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



May 11, 2025 Fourth Sunday of Easter

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

You can find the live stream at the following location:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude: Great is the Lord – Michael W. Smith

GATHERING

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

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

(Stand if you are able)

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism as the pastor begins)

- P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!
- P: In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
- C: Amen.
- P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

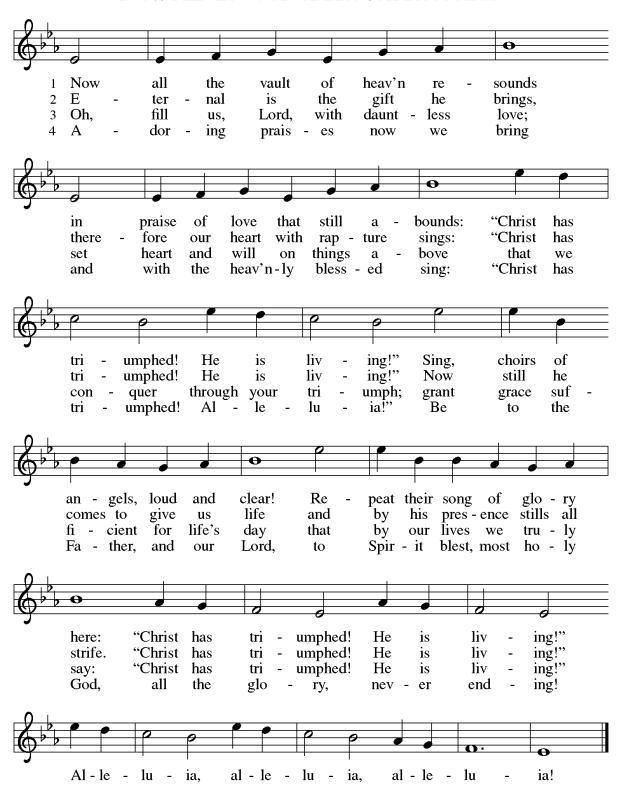
(baptismal water may be poured)

- P: Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,
- C: make us one as you are one.
- P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,
- C: make us one as you are one.
- P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,
- C: make us one as you are one.
- P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One,
- C: Amen



Gathering Hymn: ELW 367

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



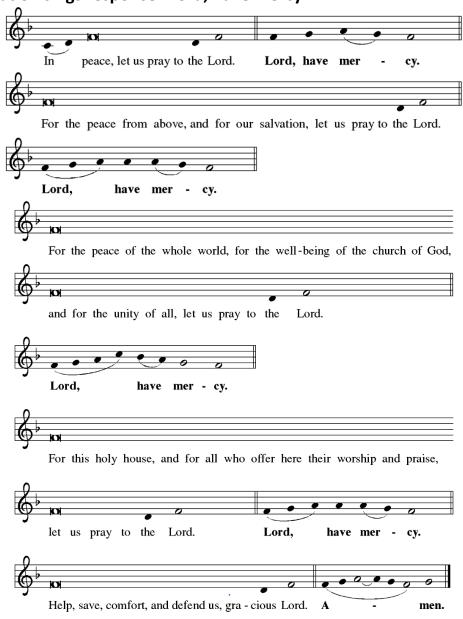
Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt. Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623 Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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."



Hymn of Praise





Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

First Reading- Acts 9: 36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

L: A reading from the nineth chapter of Acts.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 23 we will read in unison.

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

³ You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Second Reading - Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

L: A reading from the seventh chapter of Revelation.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

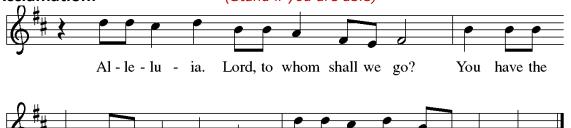
¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.







words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel: John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

P: The holy gospel according to John, the tenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)

Hymn of the Day:ELW 789

(Stand if you are able)

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you.

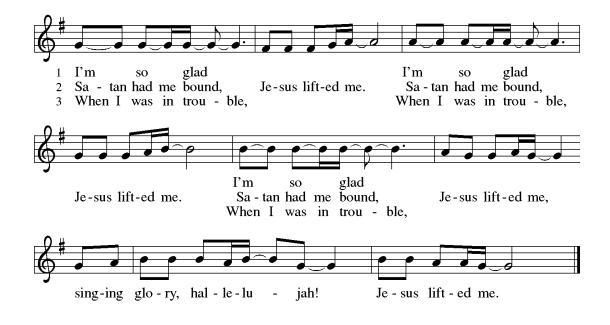
Celebration of Ministry

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: "I Have Felt the Touch of God"

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



Text: African American spiritual Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Offering Prayer

P: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

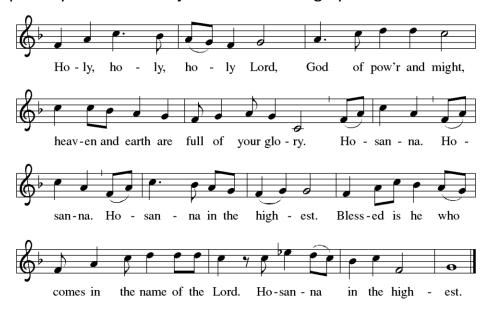
THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving



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.

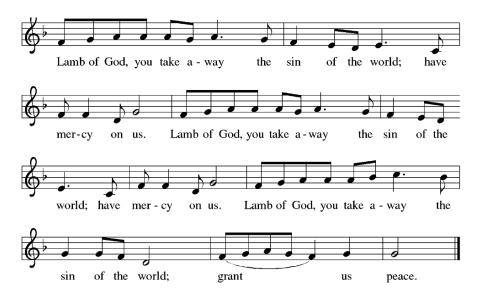
C: Amen.

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

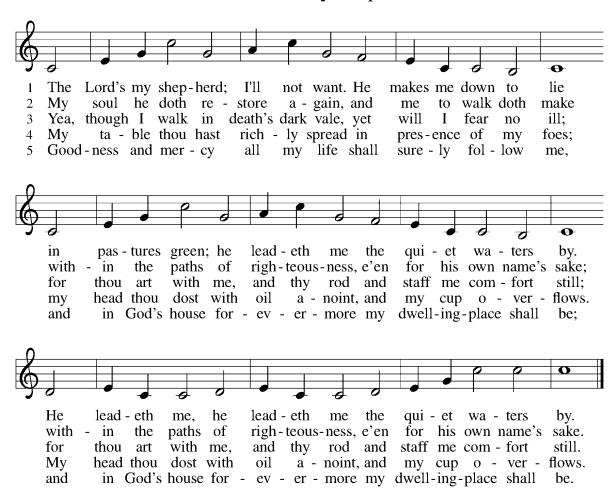
P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.



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

SONG DURING COMMUNION: ELW 778

The Lord's My Shepherd



Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650 Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain

Prayer after Communion

P: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen.

Announcements

BLESSING

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, \oplus Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C: Amen

Sending Song: ELW 419





Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude:

Our Outreach envelopes for May are going towards blankets for Lutheran Disaster Relief.

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>							
MAY	BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES		BAPTISMS		
11	Brittany Froehlich, Ella Rose Michl				Suzane Maurer		
15 Samantha Mueller							
17					Don Crouse		
THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES							
Sunday, May 11		9:15 AM 10:00 AM		Adult Sunday school in the library Communion Worship			
Fourth Sunday of Easter		1:00 PM- 3:00 PM		Admin Office Hours			
Monday, May 12		7:00 PM					
Tuesday, May 13					Council Meeting Office Hours		
Wednesday, May 14		10:00 AM - 2:00 PM		Office hours			
Thursday, iv	Thursday, May 15		10:00 AM - 1:00 PM		Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim		
		12:00 PM 1:00 - 3:00 PM					
1:00 - 3:00 PM Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's UPCOMING ACTIVITIES							
					ınday School in Library		
Fifth Sunday of Easter		10:00 AM		Communion Worship @Durham			
Care-A-Lot Sunday		After Worship		Kids Choir Rehearsal			
care // Lot Sanday		5:00 - 7:00 PM		Confirmation @ St. Luke's Ferndale			
Monday, May 19		1:00 PM- 3:00 PM		Admin Office Hours			
Wednesday, May 21		10:00 AM - 2:00 PM		Admin Office Hours			
		10:00 AM		Mid-Week Choir Rehearsal			
Thursday, May 22		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, May 25		9:15 AM		Adult Sunday school in the library			
Sixth Sunday of Easter		10:00 AM		Communion Worship			
Baptism		After Worship		Kids Choir Rehearsal			
Monday, May 26		Memorial Day		No Office Hours			
Wednesday, May 28		10:00 AM - 2:00 PM		Office Hours			
		10:00 AM		Mid-week Choir Rehearsal			
Thursday, May 29		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			
Friday, May 30					er Anew" SEPA Synod Assembly		
					ty Lutheran Church in Lansdale		
Saturday, May 31				"Ponder Anew" SEPA Synod Assembly			
				@ Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale			



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

David Antoni; Esther Crouse; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Barbara Naska; David Sauter; Joanne Ziegenfuss

For Healing of Friends and Family:

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

Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Jason Gourley; Penni Griffith; Andrew Hales; Krista Heyer; Penny Houck; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Tim Koplin; Jim McAnally; Charleigh McCade; Letitia McCrea; Connor McDevitt; Patrick McNaulty; Stacy Mechum; Nancy Morris; Bradley Mundt; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Leslie Patience; Jennifer Phelps; Dennis Phillipps; Adrienne Rozzi; Connie Rugen; Tammy Sassman; Paul Sauter; Laurel Sheetz; Holly Snyder; Donna Storm; Edward Thaler; 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; Jayne Miller.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Doris Calverley; Fred Foerster; Norma Fox ;Kenneth Hager; Vivian Harwick; Frank Mammana; 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	Linda Sauter and Scott Gaun		
Greeter(s)	Wagner Family		
Acolyte	Oaklee Wagner		
Lector	Mark Harwick		
Head / Communion Usher	Mark Harwick		
Council Communion	Dealers' choice		
Counting Team	Kathy Hlavaty, Miriam Anderson and Pat Zion		
Technology & Livestreaming	Ken Anderson		
Administrative	Kathryn Wagner		
Custodian	Dianna Streletz		



The food basket on the altar today is sponsored by Nancy and Frank Moskella in honor of their mother, Esther Crouse.