

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022



Vi-A
4-29-22

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
3600 Hampton - St. Louis, MO 63109

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Oh, Sing to the Lord a New Song*

John Leavitt

The congregation may stand as they are comfortable.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS — (words from Lutherans Restoring Creation)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who so loves the world and all who live in it.
Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, Creation, and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Reconciling God,
we expect nature to serve our needs, and we have damaged it in the process. We trample every wild place and pollute your waters. We abuse your good Earth until it cries out in pain. Forgive us, loving God. Remind us of the covenant you made with the whole Earth. Nourish us so we can restore your awe-inspiring Creation. Amen.

P: Christ, the one who was buried into the heart of the Earth and then raised up to new life, forgives you all your sin. Freed from your burdens, be led by the Spirit to do God's healing work in the world.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN: *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!*

Hymn #364

1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to
destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!

2 For three long days the grave did its worst
until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo,
and in its conquest his might did show.

Refrain

3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear.
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
Only the graveclothes are lying there."
Refrain

4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.
Refrain

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922. Music: MFURAHINI, HALELUYA, Tanzanian traditional. Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

GREETING

P: 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: *This is the Feast*

Page #169

(Refrain is sung twice the first time through)

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

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

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

WORD

THE FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made

clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?’ ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 148

The choir will lead the singing of the Psalm with the congregation singing the bolded lines.

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD^l from the heavens;
praise God^l in the heights.
²**Praise the LORD,^l all you angels;**
sing praise, all you^l hosts of heaven.
³Praise the LORD,^l sun and moon;
sing praise, all you^l shining stars.
⁴**Praise the LORD, heav-^l en of heavens,**
and you waters a-^l bove the heavens.
⁵Let them praise the name^l of the LORD,
who commanded, and they^l were created,
⁶**who made them stand fast forev-^l er and ever,**
giving them a law that shall not^l pass away.
⁷Praise the LORD^l from the earth,
you sea monsters^l and all deeps;
⁸**fire and hail,^l snow and fog,**
tempestuous wind, do-^l ing God’s will;
⁹mountains^l and all hills,
fruit trees^l and all cedars;
¹⁰**wild beasts^l and all cattle,**
creeping things and^l flying birds;
¹¹sovereigns of the earth^l and all peoples,
princes and all rulers^l of the world;
¹²**young^l men and maidens,**
old and^l young together.

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON with Pastor Cheryl

SERMON

The congregation may stand as they are comfortable.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*

Hymn #436

1 Wake, awake, for night is flying,
the watchmen on the heights are crying;
awake, Jerusalem, at last.
Midnight hears the welcome voices,
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom comes! Awake;
your lamps with gladness take!"
Alleluia!
Rise and prepare the feast to share;
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.

2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,
and all her heart with joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
Her dear friend comes down, all glorious,
the strong in grace, in truth victorious:
her star is ris'n; her light is come.

Now come, O Blessed One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Sing hosanna!
Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
and follow to the banquet hall.

3 Gloria! Let heav'n adore you!
Let saints and angels sing before you,
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming,
lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,
with angel choirs around your throne.
No eye has caught the light,
no ear the thund'ring might
of such glory.
There we will go: what joy we'll know!
There sweet delight will ever flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite. Music:
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THE CREED

P: Let us confess our faith using the words of Martin Luther, taken from the Small Catechism, the explanation of the second article of the Apostles' creed.

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God,
begotten of the Father in eternity,
and also a true human being,
born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.**

**He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being.
He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death,
and from the power of the devil,
not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood
and with his innocent suffering and death.
He has done all this in order that I may belong to him,
live under him in his kingdom,
and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,
just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.
This is most certainly true.**

THE PRAYERS

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us. Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress especially Deanna, Mike, Neil, Barb, Kevin, Kathy, Margaret, Troy, Lillie, Joy, Chris, Fred, Aria, and those we name before you now, either silently in our hearts or spoken from our lips.... Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

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

P: I invite you to share a sign of peace with those around you.
*The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

The congregation remains standing.

MEAL

THE OFFERING:

During this time of offering, we ask that you remember the church's ongoing expenses and our ongoing need to be generous people of God. Offerings may be placed in the offering plate located in the hall next to the family mailboxes or mailed to the church. You may also visit our website at gethsemanestl.org to donate electronically.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE:



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

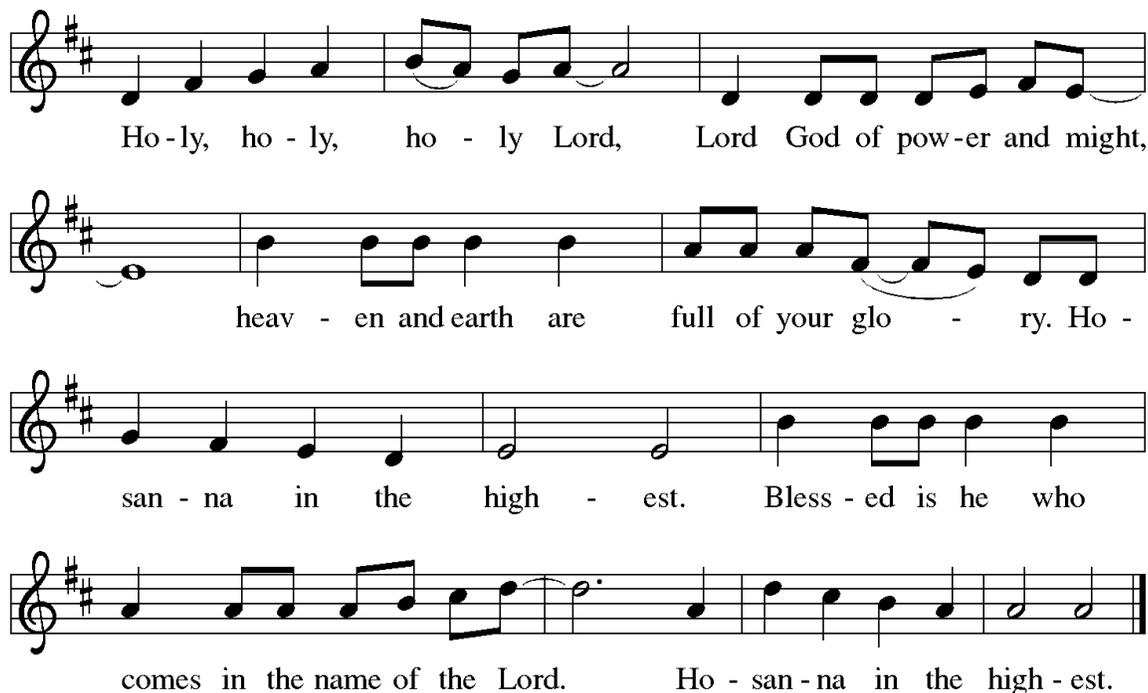
P: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
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 to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

The congregation is seated.

COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

Ushers will direct those wishing to process forward for Communion. Directions for processing forward can be found in the back of the pew in front of you with the hymnals. Please do not remove your mask before entering the second blue box and replace your mask before exiting that box.

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.

Communion Hymns

Anthem: *God of the Sparrow*

Carl Schalk

Hymn: *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

Hymn #359

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1 Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.</p> | 4 | <p>Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease. Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.</p> |
| <p>2 With grateful joy and holy fear, God's charity we learn; let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in return.</p> | 5 | <p>Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess, that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.</p> |
| <p>3 Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son;</p> | | |

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt. Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842. Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

Hymn: *God of the Sparrow*

Hymn #740

1 God of the sparrow God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

4 God of the hungry God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life

2 God of the earthquake God of the
storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature say Woe
How does the creature say Save

5 God of the neighbor God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

3 God of the rainbow God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

6 God of the ages God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919. Music: ROEDER, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929. Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

The congregation may stand as they are comfortable.

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

CANTICLE: *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

Hymn #205



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joyce and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and lead us forth in



joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980. Music: LITURGY OF JOY, James M. Capers, b. 1948. Text © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

AM: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

These are ways we are sharing God's Grace with our community and with the world!

BLESSING

P: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, † bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom*

Hymn #1064



1 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, sound - ing God's de - light - ed laugh,
2 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.
3 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom: pen - guin, pla - ty - pus, and snail,



from the ti - ny ro - ly - po - ly to the tree - top - tall gi - raffe.
Ev - 'ry crea - ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum - ble - bee.
cac - tus, sea slug, oak, and al - gae, from the mi - crobe to the whale.



All cre - a - tion sings in won - der; e - ven rocks and trees re - joice
Spi - der, hu - man, red - wood, geck - o, mon - key, chick - en, mouse, and snake
In this great and strange cre - a - tion, with a breath God gives us birth:



as they join the ring - ing cho - rus: ech - oes of our Mak - er's voice.
live with - in a sin - gle fab - ric: cloth that on - ly God could make.
born of soil to live as stew - ards, called to love and serve the earth.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979. Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, Columbian Harmony, 1825; arr. hymnal version. Text © 2009 GIA Publications. Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

DISMISSAL

AM: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

AM: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Lani Smith

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| WORSHIP LEADERS | Early Service (8:30am) | Late Service (11:00am) |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| PASTOR | Cheryl Walenta Gorvie | |
| ORGANIST | Ella Rothgangel | |
| ASSISTING MINISTER | Rick Schuessler | Becky Rentchler |
| LECTORS | Anne Crotty | Deb Schaller |
| GREETERS | Carlene Reinhardt | Ushers |
| USHERS | Cayce Morice and Ted Yemm | Adam Rentchler and Steve Hetager |
| ALTAR GUILD | Deb Schaller | |
| FLOWERS | Joan Williams in memory of my beloved husband, Jeffrey Williams. | |
| WINE | Cat Leonard | |
| BREAD | | |

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sunday School Hallway Mural: As you may know by now, a mural is being drawn on the Sunday School hallway and it is ready for paint! Niel Stender has generously lent Gethsemane his mad mural skills and the Sunday School hallway is going to look amazing when it is finished! We plan to paint the mural in color stages: two to three colors each session; eleven colors total. There will be painting jobs for all skill levels. See the church website for a list of scheduled painting dates and the option to reserve your spot.

SLCA Social Statement Discussion: In 1991, the ELCA released a Social Statement about Abortions. You are invited to join the discussion about this very timely topic. Given the emotional nature of such a social statement, it will be important to hold this as a holy conversation, making space for sharing and honoring those stories. We'll also take time in prayer for discernment. To preserve the confidence of this conversation, we will not offer a Zoom meeting option or allow for any recording devices. The discussion will take place in person at the church at 7pm on Wednesdays in the library.

Bread Bakers Needed: Do you like to bake? Have you enjoyed the return to processing forward for Communion? As we take another step toward "normal", we would like to reintroduce homemade bread for Communion. We have the recipe; we just need the bakers. Please contact Kim in the church office for more information and to sign up.

The Big Ask for May is deodorant and adult incontinence underwear. These items are evenly distributed between Isaiah 58 and St. Anthony's. To purchase items from the comfort of your home visit Gethsemane's website for a link. Look for the Big Ask image and Amazon logo.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar
May 15 - 22, 2022

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| Today | 8:30 am 9:45 am – 10:45 am 11:00 am | 1 st Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube In-Person Confirmation and Sunday School 2 nd Worship Service: In Person only |
| 5/16 Monday | 6:00 pm 7:15 pm | Bell Choir Rehearsal Vocal Choir Rehearsal |
| 5/17 Tuesday | 10:00 am | Bible Study in the Library |
| 5/18 Wednesday | 10:00 am 7:00 pm | Staff Meeting ELCA Social Statement Discussion – Abortion |
| 5/22 Sunday | 8:30 am 9:45 am – 10:45 am 11:00 am | 1 st Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube In-Person Confirmation and Sunday School 2 nd Worship Service: In Person only |

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Deanna Brooker – comfort and freedom from pain
Mike Fenton – healing and peace
Neil Gustafson – who is in the hospital
Barb Johnson – healing
Kevin Kopplin – continued health and strength
Kathy Lee – comfort and end of pain
Margaret Lenhart – health and strength
Troy Mann – strength and comfort during his cancer treatments
Lillie Niebuhr – healing and strength
Joy Rikli – healing from cancer
Chris Schmidt – discernment and peace for her family
Fred Tatum – healing and comfort for back issues
Aria Thomé – healing and understanding

| Request for: | <i>On Behalf of:</i> |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Nephew Dan Iahn (peace, healing) | <i>Vi Aronsson</i> |
| Marian Crotty and Everett Osquist (healing) | <i>Crotty Family</i> |
| Stephen Cutelli (healing, strength) | <i>Mark Cutelli</i> |
| My father, Dennis Fontana (strength, comfort) | <i>Natalie Fontana</i> |
| Jon Hackmann family (healing, strength) | <i>Hackmann Family</i> |
| Laura Kurt Hale (comfort, healing, strength) | <i>Don Kurt</i> |
| Mauve (healing), thanksgiving for return of Alex and Liz's family from Ukraine, Mike (grieving), farmers of the world | <i>Cat Leonard</i> |
| For peace with justice in our world | <i>Olson/Fulton Family</i> |
| Art, Jim, Leland, Nancy, Jim, and Jane | <i>Young/Kleine Family</i> |

Gethsemane is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation Affirmation of Welcome

Christ's welcome knows no boundaries! Therefore, our welcome knows no boundaries and we invite all people to full participation in the life of the congregation.

We at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Saint Louis embrace...

People of any race or ethnicity...

People who are male, female, transgender, or any other gender identity...

People of any age...

People wherever they are, or wherever they have been, on their faith journeys...

People who are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated or partnered...

People who are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or any other sexual orientation...

People with a variety of political perspectives...

People who have, or had, addictions, phobias, abortions, or a criminal record...

People who are homeowners, renters, living with parents, or homeless...

People who are fully-abled, disabled, or of differing abilities...

People of differing educational backgrounds...

People of any socio-economic condition...

People not mentioned above, all of whom are created and loved by God!

As we celebrate and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation, we pledge to ourselves and to all others that we will strive to live as a reconciling people in our life together and in our outreach to the world. We are committed to being a radically loving and welcoming community of faith.

Sunday Funnies: The Sunday Flock is printed with permission through Pastoral Center.

