

ST. ANDREW'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 10:00 AM

Ministers, The People of God
Bishop, The Reverend Katrina Foster
Presider, The Reverend Jean Dougherty
Director of Music, Nicholas Suminski
Cantor, Cynthia Davis
Bell Choir Director, Laura Gustavsen
Assisting Minister, Tom Pernice
Readers, Chris Lloyd, Andrew Breiman
Ushers, Lorna Bosak, Danielle Lloyd
Leslee & Steve Mathieson



ST. ANDREW'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH

This is Christ's Church:

There is a place for you here. We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities, and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world. **Those with us for the first time** are kindly asked to introduce themselves to the pastor and greeters and are welcome to sign our guest book in the narthex.

NEED PRAYER? Kindly share prayer concerns at the lectern located at the church entrance to have a name read aloud during worship. Completing a prayer card or calling the office assures the name will appear in print, and you may ask to receive a call from the pastor.

Our Mission:

Because God shows His Love through Jesus Christ, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, a community of faith, gathered around Word and Sacrament, lives to WORSHIP, WITNESS, LEARN, and SERVE, and welcomes all people to share God's love and to be workers together in this mission of the Church.

Communion:

St. Andrew's practices eucharistic hospitality.
All are welcome at God's table.

In response to Jesus's command, we celebrate with a worship meal of bread (or gluten-free by request) and red wine or white grape juice (in the center of the communion tray.) It is the Lutheran tradition to commune using both elements. However, we believe Christ is fully present when receiving one kind (bread or wine/grape juice). Those desiring a blessing but not communion are invited forward and may cross their arms to indicate their intentions.

What is Reconciling in Christ?

This means we joyfully welcome all of God's people to worship with us regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ability, or socio-economic circumstances.



GATHERING

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

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in this place, there are no strangers,
for all are welcome in God's house.

Here in this worship, there is only acceptance,
for love is the language of faith.

Here in our lives, there are no divisions,
for God dwells in each of us.

Come, let us worship in unity and love.

Oh, come let us worship!

Oh, come let us worship!

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(please stand as you are able)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins at the font.

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✙ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God whose love never quits

help us admit that we have been wrong.

Give us the world we cannot.

Tell us again you believe in us,

so we can love ourselves and each other like you do. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection. Please kneel as you are able)

Loving God,

**We confess that we have turned from your way
to follow our own ways.**

Forgive us for the times

we have spoken or acted too quickly;

we have not spoken or acted at all;

**we have hurt those closest to us;
 we have hurt those we have yet to know;
 we have made ourselves more important than we really are;
 we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.
 Forgive us, turn us around and give us a fresh start,
 so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

Here is the good news!

Even when we have done wrong, God sees the good in us.

Even when we have messed up, God gives us a fresh start.

God's love never runs out, and God never tires, calling us beloved children.

Hear God say to you now; your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

(please stand as you are able)

GATHERING 595 JESUS LOVES ME! (VS 1 & 2)

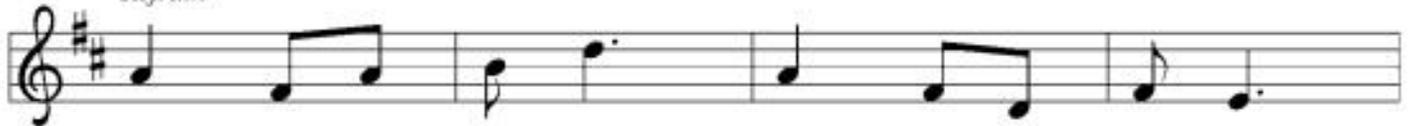


1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

(Please be seated)

GREETING THE HIVE

(Pastor will invite the children forward)

(please stand as you are able)

GREETING

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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (vs 1 & 3 ONLY)



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Loving God,

Help us to choose life by following Jesus.

**Plant us like trees beside your living waters,
so that your Word shapes our choices each day.**

Give us courage to carry the cross,

**to love one another as brothers and sisters in Christ,
and to put your kingdom first in all we do.**

**Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(please be seated)

ANTHEM *Teach Me, O Lord* by Thomas Attwood (1765-1838) (ST. ANDREW'S CHOIR)

Text (from Psalm 119:33): Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes, and I shall keep it unto the end.

WORD

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

READING

The Book of Philemon.

Onesimus, a new Christian and a man enslaved by Philemon, has helped Paul, who is in prison. Paul writes this letter to his friend Philemon to encourage him to receive Onesimus, upon his return, as a sibling in Christ.

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.

¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

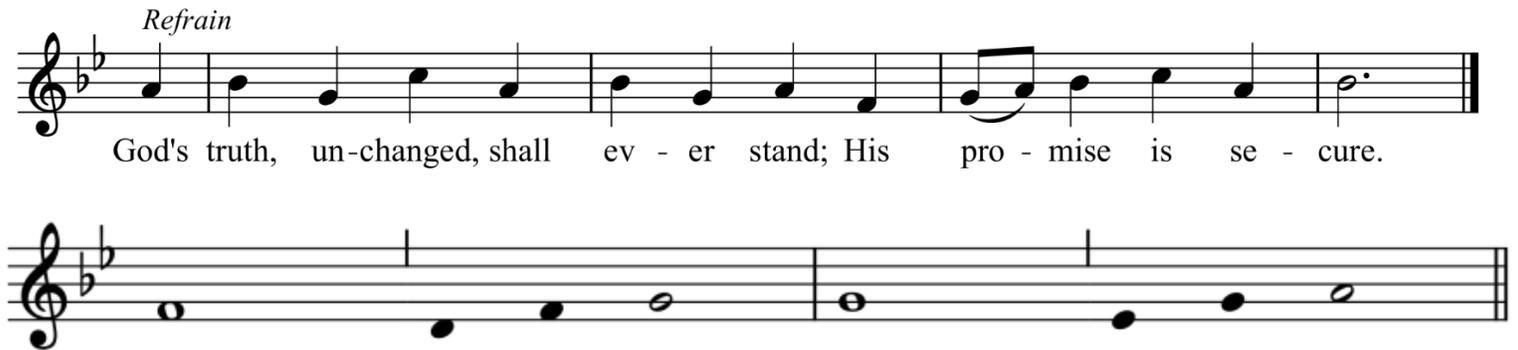
¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

²² One thing more: prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.

²³ Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, ²⁴ and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my coworkers.

²⁵ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 1



¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel ¹ of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats ¹ of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law ¹ of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching ¹ day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves
that ¹ do not wither;
everything they ¹ do shall prosper.

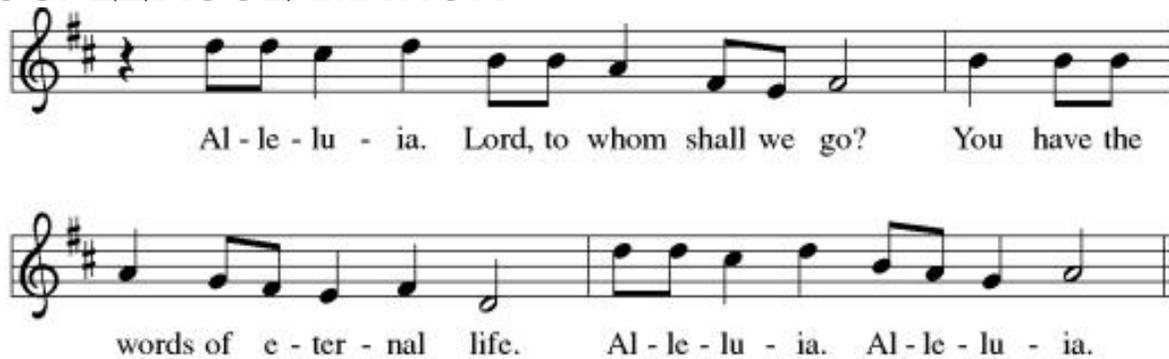
⁴ **It is not so ¹ with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind ¹ blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when ¹ judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council ¹ of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way ¹ of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall ¹ be destroyed. Refrain**

(The assembly stands.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: LUKE 14:25-30

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

*"The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**
(please be seated)*

SERMON

(please stand as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY 798 WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME (VS 1-3)



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

APOSTLES' CREED

**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 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely, especially for all on our prayer list, and those we now name silently or aloud. May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.)

Children are invited to collect food donations in pews and bring to the wagon at the church entry.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

The assembly may be seated. An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERING

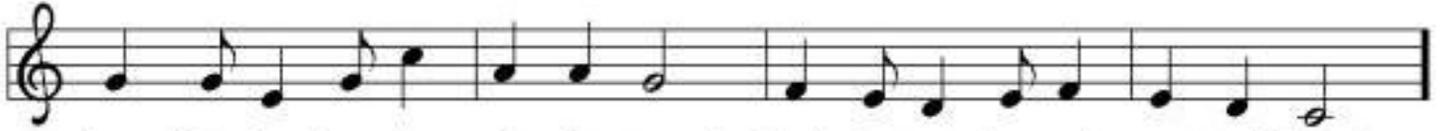


(When Jesus fed the 5000 with only five loaves of bread and two fish, he was showing us how God's love can multiply the effects of our generosity [see Mt. 14:13-21]. Thank you for sharing from the abundance you have received. Offerings may also be given online at the church website.)

OFFERING HYMN: 674 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!



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

(Please stand as you are able as the gifts are brought forward)

OFFERING PRAYER (assisting minister)

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING: DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

You reveal your glory
as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:
equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God,
ever to be adored in your eternal glory.

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:

SANCTUS *ELW setting three*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

(The assembly may be seated during distribution. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are invited forward to receive a blessing at the rail.)

LAMB OF GOD *Setting three page 146*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN 496 ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



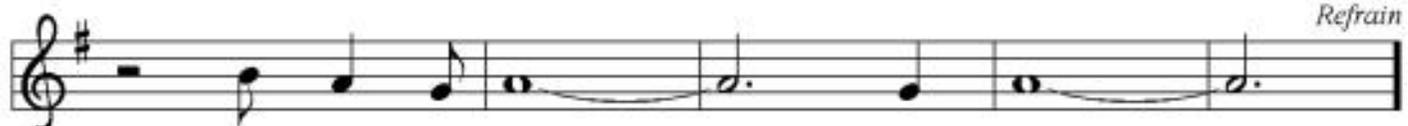
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

(please stand as you are able)

EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace and peace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(assisting minister)*

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

(please be seated)

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

(Teachers & children with their backpacks are invited forward)

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Lord, bless these backpacks and the children, youth, and adults who carry them as they begin yet another year of school. Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up, and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do. **Amen.**

INSTALLATION OF TEACHERS

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. You are to be faithful in teaching the children so that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:
Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of St. Andrew's Teachers?
If so say, I will, and I ask God to help me.

People of God, I ask you:
Will you support these, teachers, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized? If so say,
We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as teachers of the children and youth of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(please stand as you are able)

BLESSING

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.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN 768 LEAD ME GUIDE ME (VS 1 & 3)

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;
 for if you lead me, I can - not stray.
 Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verses

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
 2. Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
 3. I am lost if you take your hand from me,
 to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
 be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
 I am blind with - out thy light to see.
 Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.
 I am put - ting all my trust in thee.
 Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

Refrain

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God.**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Mel Flaherty, Elizabeth Flaherty [requested by Amanda Flaherty]
Neil Gwinn [requested by Anastasia]
Family of Richie Cardoza [requested by Bill Moser]
Jimmy LaSurdo, David Schwack, Amanda Haeffer
Fran Favara [requested by Liz DeLuca]
Anita Ahrens, Craig Keil, Kate Furtado [requested by Janis Raineri]
Carynne Solensten [requested by Joanne Wortmann]
Sal Agnello, Charlie Macaluso [requested by Jane DeRosa]
Lyla Suffis [requested by Jen & Brett Suffis]
Karen Crimi, Jeffrey Gilmore, Rev. Wayne Gollenberg, Barbara McCanlis [requested by Jill Breimann]
Pastor Rebecca Pollicino, Ruth Clark
Stu Souza, Micelle Dozier-Morgan [requested by Mary Fjellstad]
Carolyn Martin [requested by Linda Overton]
James Riley [requested by Lita Riley]
Marissa Evers, Lauren Cravotta [requested by Joe & Margie Costello]
Jeanne McCurdy, Belinda Busaca Zeitlin, Margo Naranjo [requested by Barbara English]
Rev. Margaret Casses, Jeff Taylor [requested by Fred Swanson]
The family of Robert Grisafi [requested by Colleen Donohue]
Mary Ellen Tiffany, Don Cimato [requested by the Klouda Family]
Bobby Hazen, James Pallazzo, Don Spagna, Rose Marie Peragine, Amy Jane McGlynn, Richard Lewis,
Rocky Cinque [requested by Marianne Spagna]
Judy Daley, Jennifer Meisenkothen, Rachel Boccio, John Sullivan [requested by Dorothy & Jim Clavell]
Carolyn Bennett [requested Jill Spage]
Arthur Schaeffler [requested by the Poulos Family]
Nancy M., Judy Zimmerman, Brett D, [requested by Cindy Davis]
Gavin Lahann [requested by Grandmother Violet Lahann]
Emilie Diehl [requested by daughters Cyndie & Kathy]
Emily Richardson, Betsy Johnsrud, Laura Hicks, Andrew Madarasz, [requested by Leslee & Steve Mathieson]
Bruce Logan, Betty Perlish, Alex Hegarty, Bob Widmer, Carmine Colasanto, Richard & George Mengert
[requested by Carolyn Gabelman]
Marilyn Havighorst [requested by Martha Hahn]
Andy Hazin & the Hazin family, Ilse Gunther [requested by the Hoffman family]
David Travis [requested by Richard Travis]

THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE:

Sgt Eric Hodosky, Lt Col Lenore Livingston née Fortin, Corporal August Detting,
LT Col William Fortin, Sgt Jack Dougherty, Sgt Jasmine Dougherty