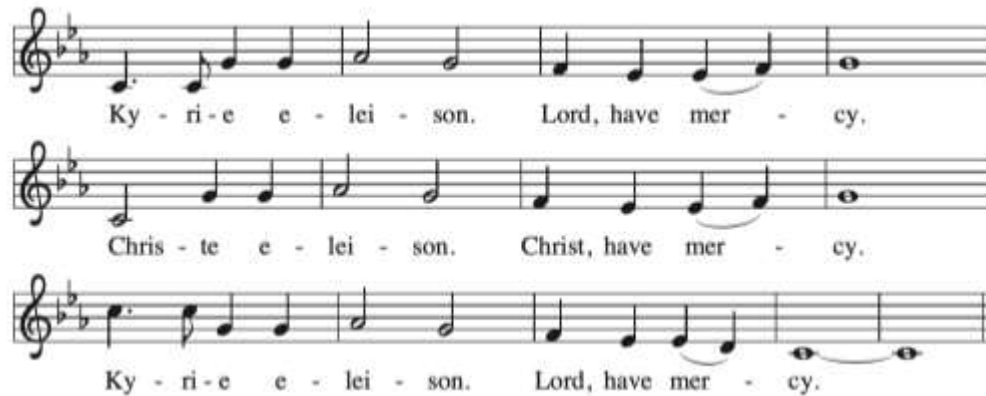
Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

GREETING

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



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy,
Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy,
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SIT

First Reading: Daniel 7:9, 13-14

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

A reading from Daniel:

⁹As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne,
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.

¹³As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being
coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One
and was presented before him.

¹⁴To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 93



Psalm 93:2

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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¹The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and ¹ armed with strength.
The LORD has made the world so sure that it can- ¹ not be moved.

²**Ever since the world began, your throne has ¹ been established;
you are from ¹ everlasting. R**

³The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted ¹ up their voice;
the waters have lifted up their ¹ pounding waves.

⁴**Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers ¹ of the sea,
mightier is the LORD who ¹ dwells on high.**

⁵Your testimonies are ¹ very sure,
and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and for- ¹ evermore. **R**

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

A reading from Revelation:

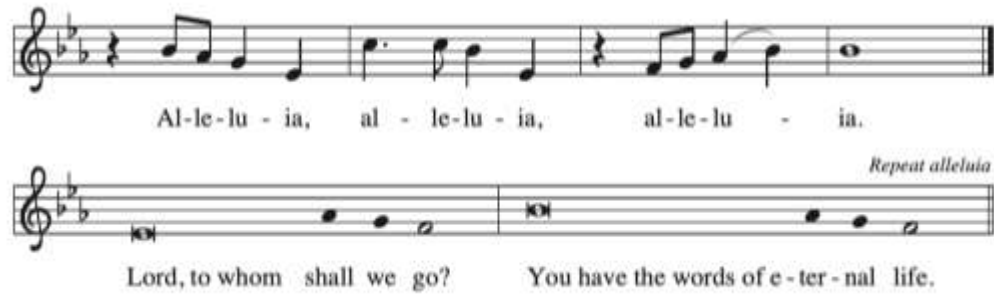
^{4b}Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

STAND



Gospel: John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³³Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SIT

SERMON

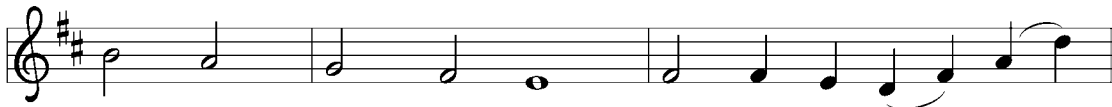
STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need. *A brief silence.*

God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others. Renew them in their work. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering. Especially those we name before you now.... Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus' reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

SIT

After the offering basket is brought forward then the members of WELCA can bring their Thankoffering forward to place in the offering basket.

MUSIC OFFERING: "Beautiful Savior", *Fairest Lord Jesus*, Anna Laura Page, 2002.

Beautiful Savior, King of creation,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee,

Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,

Robed in flowers of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,

He makes my sorrowing spirit sing.

*Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.*

*Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!*

Beautiful Savior, Thee we adore.

STAND

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DIALOG



PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always 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. Amen.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

A feast of love is offered here for you and for all the saints.

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.

COMMUNION

All are welcome. Come forward by way of the center aisle to receive the wafer (Body of Christ). Gluten free is available upon request. Move to the next station to receive the cup (Blood of Christ). Red grape juice is available. Return to your pew by way of the side aisle. Please dispose your used cup into the basket at the head of the side aisle.

COMMUNION HYMN

Lead On, O King Eternal!



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862–1917

Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

STAND

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet. **Amen.**

SENDING

God sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

BLESSING

God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life, ✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: "To God Be The Glory", arr. Sandra Eithun, 2017

WORSHIP Contributors:

Worship leader:	Eric Leshner
Organist/Pianist:	Anne Melang-Thoren
Reader:	Dean Dumler
Choir:	Julene Leshner, Madeleine & Miles Melang-Thoren, Chris and Wendy Apple, Bev Madison, Peter Schnake, Dave Rathjen (flute)
Bell Choirs:	Group A: Wendy & Chris Apple, Madeleine and Miles Melang-Thoren, Dave Ripa, Bev Madison. Group B: Lisa Holmstrom, Dave Rathjen, Jillian Jensen, Isabel Kuebler, Peter Schnake.
Communion Assistants:	Roger Potts and Julene Leshner
Bread:	Chris and Wendy Apple
Altar Guild:	Kurt and Cindy Eberspacher
Wine:	Kathy Remington, Larry and Sharon Genthe
Ushers:	Kurt and Cindy Eberspacher, Lori Drake

WORSHIP RESTRICTIONS

The following temporary changes will occur for the foreseeable future:

- As always, if you are ill or at risk, please stay at home and watch the service online.
- Masks are required for everyone during worship.
- We will enter the building through the North doors. The doors will be locked at 9:10. All other doors will be locked.
- There will hand sanitizers in the narthex. If you wish you can sanitize your hands prior to entering the worship space.
- There will be no offering. There will be an offering basket located at the entrance door to the sanctuary.
- There will be no sharing of the peace.
- The presiding minister will greet you in the narthex after the postlude.
- There will be no acolyte.
- There will be no nursery available.



Jesus stands before Pilate. We know this story. What is striking is how Jesus acts in the time of trial. He acts with integrity. He makes a choice to remain wholly who he is, firmly rooted in love of God and clear about the work he has come to do. In that moment Jesus stays true to who he is as a child of God.

Likewise, faithful, selfless and generous giving invites us into a deeper relationship with God and our money. And it requires us to do the hard, but essential work of looking deep within to discover what we truly value and what we consider most important in our lives. These discoveries help us stay rooted in love of God, the church and our community.

Thankoffering

Thankofferings are gathered every year to support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization known as Women of the ELCA or WELCA. Thank you to all the members of our WELCA groups for their offering today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO Coffee Hour in the gym following worship. Sign-up list to host a coffee hour is outside the office. Who's next?

Green attendance cards can be filled out and returned to the Offering basket in the front of the church or the Welcome Table basket in the back of the church.

2022 Budget copies are in the narthex.

Thanksgiving Boxes

The Social Ministry Committee will be having our annual food drive for the Thanksgiving boxes we assemble and deliver. Items to donate are canned vegetables/fruits, canned cranberries – jellied or whole, boxes of Jell-O, boxes of stuffing mixes, boxes of instant potatoes, envelopes/jars/cans of gravy, and cash donations to purchase the perishable items – turkeys, hams, pumpkin pies, rolls, and butter. **There is a donation basket available in the narthex and by the church office.** We will also need some boxes - something sturdy and about 18" x 11" x 9 1/2".

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to pack the boxes and/or deliver them, please send an email to: ldrake3@neb.rr.com or phone/text Lori at 402-310-8386 (leave a voice message if I'm unable to answer).

Congregational Meeting

After worship in the nave. We will approve our 2022 Budget and our 2022 Nominating Committee.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Worship on November 24th at 6:30 pm in the nave.

Funeral

Doug Allen's funeral is November 26th at 10:00 am in the nave.

Poinsettias

Order forms for this year's Christmas poinsettias are available in the narthex and outside the office. Thanks for your donation!

Outreach Team

Patty Plambeck, from the Congregational Life committee, is wanting to organize a team of members (5-10) who would be willing to call and check in on other members of Grace. If interested please voicemail (474-1505 ext. 11) or email (pr.eric@egrace.org) Pr. Eric and he will send your name on to Patty. Thanks.

The Lutheran magazine and **Daily Devotionals** are available in the narthex after worship or in the atrium during the week.

Flower chart is available in the atrium. You can sign up for flowers there and leave through the east main entrance.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

November 22:

Lincoln Literacy	9:15 am
Lessons	4:00 pm
Scouts BSA	7:00 pm

November 23:

Al-Anon	9:30 am
Lessons	4:00 pm

November 24:

Lincoln Literacy	9:15 am
Thanksgiving Eve Service	6:30 pm
Bell Choir B practice	7:30 pm

November 27:

Family Event	11:00 am
Worship	5:30 pm

November 28:

Worship	9:00 am
Table Fellowship	10:00 am
Adult Choir	10:15 am
Adult Class	10:30 am

