

Lectionary 32
November 9, 2025
Something Different



Sometimes the gospels give us the impression that Jesus would make a great lawyer. The Sadducees seem to ask him a pretty straightforward question, but Jesus answers it as though he is deliberately sidestepping the point. Indeed, he answers a lot of questions this way, apparently talking about something totally unrelated to the conversation at hand. If we pay close attention, though, we see that Jesus is directing us to an important point,

even if it seems altogether different from the original track.

The Sadducees are challenging the validity of the resurrection with a hyperbolic question about ancient Hebrew marriage customs. But Jesus basically says, “Look, God came to Moses in the burning bush and said, ‘I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob here and now, in the present. And I am the God of the living, not the dead.’ Therefore, God’s chosen ones are alive and well after death!”

Jesus knows that the reality of the resurrection is too hard for them to understand. It’s too hard for *any* of us to understand. So instead of responding to their literal question, he offers some comfort. He says, “Listen, Moses already showed us that these saints are alive and well with God. It’s okay. Don’t worry about what comes next. God’s got this.”

Death is scary, so Jesus is giving us a word of assurance to help us face it. That word is this: “You will be resurrected. It’s okay to be afraid. It’s okay to not know what the resurrection will look like or who is going to be sitting where. Just remember that you are a beloved child of God and will be made alive together with all the saints.”

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Pastor: Dr. Wendy S. Farone
Assisting Minister: Melanie Thomas
Lector: Genevieve Price
Organist: Drew Pogyor
Altar Care: Loran Bohman

Altar Flowers: are given to the glory of God by Loran Bohman in memory of his grandfathers, Reverend Oscar F. Bohman and George W. Nelson Sr.
The Sanctuary Light: is given to the glory of God.
The Columbarium Light: is given to the glory of God by Patricia Cassol in honor of Claudia Hollis's birthday.

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance Hymn **ELW 628 Jerusalem, My Happy Home**

Hymn of the day **ELW 339 Christ, the Life of All the Living**

Communion Hymns **ELW 638 Blessed Assurance**
ELW 867 In Thee Is Gladness

Sending Hymn **ELW 439 Soon and Very Soon**

Communion- If you need assistance or are unable to come to the communion rail, stay in your pew, and the Pastor will come to you. If you are unable to receive either the consecrated bread or wine, receiving either one is a complete and valid reception.

Membership- There are many ways to be connected with our congregation. Everyone is welcome to participate in any congregation activities, and anyone baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is welcome to Holy Communion. We welcome your membership request.

November 2, 2025 Attendance: 45
Bible Study Attendance: 16

Offerings:
Weekly Need: \$3,300.00
November 2, 2025: \$1,715.00

Faith Announcements:

With Sincere Gratitude

Dear Siblings in Christ,

My heart is filled with gratitude for all of the love and support you have so generously given to me in my journey toward becoming a called and ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament. Each of you has had an impact on this journey, and for that, I am truly grateful. God's peace be with you all. **Pastor Wendy!**

On November 16th at 3 pm, Faith will be hosting a local contemporary a cappella group named Vocal Steel! This event is open to Faith, friends, and our community. Since there are only 120 seats available for this performance, please reserve your spot. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

The congregation will gather for a **Thanksgiving Dinner** on Sunday, November 23rd, at 3:00 pm. Please bring your friends and a covered dish! There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Faith has a new YouTube channel! All worship services will be located there from now on. Please like and subscribe!

www.youtube.com/@FaithLutheranChurchWhiteOakPA

Pastor Wendy has a new email address to match her new title! She will be checking her old email address for the next month or so, just in case. New email: flcpastorwendy@gmail.com

Pastor's Podcast- New episode!

Understanding Church: Children in Church

<https://www.belc.org/podcast/> or wherever you listen to podcasts

Oct/Nov Council Meeting: November 13, 2025, at 12:30 pm

Bible Storytelling News for the Upcoming Week:

We welcome back Pastor Wendy Farone! We will continue the book of Hebrews on Tuesday. Come join us!

Prayer List October - December 2025

<u>Nikki</u> Amhurst	<u>John</u> Konik & Family
<u>Katie</u> Bachinger	<u>Teresa</u> M
<u>Becky</u> Ball	<u>Birdie</u> McMillan
<u>Jean</u> Bickerstaff	<u>Georgina</u> McMarlin
<u>Jean</u> Bodenlos	<u>Margie</u> Miller
<u>Barry</u> D	<u>Marlene</u> Newman
<u>Jamie</u> Cummings	<u>Helen</u> Pula
<u>Kara</u> Eaton	<u>Corey</u> Rhodes
<u>Shelley</u> Gessner	<u>Mark</u> Scott
<u>Rose</u> Gombas	<u>Tracy</u> Scott
<u>Heather</u> Grantz	<u>Sandy</u> Seitz
<u>Bill</u> Grimm	<u>Maxine</u> Smith
<u>Jerry</u> Groves	<u>Amanda</u> T
<u>Eric</u> Harshman	<u>Steven</u> T
<u>Renee</u> K	<u>Theresa</u> Zell
<u>Ken</u> K	<u>Nick</u>
<u>Ellio</u> Keiser	<u>Dominick</u> Family
<u>Nancy</u> Kimling	<u>Mundy</u> Family
<u>Bill</u> Kimling	

Synod Weekly Announcements:

**A Letter of Gratitude
From Bishop Stoller**

<https://www.swpasynod.org/stories/letterofgratitude>

Ministry Grants- ELCA World Hunger’s Daily Bread Grants are one way our church accompanies communities as they respond to hunger and

poverty. These grants provide daily bread for neighbors experiencing hunger by supplementing existing food-based ministries. [Applications are open now through November 15 >>](#)

We Believe: Nicaea Commemoration & Book Launch Party

Tuesday, November 18: 7 PM

Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh Pastoral Center

(2900 Noblestown Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15205)

[Facebook Event >>](#) | [Flyer >>](#)

Join Christian Associates of Southwest PA for prayer and song, teaching and conversation, and festive food and drink. This event is free and open to everyone. All guests will receive a free copy of the forthcoming devotional book, "WE BELIEVE," featuring writings from authors within our own synod: Rev. Dr. Margarethe Galbraith-Cordes, Bishop Emeritus Don McCoid, and Rev. Martin Rafanan.

Installation of Pastor Michael Church

Sunday, November 23: 3PM

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

105 Gateshead Dr, McMurray, PA 15317

[Invitation >>](#)

Your prayers and presence are requested as Pastor Michael Church is installed as senior pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, McMurray. Ministers are invited to vest and process; the color of the day is white.

Save the Date

Lutheran Disaster Response Trip

May 3-9, 2026

Camp Lutheridge: Asheville, NC

Our Synod's Lutheran Disaster Response Team will be traveling for a second time for a week of mission work to help restore and rebuild communities across Western North Carolina affected by Hurricane Helene. More information will soon be available.

Community Announcements:

White Oak Senior Activities

Yoga Class- Mondays & Wednesdays at 11 am

Cardio Drumming Class- Tuesdays Nov 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th at 1 pm

Coffee Hour- Thursdays Nov 6th and 20th at 9:30 am

Monthly Meeting-

Topic- Life Options Resource Fair Pittsburgh-20 vendors will be in attendance- Weds Nov 12th at 1 pm

All activities held at The White Oak Community Center at 1798 Lower Heckman Road

Sampson Mills Presbyterian Church has asked us to partner with them on a Christmas cantata, which the Church Choirs Unite group will perform on December 14th. If anyone is interested, please let Jessica or Pastor Wendy know, and we can provide sheet music and practice recordings.

Upcoming Commemorations

Martin, Bishop of Tours, died 397

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the Roman army. Approached by a beggar, Martin cut his cloak in half and gave part to the man, whom he later understood as representing Christ. He asked to leave the army, but was jailed instead. After his release, he became a preacher, and later a bishop.

Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, died 1855

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Kierkegaard was a Danish theologian whose writings also gave rise to the modern philosophy of existentialism. He frequently attacked the complacency of the state church of his day, as well as its desire to be accepted by polite society rather than be a stumbling block.