



WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

5N600 Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

OFFICE: 630-365-6751 * E-MAIL: general@graceoflilylake.org

WEB ADDRESS: www.graceoflilylake.org

Sunday, September 13th, 2026 * 9:30 AM * INPERSON and ONLINE



16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP

Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along.

Announcements are televised or found on our website

Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.

*Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way.
We hope all people find it easy to follow along.*

We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.

GOD GATHERS US

PRELUDE

Jesus is My Hope

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are found on our website

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENES

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

OPENING SONG

All Creatures, Worship God Most High

ELW 835, v. 1-4/Red Hymnal

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and
2 Sing, broth-er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
3 Sing, broth-er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain or sor-row



sky: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing, broth-er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear sis-ter wa-ter, use-ful,
throng: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear moth-er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis-ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu-sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
care, praise God in col-ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a-mid the tears:



lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
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GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

P: Let us pray... O Lord God,

C: merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

P: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

C: And you also.

Depending on your comfort level, please share the peace with each other with a handshake and a smile.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: **Genesis 50: 15-21**

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

L: Word of God; Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.



Children's Message

(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel)

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

ALL: Glory to you O Lord

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to You O Christ!

MESSAGE FOR ALL

Pastor David Mercurio

SONG OF DAY **Forgive our Sins, as We Forgive** **ELW 605/Red Hymnal**

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.
Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

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APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,**

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

OFFERING IS WELCOMED

P: God of creation,

C: you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)

Offertory Music

At His Table

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

See list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document or online. Please let us know your prayer needs.

Please respond accordingly.



P: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

P: Move your church throughout the world away from judging and despising others. Lead us to embody the forgiveness you have given us in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: The endless beauty of your creation reminds us of your mercy. Protect those who care for farms and ranches. Guide those who lead us to wonder at your creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Raise up leaders to hold all in authority accountable for any misuse of the power entrusted to them. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Ground this congregation in the welcome you show us in forgiving our sin. Inspire each of us to welcome others for your honor and glory. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: With you is found the joy and promise of eternal life. Keep us in that joy as we remember all those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them in the Spirit's love.

P: Let us give thanks to our Triune God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O God. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in Him should not perish. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his Holy Supper.

P: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**ALL: 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**

P: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

TAKE AND EAT OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion hymn

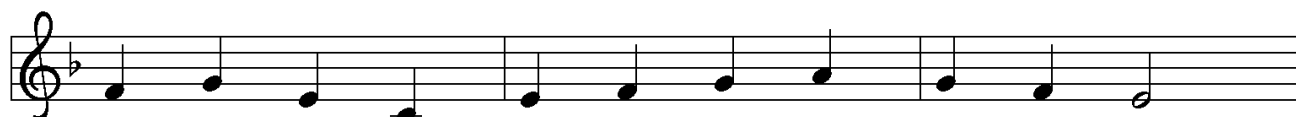
Praise the Lord, Rise up Rejoicing

ELW 544/Red Hymnal

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



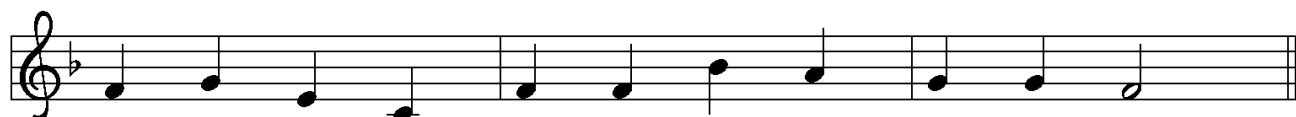
1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.

Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Sustaining God,

C: with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

All Creatures, Worship God Most High

ELW 835, v. 6/Red Hymnal

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



- 1 All crea-tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad - ows, join the
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

- 5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

- 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite
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GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Share His Love with all the World

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2027

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

Romans 14:1-12

Accepting diversity in the community of faith

9/13/26 ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are donated today by the Lindgrens in honor of Chili's 92nd birthday.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday school will resume again in September! Our first day back will be our Sunday School Rally Day on September 20th and will continue on the first and third Sundays of the month through May for children ages 3 – fifth grade.

LINE DANCE LESSONS have begun and will continue through 12/8/26 **from 6:30-7:30pm** in Fellowship Hall. (Please note the half hour time change of the class.) Questions may be directed to Nancy Corbige [847-212-0237](tel:847-212-0237).

REBECCA CIRCLE Rebecca Circle meets this Tuesday, September 15th at 1:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Adrienne Mikrut and Joan Mortensen are the hostesses. Please contact Twyla Strom at twy.strom@gmail.com if you have any questions about joining this engaging women's church group. They meet monthly March thru November on the third Tuesday and have a Christmas luncheon in December, support many church outreach programs, and enjoy fellowship with all ages of church women.

LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP BOWLING LEAGUE Lutheran Fellowship Bowling League is a joint league among area ELCA Churches, and we are open to adults 18 or older to join us every other Sunday for an evening of adult Christian fellowship (2nd & 4th Sundays of the month). Bowling skill or experience NOT required as we just love to have a good time and always love to welcome new faces to our fellowship every year! You can join as an individual or couple (special cases we can have a group of 3 join together). The first session will be Sunday, Sept 13th at 6:00pm at St. Charles Bowl. If you're interested in joining, contact Nick Rex for more information. (630) 742-5836 (please leave Nick a text or voicemail) or lutheranbowling@gmail.com. We are also on Facebook, just search "Lutheran Fellowship Bowling & Softball". If there are times you'll be out of town, do not worry, we have available subs to fill in. If you can't commit to a full season but want to be a sub, please let us know as well.

OKTOBERFEST Grace will again be hosting the annual Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 26th from 4pm to 7pm. Hay rides, line dancing, kids games, bouncy house, food and fellowship! Please see the sign-up sheet in the gathering room.

RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS You may see that many of our leftover rummage sale items continue to be moved out. Our next sale is in October, and we would like to remind everyone that we would like you to hold your donations until that time. Please don't drop off or put items in the garage without contacting Linda or Tricia. Thank you all very much for your cooperation.

RUMMAGE SALE CLOTHING ITEMS You can drop off your clothing items to the church anytime someone is here. For now, we take clothing items throughout the year. This makes it easier for a group of gals who periodically sort through the clothes. Fall/winter clothes are particularly needed for the sale. We will also take unsalable items if you mark them "recycle" as we drop them off to a recycling textile facility. Questions, contact Cara Turner at 630-291-6896.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL We completed a successful first week of school! We are currently full with 18 registered for the Monday/Wednesday mixed-age class. And we are also full for our new 2-year-old class on Tuesdays with 8 students registered. Thank you to God for all of these blessings!

SECURITY FOR PRESCHOOL Please be reminded that our Preschool policies are that all entry doors remain locked during preschool hours. (Mon/Wed: 9:15am – 1:15pm and Tues: 8:45am – 10:45am) If you need to come into church, we ask that you lock the door behind you, and of course ensure it is locked when you depart.

DIRECTORY FAMILY PICTURE Cara Turner is available for your family picture taking on Sundays at 9am, downstairs in first SS room/office on the left, and after church service until 11am. Please contact her if you have further questions or need to schedule a picture taking at your home – her cell #: 630-291-6896. We would like to get this project complete within the next month.

LECTORS ARE NEEDED for readings during our service. Please look for the clipboard. Thank you for your assistance in our service.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER is available on-line at www.graceoflilylake.org. If you would like to submit anything for the newsletter, please email the information to Marty Bradley by the 24th of the month: masbradley50@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Are you looking for ways to be a little more involved in our church each week? We have a variety of tasks that take place before and during each Sunday worship service, such as preparing communion and altar, reading our announcements and Bible reading, ushering, running the PowerPoint during the service. A variety of ways to be a part of our worship behind the scenes or up front. Please see Pastor for more information.

SHOE BOX COLLECTION in lower level outside of Fellowship Hall. Please help!

NOISY OFFERING We gratefully accept your "noisy offering" after each service. These funds add up and go towards our capital improvement projects.

OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE We are thankful and blessed with your offering and donations. Received as of 9/8/26 – \$ 2,665 (our weekly goal is \$4,000).

~ Blessings upon Grace in our 132nd year of ministry ~

VISIT OUR Website: www.graceoflilylake.org (.ORG not .COM)

FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES

Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services

Our FACEBOOK PAGE for activities and posts of interest:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/>

630-365-6751

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

- * God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- * As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- * Ministries and people of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop of the ELCA, and Erik Christensen, our new Bishop of the Chicago Synod.
- * Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

FOR THE WORLD

- * For every living person facing the threat of war – it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.
- * For the healing of the divisions in our Nation.

FOR OUR CONGREGATION

- * For God's Spirit to guide the Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.
- * As we plan regarding the future of our congregation.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

- * Nathan Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren
- * William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey
- * David Brazee, Grandson of Steve and Cathy Lindquist

(If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

FOR ALL

- * The continued support of our members
- * For all members of healthcare around the world
- * For those serving as first responders and in the military
- * For our Nation, to extend peace in all things.

FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT...

For our “Grace Family” members: Betty Boor, Craig Bradley, Dan Burtnette, Travis and Lissa Brown, Lillian Carlson, Alexa Diehl, Natalia Diehl, Jan Docherty, Mitch Hendry, Kathy Hooey, Rich Jackson, Manfred Kaufmann, Kay and Paul Kinsel, Katie Kozeva, Pastor Dave and Carol Langseth, Tom and Lois Larkin, Ray Larsen, Pat and Chili Lindgren, Steve Lindquist, Joan Mortenson, Carol Nelson, Ed Nordwind, Mary Lindquist Rose, Nancy and John Schaefer, Norm Turner, Bud and Marilyn Wise, Wayne Whiteside

For our Families and Friends: Howard, Jim, Scott, Fred Alstadt, Barb Asher, Kathy Barton (mother of Tom Barton), Howard and Christine Baumert, Viola Bradshaw, Cindy Carlson, Joanie Chernick, David Diehl, Rebecca Eagen, Ted Ellingsen, Pat Eineke, Rachel Glancy (friend of the Lindgren family), Joyce Helander, Andrew Kinsel, Bob Koehling, Sally Kruthoff (daughter of Nancy Schnaitman), Gay Leslie, Janelle McDonald, Linda Mowers, Ray Navarro, Oksana & Maria, Donald Overby, Emily Peters, Mary Rose, John Schnaitman, Bob Stanley (Marty Bradley’s brother), Kelly Wilken, Ron Wilken, Greg & Val Williams, and Barbara Zegiel.

If you have requested that anyone (including yourself) be put on Grace's prayer list, thank you for your faith in our work of prayer! In order to keep our list current and accurate, we would like to hear from you regarding the need for continued prayer, praises and new requests. You may place these in a note in the offering plate, send them on-line via our prayer card on our website, leave them on the answering machine at church (630-365-6751) or speak with Pastor or Kathy Hooey. Aren't we blessed to have a God who listens and cares!

ALSO - Do you know someone who could use a reminder of our prayers and God's constant love? We have lovely **prayer shawls** all ready for delivery. Just call or see Vicki Linden for prayer shawls.