

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E North St

Hastings MI 49058



Website: www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook: Grace Lutheran Church-ELCA Hastings, MI

Phone: (269) 945-9414
(269) 945-2645

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

This Is the Lord's Doing

Open a newspaper, turn on the TV, read online—everywhere we look, the world is crumbling about us. War, violence, natural disasters, hateful words, anger, and hostility litter our cultural landscape like so much garbage along a highway. Even within our own homes, sin, death, and the devil seem to have the upper hand. Anger, betrayal, mistrust, and manipulation hang rotting on the vine, rather than the lush, sweet grapes of love, care, and forgiveness we expect and desire. And if we take but a moment for self-reflection, we notice that it is our own selfishness and hard-heartedness that contribute to this state of affairs. We are indeed “captive to sin and cannot free ourselves” as we confess in worship (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 95).

The gospel today is related thematically to the first reading from Isaiah. We are invited to consider the “vineyard” as God’s dominion, and ourselves as the tenants. We belong to this dominion by virtue of our baptism, and the vineyard owner, God, has graciously placed us as steward-tenants. But we who are charged with tending the vines and producing fruit too often foster selfish and unloving thoughts, words, and deeds. We reject—even kill—the landowner’s messengers. This is our doing.

And yet the landowner has recycled even what we rejected. Captive to our poor stewardship of the vineyard, the world lying in shambles around us, we can do nothing but stand in amazement that God still loves us. Indeed, the wine of holy communion, blood shed by our sin and yet rich with our redemption, reminds us that the vineyard still stands. Our sins are forgiven, and the beloved Son is redeeming the creation, one rotten bunch of grapes at a time. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23413.

18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 8, 2017

Pentecost is a season for growing represented by the color green. We celebrate the founding of the church and the fruits of the Spirit.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Stand as you are able

Gathering Song

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

ELW 519 (red book)

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.**

Prayer of the Day

☐ Let us pray . . . God of grace and power, you call your people to life in Christ crucified and Christ risen.

☑ **We are called to share the Gospel in word and deed, so we ask that you would move us to give tangible expression to your love.**

☐ Thank you for the ministry of Food For The Poor In the Name of Christ in providing food for the body and nourishment for the soul. As Dr. Albert Schweitzer said, “It is difficult to hear the word of the Bread of Life when the stomach is empty.”

☑ **Thank you, Lord, for Food For The Poor in providing food, housing and potable water for the poor in the Caribbean and Latin America. And we thank you that this ministry cares enough to provide not only fish for the hungry, but also teaches them to fish-or build houses, so that they might know the dignity of work. Thank you, God, for opening our hearts and our wallets in the offering this morning in order that a “goodly share may be found on tables everywhere.” In Jesus name, Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God’s loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth “wild grapes” of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

☐ A reading from **Isaiah:**

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield

grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:7-15



⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

⁸**You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and | planted it.**

⁹You cleared the | ground for it;
it took root and | filled the land.

¹⁰**The mountains were covered | by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.** ℞

¹¹You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea
and its branches | to the river.

¹²**Why have you broken | down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?**

¹³The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

¹⁴**Turn now, O | God of hosts,
look | down from heaven;**

¹⁵behold and | tend this vine;
preserve what your right | hand has planted. ℞

Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

☐ A reading from **Philippians**:

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

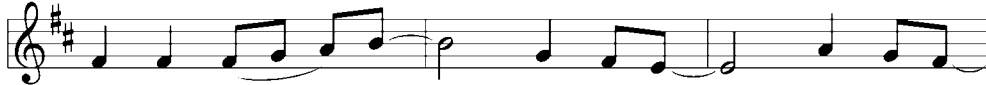
¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Stand

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.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

📖 The Holy Gospel, according to **Matthew**.

👏 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

👏 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Children’s Message/Children’s Church

All children [including infants] and youth who desire to come forward for the children’s sermon are welcomed and encouraged to do so. Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their child during the children’s message.

Message ***Experience the Power of the Resurrection Through the Poor***

(text: Philippians 3:10)

During the message, the preacher will invite people who want to share in this ministry to put their offering in the envelope and place the envelope in the offering plate. If they do not have time or have not made up their minds by that time but decide to make a donation-they can hand it to the preacher or pastor as they leave the worship service.

Silence for reflection

Song of the Day

A Time to Serve

Sung to the tune of 'Children of the Heavenly Father' (ELW 781)

Jesus hears his children crying.
Sees them hungry, lost, and dying;
Who will comfort all their sorrows?
Who will brighten their tomorrows?

When we aid the poor and lonely,,
We're not caring for them only;
When our love some suffering eases,
We have done the same for Jesus.

When we join our Savior's service,
He will strengthen and preserve us;
He will guide our daily living,
And He'll bless the love we're giving.

Jesus pleads with us to reach them
With our gifts of love, and teach them
That the kindness we are giving
Is the Christian's way of living

Rise and follow! He will lead us;
Heed the cries of those who need us!
And when life has ended for us,
Heaven's glories lie before us.

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

Ⓐ Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Ⓐ Restore what is broken in your church, loving God. Heal divisions among Christian communities, give courage to leaders facing hardship, and open our ears to the prophets' cries among us. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, especially *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David, Chrysanne and Sarah; our companion churches in Latvia, Honduras and Papua New Guinea; Ascension Lutheran Church in Kentwood, Our Lady of Great Oak in Bellevue*; and Minister of Music Cindy. Pour out your spirit of courage and faith upon the leader you will call for service to Grace. Lord in your mercy,

☑ **hear our prayer.**

A Restore what is broken in creation, gracious God. Revive farmlands and vineyards, protect waters needed by all living things, and move us to care for this earthly home. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Restore what is broken in our world, mighty God. Quell the rush to violence between peoples and nations. Break down dividing walls and promote growth for the sake of the common good. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, especially *Myrina Clements, Lance and Kayla Champaco, Joshua Wright, Parker Stancil, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten*. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Restore our broken bodies, O God. We pray for those suffering any loss: the grieving, those who have lost homes or property, the imprisoned, those neglected or abandoned, and the sick. Comfort the sick and their caregivers, especially *Danny Gillons, Bob Cranksahw, Mary Golnek, Tim Lowe, John Glasgow, Gary Burdick, Debbie Wood, Victoria Steadman, Barbara Macaully, Kathy & Ken Plourde, Judy & Bill Heil and Jeanne & Ron Bush*. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Restore our faith in you, saving God. We pray for Bible study and small group leaders, Sunday school teachers, musicians, devotion writers, and for all whose work nurtures our faith. *We ask your blessing of discernment and wisdom upon our Call Committee, and patience for our congregation while we wait for our next Pastor. Let your will be heard clearly by all involved in this process.* Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Be attentive, gracious God, to the individual petitions we lift to you in loud voice or in the silence of our hearts.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A We remember the saints whose devotion proclaimed your saving help. In company with them, root us firmly in your everlasting love. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering of Gifts and Music

Everyone at worship is encouraged to fill out a Participation card and place it in the offering plate every Sunday morning.

After the usher passes your pew, you are invited to drop your coins in the metal bowl at the front of the nave. These gifts are sent to Barry County Cares.

Stand as you are able.

Offering Song

Create in Me

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.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of six lines of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes. There are some musical notations such as a fermata over the final note of the first line, a triplet of eighth notes in the fifth line, and a final double bar line at the end of the sixth line.

Offering Prayer

A Let us pray . . . God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor.

G Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen

Stand as you are able

Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G And also with you.

(We share the peace of Christ with one another.)

Great Thanksgiving

☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ **And also with you.**

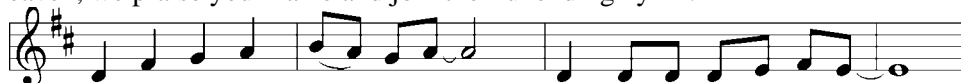
☐ Lift up your hearts.

☑ **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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



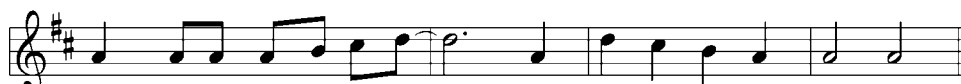
☑ **Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might.**



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

☐ Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation everything was whole and well in your praise.

☑ **When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.**

☐ In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; He 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 acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death,

☑ **we await that day when all the people of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.**

- ☐ Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
- ☑ **let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.**
- ☐ Through him all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
- ☑ **both now and forever. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- ☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us always to pray:
- ☑ **Our Father in heaven, holy 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.**

Invitation to Communion

- ☐ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Communion at Grace

All who are present are invited to receive Holy Communion. This sacrament is a gift to all who come with open hands and open hearts to the presence of Jesus.

✠ **Bread** is served by the Pastor. **Wine** is served from a *common cup* by the Assisting Minister.

✠ If you need gluten free bread, please let the Pastor know when you come forward.

✠ If you prefer wine from the *pouring chalice* in an **individual cup**, take an empty cup from the tray and have it filled by the Worship Assistant. Return the individual chalice/cup to the basket provided.

✠ **Grape Juice** is provided in the pre-filled cups in the center of the serving tray.

✠ A **Verbal Blessing** may be given by the Pastor, if you do not wish to commune.

✠ If you wish **communion brought to you** in the pew, please notify the usher.

Sit

Lamb of God



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

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

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

You are Holy

There is God's Garden

Thine the Amen

ELW 525 (red book)

ELW 342

ELW 826

Stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous.

☑ May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Sit

Congregational Announcements

Stand as you are able.

Blessing

☐ God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

☑ Amen.

† During the Sending Hymn, those who wish (especially children) are invited to come forward to make music and dance in the area in front of the pews on the left. There are instruments and scarves in and near the basket by the wall. †

Sending Song

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)'. It is written in G major and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: '1 A - maz - ing grace—how sweet the sound—that saved a (2 'Twas) grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my (3 The) Lord has prom - ised good to me, his word my (4 Through) man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I have al - (5 When) we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright shin - ing'. The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: 'wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that grace ap - pear the >hope se - cures; he will my shield and por - tion be as read - y come; 'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than'. The score includes guitar chords: D, G/D, D, A/D, D, D/F#, G, D.

1, 3, 5 D <i>Fine last time</i>	2, 4 D <i>To Refrain</i>
------------------------------------	-----------------------------

blind, but now I see. 2 'Twas - lieved!
hour I first be - en - dures. 4 Through home.
>long as life me be - gun.
grace will lead me be - gun.
when we'd first be - gun.

Refrain D/F# G D/F#

My chains are gone, I've been set free; my God, my

G/B D/A D/F# G

Sav - ior has ran-somed me. And like a flood, his mer-cy

D/F# Em7 A7 D

rains un-end-ing love, a-maz-ing grace.

G D G To stanzas

3 The
5 When

Dismissal

- A Go in peace. Sound the good news.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 100

Weekly Giving: \$4,197.00

Budget Amount: \$4,181.22

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of elbow macaroni, stuffing, canned pasta (ie, ravioli, spaghetti-o's, etc).

Our speaker today is Pastor Darrell Golnitz. Pastor Golnitz was ordained in 1976 for the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Before joining Food For The Poor in 2010, he served as a hospital chaplain and in parishes in Wisconsin, Tennessee and Georgia. Pastor Golnitz will deliver the message: "Experience the Power of the Resurrection Through the Poor". You will be invited to participate in this ministry through a special offering.

Food For The Poor does much more than feed millions of individuals. We drill life-giving water for those who otherwise wouldn't have clean drinking water; we provide life-saving medical care; we build homes for families without adequate shelter; we provide skills training and micro-enterprise opportunities that enable the poor to work; and we give children an education that will enable them to break free from the cycle of poverty that has ensnared generations. More than 95% of all donations go directly to programs that help the poor.

Noisy Offering benefiting Barry County Cares will be received during worship this morning. Thank you for your gifts of \$76.35 received last month.

CROP WALK today. Grace Lutheran is hosting this event for Barry County. **Donations will be collected through today. Checks should be written to CWS-CROP.**

Until October 10, please contact Pastor Paul Nuechterlein at 269-290-4533 if you need emergency pastoral care. For other needs, please contact the church office at 945-9414 or Grace President Chris Bush at 517-614-5546. Retired pastor Mike Kemper will be available for pastoral care after October 10.

From Thrivent - the Oktoberfest and Reformation 500 Celebration is on **Oct 14** at 4219 Parklane in Dorr, MI. Doors & Biergarten open at 2 pm, West Michigan German Orchestra plays from 3-5, German food is served beginning at 5, Bill Grusinschi Polka Band plays from 6-10. Admission is free, but donations are encouraged for food, drinks and music. All proceeds raised will be used to support local families at Christmas (presents for children).

Call Pastor visits and presides on **October 22, 2017.**

Call Vote will be held after worship on **October 29th**, a one service Sunday, with worship at 10:00 am. There will also be a Reformation lunch after the vote.

Preserve our progress! Now that our walls have a fresh look with new paint, please post any notices on the bulletin board near the coffee counter in the Welcoming Space.

Last one to leave the building after a meeting or on a Sunday? Please remember to lock the door!

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, October 8	Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 am Noisy Offering
Tuesday, October 10	Children's Church 10:45 am Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm Women of Faith 6:30 pm
Thursday, October 12	Clapper Kids bell choir 3:45 – 5:00 pm Grace Notes bell choir 5:45 – 7:00 pm

Today's Worship Leaders

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:45 am</u>
Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Traci Wales
Cantor	Jack Vos	Mark Anton
Lector	???	Sandy Mosteller
Communion Server	Jana Bishop	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Mark Anton	Lance Ogden
Usher	Mark/Jana Bishop	Gary/Lisa Golnek Doug/Diane Neeb
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Jack/Carol Vos	John/Mark Kleinbrink
Children's Church		Phil/Amy Poholski
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mark Kleinbrink

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, October 15, 2017

Assisting Ministers	Randy Teegardin	Vickey Argo
Cantor	Volunteer	Mark Anton
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Carla Neil
Communion Server	Melissa Patton	Phyllis Lietz
Acolyte/Crucifer	Grayson Patton	Hope Peck
Usher	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Mark Anton, Ed Domke
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Jan Schreiner	Kristi Winick, Ingrid Morgan
Children's Church		Kim & Lydia Markwart
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich	Mark Kleinbrink

