



# WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

5N600 Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

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Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 \* 9:30 AM \* INPERSON and ONLINE



## *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

### **Introduction**

**TODAY'S THEME:** Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

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**

### **Down By the Riverside**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Announcements are found on our website*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*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, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✝ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**C: Amen.**

### **OPENING HYMN**

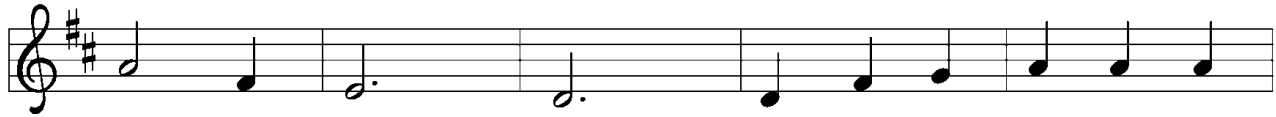
**I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

**ELW 815/Red Hymnal**

# I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

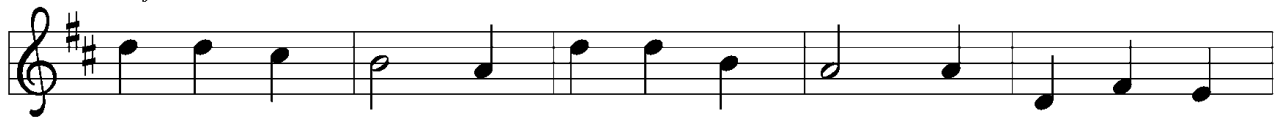


fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

## *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson

Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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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...Holy God, **our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, 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.**

Share the peace with each other either by a wave or a bow.

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

### **FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

*Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: Word of God; Word of Life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel.)

## **GOSPEL: John 1:29-42**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John

**ALL: Glory to you O Lord**

*John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.*

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**ALL: Praise to You O Christ!**

## **MESSAGE FOR ALL**

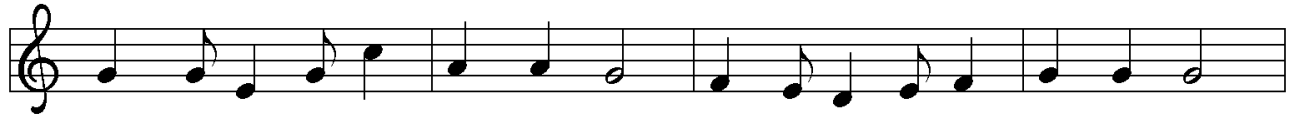
Pastor David Mercurio

## **SONG OF DAY**

**Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

**ELW 674/Red Hymnal**

# Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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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 majesty,

**C: no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)*

**Offertory Music**

**All My Trials, Lord**

## **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: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

P: Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed down by trouble, oppression, or illness. Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Abiding God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission to make disciples and guide our ministries in this community. Kindle in us a desire to help one another. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

**P:** Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

## **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: The Lord's Prayer**

**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 Hymns:

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

When Israel was in Egypt's Land

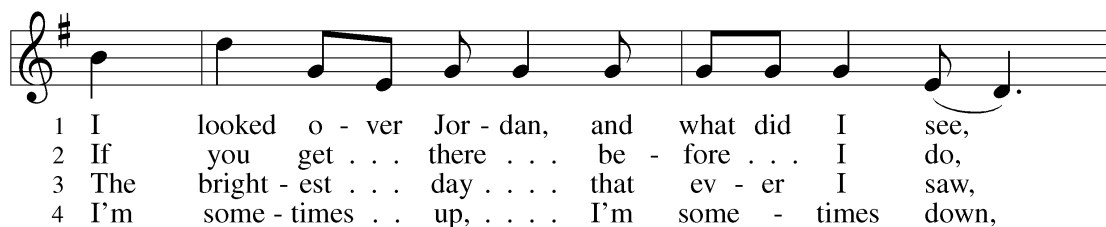
All My Trials, Lord

Spiritual

WOV 670/Blue Hymnal

Spiritual

### Swing Low, Sweet Chariot



Text: African American spiritual

Music: SWING LOW, African American spiritual

# When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

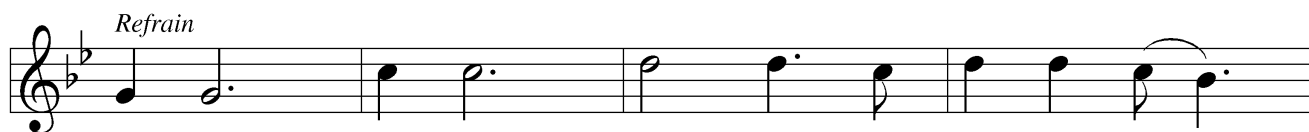
## *Go Down, Moses*



1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land,  
2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go;  
3 The pillar of cloud shall clear the way,  
4 As Is - rael stood by the wa - ter - side,



op - pressed so hard they could not stand,  
to lead the childr'n of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple go.  
a fire by night, a shade by day,  
at God's com-mand it did di - vide,



Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land,



tell old Pha - raoh: Let my peo - ple go!

5 When they had reached the other shore,  
let my people go;  
they sang the song of triumph o'er,  
let my people go. *Refrain*

6 Oh, let us all from bondage flee,  
let my people go;  
and let us all in Christ be free,  
let my people go. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: TUBMAN, African American spiritual

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P:** Radiant God,

**C:** we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with

**delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG**

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

**ELW 841 /Red Hymnal**

# Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,  
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,  
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.  
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;  
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,  
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet  
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
 come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?  
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;  
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,  
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,  
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last  
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

## **GOD SENDS US**

### **BLESSING**

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ✚ bless you now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2026

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### **ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON**

#### **Isaiah 49:1-7**

*The servant brings light to the nations*

#### **Psalms 40:1-11**

I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)

## **1/18/26 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are donated today by Norm Turner in honor of Shirley's birthday.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is TODAY and continues on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month at 9:30am. In February, we will have Sunday School on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

**LINE DANCING** will resume on TUESDAYS into the new season starting this Tuesday, January 6th, 2026 (NOT the 8th) from 6pm-7pm in Fellowship Hall. Please make note of the change. And perhaps Tuesdays will work better for others' schedules.

**GRACE'S ANNUAL MEETING** Please plan to attend our annual meeting next Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> following our worship service. We will gather downstairs in Fellowship Hall and everyone is welcome - even newer members - please join us to hear Grace's goals and insight into 2026.

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST on SUNDAY FEB. 8<sup>TH</sup>** The Scouts will be hosting their annual pancake breakfast on 2/8. Please stop in Fellowship Hall before or after worship.

**GIRL SCOUT COOKIES FOR SALE on SUNDAY FEB. 15<sup>TH</sup>** The Lily Lake Girl Scout troop will have cookies for sale - \$6/box.

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

**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.

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL** takes place every Monday and/or Wednesday from 9:15am – 1:15pm. There are still a few spots remaining on Wednesdays. If you know of anyone with a child ages 3-5, please let them know of this engaging Christian preschool program. More info can be found on our website, [www.graceoflilylake.org/preschool](http://www.graceoflilylake.org/preschool) or you can contact Janice Muncie at 630-854-1066.

**SECURITY FOR PRESCHOOL** Please be reminded that our Preschool policies are that all entry doors remain locked during preschool hours. 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. And this is a good time for another request for anyone in and out of church or the last one here at church, please check all exit doors on both levels to ensure they are locked.

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

**BRIDGE TO LIFE DONATIONS** The Bridge to Life Group continues to collect donations for the Elgin homeless. For details see the newsletter or Cathy Whiteside. ***Thank you for your generous donations!***

**JANUARY NEWSLETTER** is available on-line at [www.graceoflilylake.org](http://www.graceoflilylake.org) (please note the new website address ends in a “.org” rather than a “.com”)

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

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** Nancy Corbige continues to collect email addresses for the Pottawatomie Partnership email distribution list. We currently have a house in-build in St. Charles. (Questions, you may call or text Nancy at 847-212-0237.)

**OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE** We are thankful for your offerings and donations given to Grace. Offerings received as of January 12<sup>th</sup> \$3,777. Much gratitude to all of our members at Grace.

~ Blessings upon Grace in our 132<sup>nd</sup> year of ministry ~

VISIT OUR Website: [www.graceoflilylake.org](http://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 of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- \* Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

### **FOR THE WORLD**

- \* For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus – 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, Lillian Carlson, Nancy Corbige, Ken Deutschmann, Alexa Diehl, Natalia Diehl, Jan Docherty, Suzanne Girsch, Rich Jackson, Manfred Kaufmann, Paul Kinsel, Katie Kozeva, Pastor Dave & Carol Langseth, Tom and Lois Larkin, Ray Larsen, Larry Linden, Pat & Chili Lindgren, Steve Lindquist, Joan Mortensen, Jan Myers, Carol Nelson, Ed Nordwind, Nancy & John Schaefer, Bud and Marilyn Wise, Norm Turner, 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, Ed Elkins (Suzanne Girsch's brother-in-law), Ted Ellingsen, Pat Eineke, Joyce Helander, Andrew Kinsel, Bob Koehling, Sally Kruthoff (daughter of Nancy Schnaitman), Karl Kruthoff, Gay Leslie, Janelle McDonald, Linda Mowers, Ray Navarro, Oksana & Maria, Donald Overby, Emily Peters, Marc Pluskowski (dear friend of Heidi Anderson), **Marion Schlindwein (Dan and Nancy Burtnette's mom/mother-in-law)**, John Schnaitman, 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 Twyla Strom for prayer shawl needs.