AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026

PRELUDE Bell Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Congregation: Amen**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are in bondage 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**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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. **C: Amen**

OPENING HYMN **LBW #522 "Come, Thou Almighty King"**

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE (pgs. 58-59 LBW)

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.** *P: Let us pray.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people to seek more eagerly the help you offer, that, at the last, they may enjoy the fruit of salvation; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **C: Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

RESPONSIVE PSALM PRAYER: Psalm 90:1-12

L: Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

C: Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.

L: You turn us back to the dust and say, "Go back, O child of earth."

C: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night.

L: You sweep us away like a dream; we fade away suddenly like the grass.

C: In the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.

L: For we consume away in your displeasure; we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

C: Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

L: When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

C: The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

L: Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?

C: So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Please stand for the procession of the cross, bowing as it passes by,
and remain standing until the cross is returned to its base.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **LBW #559 "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25:14-30

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th chapter. **Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord.** (After Gospel is read) *P: The Gospel of the Lord.* **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SONG OF RESPONSE **LBW #564 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY **LBW #532 "How Great Thou Art"**

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
L: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

OFFERING
OFFERTORY (pg. 66 LBW) **(Please rise) Congregation Sings: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pg. 67 LBW) *P: Merciful Father,* **C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (pgs. 68-69 LBW)
P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**
P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
P: It is indeed right and salutary…we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (pgs. 69-71) & LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD (pg. 72 LBW) **Congregation Sings: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE & PRAYER (pgs. 72 LBW) **(Please rise as you are able) Congregation sings: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BENEDICTION
P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **C: Amen**

CLOSING HYMN **LBW #352 "I Know that My Redeemer Lives!" (Vs. 1, 2, 6, 8)**

DISMISSAL
P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866
(217) 893-4550 (217) 892-8024 (fax)
amluthoffice@gmail.com www.alc-rantoul.org

Open our spiritual eyes, blessed Lord,
that we may catch a glimpse of your holiness.

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Earl Smith John Sherman

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Millie Shebesta	Jeffrey Lachenmyer	DeAnn McMorris	Tracy O'Donnell
Robert Pilarski	Tom Finger	Rich Friemel	Angie Trenberth
Tracie Sisneros	Jim Perry	Mary Kempfer	Kim Ross
Kay Thomas	Sondra Sipes	Barb Corbly	Marty Mirocha
Melvina Heap	Paul Albers	Kim Wyre	Annette Carlson
Wilma Suits	Brian Dietz	Roberta Arthur	Steve Schluter
Glenn Behnke	John Keith	Pen Pendleton	Denny Doyle
Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins	Jessica Hawn	Gabbi Reynolds
William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen	Mary Mallicoat
Merrill Wattjes	Bob & Jenny Hobby	Joan Percival	Joyce Williamson

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Dave Overholt	LouAnn Baugher	Pr. Barb Busboom	Luella Loschen
Joan Mathis	Martha Stanfill	Paul Wolters	Keith Dohleman

MILITARY (Bolded names are known to be in an area of higher danger):

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti	Eli Baker
Matthew Mislan			

ALTAR GUILD	Sue Coffin, Bev Ehmen
ACOLYTES	Jeremiah Stevens, Liam Kaiser
GREETERS	Leah Graves, Phyllis Hafermann
LECTOR	Terry Doyle
PRAYER LEADER	Sean O'Donnell
WORSHIP STEWARD	Mike Tome
USHERS	Logan Suits, David Hulse, Donna Hustedt

WELCOME The author of Psalm 42 remembers going with the crowd to the house of God "with the voice of joy and praise" (Psalm 42:4, NKJV). May we share that same spirit of gladness today as we gather to worship our Creator and approach his throne of grace. A warm welcome to all!

MILITARY FLAGS The military flags outside of the church have been taken down for the winter to save on maintenance. They will be put back up in the spring.

BLOOD DRIVE The ImpactLife Blood Drive will be held at American Lutheran Church this Wednesday, November 18th, from 11:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. in the ALC Youth Hall. Please visit https://login.bloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/145625 to sign-up to donate blood. Appointments are still available.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING will take place at 6:00 p.m. next Sunday, November 22nd. Snacks will be provided. All ages are encouraged to come and help decorate for the season. This will be held in place of the Sunday Night High School Youth Group meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS The WNALC (Women of North American Lutheran Church) will be hosting a Christmas Ornament Exchange on Saturday, December 5th, starting at 10:00 am. This is open to ALL women (no age requirement). You will need to bring a Wrapped Christmas Ornament valued between $5-$10. The exchange is similar to a White Elephant gift exchange. We ask that you bring a brunch item of your choice to share. We will have a time of fellowship, eating and fun as we start the joyous time of Christmas. If you have any questions, you can reach out to Deanne Rosenbeck at 217-621-8816. We look forward to sharing this time with you.

FUNERAL DISHES If you have brought a dish recently for a funeral luncheon, please check the kitchen counter for those that have not been picked up. Thank you!

TREASURER POSITION We are still looking for someone to take over as ALC Treasurer for DeAnn McMorris. This position takes about 8-10 hours a month. Please prayerfully consider taking over this position. You may contact the church office for more information.

CANTEEN RUN is still in need of blankets (single to king size). They can be used but please make sure they are clean. Also, please make sure they are not too heavy for the guys to carry around. We are also in need of men's hoodies or sweatshirts. Thank you in advance for any donations!

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION If you are a baptized believer, trusting that the life giving and sustaining power and presence of Christ is truly present in bread and wine, we welcome you to the Lord's table. Children who commune in their home congregations are welcome to commune; those who are not currently communing at the Lord's table are invited to come forward for a blessing keeping their hands to their sides. The center of each tray holds light colored, non-alcoholic juice for those with special circumstances. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request for those with allergies.

ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK: 9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 130

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS Pastor Aaron holds open office hours on Monday's and Tuesday's from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. and on Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. He is also available by appointment Sunday through Thursday.

ATTENTION USHERS When you are ushering on a Sunday morning, please check-in with the Worship Steward on duty when you arrive. This assures the Worship Steward knows you are here and can assign you the area you are to cover.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 15
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Women's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

Monday, November 16
12:30 p.m. Quilting

Tuesday, November 17
5:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice
6:00 p.m. Choir Practice
6:30 p.m. Elders Meet
7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 18
11:30 a.m. ImpactLife Blood Drive
6:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, November 19
9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Saturday, November 21
5:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner

Sunday, November 22
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Women's Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Christmas Decorating

Radio Broadcast Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m. on WPXN 104.9FM