Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023



Welcome to all who are gathered for worship! If you are a visitor, we are glad to have you with us and we hope you will come again.

Living in Times of Liminality. Our worship today centers on the story of Rahab who helped Joshua's army conquer her hometown of Jericho. Having heard of the Lord's mighty deeds, Rahab came to believe in the one true God. At a liminal point in her life, she risked everything because of her faith, not knowing if her actions would bear good fruit or not.

Communion: As Lutheran Christians, we believe that Jesus Christ is present in the sacraments of Baptism and Communion through the power of the Holy Spirit. As we gather around the Lord's table for communion, <u>everyone</u> is invited to come. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. Those not receiving communion may come forward and receive a blessing.

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

107 S. 17th Avenue + Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-02035 + www.luthgoodshep.org + Free wifi: LCGS-public

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Sunday, February 12, 2023 – The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing – arr. Mary McDonald Copyright 2012 Lorenz Publishing Co., a Division of the Lorenz Corporation

Welcome - If you are worshipping at home, please let us know how many are worshipping with you in the comment section, or by emailing Sandy at <u>adminsupport@luthgoodshep.org</u>. Thank you!

Please stand in body or spirit as you choose.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, & one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.
For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

Thus says our God:

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

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

Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW #819, Come, All You People



Text: Alexander Gondo; tr. I-to Loh, b. 1936, alt.

Music: UYAIMOSE, Alexander Gondo

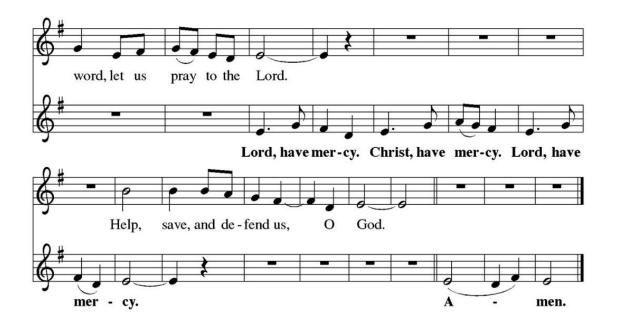
Text and music © 1986 World Council of Churches and the Asian Institute of Liturgy & Music

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.**

Kyrie





Prayer of the Day:

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated

Adult Choir: Prayer for Guidance, Allen Pote © 2013 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

Children's Time

First Reading: Joshua 2:1-21

The first reading is from the second chapter of Joshua.

Then Joshua son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went and entered the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and spent the night there. ²The king of Jericho was told, "Some Israelites have come here tonight to search out the land." ³Then the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come to search out the whole land." ⁴But the woman took the two men and hid them. ¹² Then she said, "True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they came from. ⁵ And when it was time to close the gate at dark, the men went out. Where the men went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you can overtake them." ⁶ She had, however, brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof. ⁷ So the men pursued them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

Before they went to sleep, she came up to them on the roof and said to the men, "I know that the LORD has given you the land and that dread of you has fallen on us and that all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before you. To For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. As soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no courage left in any of us because of you. The LORD your God is indeed God in heaven above and on earth below. Now then, since I have dealt kindly with you, swear to me by the LORD that you in turn will deal kindly with my family. Give me a sign of good faith that you will spare my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them and deliver our lives from death." The men said to her, "Our life for yours! If you do not tell this business of ours, then we will deal kindly and faithfully with you when the LORD gives us the land."

¹⁵ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the outer side of the city wall and she resided within the wall itself. ¹⁵ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the outer side of the city wall and she resided within the wall itself. ¹⁶ She said to them, "Go toward the hill country, so that the pursuers may not come upon you. Hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers have returned; then afterward you may go your way." ¹⁷ The men said to her, "We will be released from this oath that you have made us swear to you ¹⁸ if we invade the land and you do not tie this crimson cord in the window through which you let us down and you do not gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your family. ¹⁹ If any of you go out of the doors of your house into the street, they shall be responsible for their own death, and we shall be innocent, but if a hand is laid upon any who are with you in the house, we shall bear the responsibility for their death. ²⁰ But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be released from this oath that you made us swear to you." ²¹ She said, "According to your words, so be it." She sent them away, and they departed. Then she tied the crimson cord in the window.

Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 119:1-8, read responsively by verse

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD!

²Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,

³who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.

⁴You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

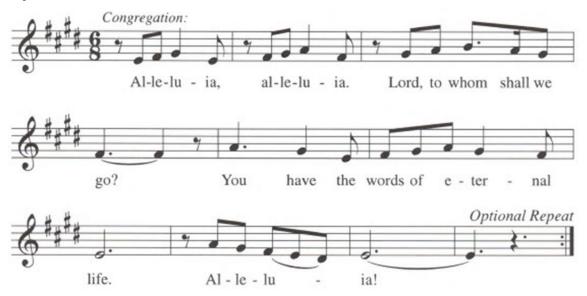
⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

⁶Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

⁷I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

81 will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

Gospel Acclamation:



The Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:27-32

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twelfth chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

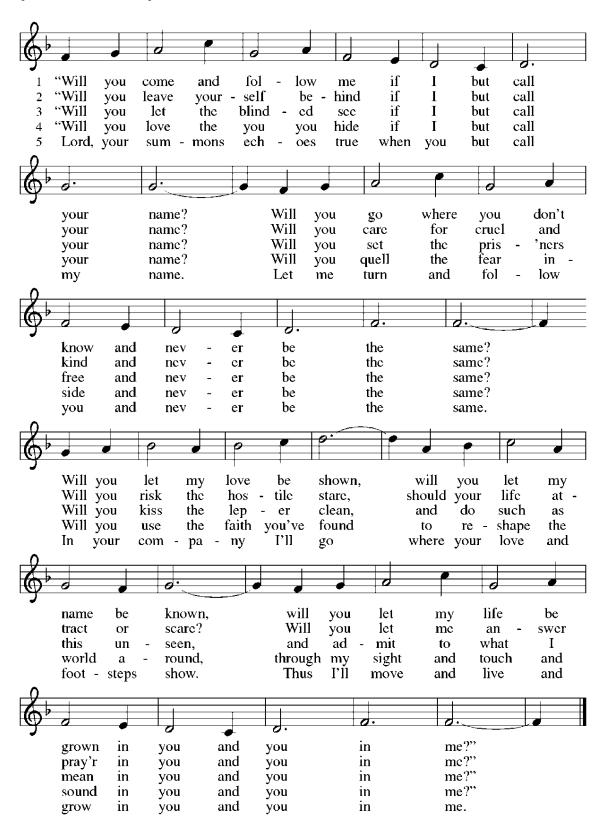
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

Video, Rahab's Lullaby, FAITHFUL, Sarah Macintosh, Rachael Lampa

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW 798, Will You Come and Follow Me



7

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications. Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago. IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358, All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the 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.

Please kneel or be seated as you prefer.

Prayers of the Faithful

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

A brief silence.

Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible, empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Nurture all in need Today, we especially pray for Charlie, Dave, John, Arthur, Debbie, Shane, Wilda, Ann, Dolores, Bern, Pastor Linda, Mickey, Jay, Anna, Mackenzie, Zane, Richie, Lauren, Haley, Sandra, Kelly, Andy, Karen, Gary, Kay & Dennis, Millie, Patti and those we name before you now...brief silence...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**.

Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose and keep us from quarrelling. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be life-giving for all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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

Amen.

Please stand

Sharing of God's Peace

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

Please be seated

Offering

Stewardship Moment

The number of people injured or killed after the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria continues to rise daily. People need shelter, water, food, clothing, medicine and so much more. Your gifts to LWF designated for "Middle East Crisis" will be used entirely (100%) to provide longlasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by disasters in the region. Simply use the QR code to the right or donate via Good Shepherd and mark your gift "LWF: Middle East Crisis." Thank you.



Bell Choir Anthem: "Christ, Be Our Light" arr. M. Chan.

Offertory Response WOV #460, Now the Silence



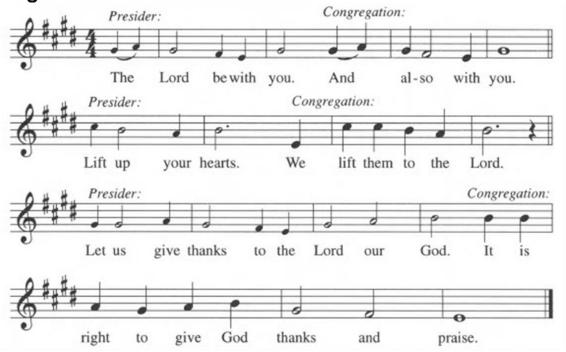
Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919 Music: NOW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company. Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Presentation of Gifts - Offering Prayer

Let us pray together:

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

Dialogue



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.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;

in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;

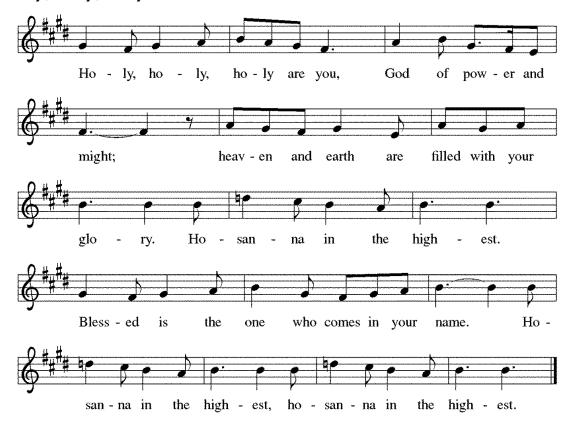
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **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

Come and taste the joy of God.

Communion Song: Lamb of God



Distribution of Communion

Communion is distributed at the altar railing in a continuous fashion. As you come forward you will receive an empty cup for wine or a cup filled with grape juice from the usher. At the railing you may kneel or stand as you choose. You will first receive the bread from the pastor or Assisting Minister. If you wish to receive gluten free bread, they will have it available. The Communion Assistant will pour wine into your cup unless you are drinking grape juice. As you return to your seat a basket is provided for disposal of your communion cup.

Communion Music: ELW #807, Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing



- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb en e zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise. and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home. let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love, Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God; Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

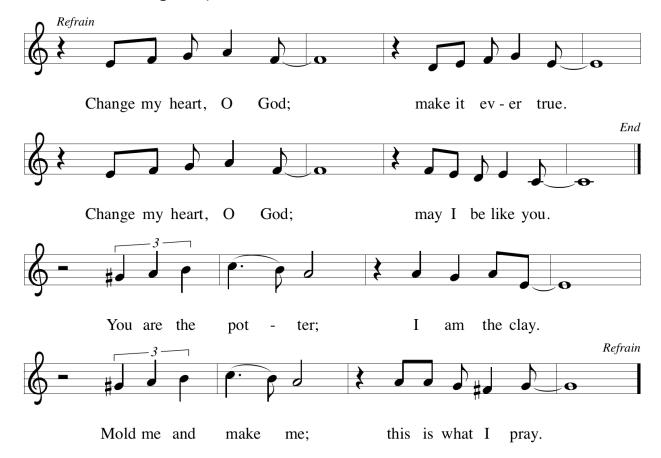


teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove. he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813

ELW #801, Change My Heart, O God



Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953 Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyeard Publishing, admin. Music Services

Please stand

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace now and always. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen

Please be seated

Announcements

15 2/12/2023

Benediction

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod \oplus bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: ELW 742, What a Friend We Have in Jesus

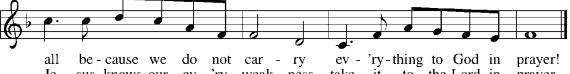


- 1 What a friend we have in Jc sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri als and temp ta tions? Is there trou-ble an y where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav-y lad en, cum bered with a load of care?





Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share? Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886 Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Ash Wednesday and Lenten Dinners – Ash Wednesday, February 22, services will be held at noon and 7:00 pm.

Lenten Soup & Bread Suppers will begin on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 6pm, followed by a short Lenten Worship. The theme for our time together will be This is My Body. Together we will explore how Jesus lived in his body on earth and invites us to take care of —and embrace the goodness of—our own bodies. Each week highlights a different story from Jesus' life and connects it to shared human experiences—like growing up, taking naps, or drinking water. By engaging with these stories through a broad lens of embodiment, This is My Body seeks to inspire curiosity, wonder, and awe in all ages. We hope that folks from every generation will join us for this time of table fellowship, conversation and worship. Signups for soup and bread are in the Narthex.

Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing, Saturday, March 25th: We are excited to announce that Good Shepherd will be hosting a "Rise Against Hunger" event to pack a thousand delicious healthy meals that will be given to local nonprofit food organizations. Opportunities to sign-up as a volunteer or make a financial gift are available thought our website. If you are not able to sign-up online, please contact the office. We will be glad to help you!

Blood Drive at Good Shepherd - Good Shepherd will be hosting a Blood Drive on Tuesday, April 11th, from 2:00 to 7:00pm. The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime. To make an appointment, use the link on our website or contact the office for assistance. If you would like to serve as a volunteer, please contact Allison Radwick or Pastor Heidi.

The Blessings Box: The Blessings Box is located on LCGS's drive and is replenished daily with nonperishable food, household items, and personal supplies. Built as an Eagle Scout project, the Blessings Box has become a significant part of the congregation's ministry to the community. Donations are collected weekly and come not just from members of Good Shepherd but also from neighbors.

This Fall a second Blessings Box was established at the Coatesville Public Library. Overflow donations to this "satellite" box are brought to the church. And when that box is low on supplies, members help to fill it up. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, simply bring your donations to the church.

Prayers for the Family of God

In our prayers today from our congregation: Charlie Scott

<u>From our community:</u> Dave D'Agistino, John Hanaway, Arthur Kuch, Debbie Ziegler, Shane Tucci, Wilda Horsey, Ann Gingalewski, Dolores Duffy, Bern Jackson, Pastor Linda Bonfiglio, Mickey Givler, Jay Cahill, Anna Brown, Mackenzie Burkholder, Zane Drever, Richie Aiello, Lauren Spaulding, Haley Levonski, Sandra Clayton, Kelly McMinimee, Andy Wien, Karen Moore, Gary Brown, Kay & Dennis Collopy, Millie Hoffa, Patti Casiello

<u>We continue to pray for:</u> Pastor Jennifer Phelps, Sam Landis, Jim Fisher, Betty Greenlee

Sponsoring & Serving Today

Eternal Candle: Ginny Lozinski, in memory of Steve Lozinski's birthday

<u>Flowers</u> Hanny White

<u>Bread Baker</u> Jeannie Broderick

Lector: Connie Jones **Communion Assistant:**

Serving Today: Usher: Dave & Pam Dean

Acolyte:

Altar Guild: Connie Jones/Cheri McMenamin
Coffee Hour: Donna Fesmire/Cheri Morris

Attendance 2/5/23: 9:30 am:83; 9:30am Facebook: 15

Offering	<u>Plate</u>	<u>Online</u>
Weekly Envelopes	\$1,737	\$1,466
Mortgage	\$ 210	
Other	\$ 185	
Designated Giving	\$ 125	\$ 25

8:00 am Pancake Breakfast

This week's calendar

2/12/23 - 2/18/23

Sat 2/18

Activate the QR
Reader to make an
online gift to the
general fund or
designated ministries.



		Worship/Facebook			
Sun 2/12	9:30 am	Worship	Sun 2/19	9:30 am	Worship/Facebook Worship
	10:30 am	LIFT		10:30 am	LIFT
Mon 2/13	7:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Mon 2/20	President's	Day – Office Closed
Tues 2/14	7:15 pm	Property Meeting		7:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Weds 2/15	10:30 am	Hanny Bible Study	Tues 2/21	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Weds 2/22	10:30 am	Hanny Bible Study

12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship

Looking ahead to next week

2/19/23 - 2/25/23

Thurs 2/23 7:00 pm Confirmation