

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Congregation of the ELCA

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Sun City, CA 92586 * (951) 679-1518

Email: faithlutheranmenifee@gmail.com

Guest Pastor: Pr. Rex Wignall

OFFICE HOURS: Tues & Thurs 8:30 - 5:00; Fri 8:30 - 12:30

Worship Plan for Sunday, November 2, 2025 * All Saints Sunday

WELCOME TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, where grace and love abound. While we wait and prepare for a new pastor, we invite you to participate fully in the vibrant life of the congregation, and to join us in prayer as we continue to serve God and God's people during this time of transition.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Enriching lives through faith and God's grace.

MEMBERS & GUESTS: Please fill out a worship attendance card found in the pew racks. Prayer requests may be included on the reverse side for one Sunday or bulletin publication.

INVITATION TO BAPTISM: We would like to extend to you the blessing of Baptism and encourage you to contact the church office to be baptized.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Christ is truly present through the power of God's Holy Spirit. We invite everyone to come forward and be renewed in the covenant God made with us in our baptism. All are gladly invited and welcome. If, in coming forward, you choose not to receive the Sacrament, we ask you to fold your hands over your chest so you may receive a pastoral blessing. The Sacrament will be brought to those unable to come forward to the altar (notify an usher). Available upon request: gluten-, wheat-, corn-, dairy-, and soy-free wafers.

CHILDREN'S COMMUNION: Families are encouraged to come to the rail together during the distribution. Children may receive Communion or a special blessing from the Pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School for children of all ages is immediately following the Children's Chat.

CELL PHONES: Please silence your cell phones before Worship.

Following worship, ALL are invited to join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

Introduction to the day

In holy baptism God makes saints out of sinners. In holy communion God forgives the sins of all the saints. In worship today we give thanks for all the saints “who from their labors rest.” In the same breath we petition our God for the strength to hear and to heed the admonitions of Jesus in today’s gospel. Sealed by the Spirit and sustained by the Savior’s body and blood, we live with joy as God gives us breath, to the praise of God’s glory.

GOSPEL MESSAGE: A Great Reward

It’s a dramatic scene: that moment in a movie when a large family comes together for the reading of the last will and testament. Usually, a lawyer sits facing the assembly with a pile of papers. The family members sit on the edge of their seats in anticipation. As the camera pans around the room, we can imagine their thoughts: “What will I get?” “Which one of us will keep the mansion?” “How much will my inheritance be?”

This typical scene of “reading the will” gets flipped upside down on All Saints Sunday. Yes, All Saints Sunday is about the reality of death and what happens next. But on this day, instead of looking at a lawyer, we look to Jesus. We give thanks for the inheritance Jesus has already made possible for us through his death on the cross and his resurrection to eternal life.

Our inheritance from Jesus isn’t only hope for the future. It’s the fuel that helps us live today. When we are poor, we can trust that one day, God will give us his kingdom. When we are hungry, we can trust that God will fill us. Jesus’ words assure us that he is with us now and that our reward is great in heaven. In him, God has conquered sin and death. Our inheritance as children of God is secure.

Jesus’ words are a comfort to us. His promise about our inheritance fills us with hope, especially when we hear the names of those who have died in the past year read aloud on All Saints Sunday. Even as we grieve their loss, we trust that their reward is great in heaven. Because of God’s reconciling love for all creation, the inheritance of eternal life belongs to us and to the saints who have gone before us.

Please stand for the Processional

PROCESSIONAL: “All Things Bright and Beautiful” sung by The Good and Beautiful Children

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AM: WELCOME

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church where grace and love abound. A special welcome to those of you here for the first time, to those joining us online, and to our guest pastor, Pr. Rex Wignall. As we highlight our Stewardship theme of “All Creatures Great and Small”, we pray that God will increase our awareness of God’s abundant generosity, and lovingly nudge us into asking ourselves, “What can I do to help make a positive difference here at Faith and beyond our doors?” While our Spirit-filled Call Committee continues the search for a permanent pastor, the life and purpose of our congregation move ahead full-force. Multiple opportunities are offered here at church and out in the community. Say YES to God’s gentle nudge! All are ALWAYS welcome!

AM: ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers were provided by the Puccios celebrating Madeline's birthday.

Next Sunday, November 9th is Women of the ELCA Thankoffering Sunday! Each year our congregation is invited to participate in Thankoffering by giving a special gift, over and above our regular giving, in support of Women of the ELCA ministries here in the U.S. and abroad. Look for the Thankoffering envelope in your church mailbox. Please make your check out to Faith W-ELCA, with the MEMO: Thankoffering, and bring it to church or pop it in the mail.

Next Sunday, the 9th, Claire Sefufetz from San Bernardino Community Wellness Campus (where our donations of men's hygiene items from God's Work. Our Hands were delivered) is coming to give a temple talk and share a video about the good news of the new buildings that are almost to completion! Come share the excitement and God's love in action!

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to revisit God's many blessings. Menifee Interfaith and Community Service Council will be having their 12th Annual Evening of Gratitude, a service of music and inspirational messages on Sunday November 16 at 6pm. We encourage you to attend. Flyers are available in the Narthex.

Flyers for the Free Holiday Family Photo event are available in the Narthex for you to share with all your friends and families. This **free** holiday photo opportunity on Nov 9 and Nov 16 is specifically for **NEW** visitors and families. All Faith's current regular attendees / families can schedule to get a free holiday photo on other photo days. Please sign up for a scheduled time slot in the

Narthex. One (1) digital photo shot and/or (1) printed photo shot will be available for pick up about 2 weeks after being taken.

This quarter (October - December) your Outreach Committee is collecting the following items for MilVet: Chewing gum (individually wrapped packs) and beef sticks (individually wrapped). The items will be used at MilVet's monthly packing event, where boxes are packed and sent to deployed military. Please show your love and support! The donation box is in the Narthex.

Ladies, this year's Pacifica WELCA gathering is November 14th-15th and will be held at Clairemont Lutheran in San Diego. Registration and Scholarship forms are on the table in the narthex, along with suggested hotel information. For questions, contact Joanne McGavran.

For November, we are collecting stuffing and mashed potatoes, grocery bags, and empty egg cartons. Please place donations in the wire basket in the foyer.

For more information and a complete monthly calendar, contact the church office.

P: SILENCE

Let us take a moment of silence to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

P: 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.

This is the day that the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: God is the giver of all good things.

C: God generously makes the world, and creates humankind in God's image.

P: Come let us delight in God's gifts.

C: Come let us delight in God's goodness.

P: Come let us live in God's image, generously giving, hosting, caring for the world.

C: Come, let us worship God!

AM: PLEASE TURN TO HYMN 422

Please stand as you are willing and able.

GATHERING SONG: *For All the Saints* (ELW 422, vs. 1, 2, 6, 7)

Public Domain; Sources: Text: William W. How, 1823–1897; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

P: CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P: PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior

and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PLEDGES ARE BROUGHT FORWARD

Please bring your pledge envelope/card and place it in the treasure chest. All pledges will remain confidential. This is a pledge between you and God in love and Thanksgiving. Join in singing “Take My Life That I May Be”, symbolically offering your entire self to God.

HYMN: *Take My Life, That I May Be* (ELW 685)

Public Domain; Sources: Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt; Music: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870

CHILDREN'S CHAT

P: WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST LESSON INTRODUCTION

Daniel 7 recounts the dream of Daniel, described as a young Judean exile in the Babylonian court. The portion of the chapter assigned for All Saints Day describes the beginning of Daniel’s dream, in which four great beasts arise out of the sea, and the interpretation of the dream by a heavenly being. In response to Daniel’s misapprehension, this heavenly being explains that the four beasts represent four kings (or kingdoms) but that the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom in the end.

LECTOR: FIRST READING: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

¹ In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: ² I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, ³ and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. ¹⁵ As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. ¹⁶ I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: ¹⁷ “As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. ¹⁸ But the holy ones of

the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM INTRODUCTION

Psalm 149 is the fourth of the five “Final Hallel” psalms (Psalms 146-150) that form the closing doxology of the Hebrew Psalter. It begins and ends with “Praise the Lord!,” as do the other four Final Hallel psalms; but it seems somewhat out of place in this collection of psalms, since its focus is on God’s vengeance on the nations in defense of God’s people.

LECTOR: PSALMODY: Psalm 149

¹ Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song, God’s praise in the assembly of the faithful.

² **Let Israel rejoice in their maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler.**

³ Let them praise their maker’s name with dancing; let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.

⁴ **For the LORD takes pleasure in the people and adorns the poor with victory.**

⁵ Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them sing for joy on their beds.

⁶ **Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand,**

⁷ to wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

⁸ **to bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron,**

⁹ to inflict on them the judgment decreed; this is glory for all God’s faithful ones. Hallelujah!

Amen.

SECOND LESSON INTRODUCTION

In many ways, this is the perfect passage for All Saints Day. It may be time to remember “the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints” (Ephesians 1:18) and live in such a way that is worthy of that high calling. With Christ as the “head,” the church—“which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all” (1:23)—is called on to represent the Christ figure in the world. What should this representation look like?

LECTOR: SECOND READING:

A reading from Ephesians 1:11-23

¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. ¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL INTRODUCTION

Saints come in many varieties, but Jesus focuses on certain kinds who receive his attention throughout his ministry: the poor, the hungry, the crying, and the hated or ostracized. All of those people, he promises, are "blessed" (makarios in Greek). Think of makarios as "unburdened" or "satisfied."

P: GOSPEL: Luke 6:20-31

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰ Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets. ²⁷ "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: "Saints and the Status Quo" by Pastor Rex

AM: PLEASE TURN TO HYMN 728

Please stand as you are willing and able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Blest Are They* (ELW 728)

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AM: APOSTLE'S CREED

We continue as we confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

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.

Please be seated for the Prayers of Intercession

PASTOR AND ASSISTING MINISTER: PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of all that is, delight in the praises of your people and revive the spirit of your church. Move through us with boldness so that we proclaim the gospel of Christ throughout the world. Renew and revive pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of the beginning, give us the courage to advocate for environmental policy that will ensure a viable future for generations to come. Restore desolate places to health and flourishing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all our days, guide the leaders of governments, nations, municipalities, and all those seeking office. Accompany election officials and volunteers. Dismantle injustice and oppression wherever it is found. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of comfort in troubled times, we pray for those in need of protection and care, especially Briana; Ian Berger; Arnette Calkins; Sandy Chandler; Vicki Crow; Eleanor Diaz; Doris Hays; Sarge Hunter; Eileen Johnson; Mike Latchford; Don Little; Donna McCain; Sandra Miller; Carol Morris; Michael Myers; Esther Neumen; Marilyn Rieti; Amy Sinclair; Joyce Stromberg; Kiki Thomas; Nicholas Thomas; Earlean Wagner; Diana Ward; the homebound; the emergency responders; and those grieving and anticipating surgery or tests. At this time, we also pray for those we name aloud or silently in our hearts. Trusting that you are constant in mercy, protect those who seek safety and solace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of what is yet to come, encourage and inspire those who give their time, talent, and treasure in service to your church. By their commitment, further the work of ministry in this place and uplift your gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of time and space, we give thanks for the faithful departed, who passed between November 2024 and October 2025, especially Rudy Bosinger; Ruth Ditsch; Patsy Loughboro; Thordis Moe; Len Morris, Dee Seel and Michael Weller. Sustain us in hope of our eternal unity in Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Almighty God, giver of all good gifts: Look on your Church with grace and guide the minds of those on the Call Committee who shall discern a pastor for this congregation, that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

P: PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

P: OFFERING

Today is the Day! The day that we celebrate what God is doing among us here at Faith Lutheran. The day we have prayerfully placed our pledges - our hopes and our dreams for God's world – in the pledge chest filling it with *LOVE IN ACTION*. By doing so, we trust that, like the miracle of feeding the five thousand, God can make a bountiful feast from just a few loaves and fish. What more can God do with the bounty of generosity we will gather today? May God bless our promise of giving, that we may be a blessing to all of God's children; all of our neighbors, near and far; all of God's Creatures, great and small! This morning's offering – including our prayers and pledges – will now be brought forward and lifted up to God during the Musical Offering.

Please feel free to either listen to our musical offering or sing along

MUSICAL OFFERING: *When the Saints Go Marching In* sung by the Howard Gospel Choir

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AM: OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous

hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

P: GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)

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.

P: PREFACE (ELW p. 153)

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. By the witness of your saints, you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ALL SING)

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

P: THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

P: INSTRUCTION FOR COMMUNION

As you are comfortable, you are invited to come forward to receive communion. All of God's children are welcome to Christ's table. Gather at the altar rail to receive the communion elements or if you wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. You may commune yourself once you've received the communion elements. Please hold out your hands to receive the bread from the Pastor. Then pick up a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the Communion Server. A gluten-free option is available upon request. Please deposit empty cups in the provided baskets/trays on your way back to your seat unless they are collected at the altar. If you would like communion brought to you at your seat, indicate by raising your hand for the Assisting Minister to see and they will bring communion to you.

P: INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

DURING DISTRIBUTION: *Come to the Table*

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As the Grains of Wheat (ELW 465)

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Eat This Bread: Jesus Christ, Bread of Life (ELW 472)

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P: COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

Communion Dismissal

AM: PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

P: BLESSING

God is the giver of all good things. Go now in peace to love and to serve – not because we must, but because we were made for this good work, each one of us created in the image of a good and generous God, born to care for this beautiful, broken world. In the name of the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit. Amen!

P: PLEASE TURN TO HYMN 418

Please stand as you are willing and able.

SENDING SONG: *Rejoice in God's Saints (ELW 418)*

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AM: INVITATION

We would like to invite guests and visitors to come and meet us in the narthex as you exit so that our council members can welcome you, and you can join us in the Fellowship Hall for cookies, coffee and conversation.

AM: DISMISSAL

AM: Go in peace, loving and caring for all God's creatures great and small.
Thanks be to God for all of them!!

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Monday, the 3rd: Council Meeting at 1:00

Tuesday, the 4th: Worship & Music meets at 10:00

Thursday, the 6th: Snip 'N Stitch meets at 9:00; Bingo begins at 4:00

Friday, the 7th: Al-Anon meets at 10:30

Saturday, the 8th: The Celebration of Life for Patsy Loughboro begins at 11:00, followed by a luncheon

Sunday, the 9th: Thankoffering Sunday and worship begins at 9:30 with Pr. Shane

THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY:

ASSISTING MINISTER: Roderick

LECTOR: Pat A.

COMMUNION SERVER: Karla

POWER POINT: Candy

USHER: Annie

ATTENDANCE: Kandie

GREETER: Walli

ALTAR GUILD: Kandie, Kay

SOUND: Marlene

LIVE STREAM: Madeline

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