Pastor Newsletter Article—November 2026

"For we are your people and the sheep of your pasture; ***we will give you thanks*** *forever and show forth your praise from age to age."*
--Psalm 79:13

What are you thanking God for, right now? This is a good place to start: an "attitude of gratitude." Humans are pretty good at noticing things that are going "wrong." We can also choose to purposefully and mindfully notice the things that are going well. This does take some effort but is a step toward noticing where God's grace is at work.

Jesus says that God makes the sun to rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous (Matthew 5:45). The good things are gifts that we didn't earn and do not deserve—do we have the humility to thank God for what we have? Do we have the faith to return to God the gifts we've received, by serving our neighbors and pouring out God's love? What kind of positive chain-reaction might be set in motion?

During the month of November, we'll be hearing from some stewardship leaders as they contemplate what it means to imagine more of God's love and grace in this world. We might be noticing all the things going wrong in our lives and in the world, but God builds up communities to nurture those values that bring about righteousness and justice—this is our call at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

Where will God lead us, and where will God's vision guide our own imaginations?

Pastor Cheryl Walenta Gorvie