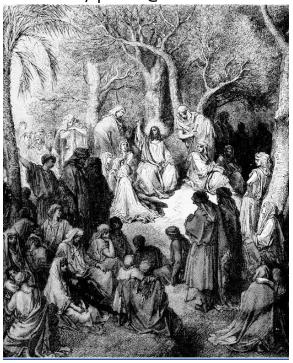
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610- 346-8500 durhamlutheran.org

Reverend James Heckman, Pastor 267-664-3160 / pastor@durhamlutheran.org



February 16, 2025 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the "blessed ares" and the "woe tos" are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

You can find the live stream at the following location:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Reminder: Congregational Meeting February 23, 2025

Immediately following worship service

**In the event of inclement weather our meeting will be rescheduled

for March 2, 2025 after worship**

Prelude:

GATHERING

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

(Stand if you are able)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

→ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

- P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
- P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Gathering Hymn: ELW 858

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

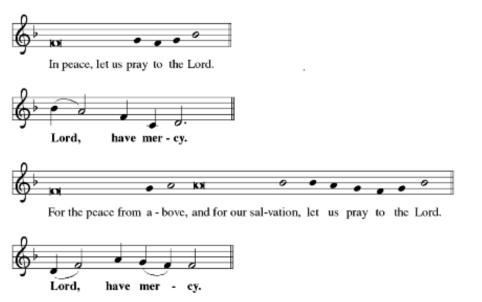


Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

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

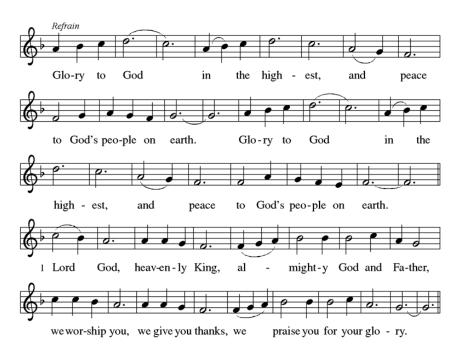
C: And also with you

Kyrie- Congregation sings response "Lord, have mercy."

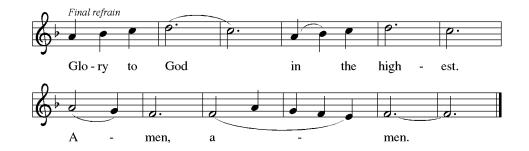




CANTICLE OF PRAISE







Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

First Reading-Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

L: A reading from the seventeenth chapter of Jeremiah

⁵ Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. ⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. ⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? ¹⁰I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 1

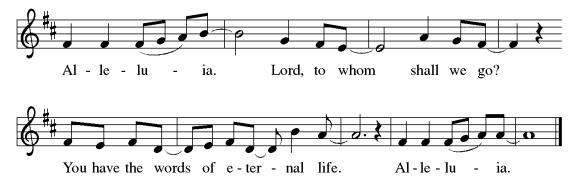
- L: ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- C: ²Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.
- L: ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.
- C: 4 It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- L: ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- C: ⁶ For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

or Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

- L: A reading from the fifteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians.
 - ¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
 - ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.
- L: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:



The Gospel: Luke 6: 17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the sixth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)



Hymn of the Day: ELW 726

Light Dawns on a Weary World



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL. 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Apostle's 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 INTERCESSION

The pastor will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read the other prayer aloud as they feel called. The congregation may turn and face the aisle.

P: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way (especially). Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times. May their lives be a witness to the living. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: "Happy Are the Lowly Poor"

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



Offering Prayer

P: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

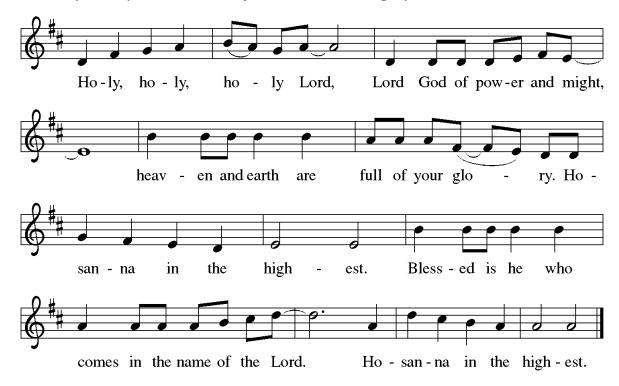
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (said by Pastor)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

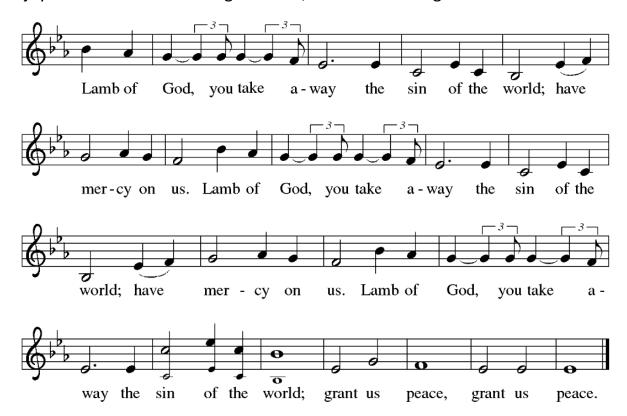
C: Amen.

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C: 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.

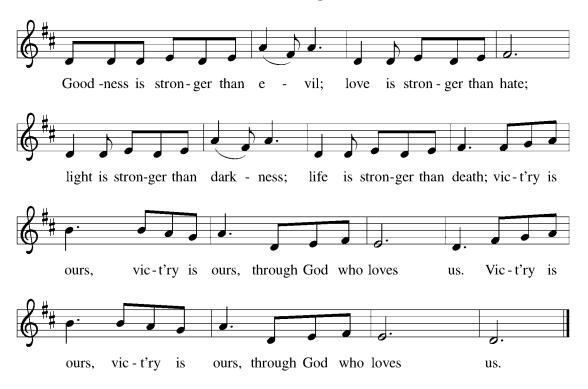
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.



Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow usher)

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil



Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931 Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949 Text © 1995 Desmond Tutu, admin. Random House, Inc. and Lynn C. Franklin Associates, Ltd. Music © 1996 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Prayer after Communion

P: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

Announcements

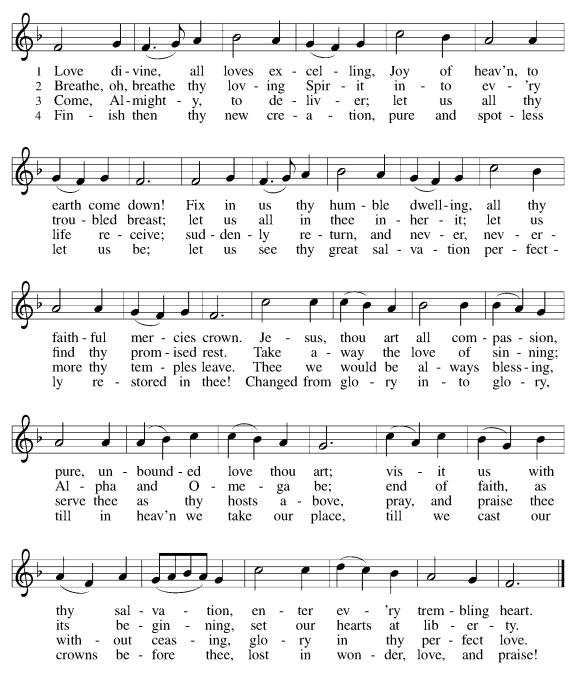
BLESSING

P: The Spirit of the triune God \oplus bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen

Sending Song: CS 124

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Our Outreach envelopes for February will be given to Allentown Rescue Mission.

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>						
FEBRUARY	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS			
16	Kathy Haney					
19			Kathleen Miller			
20	Esther Crouse					
22			Benjamin Miller			

22	Benjamin Miller				
	THIS WEEK'S ACT	<u> </u>			
Sunday, February 16th	9:15 AM	Adult Sunday School in Library			
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany	10:00 AM	Communion Worship			
	After Worship	Altar Guild Meeting			
	12:00 PM	Mental Health Series- Rev. Sue Howes			
	5:00PM-7:00PM	Confirmation Class @ Durham			
Monday, February 17th	11:00 AM- 1:00 PM	Messy Church			
	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours			
	6:30-7:30PM	Kids Club			
Wednesday, February 19	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours			
	10:00 AM	Mid-week Choir Rehearsal			
Thursday, February 20	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours			
	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim			
	1:00 - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's			
Saturday, February 22	9:30 AM- 12:00 PM	SEPAGather ChurchCouncil Leaders in Philly			
	9AM Prep 3PM-5PM	Soup Sale at Durham!			
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES					
Sunday, February 23	9:15 AM	Adult Sunday school in the library			
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany	10:00 AM	Communion Worship			
	After Worship	Congregational Meeting			
	5:00 PM	Reverse Advent Covered Dish @ St. Lukes			
Monday, February 24	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours			
	6:30-7:30PM	Kids Club			
Wednesday, February 26	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours			
	10:00 AM	Mid-week Choir Rehearsal			
Thursday, February 27	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours			
	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim			
	1:00 - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's			
Sunday, March 2	9:15 AM	Adult Sunday school in the library.			
Transfiguration of Our Lord	10:00 AM	Communion Worship			
		Confirmation Class @ St. Lukes Ferndale			
Monday, March 3	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours			
Tuesday, March 4	5:00 -7:00 PM	Mardi Gras At St Luke Ferndale			
	6:00-7:30 PM	Shrove Tuesday Covered Dish at Durham			
Wednesday, March 5	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours			
	10:00 AM	Mid-Week Choir Rehearsal			
	12:30 PM	Ash Wednesday Spoken Service at Durham			
	3:00 PM	St Lukes Ferndale Ash Wednesday Service			
	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Communion Service			
Thursday, March 6	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office Hours			

Thursday March 6, cont'd	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
	1:00 - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
	7:00 PM	General PALM meeting@ St. Peter's Riegelsville



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

David Antoni; Esther Crouse; Joe Hlavaty; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Joanne Ziegenfuss

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Frank Allebach; Phyllis Allebach; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Stephen Bizon; Clay Butler; Doris Calverley; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; David Davis; Nancy Edelen; Carol and Leon Errico; Gabriella Froehlich; Barbara Foster; Debbie

Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Jason Gourley; Rev. Bradley Gow; Penni Griffith; Andrew Hales; Krista Heyer; Penny Houck; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Tim Koplin; Mary Lily; Jim McAnally; Charleigh McCade; Letitia McCrea; Connor McDevitt; Patrick McNaulty; Stacy Mechum; Nancy Morris; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Leslie Patience; Jennifer Phelps; Lisa Ridge; Connie Rugen; Tammy Sassman; Paul Sauter; Laurel Sheetz; Holly Snyder; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Joe V.; Kelly Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Henry Wong; Wayne Yeisley; Barbara Yob.

For those who are Homebound:

James Altemose; Cleo Eck; Frank Mammana; Jayne Miller.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Fred Foerster; Norma Fox; Kenneth Hager; Silas Rodenbach; Bart Shaw; Ed Xander and Bobby Ziegenfuss If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: joanmammana@icloud.com

Worship Assistants

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman
Organist/Choir Director	Carolyn Williams
Altar Guild	Kris Simmons and Becky Praster
Greeter(s)	O'Brien Family
Acolyte	Oaklee Wagner(with mom's help)
Lector	Mary Crouse
Head / Communion Usher	Miriam Anderson
Council Communion	Kat Wagner and Cathy Mueller
Counting Team	Mark Harwick, Linda Sauter and
	Leann Kressman
Technology & Livestreaming	Ken Anderson
Administrative	Kathryn Wagner
Custodian	Dianna Streletz



Please stay after Service for some time of fellowship followed by a discussion led by

Rev. Sue Howes

St Luke's Penn Foundation

about how we can help those who might be struggling with mental health.