CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

TEACHING AND REACHING PEOPLE FOR THE KINGDOM

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WELCOME VISITORS! We are glad that you have joined us for worship this morning. We have come into God's presence to worship him as our Lord and Savior.

- Restrooms are located to the right of the main doors.
- There is a staffed nursery available outside of the worship area for children under 3.
- There is a private area for nursing mothers located in the main preschool classroom.
- Coffee and drinks are available after the service.
- Please sign the guest register in the fellowship area.

REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 26, 2025

CAUSE/EFFECT—TRUTH/FREEDOM



SERIES THEME:

"Every why hath a wherefore." That was Shakespeare's poetic way of saying that very little happens by chance. Generally, there is an agent behind an action. There is cause and effect. And to navigate life well, it is vital we understand both. If you want to effect a healthy heart, you need to know the causes of heart disease. Before a major purchase causes you to go into debt, you need to think about the effect it will have on your budget. If you want the peace of being close to God, you need to know what causes that effect. Again, to navigate life well, it is vital we understand cause and effect.

We are nearing the end of the Church Year. This past year, we have reviewed Jesus' life and teaching. The Scripture readings in these final weeks recall some of the major themes that are woven throughout the Church Year. In this final series we will be looking at those themes with the understanding that "every why hath a wherefore." We conclude the year by talking about cause and effect in God's kingdom.

THEME OF THE DAY:

Many people believe that freedom means being able to do whatever you want. Jesus teaches that is absolutely false. "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31,32). Jesus says that living however you want does not make you free. In fact, if you take that attitude toward life you will end up a slave. You will only be free—spiritually, emotionally, eternally—"If you hold to my teaching" and therefore "know the truth." Truth is the cause that effects freedom.

A key principle Martin Luther established through the Reformation is *sola scriptura*, Scripture alone. Who or what is the final arbiter of the truth that provides freedom? Scripture alone. Heirs of the Reformation still bind themselves to Scripture. Does restricting ourselves in this manner curtail freedom? Just the opposite is true. God's truth brings freedom from slavery to sinful delusions and the burden of guilt. This week we celebrate this cause and effect—the truth sets us free!

SERVICE OF THE WORD

How Firm a Foundation (Choir song)

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am your God and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen and help you and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow will not overflow, for I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose I will not, I will not, desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

Text: A Selection of Hymns, London, 1787, ed. John Rippon, alt. Text: Public domain Tune: Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832 Arr. By Charles McCartha © 2025 Hope Publishing Company, www.hopepublishing.com. All rights reserved.



INVOCATION 1

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER

P: With grateful hearts, Lord, we remember before you this day that great cloud of witnesses whose living trust in you, recorded in your Word, becomes an example for us to imitate and follow.

C: Inspire us as we remember them and grant us your blessing.

P: With grateful hearts, Lord, we remember before you this day the reformers and confessors who faced the terror of church and empire but stood firm in your truth because they were moved by grace, empowered by faith, and guided by Scripture.

C: Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their courage.

P: With grateful hearts, Lord, we remember before you this day your faithful followers of every age—among them our parents and grandparents and our mentors and models—whom your Spirit called, gathered, enlightened, and sanctified to be your holy Church and by whose faithful words and deeds the gospel of your grace arrived also to us.

C: Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their resolve.

P: With grateful hearts, Lord, we remember before you this day those we have known who endured uncommon handicaps, chronic illnesses, and severe hardships yet followed you in simple faith and lived their lives with patience and persistence.

C: Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their joy.

¹The Invocation, which uses the words spoken over us at our baptisms, reminds us of who we are (children of God) and what we are members of—the church of God on earth.

- P: With grateful hearts, Lord, we remember before you this day our own loved ones whose memories still burn within our hearts, whom you have called in your good time from their labors in life to that life which knows no end.
- C: Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their reward.
- P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

P: Empower us, Lord, to carry on the work you gave to your people of the past, trusting your Son, holding to your Word, confessing your truth, loving the lost, reaching out with your love, until you call us, too, by your great grace in Jesus Christ, to join them where memories are swallowed up in everlasting joy.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS 2

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

I have not loved others as I should.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,

 I am sinful by nature
 and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
 I have not loved you with my whole heart;

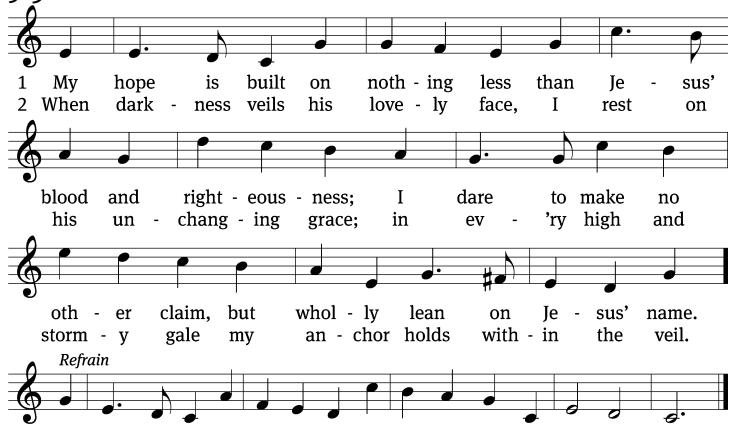
² Publicly confessing sins might seem like a strange practice to those not familiar with it. But to confess our sins is to speak the truth about our lives. To confess our sin is to state our agreement with God's just verdict that we have sinned against him and so deserve only death and hell (1 John 1:8-10). The truth of our sinfulness is answered by the truth of God's forgiveness for the sake of the suffering and death of his Son. From the lips of a pastor "called and ordained" as a servant of the Word, we hear God himself speaking absolution – that is, the forgiveness of sins. To that forgiveness faith says, "Amen," that is, "Truth."

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

- P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.



563 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

PRAYER OF THE DAY 3

- P: Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

³The Prayer of the Day is a short general prayer that makes a request of God based on the theme of the day. It is (normally) a five-part prayer: 1) Address; 2) Basis for the petition; 3) the Petition; 4) Reason for the petition; 5) Conclusion of praise to God.

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON: JEREMIAH 31:31-34

31"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. 33"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

SECOND LESSON: GALATIANS 5:1-6 4

¹It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

²Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. ³Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. ⁴You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. ⁶For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Verse of the Day ⁵ John 8:31-32

P: Alleluia. If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free. Alleluia.

605 From All That Dwell below the Skies



⁴ St. Paul encourages us to stand firm in the freedom that we receive in the truth about Jesus Christ.

⁵ The Verse of the Day, traditionally called the Alleluia (a Latinized form of the Hebrew word meaning "praise the Lord") highlights a text of particular relevance to the theme of the day.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623 Text and tune: Public domain

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 8:31-36 6

³¹To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³²Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

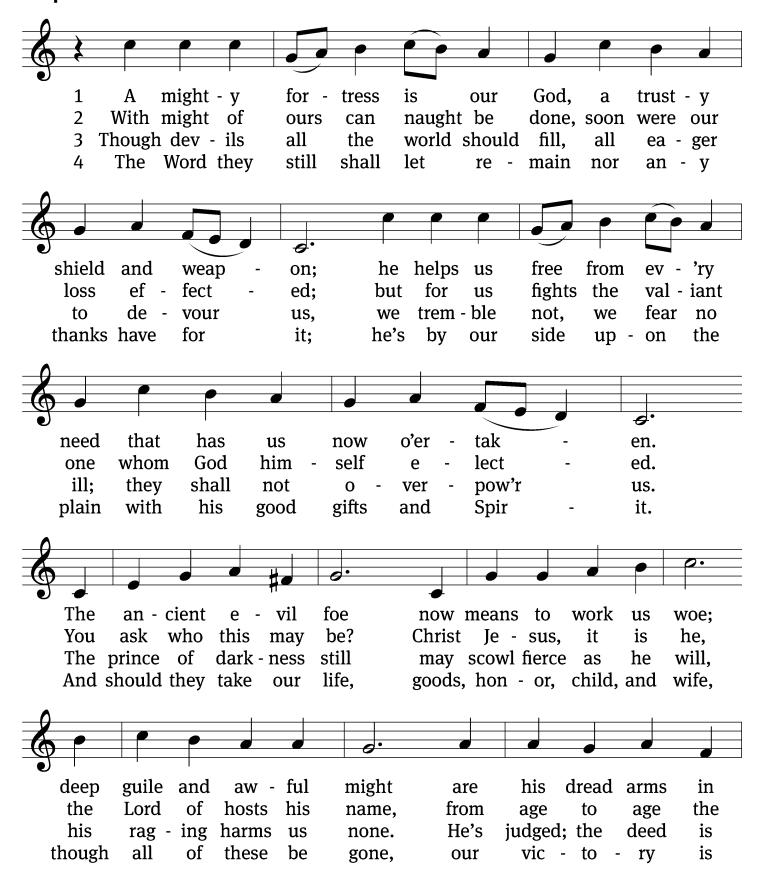
³³They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

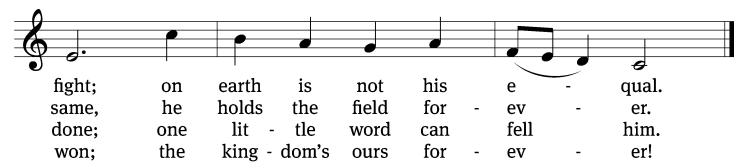
³⁴Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.



⁶The truth of the gospel sets us free.

864 A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD





Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON ⁷ JEREMIAH 31:31-34

Review the Terms of Our Contract

⁷The Sermon is the Word of God, proclaiming the living voice of the Gospel to God's people. The preacher is the appointed representative who illuminates the Scripture for the congregation and applies it to our contemporary situation. He is neither lecturer nor entertainer, but a link through whom the Holy Spirit brings law and gospel to bear upon the hearts and minds of the worshiper and enlivens their faith and life.

APOSTI FS' CRFFD 8

I believe in God, the Father almighty,	2 Cor. 6:18
maker of heaven and earth.	ls. 51:13
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,	1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,	Lk. 1:35
born of the virgin Mary,	Lk. 1:34; 2:7
suffered under Pontius Pilate,	Lk. 23:16
was crucified, died, and was buried.	Mt. 27:32-61 et al.
He descended into hell.	1 Pet. 3:19
The third day he rose again from the dead.	1 Cor. 15:4b
He ascended into heaven	Ac. 2:33-34
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.	Heb. 1:13
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.	Mt. 25:31; 2 Tim. 4:1
I believe in the Holy Spirit,	Mt. 3:16-17
the holy Christian Church,	Eph. 5:23
the communion of saints,	Eph. 4:3-6
the forgiveness of sins,	Rom. 4:6-8
the resurrection of the body,	Ecc. 12:7
and the life everlasting. Amen.	1 Th. 4:17

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

The members of Christ Our Savior have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. An offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary. We also offer an electronic giving option. If you would like to start giving your weekly offering electronically, please go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "Vanco Mobile" to download the App for free or use this QR Code: This offering is a joyful response of our faith; so, if you are visiting with us this morning, we do not want you to feel obligated. Please stand for the next hymn.

⁸ Having heard the Word of God, we confess our faith in his name. The creed is our saying back to God what he has first said to us. In the Creed we acclaim the truth of the triune God and his work of salvation accomplished for us in his incarnate Son, Jesus Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Philippians 2:11).

748 Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly sis - ters, let glad - ly give to God our 1 Broth - ers. us all. our best: ser - vice heart - v, thor - ough, with hon - est, a All all ing love im - pressed. our du ty, our all time him be - long; praise him, striv - ing. our to

Text: Henry Bateman, 1802–1872 Tune: adapt. William Bradbury, 1816–1868; Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, Harrisburg, 1813, ed. John Wyeth Text and tune: Public domain

him

true de - vo - tion, come be - fore

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH 9

with

- P: Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.
- C: Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

⁹ Through the Prayer of the Church we heed Christ's command to "love one another." One of the greatest forms of love we can show for our neighbor is to pray for them.

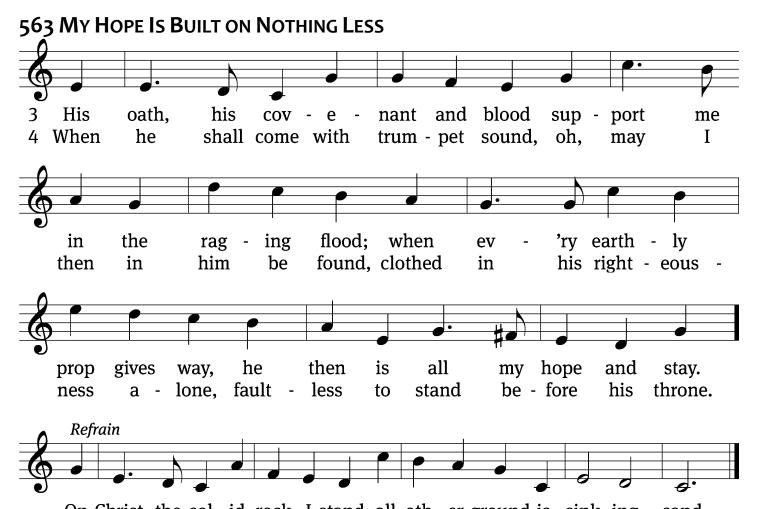
- P: Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.
- C: Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.
- P: Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.
- C: Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.
- P: Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.
- C: Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.
- P: Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.
- C: Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.
- P: Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.
- C: Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.
- P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

- P: We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.
- C: Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.
- P: Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
- C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER 10

C: 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.



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Tune: John Stainer, 1840–1901, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

¹⁰ The Lord's Prayer is a prayer given us by Christ himself. Daily the baptized people of God pray. The Lord's Prayer is both a prayer to pray and a model for all our prayers.

THE LORD'S BLESSING 11

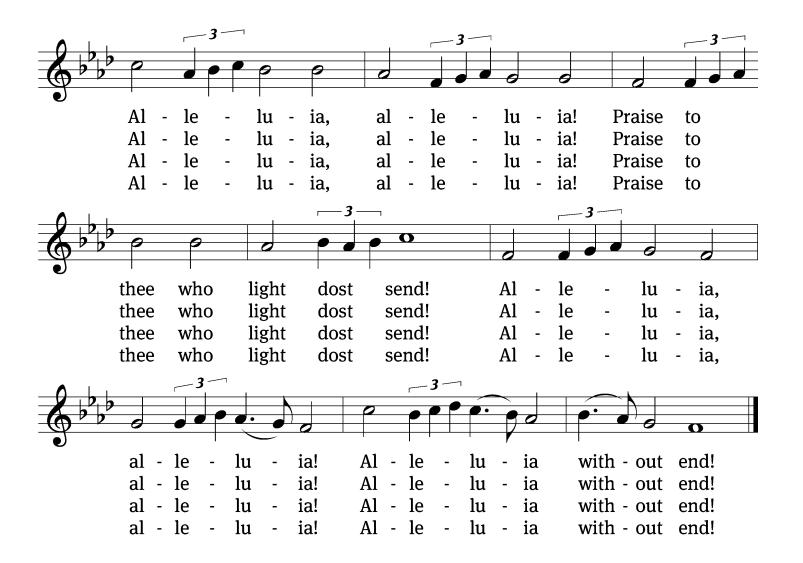
P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

630 THY STRONG WORD (A soloist sings verses 1-2. The congregation joins in verses



¹¹ As we began the service with the Lord's name, so we are sent out in his name. Worshippers may make the sign of the cross on themselves as they are encouraged to live each day with Baptismal confidence, knowing that they have the Lord's blessing and presence with them.



- 5 Give us lips to sing thy glory, tongues thy mercy to proclaim, throats to shout the hope that fills us, mouths to speak thy holy name. Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which thou dost send fill our songs with alleluias, alleluias without end!
- 6 God the Father, light-creator, to thee laud and honor be.
 To thee, Light from Light begotten, praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer, glory, glory be to thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976 Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944 Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712940 Tune: Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS:

The altar flowers are given by Sam and Rachel Janda in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Revelation 21:1-6 Hebrews 11:32-40 Luke 6:20-23

SERVING THEIR SAVIOR AT CHRIST OUR SAVIOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2:

Flowers: Pfund

Nursery: 8:30am—Melissa and Aubrey Moore

11:00am—Joan and Ron Weninger

Ushers: 8:30am—Charlie Davis and Aaron Jacobs

11:00am—Bob Davis and Clinton Kent

Landscaping: Andrew Baker (11/1-11/14)

1st Sunday Snacks: Mann

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT CHRIST OUR SAVIOR:

Sunday Worship 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Thursday Worship 7:00 PM

Sunday School, Adult & Teen Bible Study 9:45-10:45 AM

Lord's Supper1st and 3rd SundaysYouth ConfirmationSundays, 6:00 PMSunday Night Bible StudySundays, 6:00 PMBible 101Tuesdays, 7:00 PM

Choir Wednesdays, 7:00 PM

Women's Bible Study 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 10:00 AM

Iron Sharpens Iron (Men's group) November 1, 8:30 AM



Want to hear more from us? Use this QR code to sign up for our weekly devotion and newsletter.

Adult Bible Study: The New Testament book of Colossians was written by the Apostle Paul to the church in Colosse. Like many New Testament letters, it was written to combat false teaching. The false teaching in Colosse was one that has made a resurgence in modern America: Gnosticism. Gnosticism is the claim that Jesus is not enough, and that you need deeper, secret knowledge to truly know God. Paul writes this letter to the Colossians to stress the all-sufficiency of Christ. Join us on Sunday mornings during the Bible study hour at 9:45am as we mine this timeless letter for the godly treasures it contains.

<u>Care Packages:</u> The teens will be collecting small items to include in care packages for the high school and college students who are currently away for the semester and members who are away on active military duty. If you would like to donate small items (such as candy, games, snacks, cards), please leave them in the gold wrapped box in the church narthex. We will be collecting items until Sunday, November 2. All donations are greatly appreciated!

WELS Youth Night (Event 1: Friday, 11/21 - Sat, 11/22):

Who: 6th - 12th Grade Youth

What: WELS Youth Night provides a series of youth-focused events, three times a year, not only for the youth of your congregation but also the youth from area congregations. Experience an inspiring evening of games, music, God's Word, small group discussion, food, and fun with fellow youth (6th—12th grade) from all over the area. This first event will be an overnight youth lock-in event. Dinner, snacks, and breakfast will be provided.

When: Event 1 will be held on Friday, 11/21 @ 7 PM and continue with a youth lockin that ends on Saturday, 11/22 @ 9AM

Where: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (Columbia, TN)

How: Register online now at coslutheran.com

Advent by Candlelight Hostesses Needed: Preparation has begun for Advent by Candlelight, which will be held on Friday, December 5th, at 7:00pm. This year's theme is "Symbols of the Season." Information about this event and sign-ups for hostesses, readers, and greeters are posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship area. Please contact Sarah Crass (sarah.crass@coslutheran.com) or Melissa Moore with any questions.

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