



WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE, IL

5N600 Hanson Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

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

WEB ADDRESS: www.graceoflilylake.com

Sunday, January 29th, 2023 * 9 AM * INPERSON and ONLINE



4th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR SUNDAY MORNING 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.*

GOD GATHERS US

Announcements are found on our website

PRELUDE

Fugue in C Major

Buxtehude

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

I Will Praise You

Choir

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, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One, source of our renewal,

**C: we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.**

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

**For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,**

**that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**

All: Amen.

P: Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ✚ Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

OPENING SONG

O God of Mercy, God of Light

ELW 714 v.1,2,5

O God of Mercy, God of Light ELW 714 v. 1,2,5

1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
in your sight, to live our lives in you.
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
may we each other's burdens share;
may we, where help is needed, there
give help as though to you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.

Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

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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,

C: you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, 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 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

L: Word of God; Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.



Children's Message

(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

All: Glory to you O Lord

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to You O Christ!

MESSAGE FOR ALL

Pastor David Mercurio

Let Justice Flow like Streams ELW 717



- 1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar- kling wa - ter, pure,
- 2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
- 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
 an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
 and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

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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: Liberating God,

**C: you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.**

Receive these offerings in thanksgiving

for all your works of merciful power,

and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.

You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

All: Amen.

(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)

Offertory Music

Communion 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: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P: Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways.

Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

All: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Come and taste the joy of God!

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 hymns:

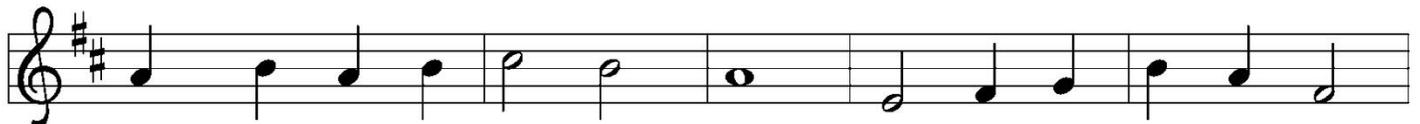
**Break Now the Bread of Life
O Master, Let Me Walk with You**

**ELW 515
ELW 818**

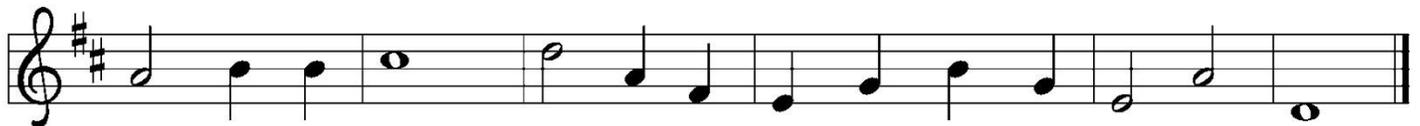
Break Now the Bread of Life ELW 515



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.

Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

O Master, Let Me Walk with You ELW 818



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy One,

C: we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.

Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

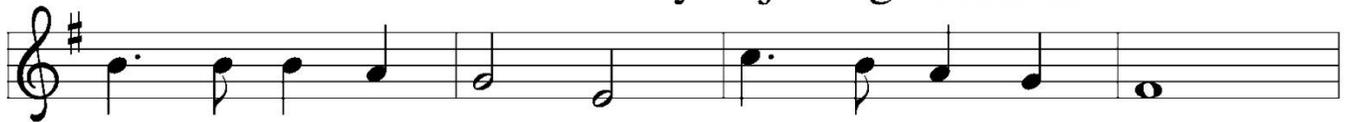
All: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

On Our Way, Rejoicing

ELW 537

On Our Way Rejoicing ELW 537



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

All: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Postlude

Boellmann

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Liturgy-Sundays and Seasons May 31, 2023

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON

Micah 6:1-8

The offering of justice, kindness, humility

Psalm 15

LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (*Ps. 15:1*)

1/29/23 ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS donated today by Tricia Painter with blessings to Grace as we embark on a new year!!!

REBECCA CIRCLE FRONTIER SOUP SALE-every week. See display in the Narthex.

WORSHIP MASKING-Update There has been a slight increase in the area of Covid cases and in our congregation. We have been sitting at a social distance as we have felt comfortable in the sanctuary. We need to continue Masking at your comfort level.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH'S ANNUAL MEETING is **TODAY**, right after worship. Please plan on attending and *bring your copy of Grace's annual report!*

SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST at Grace, Feb. 12th from 8am – 11am.

POOL TABLE (in Youth room) give away for \$50 donation - you haul away. Please see Tricia Painter if interested.

LINE DANCING continues every Thursday night in Fellowship Hall from 6pm to 7pm.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: A VALENTINE'S LINE DANCE FUNDRAISER

Please mark your calendars, tell others, and plan to attend this event on Sat. 2/11/23 from 5-9pm in the Fellowship Hall of the United Methodist Church of Geneva, 211 Hamilton St., Geneva. This very worthy cause is hosted by the Pottawotomie Partnership. Tickets: \$10/person, \$20/family. Festivities include: line dance instruction and open dancing throughout the night, silent auction, and refreshments.

*Accepting donations for silent auction items up until Jan.17th.

*Requesting dancers: beginners who want to learn, experienced dancers, and those that love to watch and enjoy the show!

*Questions, contact Nancy, event lead contact: 847-212-0237

CHILI BINGO NIGHT on Sat., March 4th

BOWLING LEAGUE The Lutheran Fellowship Bowling League, a joint league among area ELCA Churches, is looking for adults 18 or older to join us every other Sunday for an evening of adult Christian fellowship. Bowling skill or experience not required. Contact Nick Rex for more info: 630-742-5836 (text or voicemail) or lutheranbowling@gmail.com.

NOISY OFFERING We collect a Noisy Offering whenever you wish to empty your change purse or pockets! Our next endeavor is for special light bulbs & lift rental necessary for the sanctuary & parking lot. Thank you for your support!

BRIDGE TO LIFE DONATIONS The Bridge to Life Group continues to collect donations for the Elgin homeless. For details see the News Letter or Cathy Whiteside.

Thank you for your generous donations!

SUNDAY SCHOOL for February 2023 – Feb. 5th & Feb. 19th

OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE

Donations collected as of 1/23/2023 = \$3,463.

Weekly donations needed to meet 2022 expenses = \$3,750.

(2023 weekly donation goal will be available after the annual meeting.)

Blessings upon Grace as we embark on a new year~

Grace Lutheran(GLC) is again partnering with Dennis Finney from Bethlehem Lutheran Church(BLC) supporting the **2023 FEED THE NEED / FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN** event. **A signup sheet is available in the Narthex as we've had in previous years.** There is also a signup sheet for [taking M&M tubes, take 1 or more, enjoy the candy then fill the tubes with Quarters or just cash and return to George Theros before Saturday Feb 18th.](#)

The following has been provided to us:

The 2023 FTN Event Leadership Team has decided it is time to bring this event back to prior years' successes. The goal this year is to once again pack well over 1,000,000 meals to feed the hungry children/people; the stretch goal is to match or exceed previous results (Pre-Covid). 5,000 plus volunteers are needed, as well as voluntary financial donations, to fund these meals, which are 25 cents each. The funding total goal for FTN 2023 is to raise \$240,000 to pay for these meals and associated costs that go with that. **See above Grace Lutheran has M&M Tubes.**

As I am sure you can imagine, an event of this size and scope, takes many people working together collaboratively, to make it a success. It requires prayer, trust, and faith as we move forward in full faith in accomplishing these goals of feeding kids, who are in desperate need.

Again for FTN 2023 Dennis Finney will be the coordinator/organizer at BLC working with a team in helping to put this event together & get a group of volunteers together, to help at Feed the Need, FTN, in Naperville, held at North Central College. Additionally, Dennis is on the FTN 2023 Leadership Team at NCC. As an FTN 2023 Leadership Team, we are moving forward in full faith in accomplishing these goals of feeding children, who are in desperate need. We know that all of you are well aware of the far reaching impact FTN/FMSC has had on children and people in need. BLC's and **GLC's** past support and involvement with FTN has been wonderful and impactful. **WE NEED YOUR HELP** and support for these goals to become a reality.

IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT *FEED THE NEED* 2023:

MOBILEPACK DATES: Saturday & Sunday, February 18-19 2023

LOCATION: North Central College ResRec Center, 440 S Brainard St, Naperville, IL 60540

PACKING SESSIONS:

* *SATURDAY: 3:30-5:30PM; 7:00-9:00PM*

* *SUNDAY: 9:00AM-11:00PM; 12:30-2:30PM; 4:00-6:00 PM.*

*The sooner we know your shift preferences, the better, as we can then try to reserve a certain number of spots for BLC and **GLC**, prior to them filling up.*

With everyone working together, we can all contribute to helping to reduce this number, with the ultimate goal, of eradicating World Hunger at some point in the future. WE NEED YOUR HELP and support for these goals to become a reality.

After all is said and done - The bottom line here is:

Helping to feed the hungry/starving kids/people. Saving their lives. It is estimated that 6,200 children in the world die each day, due to starvation/malnutrition. Annually this would equate to 2,263,000 children. This is a sobering statistic. (that's just the ones they know about) Imagine how many adults there might be?

“A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.”

Proverbs 11:25

Feeding God's Starving Children Hungry in Body and Spirit. Turn Hunger into Hope with Your Own Two Hands.

ZOOM FELLOWSHIP WILL CONTINUE WEEKLY **AT 10:30 AM** on Sundays following our online worship services. Join our Grace family for sharing news, prayers information and more. Don't miss out! Check your eblast for details.

<https://zoom.us/j/96765863567?pwd=SWpGM0xlclVoaFBIUXI2dEVvNTd3UT09>

VISIT OUR Website www.graceoflilylake.com FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES

Check out our updated website. **Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services**

And 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)

- * Adam & Julia Sajdak, grandson & granddaughter in law of Bill and Lori U'Ren
- * 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, that extend peace in all things.

FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT

For those ill in body, mind or spirit..... Andrew Kinsel and his family in Ukraine, Fred Alstadt, Vicki Barclay, Aina Baumanis, Nelson Brodhead, Joanna Alverado/Klaus, Jim (brother of Rita Burnham), Elaine Chaney, the Chavez family and Joe, Juanita Curley, Jane Cutler, Ken Deutschmann, Jack and Jan Docherty, Joyce Helander and Jim Serafin, Jay Ellingsen, Howard (friend of Alexa Diehl), Manfred Kaufmann, Paul and Kay Kinsel, Bob Koehling, Katie Kozeva, Lisa Landes, Pastor Dave and Carol Langseth, Ray Larsen, Gay Leslie (cousin of Kurt Redemann), Pat and Chili Lindgren, Sherry Manke, George and Eileen Morris, Joan Mortenson, Mike Myers, Ray Navarro, Ed Nordwind, Donald Overby, Phil and Inge Peterson, Carol Prevenas, Pastor Art, Nancy Schaeffer, John Schnaitman, Kim Theros, Tia Thorne, Shirley Turner, Crystal Vines, Kristy Weydert, Wayne Whiteside, Catherine Zegial, and Barbara Zegiel.

Our prayers to Karen Patterson, her family and friends on the death her husband Ken. He will be missed by all of us. Arrangements are to be announced.

*Please let us know your prayer requests for inclusion in our public prayers.
Type them in the comments or send them to the church office via our prayer card on our website.*