

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

- Welcome to worship! Welcome to those who are here in person, and all those joining us via our Live Stream, and Listen to Church.
- If you are joining us from home, I invite you to gather some bread and wine/juice so you can join us in celebrating Holy Communion this morning.

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,  
but we have served our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.  
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.  
We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.  
Turn us to seek your face.  
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.  
**Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN Arise, Your Light Has Come! 314

1 Arise, your light has come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God  
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light has come!  
Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captive's liberty,  
good tidings to the poor.

3 Arise, your light has come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the brokenhearted ones  
and comfort those who mourn.

4 Arise, your light has come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing,  
God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

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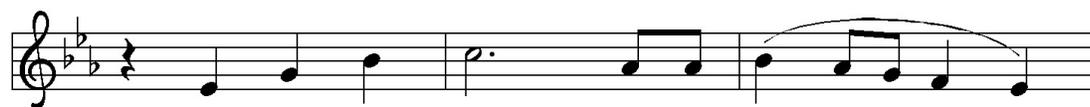
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### **GREETING**

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.**

### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



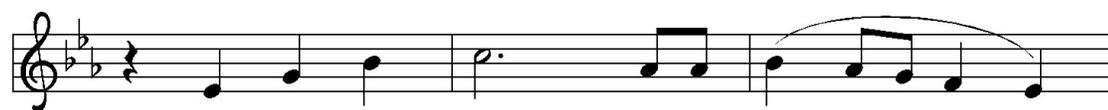
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray,

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## WORD

PSALMODY Psalm 40:1-11 *Reader*

*Our Psalm this morning is taken from Psalm 40. We read together responsively by whole verse.*

<sup>1</sup> I waited patiently upon the LORD,  
who stooped to me and heard my cry.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;  
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> **Happy are they who trust in the LORD!**

**They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

<sup>5</sup> Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

<sup>6</sup> **Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;**

**you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

<sup>7</sup> And so I said, "Here I am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

<sup>8</sup> **'I love to do your will, O my God;**

**your law is deep within me.'**"

<sup>9</sup> I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

<sup>10</sup> **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;**

**I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

<sup>11</sup> You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me;

may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

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

## GOSPEL

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”<sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’<sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.”<sup>32</sup> And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.”<sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’<sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,<sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!”<sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.<sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”<sup>39</sup> He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.<sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.<sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).<sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Pastor Sarah Miller

**HYMN OF THE DAY** O Day Full of Grace 627:1, 2, 5

1 O day full of grace that now we see

appearing on earth's horizon,

bring light from our God that we may be  
abundant in joy this season.

God, shine for us now in this dark place;  
your name on our hearts emblazon.

- 2 O day full of grace, O blessed time,  
our Lord on the earth arriving;  
then came to the world that light sublime,  
great joy for us all retrieving;

for Jesus all mortals did embrace,  
all shame and despair removing.

- 5 When we on that final journey go  
that Christ is for us preparing,  
we'll gather in song, our hearts aglow,  
all joy of the heavens sharing,  
and there we will join God's endless praise,  
with angels and saints adoring.

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001, alt.  
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### APOSTLES' CREED

*Let us confess our faith using the words of the 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 *Reader*

*As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.*

*A brief silence.*

*Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, whose birth we remember this week. Merciful God, receive our prayer.*

Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters (*current situations may be named*). Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need, especially the most vulnerable in our communities. Bring an end to social injustice and curb violence of every kind so that all may experience your abundant life. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you draw near to those who are bowed down. Send your Spirit to lift up those who are in trouble especially those who are afraid or lonely; tend to those who are sick especially especially Jan Krueger, Char Ovren, Addison Hughes, Josh VanSant, Roger Hillestead, Johnny Foster and Erica Peterson and comfort those who mourn especially Linda Otto and family at the death of her mother, Rosemary. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide our ministries in this community. Kindle in us a desire to help one another. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed, especially Rosemary, who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## BRIEFING THE MINISTERS

## MEAL

## OFFERING

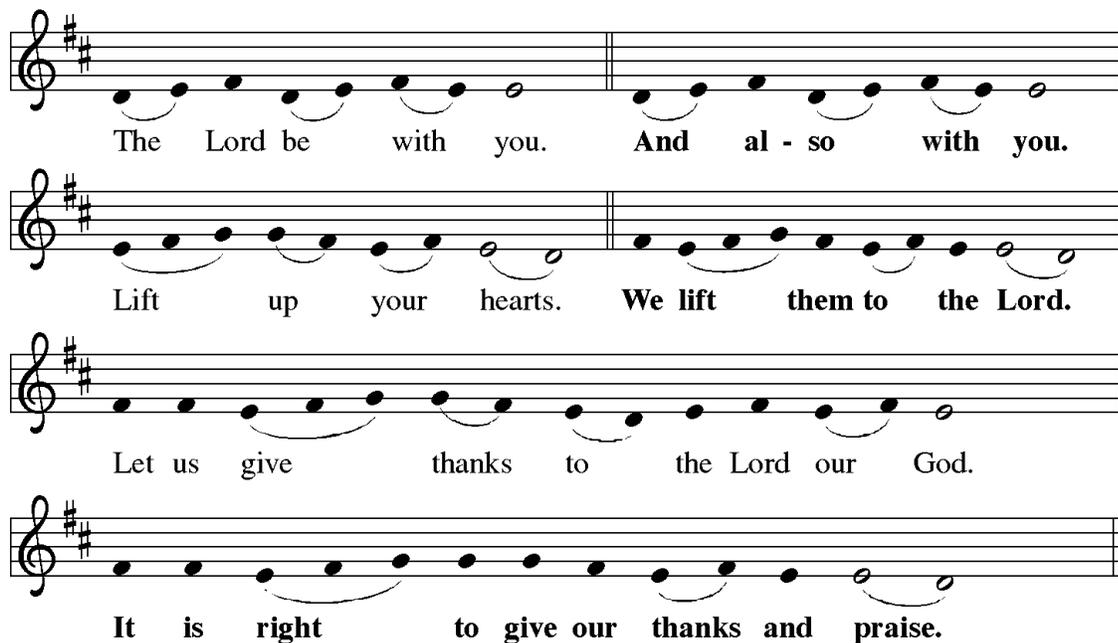
### OFFERTORY **Brightest and Best of the Stars 303:3**

3 What shall we give him, in costly devotion?  
Shall we bring incense and offerings divine,  
gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray,

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

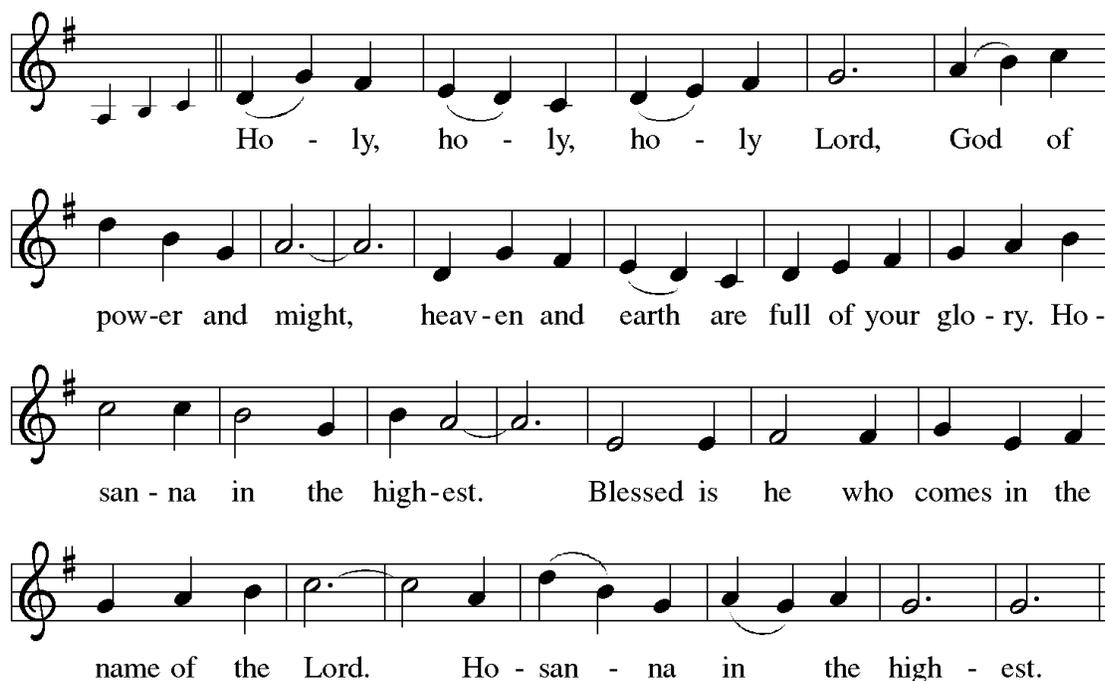
The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'.

**PROPER PREFACE** *(title slide only)*

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,  
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion  
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.  
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,  
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



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

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

*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.*

Join our prayers and praise with your servants of every age that rejoicing in your light we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

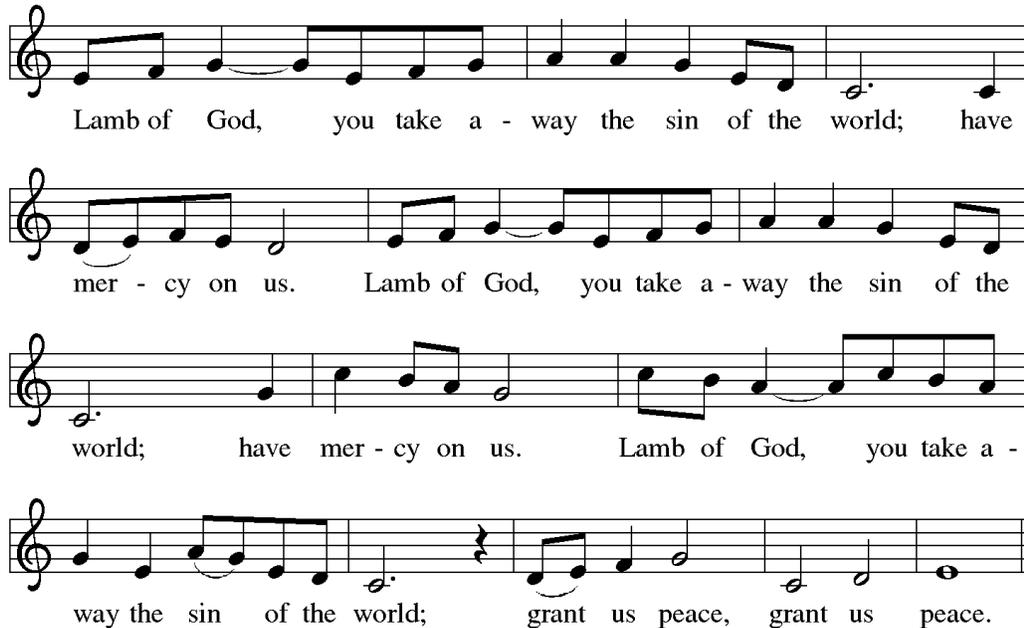
### LORD'S PRAYER

*Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

#### Lamb of God



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, grant us peace.

#### Christ Be Our Light 715

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

#### Refrain

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

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### You Are Holy 525

You are holy, you are whole.  
 You are always ever more  
 than we ever understand.  
 You are always at hand.  
 Blessed are you coming near.  
 Blessed are you coming here  
 to your church in wine and bread,  
 raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy,  
 you are wholeness,  
 you are present.  
 Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!  
 Sing hosanna in the highest!  
 Sing hosanna!  
 Sing hosanna to our God!

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

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### POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray,

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BENEDICTION

May the triune God,  
 who has put a new song in your mouth  
 and tuned your heart for praise  
 † bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN Rise, Shine You People 665:1-3

1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has  
 entered  
 our human story; God in him is centered.  
 He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,  
 with grace unbounded.

2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;  
 he brings us freedom, light and life and  
 healing.

All men and women, who by guilt are driven,  
 now are forgiven.

3 Come, celebrate; your banners high  
 unfurling,  
 your songs and prayers against the darkness  
 hurling.  
 To all the world go out and tell the story  
 of Jesus' glory.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026

9:00am Service

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**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Jan Krueger (Dan Krueger's mother), Char Ovren, Addison Hughes (granddaughter of Bob and Mary Dodge), Josh VanSant (Denise Vick's friend), Roger Hillestead, Johnny Foster (Brittany Cisneros' brother), Erica Peterson (Granddaughter of Cheryl Merrill)

**IN SUPPORT**

Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, missionaries in Japan

Kasungu Central, Our Malawi Sister Parish

**IN SYMPATHY**

To Linda Otto and family at the death of her mother, Rosemary Achenbach.

**Nominating Committee Seeking Candidates**—OSL's Nominating Committee is looking for members to serve in several important leadership and representative roles. A number of positions will be up for election at the Annual Meeting on February 15. Please see the newsletter for a full list of openings. If you are interested—or would like to recommend someone—contact Marni Waznik at 715-309-9684 or mwaznik@gmail.com.

**Blanket Drive**—Throughout January, funds collected in our Little church will go to support this blanket drive. Winter has arrived in full and that means cold days and even colder nights. To help our neighbors in need stay warm throughout this season, we will be collecting NEW blankets of any size. Blankets will be collected during January and distributed in February. They can be dropped off in the designated tote in the Friendship Room.

**Little Free Pantry**

As you're able, please consider donating boxes of cereal (any size) and new or gently used hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves. Donations may be placed on the shelf in the Friendship Room. Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors.

**THIS WEEK AT OSL**

Sunday, Jan 18	Worship, 9am Fellowship, 10:15am No Sunday School
Monday, Jan 19	Women in Action, 9am
Tuesday, Jan 20	
Wednesday, Jan 21	Writers group, 1:00pm Reading Club, 1:00pm High School Ministry, 5:30pm Confirmation, 6:00pm Choir rehearsal, 6:30pm
Thursday, Jan 22	Vibrant Voices, 1:00pm
Friday, Jan 23	UW-Stout choir soundcheck, 4:30pm

Thank you to our vocalists, Barb Lindberg and Michaela Gifford, and flutist, Merlyn Aude for providing special music during worship!

*Saints of OSL, Thank you to all who worked to make my installation such a beautiful event! I am so grateful for the outpouring of love and support as well as your energy and excitement for what lies ahead. A special word of thanks to all who helped with the brunch – to those who donated tasty treats, who helped make the egg bakes, who helped set-up and get things ready, to those who served the meal and who helped cleaned up afterwards – thank you! Your fellow-servant in Christ, Pr. Sarah*

To help keep the OSL Constitution up-to-date, the OSL Council recommended and approved changes to the current OSL Constitution and Bylaws at its November meeting. These changes will be voted on at OSL's annual meeting in February. More information about these changes can be found in the Newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact Pr. Sarah.

**Sunday School Families & Congregation**— Join us on Sunday, January 18th at 11:30 a.m. at the Dunn County Humane Society as we deliver our winter donations and enjoy a tour of their Kitty Wing. Come learn how our gifts support their work—and meet a few furry friends along the way.

**COUNCIL MEMBER ON DUTY**

*Bob Dodge*

**READER** *Chris Gutting*      **POWER POINT** *Loren Barker*

**USHERS** *Dave Bergstrand*  
*Joy Bergstrand*      **ACOLYTES** *Michaela Nelson*

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS** *Susan Zavada*  
*Becky Kneer*  
*Heidi Gutting*      **SOUND SYSTEM** *Dale Freberg*

**CAMERA** *Tony Freeman*

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

	Mar - Dec	December
Income	\$327,947.74	\$47,187.22
Expenses	\$276,188.58	\$31,361.63
Over/short	<b>\$51,759.16</b>	<b>\$15,825.59</b>

*By attending any service you give consent that your image and the image of all of the people in your group may be portrayed in the livestream and recording. We will not use your likeness in any other promotional material.*

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**OFFICE HOURS**

9am—3pm, Mon thru Thurs

*Listen to Church*  
**715-430-2720**

Dial in to listen live to our 9am worship.