

## Watch worship online - connect through www.gracelutheran-alpena.org

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# Grace Lutheran Church

## **Grace Lutheran's Purpose Statement**

*"We share God's love by welcoming all and making a Christ-like difference in our community and world."* 

# **GATHERING**

## The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## WELCOME/PRELUDE

## GATHERING

(the assembly stands as they are comfortable)

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

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

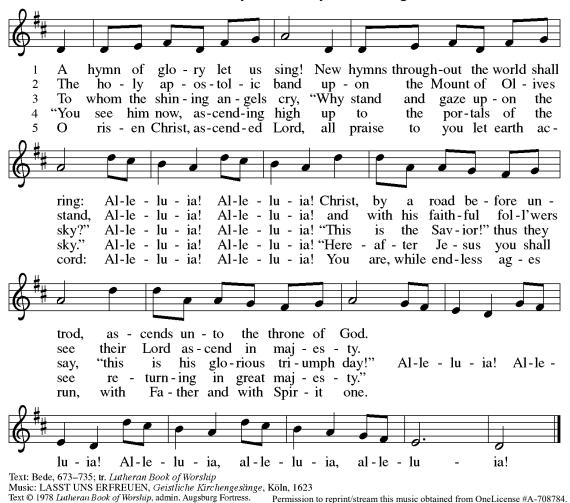
- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C: Amen.
- P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: Most merciful God,
- C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
- P:: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

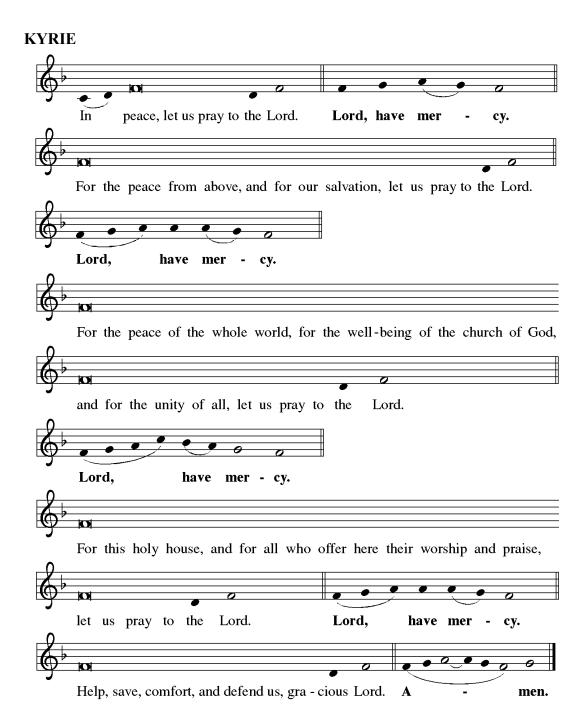
**GATHERING HYMN** 

"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"



#### GREETING

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.



**HYMN OF PRAISE** 



- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## <u>WORD</u>

## God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—<sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

#### L: The word of the Lord.

#### C: Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 1

The LORD knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)

<sup>1</sup>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!

<sup>2</sup>Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night. <sup>3</sup>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.

## <sup>4</sup>It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

## <sup>6</sup>For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

## 1 John 5:9-13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

<sup>9</sup>If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. <sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

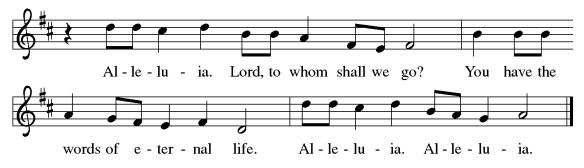
P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable for the Gospel)

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



- P: The Holy Gospel according to John.
- C: Glory to You, O Lord.

#### John 17:6-19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

[Jesus prayed:] <sup>6</sup>"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine: and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them. I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

- P: The Gospel of Our Lord.
- C: Praise to You, O Christ.

## HOMILY

(The assembly stands as they are comfortable)



Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991

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#### 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.

#### **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

(Response after each petition)

- P: ... let us pray.
- C: Have mercy, O God.

- P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C: Amen.

## <u>MEAL</u> God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** (the assembly stands as they are comfortable and sings as the gifts are brought forward)



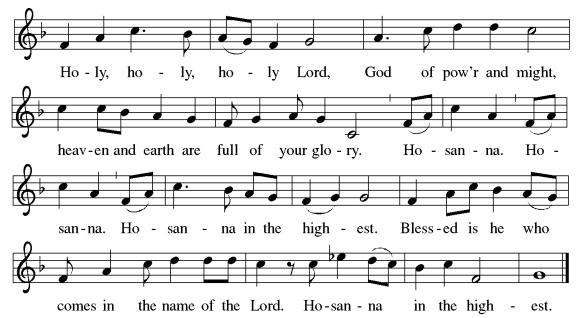
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P: Let us pray...Blessed are you, O God,

C: ruler of heaven and earth. Day after day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise You and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **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.
- P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...(*concluding*)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe ... With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: O God of resurrection and new life ... Grace our table with your presence.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.

- P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread ... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

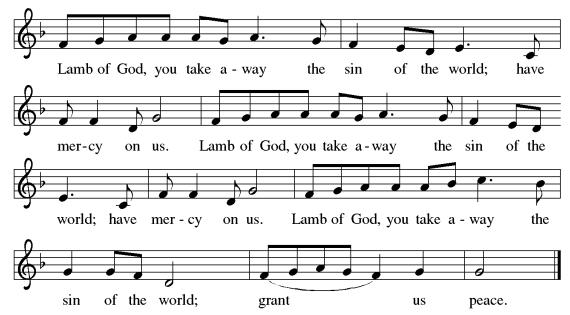
## LORD'S PRAYER

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: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## HOLY COMMUNION

(All who desire to receive Christ's presence in bread and wine are welcome to participate in the Eucharist)



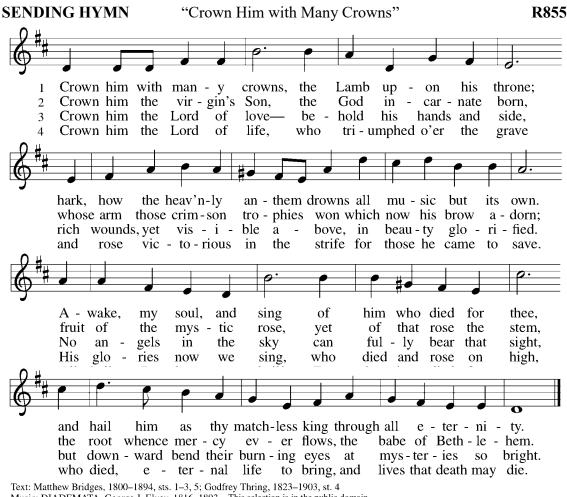




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#### BLESSING

- P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
  - The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
- C: Amen.



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

L: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### POSTLUDE

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#### WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

We are glad to have you here worshiping with us. For visitors, we would be glad to tell you more about Grace Lutheran and how we share God's love. Please leave the best way to contact you on the visitor sheets in the Sanctuary Narthex or the Office Lobby or use the bulletin and give it to an usher.

#### **COFFEE HOUR AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Join us for a time of fellowship with coffee/tea/juice and treats in the Fellowship Hall off the Office Lobby after our Sunday worship.

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

In Honor of Janet & Gary Bettega's 29th Wedding Anniversary

#### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Don Cross, Adam Kamyszek, Diane Prevost, Kelly Pankey, Joanne Kindt, Ali Lewis, Tammy Furze, Mary Barney-Bock, Eleanor Coddington, Sandy Malaski, Janet Chroninger, Bonnie Cross, Elfie Jahnke, Budd & Marlene Jobson, Lisa Wooll, Kristin Berles, Don Barnard, Meredith Smith, Robert Larsen, Vicki Piontkowski, Elaine Hatch, Scott Lancaster, Gerald Lancaster, Dorothy Hansen, Larry & Emma Nelson, Michele Amelotte, Jim Malaski -- Annie Olsen, Brenda Donajkowski, Rev. Laraine Sundin, Rev. Sarah Samuelson, Duane Morin, Linda, Kaye Harry, Sandra Beck, Kevin Carlson, Laura Fettes (Don Cross' granddaughter), Arlie Prevost, Donna Kendziorski, Jeff Kendziorski, Geraldine Rhoads, James Marculewicz, Herb Schiller, Ann Haske, Joanne Coughlin, Jimmy Lappan, Donna Hatch, Jordyn, Maggie, Emily Cross, and Joseph Hansen.

*Our prayer list is redone each month. If you, or a family member, would like to continue on the prayer list, please call the office (354-2640).* 

#### **PRAYER PARTNERS**

From the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, this weekend we pray for the justice and peace efforts at First Congregational UCC. Our Synod Prayer Partner for this week: Hope St. John's Parish/ Oscoda, Supply Pastors and Bishop Craig Satterlee and Synod Staff.

## ADULT CHRISTIAN ED Church of the Nazarene

Continuing to look at other denominations, we explore the Church of the Nazarene which comes from a Wesleyan and Arminian background. Join us at 11 in the Lounge as we compare some of their understandings to Lutheran tradition.

## LITTLE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION - MAY 11 & 12

We are collecting from the congregation for the Little Food Pantry. Especially needed right now are personal hygiene items and cereal, in addition to the usual items of quick meals and easily prepared items. Bring them in this weekend and place them in front of the altar for dedication.

## **RUTH CIRCLE - MAY 15**

The Ruth Circle will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15, in the Lounge. All women of the congregation are invited to attend.

## SPRING CLEAN UP DAY - MAY 18 FROM 9 -11 AM

Join in with the Property Work Group as some inside and outside spring projects are tackled. See Bill Platt for more info.

## FEEDING KIDS MINISTRY PACKING - MAY 20

Join us at 5:30 p.m. at Sunset School on Hobbs Drive. Sign up in the Office Lobby.

## **150TH FUND**

Thank you to those who donated already to our 150th Fund to honor Grace's anniversary. At our celebration dinner, we raised \$640 to kick off our efforts, along with the \$1,000 committed by Council. It is our goal to raise \$10,000 by the end of this calendar year. Half will be used for current ministry and outreach, and the other half will be used for near-future projects. Thank you to all who are supporting Grace's activities to make a Christ-like difference in our community and world. If you would like to donate, please indicate "150th" on your check or on your church envelope. Thank you, -- Anne Gentry

#### **GRADUATING?** Please let us know by May 26

If you, or someone you know, is graduating please let the church office know. We would like to include your information in an upcoming bulletin. Graduates, please also let us know if you will be attending our Sunday service on Graduation Sunday, June 2.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS WRAPPED UP FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR

Big THANK YOU to the team that stepped up to make it happen for the children. Elsa Phillips as Council Member and Education Work Group chair coordinated it with Chris Christopherson, Tracie Granata, Stephanie Suszek and Emily and Izzy Szymanski teaching the classes. Again THANKS to them. Let them know you appreciate their teaching and time for our children.

## **BABY KITS COLLECTION FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

Once again we are collecting items for Baby Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Collection for these items will take place April through mid-May. Items that are not used in the Baby Kits may be donated elsewhere, as needed. A list of needed items may be found on the table in the Office Lobby.

## THANK YOU

We cannot thank our church family enough for the beautiful luncheon and all the coordination that went in to planning and preparing. It was lovely and so very appreciated along with all the prayers lifted for Taylor and our family. In one of the darkest times you were a glimmer of love and light. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Love -- Phil, Pam and Mitch

## **GENERAL FUND GIVING FOR MARCH 2024**

Average needed in March (5 weeks) to meet budget	\$ 23,680.00
Monthly Giving - March	21,847.29

We received:

158 envelopes, 61 Simply Giving recurring payments, 8 Thrivent Choice donations, and 9 Give+ payments made from our website

## **GENERAL FUND GIVING FOR APRIL 2024**

Average needed in April (4 weeks) to meet budget\$ 18,944.00Monthly Giving - April23,142.10(Includes several one-time/qtly gifts in the amount of \$2,300)23,142.10

We received:

103 envelopes, 72 Simply Giving recurring payments, 1 Thrivent Choice donations, and 7 Give+ payments made from our website

#### CALLED TO SERVE One Box for Ukraine First Presbyterian Church - Thursday, May 16

After the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine, Boyd Byelich, of Rogers City, was compelled to help the Ukrainian people.

The Alpena Presbyterian women's group is inviting you to hear his story. He humbly acknowledges that the "One Box" project he spearheaded was a faith led calling - literally. He says, "That is why I went in the first place. And why it's so easy to witness about, because there was no doubt in my mind that this is what I was supposed to do. I knew it instantly when it hit me." Boyd began One Box for Ukraine when the war started and has visited Ukraine more than a dozen times in the past two years, delivering commodities to the people of Ukraine.

The women's association is hosting Boyd to speak at their Thursday, May 16, gathering at 1 pm in the church sanctuary. Light refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall following his presentation. Join us to hear his call to serve and the program to aid displaced Ukrainians, as well as Ukrainian refugees.

If you are able and interested in donating, items, consider: power banks, hand and toe warmers, tennis shoes and boots, kids' backpacks, new socks and underwear, and coats. Money is also required for shipping, about \$50 per medium box. In addition, cash contributions are also used to purchase essential items that are needed. "One Box" is a non-profit 501c3. Invitations have been extended to local churches and other organizations through flyers and information in the local papers. *If you would like more information, please contact Jan Mooradian at the First Presbyterian Church of Alpena, 989-354-3381*.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED

Our Sunday worship service is livestreamed, shown on the internet, as it is happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday service may be seen as part of the livestream and recording.

> A list of May birthdays and anniversaries can be found on the "News" page of our website at www.gracelutheran-alpena.org/2024-birthdays

#### **HAPPENING THIS WEEK!**

<u>Sunday –12th</u> 9:30 am 11:00 am	<b>Worship</b> Adult CE - Lounge	Ministers God's People   Pastor Rev. Tom Orth   Music Director Claire Witt   Recorded AccompanimentKat Tomaszewski
<u>Monday - 13th</u> 8am-noon	Church Office Open	Lector Joe Gentry Comm. Asst Wayne & Chris Christopherson
Tuesday - 14th 8am-noon 9:00 am 11:00 am	Church Office Open Sewing/Quilting Pastors Text Study	UshersMatt, Everett & Olivia Haske Wayne Lewis (Sat.) GreetersBill & Nancy Platt Altar GuildNancy Platt, Vicki Cripps Livestream TeamDawn Anderson, Jan Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble
<u>Wednesday - 15t</u> 8am-noon 1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Church Office Open Ruth Circle Bell Choir	CountersCheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek Coffee Hour Wayne Lewis, Audrey Garant SERVING MAY 18/19
<u>Thursday - 16th</u> 8am-noon 6:30 pm	Church Office Open Catechism Class	Ministers
Friday - 17th 8am-noon	Church Office Open	Recorded AccompanimentKat TomaszewskiLectorBill & Nancy PlattComm. Asst Wayne & Chris Christopherson
<u>Saturday - 18th</u> 9-11:00 am 11-4:00 pm	Spring Clean Up Kitchen/Fellowship Hall Reserved	UshersMatt, Everett & Olivia Haske Wayne Lewis (Sat.) GreetersSteve & Hansen Altar GuildNancy Platt, Vicki Cripps
5:00 pm	Worship	Livestream Team Dawn Anderson, Jan Charter, Don LaBarre, Alex Struble CountersCheryl Lang, Cindy Suszek Coffee Hour Anne Gentry, Vicki Cripps,

Jo Ann Smith

**SERVING MAY 11/12** 

# Large print worship folders & hearing assistance devices are available from ushers

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