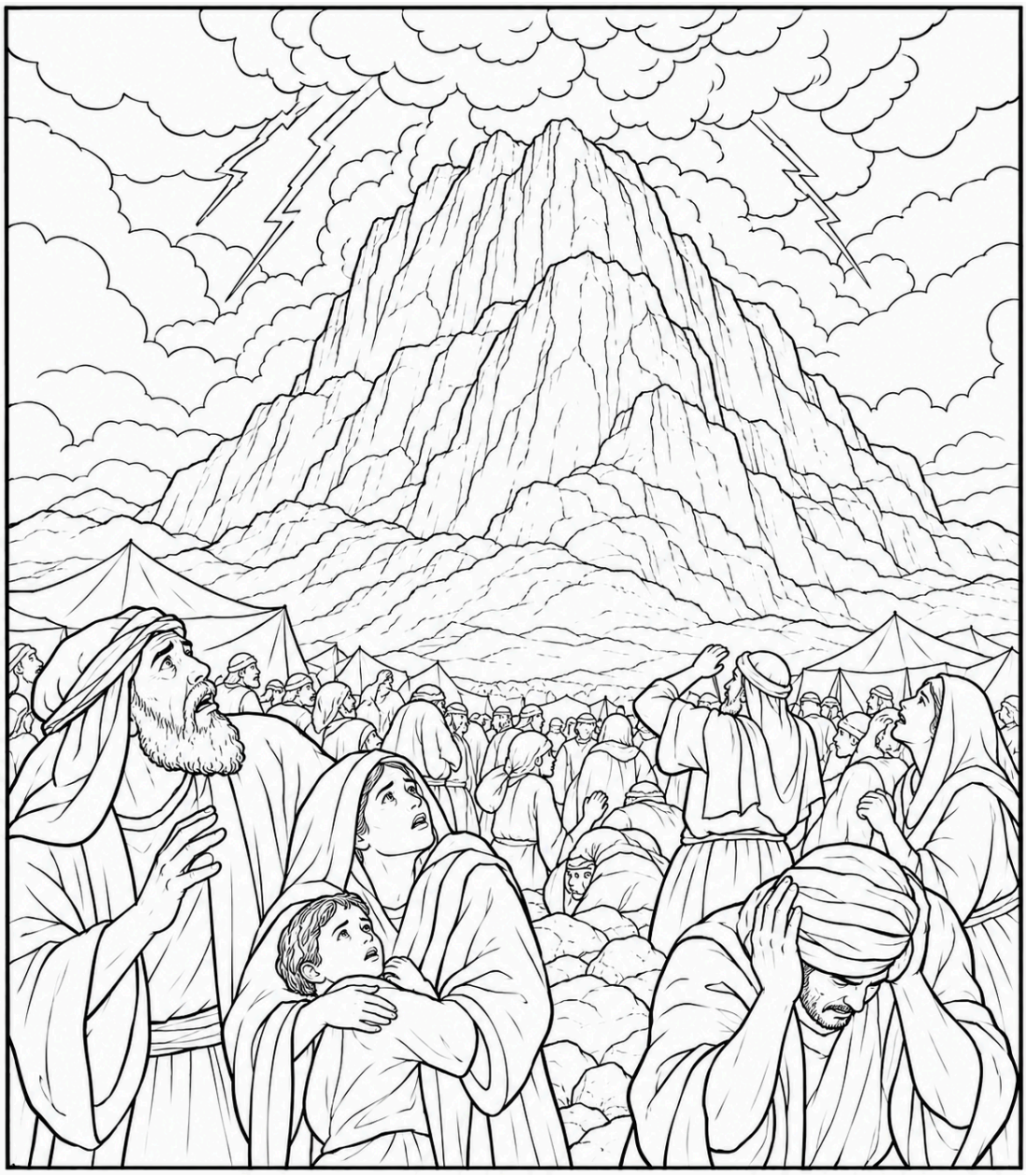
TREE OF LIFE
Christian Fellowship

“for Healing, Obedience, & Peace on Earth” (H.O.P.E.)



All Saints Festival | 1 Nov 2026

“Do Not Let God Speak to Us!”

Exodus 19:1—24:18

☩ The Way of Jesus Liturgy ☩

Invocation

Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth, Gen 1:1 ✦ **you created us to "serve and protect" your creation.** Gen 2:15 ✦ But we destroy your creation Rev 11:18 ✦ **through Civilization's Way of arrogance, fear, and violence.** Gen 3:1—4:17 ✦ So you send your Word in the flesh of your Son Jesus, John 1:14 who says, ✦ **"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven has arrived! Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me!"** Matt 4:17, 16:24 ✦ And you baptize us with your Holy Spirit Acts 1:5 ✦ **so we might care for all your creation by following Jesus's Way of "faith, hope, and love."** 1 Cor 13:13

Hear what Jesus says, ✦ **"Love the Lord your Creator with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.** ✦ This is the first and great command. And the second is like it: ✦ **Love your neighbor as yourself."** Matt 22:37-39

Processional Song — ***LSB 644 "The Church's One Foundation"***

♬ ***The Church's one foundation, is Jesus Christ her Lord. She is his new creation, by water and the word. From heav'n he came and sought her, to be his holy bride. With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.*** ♬

♬ ***Called out from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth. The Body of salvation, one Lord, one faith, new birth. One holy name she blesses, on his good word she feeds. And to one hope she presses, while he tends to her needs.*** ♬

♬ ***Because of betraying hearts, the world sees her oppressed. By arguments torn apart, by false teachings distressed. Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the night of weeping, will be the dawn of song.*** ♬

♬ ***The Church will never perish, her strong Lord to defend. To guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end. There are those who will hate her, and men want her to fail. Against the constant traitor, she always will prevail.*** ♬

♬ ***Through hatred from the nations, and violence from their wars. She waits the resurrection, of peace for evermore. Till with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are bless'd. And the great Church victorious, will be the Church at rest.*** ♬

♬ ***Yet she on earth has union, with God the three in one. And mystic sweet communion, with those whose rest is won. Oh blessed heav'nly chorus, "Lord, save us by your grace!" That we like saints before us, may see you face to face.*** ♬

All Saints Litany

O Lord, the death of your saints, ✦ **is precious in your sight.**
Your faithful people are always in your hands, ✦ **in life and in death.**
All your saints are present with us, ✦ **for we are united as the Body of Christ.**

Prayer of the Day

Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matt 18:20

(the Christ candle is lit to remind us that Jesus is coming among us)

♬ ***We are filled with the Spirit, and we follow the Lord, We are filled with the Spirit, and we follow the Lord, And we pray that all creation may one day be restored. And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*** ♬ *(GC2 728)*

The Lord Jesus be with you. ✦ **And also with you.** ✦ Let us pray. Heavenly Father, help us to not turn away from your voice so we may listen to your life-giving Word. In the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. ✝ **Amen.**

† Baptism — The Way of Faith †

Surrendering to the Creator

Jesus says, "If you hold onto your soul, ✦ **you will lose it.** ✦ But if you let go of your soul, ✦ **you will find it.** Matt 10:39 ✦ You must be born again through water and the Spirit ✦ **to enter the Creator's Kingdom."** John 3:5 ✦ Father, Son, & Holy Spirit ✦ **I surrender to you all my ✝ mind, all my ✝ heart, and all my ✝ body and ✝ soul.**

(we make the sign of the cross—touching forehead, heart, and shoulders)

"Father, not my will, ✦ **but your will be done.** Matt 26:39 ✦ Father, into your hands ✦ **I commit my spirit."** Luke 23:46 ♬ ***Take my life and all my heart, take my whole soul ev'ry part. Take my mouth and let it be, filled with your truth and mercy. ♬ Take my hands and let them love, with compassion from above. Take my feet and let them go, on the Way that Jesus showed. ♬ Take my money and fam'ly, give me faith and set me free. Take my life and teach me how to love all creation now.*** ♬ *(LSB 783)*

Listening to the Creator

Jesus says, "Come to me, all of you who are tired and burdened. Take my Way upon you and learn from me, and you will find rest for your souls." Matt 11:28-29

♬ ***Listen to what Jesus teaches, listen to him every day. Listen as you walk and follow, listen also as you pray. Listen to him every moment, listen with an open mind. Listen to find peace and patience, listen so you will be kind.*** ♬ *(LSB 770)*
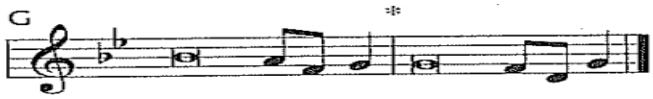
Remembering the Saints & Martyrs — All Saints

Father, we give you thanks for the great cloud of saints and witnesses who have gone before us and have embodied the Way of Jesus. Today we pause to remember Jesus's faithful people who have died this year and in years past.

(silence for remembrance)

Father, thank you for their faithful witness to Jesus and their presence among us, even in death. We hope in Jesus for the resurrection of all your creation. ✝ **Amen.**

Chanted Psalm — ***Psalm 52***



♬ ***Why do you boast in doing | evil?***
**** Your deeds are leading your own | destruction.***
Your world will collapse | around you,
**** and you will be uprooted | from life.***
But the faithful are like a green | olive tree,
**** they trust in the love of God | in all things.***
So I will give thanks to the Lord | forever,
**** and I will wait on him, | forever.*** ♬

Law & Prophets — Exodus 20:18-21

The Prophets reading comes from Exodus 20. ✦ **"Those who listen will live."** John 5:25
We do not live on bread alone, ✦ **but on every Word from the Lord.** Matt 4:4

Epistle — 2 Timothy 2:14-26

The Epistle reading comes from 2 Timothy 2. ✦ **"Those who listen will live."** John 5:25
We do not live on bread alone, ✦ **but on every Word from the Lord.** Matt 4:4

✝ Holy Gospel ✝ Matthew 25:14-30

We stand for the word of Jesus. ♬ ***We praise our Lord Jesus who comes with healing in his hand. He frees us who are slaves of death, he raises us to stand. He fills us with his love and truth, he gives us all we need. We come to listen now and on his living word to feed.*** ♬ *(tune: LSB 444)*
The holy Gospel comes from Matthew 25. ✦ **"Those who listen will live."** John 5:25
"If you have ears, then listen!" Matt 13:9 ✦ **Lord, help us to practice your Word.** Matt 7:24

Scripture Meditation

† Repentance — The Way of Hope †

Confronting Our Past

Jesus says, "I know what you do. I search minds and hearts and I will give to each of you according to your practices. Rev 2:19, 23 Remove the log from your own eye!" Matt 7:5

(silence for reflection)

For prostituting ourselves with the false gods of Civilization, Ex 20:3 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For trusting the works of human hands, especially money, Ex 20:4 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For being hypocrites who misrepresent your name, Ex 20:7 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For overworking land, animals, and each other, Ex 20:8 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For not respecting our fathers and mothers in Christ, Ex 20:12 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For being violent to our bodies and your creation, Ex 20:13 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For degrading ourselves and others with our sexuality, Ex 20:14 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For trying to possess and control your creation, Ex 20:15 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For not being vulnerable and honest with others, Ex 20:16 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**
For competing with others and desiring more, Ex 20:17 ✦ **Father, forgive us.**

Jesus says, "Enter through the narrow Way. Because the Way of Destruction is wide and easy ✦ **and many enter through it.** ✦ But the Way of Life is narrow and difficult ✦ **and few find it.** Matt 7:13-14 ✦ Whoever does not disown his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, and even his own soul, ✦ **cannot be my disciple.** ✦ Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me ✦ **cannot be my disciple."** Luke 14:26-27

♬ ***Lord Father we have wandered and hidden from your face. Rescue your whole creation with your almighty grace. From trust in wealth and weapons and blindness to your Way, save us and all creation with your own hands, we pray.*** ♬ *(LSB 449)*
Jesus says, "I discipline those I love. Repent! I am standing at the door knocking! Rev 3:19-20 Come out of Civilization, my people, so you will not share in its sicknesses! Rev 18:4 Not one stone will be left standing, it will all be torn down." Matt 24:2 Will you turn away from Civilization's Way of arrogance, fear, and violence and reaffirm your Baptism into Jesus's Way of faith, hope, and love? ✦ **Yes, I renounce Civilization's Way and**

pledge to follow Jesus. ✦ Jesus says, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Matt 5:7 If you forgive others, your heavenly Father will forgive you. Matt 6:14 Put your sword away. If you take up the sword, you will die by the sword." Matt 26:52 Will you release all debts and grudges that you hold against anyone—including every member of this church? ✦ **Yes, I forgive all those who have hurt me, frustrated me, or owe me anything.** ✦ Jesus says, "Your sins are forgiven. Get up and walk! Matt 9:5 Remember what you have heard and obey it!" Rev 3:3 ✝ **Amen.**

Song of the Day — ***"I Have Brought You Out of Egypt" (tune: LSB 583)***

♬ ***"I have brought you out of Egypt," Moses heard the Lord God say. "I have saved you, I have freed you! People, listen and obey! Love no other things above me; don't make idols for yourselves. I will judge those who don't trust me. Worship me and no one else."***

♬ ***"Do not use my name for evil, never be a hypocrite. Keep the Sabbath; love my creatures, let them rest and stop a bit. Honor father, honor mother! Do not kill or hurt a life! Do not wander to another from your husband or your wife."*** ♬

♬ ***God continued his commandments: "Do not take, instead just give. Do not lie and do not deceive, be honest in how you live. Do not envy those around you, do not seek more than you need. Keep these laws and always trust me, I will give you all you need."*** ♬

♬ ***God of grace, we see your promise in the covenant you give. For your law is wise and wondrous as it shows us how to live. Loving God and loving neighbor, may we follow where you call. Saved by grace, may we together seek to live your gracious law.*** ♬

Waiting on the Creator

♬ ***Our Father, bring your Rule and will to earth. Give what we need for worry-free rebirth. Bring peace among us and forgive us too, as we forgive and love in all we do.***
♬ ***Protect us from all things that will mislead. Keep us from selfishness, violence, and greed. We place our lives into your hands this day. Teach us to listen and to walk your Way. Amen.*** ♬ *(LSB 637)*

(incense is lit to symbolize our prayers ascending to God and as its smell fills this space we are reminded of his presence among us)

Jesus says, "Learn from the birds. They do not store things up and your heavenly Father feeds them. Matt 6:26 Seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness and everything you need will be given to you. Do not worry about tomorrow. Matt 6:33-34 Stay awake and pray so you will not fall into temptation. The Spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matt 26:41

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♬ ***Lord have mercy.*** ♬ Father, set us apart from Civilization in all our thoughts, words, and deeds. Take charge of our lives and all those in authority. Use everything that happens to bring your good judgment and healing upon all creation. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord,* ♬ ***Lord have mercy.*** ♬ Father, provide for us, protect us, and heal our brokenness. Especially this day we remember John Espino, Bill Mellott, and those we name in our hearts… Father, give us exactly what we need this day and teach us to be content with that. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord,* ♬ ***Lord have mercy.*** ♬ Father, forgive us and free us from all that enslaves us. Help us to walk away from our anxieties, traumas, and addictions to Civilization's Way, so we may walk in Jesus's Way. Empower us to love and forgive everyone, even our enemies, in the way you have loved and forgiven us. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord,* ♬ ***Lord have mercy.*** ♬ Father, humble us and remind us that we have no strength apart

from you. Stay with us in difficult times and save us from our selfishness. Comfort us in the certain hope that all your creation and children will be renewed and raised from the dead. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord,* ♬ ***Lord have mercy.*** ♬ Father, help us to let go and surrender everything into your loving hands, trusting that you "work all things for the good of those who love you." Rom 8:28 ✦ **"Our Father in Heaven, may your name be holy, may your Kingdom come, and may your will be done—on Earth as in Heaven. Give us this day what we need for today. Forgive us in the same way that we forgive others. Do not abandon us when we are tempted, but pull us away from what is evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours—now and forever."** Matt 6:9-13 ✝ **Amen.**

† Communion — The Way of Love †

Sharing the Lord's Peace

Jesus says, "Before you come to the Lord's altar, ✦ **make peace with each other.** Matt 5:24 Blessed are the peacemakers, ✦ **for they will be called the Creator's children."** Matt 5:9

Offering & Musical Offering

Jesus says, "Do not store up things on earth. Matt 6:19 To be my disciple you must give up all you own. Luke 14:33 Sell your possessions, give to the poor, and you will have a storage in heaven." Matt 19:21 We offer everything to the Lord, as we offer gifts to this church.

Pledge of Allegiance

♬ ***We come before you, Lord, to bow. We lay our lives at your feet now. All things are yours, we own nothing! Our lives are in your hands this day. Give what we need, O Lord, we pray. Please protect us, provide for us! Watch over us, ever with us, always love us!*** ♬ *(LSB 816)* Jesus says, "If you pledge your allegiance to me before others, then I will pledge my allegiance to you before my heavenly Father." Matt 10:32

✦ **I pledge allegiance to one God, the all-powerful Father, who is the Creator of Heaven and Earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

✦ **I pledge allegiance to one Lord, Jesus Christ, who is God's only Son. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He loved and he suffered. Under Pontius Pilate, he was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day he was raised from the dead. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. He is coming to judge the living and the dead. His Kingdom will not end.**

✦ **I pledge allegiance to the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of life, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the baptism for forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life in the age to come. ✝ Amen.**

Thanksgiving — Εὐχαριστία

Let us give thanks to our Creator! ✦ **It is right to give him thanks and praise!**

Father, we praise and thank you, ✦ **for you provide, protect, love, and renew us and all creation!** ✦ We are grateful for all that you give, especially for… Father, we thank you for marrying yourself to us and uniting Heaven and Earth, Spirit and Flesh, and Christ and the Church through your Son Jesus! Eph 5:32 ♬ ***Joyful, joyful we adore you, Creator of all that lives! Earth and heaven praise and thank you, for your love***

and all you give! Fields and forests, fruit trees and birds, thunderstorms and starry skies, seas and mountains, and grazing herds, praising you who never dies! ♬ *(LSB 803)*

✝ Words of Our Lord Jesus ✝

Jesus says, "Whoever humbles himself is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven." Matt 18:4 On the night before our Lord Jesus was crucified, he humbly washed the feet of his students and enemies. Jesus said, ✦ **"I have given you an example. Do as I have done for you. Love others. In the same way I have loved you, love others. By this all will know that you are my disciples: if you love each other."** John 13:15, 34-35 ✦ During supper, Jesus then took the bread and broke it. He gave it to them, saying, "This is my ✝ body, given for you. Do the same in my memory." After supper, Jesus then took the cup and gave thanks. He said, "This is my ✝ blood of the covenant, poured out for you, for the forgiveness of sins. Do the same in my memory." Matt 26:26-28, Luke 22:19-20

♬ ***Oh come Lord Jesus come and dine and give yourself through bread and wine. Feed us so we may have new birth, and bring your rule ov'r all the earth. Come now, come now! Our Lord Jesus and bring your healing love to us!*** ♬ *(LSB 357)*

Sharing the Bread & Wine

Jesus says, "I am the Bread of Life. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me." John 6:51, 56 As we feed on the Bread of Life ✦ **we are made members of Christ's Body.** 1 Cor 10:16-17 ✦ We no longer live for ourselves ✦ **but Christ lives within us.** Gal 2:20 ✦ We invite all Baptized members of the universal Church, who give their undivided allegiance to Jesus and are at peace with their brothers and sisters in Christ, to join us ✦ **as the Creator's Lamb mysteriously gives himself to us in, with, and under this bread, wine, and communion.** ♬ ***We fall down now before you, Jesus you are the Lord. We lay our crowns before you, and put down all our swords. We give you all of our lives, we will hold nothing back. For you gave us everything, there is nothing we lack. You are the true Lamb of God, you gave your life for all. Teach us now to live like lambs, to trust you as we fall.*** ♬ *(LSB 941)*

Song — ***LSB 677 "For All the Saints"***

♬ ***For all the saints, who from their labors rest,who you by faith before the world confessed. Your name oh Jesus, be forever bless'd. Alleluia, Alleluia!*** ♬

♬ ***You were their rock, their fortress, and their might. You Lord, their captain in the loving fight. You in the darkness were their one true light. Alleluia, Alleluia!*** ♬

♬ ***Oh may we now be faithful, true, and bold, and walk as the saints who followed of old, and live with them now in your loving hold! Alleluia, Alleluia!*** ♬

♬ ***And when the pain is fierce, the waiting long. Send then to us your loving hopeful song. Then hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia, Alleluia!*** ♬

♬ ***Always to faithful foll'wers comes your rest. Sweet is the calm of paradise the bless'd. We wait on you to save us from the test. Alleluia, Alleluia!*** ♬

♬ ***Still then there breaks a far more glorious day. Your faithful saints do rise again from clay. Our Savior Jesus leads us on his Way. Alleluia, Alleluia!*** ♬

Αγάπη Feast & Text Discussion

Jesus says, "Do you love me? ✦ **Then feed my sheep."** John 21:17 ✦ We now move to our Bible study room to continue devoting ourselves ✦ **"to the Apostles' teaching, to communion with each other, to the sharing of bread, and to prayer."** Acts 2:42

Sent to "Do the Same in My Memory"

Jesus says, "Love your enemies ✦ **so you will be children of your heavenly Father.** Matt 5:44-45 ✦ Go proclaim, ✦ **the Kingdom of Heaven has arrived!** ✦ Freely you have received from the Creator, ✦ **now freely you must give.** Matt 10:7-8 ✦ I am sending you like sheep among wolves, ✦ **so be as clever as serpents and as non-violent as doves.** Matt 10:16 ✦ Make disciples of all nations, ✦ **baptizing and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded.** Matt 28:19-20 ✦ Do not be afraid to suffer! ✦ **Be faithful through death and I will give you the crown of life."** Rev 2:10 ✝ **Amen.**

♬ Give us mouths to sing your glory, hearts your teachings to obey, hands that live your love that fills us, feet to walk your holy Way. Holy Spirit, light-creator, may the truth which you do send, fill our lives with loving mercy and trusting peace without end! ♬ *(LSB 578)*

Blessing

Jesus says, "Blessed are you who are poor, for the Creator's Kingdom is yours. Luke 6:20 Blessed are your eyes, because they see. Blessed are your ears, because they listen. Matt 13:16 Blessed are those who listen to the Creator's Word and obey it." Luke 11:28 ✝ **Amen.**

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* Faith & Film: "Midnight Mass" (Nov 2, 9) | "The Perfect Neighbor" (Nov 16, 30) | "I Am Mother" (Dec 7, 14)
* Growing in H.O.P.E.: Weds @ 5:30 pm @ DG, Nov 4, 11, 18, Dec 2, 9, 16 — applying the week's sermon text — food & fellowship starts at 5:00 pm
* Game Night: @ DG (6 pm, BYOB), Nov 6, Dec 4, Jan 8
* Christ the King Gospel Readings: Sundays, Nov 15 & 22 we will have extended worship to listen to the whole Gospel of Matthew in two parts.

Weekly Calendar | November 1 - 8, 2026		
Sun, Nov 1	9:30 am	Liturgy & Αγάπη Feast | Exodus 19:1—24:18
Mon, Nov 2	6:00 pm	Faith & Film
Wed, Nov 4	5:30 pm	Growing in H.O.P.E.
Sat, Nov 7	7-9 am	Neighborhood Breakfast
Sun, Nov 8	9:30 am	Liturgy & Αγάπη Feast | Exodus 32:1—34:35

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