

# Grace Lutheran Church

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Hastings MI 49058



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Pastor Ken Scheck II

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

## Spring Cleaning

Greek mythology tells a story about one of the greatest cleanup jobs of all time. The superhuman Hercules is given the challenge of clearing out a gigantic stable where thousands of animals are living. No one thinks he can do it. But, being quite clever, Hercules diverts a river to run through the stables. As the waters pour through, all the grime and filth is swept away.

In today's gospel, Jesus tackles the "mess" that has built up in the temple in Jerusalem. He overturns tables and drives sellers from the temple courts where they have set up shop. Jesus' actions show his resolve to clear out all that clutters and distracts from our relationship with God. He boldly points to the injustices he sees around him and acts to eradicate them. With his words and his actions, Jesus moves through the world and through people's lives, sweeping away everything that has no place in God's kingdom.

During Lent we invite Christ into our communities and congregations for some spring cleaning. We direct our attention toward those places where injustices and distractions have built up, and we pray for God to go to work through Christ. Assembled together, we remember and renew our baptisms. We return each week to have the waters of baptism rush over our lives and through our hearts. Some will take on practices to reflect this desire for purification—giving more space for prayer, simplicity, and silence. Some will declutter their lives by practicing generosity—giving out of their abundance to those with great need. Whatever our practices, we can come together in the hope of God's sanctifying power in our lives.

## Third Sunday in Lent

March 4, 2018

*Lent is the season of contrition and renewal. The color purple has become a symbol of penitence. The music of the season reflects our need for repentance and renewal, which is our effort to turn, again, towards God.*

***Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.***

### Pre- Service Music

### Welcome/Worship Instructions

*Stand as you are able.*

### The Confession and Forgiveness

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**P** God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**P** With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

**P** Merciful God,

**C forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.**

*Silence.*

**P** Let us confess . . .

**C we were silent when we should have said something.**

*Silence.*

**P** Let us confess . . .

**C we acted when we knew better.**

*Silence.*

**P** Let us confess . . .

**C we were still when we know we should have moved.**

*Silence.*

**P** Let us confess . . .

**C the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**P** People of God, look to the ✠ Son, given to heal you and set you free because God loved the world so much. Take hold of life—eternal life!

**C Amen.**

Kyrie

*Refrain*



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

*Last time*



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im -
- 3 For peace in our hearts, for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you



health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;  
 passionate re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;  
 peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;  
 cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;



for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,  
 that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
 for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,  
 that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## Greeting

*The pastor and the assembly greet each other.*

**P** The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ bears our burdens and saves us from sin through the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

**A** Let us pray . . . Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously.

**C** **Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Sit*

## First Reading

### Exodus 20:1-17

*After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The ten commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.*

**L** A reading from **Exodus**:

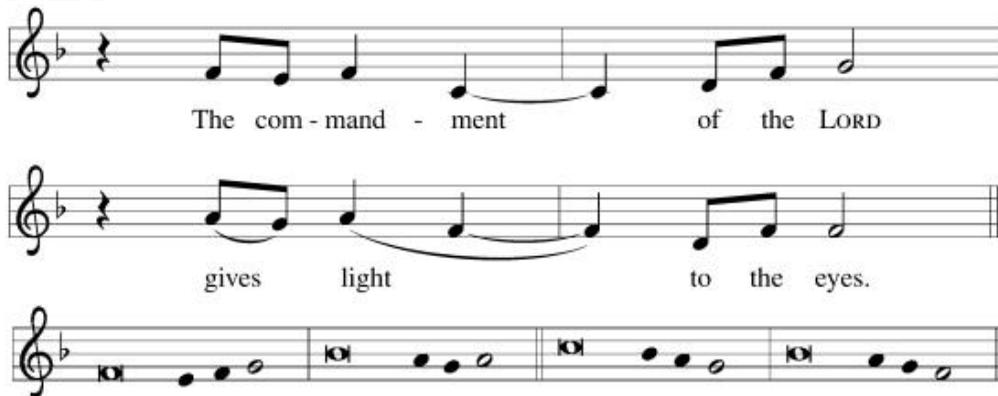
<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. <sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>13</sup>You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup>You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 19



- <sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,  
and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale | to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.
- <sup>3</sup>**Although they have no | words or language,  
and their voices | are not heard,**
- <sup>4</sup>**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**
- <sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.
- <sup>6</sup>It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of | it again;  
nothing is hidden from its | burning heat. ☞
- <sup>7</sup>**The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.**
- <sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.**
- <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.
- <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb. ☞
- <sup>11</sup>**By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is | great reward.**
- <sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's | own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**
- <sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.
- <sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,  
O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer. ☞

## Second Reading

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

*The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.*

### **A** A reading from **1 Corinthians**:

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

<sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

*Stand as you are able.*

### Gospel Acclamation



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

## Gospel Reading

John 2:13-22

*Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.*

☞ The Holy Gospel, according to **John**.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

☞ 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

*Silence for reflection*

*Stand as you are able.*

**Song of the Day**

*Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*

**ELW 808** (red book)

*Kneel or sit as you are able.*

## Prayers

☞ Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

☞ We pray for the church. Lead us faithfully in the way of the cross. Unite us as one body in Christ. Empower us with courage to speak out against injustice and greed, demonstrating with our words and bodies the love of Jesus. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, including Bishops Elizabeth, and Craig, Assistants David, Sarah and Chrysanne; *Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Muskegon, Woodbury*

*United Brethren Church in Lake Odessa*; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken. Lord, in your mercy,

**☞ hear our prayer.**

**▲** We pray for the world. For sheep, cattle, and all domesticated livestock. For wild creatures, service animals, and pets. Provide shelter, food, and safe drinking water for every living creature. Protect the earth from disaster and harm. Lord, in your mercy,

**☞ hear our prayer.**

**▲** We pray for the nations. Teach us to honor one another as you command. Protect refugees and immigrants fleeing from their homes in search of safety and freedom. Guide lawmakers, peacekeepers, and all who work toward reconciliation and justice. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including *Myrina Clements, Lance and Kayla Champaco, Joshua Wright, Parker Stancil, Tim Krewson and Tyler Van Houten*. Lord, in your mercy,

**☞ hear our prayer.**

**▲** We pray for those in need. For those who lack what they need for daily life. For people whose lives are consumed by their possessions. For those who grieve, and for all who are ill. Comfort all in need in body, mind, or spirit, including *Mary Golnek, Tim Lowe, Audrey Burdick, John Glasgow, Barbara Macaully, Wendy Eifler, Caleb, Collin Roup, Shirley Fisher, Gladys Bishop, Kris Gilbert, the family of Bill Cunningham, the family of Roland Curtis and the family of Barb Benner*. Lord, in your mercy,

**☞ hear our prayer.**

**▲** We pray for this assembly. For those preparing for baptism or confirmation, and for their families, sponsors, and faith mentors. For Bible study leaders and participants. For our elders in thanksgiving for the depth of wisdom and experience they offer. Lord, in your mercy,

**☞ hear our prayer.**

**▲** 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.*

**▲** Lord, in your mercy,

**☞ hear our prayer.**

**▲** We remember with gratitude those who have gone before us. Inspire us by their witness and example. Bring us with them into the joy of eternal life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

**☞ hear our prayer.**

**▢** Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**☞ 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.*

*Stand as you are able.*



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.



## Offering Prayer

**A** Let us pray . . . Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives,

**C** that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen

*Stand as you are able*

## Sharing the Peace of God

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

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

## Great Thanksgiving

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



### **Eucharistic Prayer**

- P** Holy God our living Water and our merciful Guide,
- C** **together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.**
- P** You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock.
- C** **We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.**
- P** 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.
- C** **Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.**
- P** Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
- C** **wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.**
- P** Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.
- C** **Amen**

### **Lord's Prayer**

- P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- C** **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**

- P** Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

### 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



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

*Be Thou My Vision*

ELW 793 (red book)

*Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

ELW 337

*I Am the Bread of Life*

ELW 485

*Stand*

### **Prayer after Communion**

Ⓐ Let us pray . . . Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.

☒ **Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Congregational Announcements**

*Stand as you are able.*

### **Blessing**

☐ May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

☒ **Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Ⓐ Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

☒ **Thanks be to God.**

## **THIS WEEK AT GRACE**

**Today, March 4**

Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 am

Children's Church 10:45 am

**Tuesday, March 6**

Communication Team 10:00 am

Women's Bible Study 3:00 pm

Executive Committee 5:30 pm

Worship Committee 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, March 7**

Lenten Supper 6:00 pm

Lenten Service 7:00 pm

**Thursday, March 8**

Clapper Kids 3:45 – 5:00 pm

Grace Notes 5:45 – 7:00 pm

## Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 106

Weekly Giving: **\$3,256.00**

Budget Amount: \$4,181.22

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of SPAM, corned beef hash, canned salmon, kidney beans, sugar, canned pineapple, lasagna noodles, mixed vegetables, canned carrots, chili – no beans (w/meat), chicken or beef based soup (not chicken noodle), boxed julienne potatoes.

**Lent Devotional Books** are available for your edification. We are thankful for the many members who took time to write a reflection for us to ponder.

**Coin Boxes** are also available for you to pick up and save a quarter for each Lenten day. The box can hold 60 quarters. This money will go toward ELCA World Hunger program.

**Women's Bible Study** Time Changes: on March 6th we will meet at 3pm, and on March 13th we will meet at 2pm. After these dates, we will resume our normal 12:30 meeting time.

**Wednesday, March 7** –Lenten dinner with taco salad and tacos, free will offering to go to Relay for Life Barry County Cancer Walk. Lenten service at 7:00 pm

**Pasty Sale on March 10.** Baked \$7.00 each and Unbaked \$6.00. Sign up sheet for orders is in the coffee area. Helpers needed on March 8, 9 & 10 if you're able and sign up for help is posted as well. Funds from this Pasty sale will be used to support the 10 youth going to Houston to the National Gathering. We already have six of the youth signed up to help during the Pasty sale to "learn the skills" for future years! Please talk with Joe Longcor if you have questions. His phone is 269-623-2348.

**Good Friday Cross Walk**, March 30, 9:30 AM. Sign-up sheets are posted for: 1.)Walker participants 2.)Volunteers to read parts of the passion story at various reflection stops along the walk 3.)Donations of light refreshments.

**Easter Plant Sale-** please be sure to sign up for your Easter plants by **March 11**. Your purchase may help in three ways: decorating your house/Grace for Easter, sending kids to Houston, a gift to seniors at Commission on Aging.

**Renovation Update** - Being good stewards of God, there was a decision to go ahead with the purchase of carpet that was needed for the church. The price for the carpet has risen steadily during our fundraising efforts and the church was faced with another price increase in the near future. The original debt amount was \$16,258.38. To date we have received \$7,100 in generous donations from our members. The remaining debt for the carpet is **\$9,858.38. We would be blessed if you would be willing to help pay down this debt we owe to ourselves.** Thanks for your consideration. If you would like to write a check, please remember to write 'carpet fund' in the memo line.

## Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:45 am
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	Chris Bush	Mark Anton
<b>Cantor</b>	Mark Anton	Mark Anton
<b>Lector</b>	Chris Bush	Kristi Winick
<b>Communion Server</b>	Jan Schreiner	Diane Neeb
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer</b>	Grayson Patton	Hope Peck
<b>Usher</b>	Dan & Gavin Patton	Gary/Lisa Golnek Doug/Diane Neeb
<b>Greeter/Coffee Hr.</b>	Melissa Patton	Eve Wright
<b>Children's Church</b>		Tom/Cheryl Drumm
<b>Chancel Team</b>	<b>Vickey Argo &amp; Kay Howell</b>	

## Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, March 11, 2018

<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	Randy Teegardin	Phil Poholski
<b>Cantor</b>	Mark Anton	Kate Watson
<b>Lector</b>	John Burdick	Carla Neil
<b>Communion Server</b>	Brenda Teegardin	Mark Anton
<b>Acolyte/Crucifer</b>	Mark Anton	Clyde Watson
<b>Usher</b>	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Mark Anton, Ed Domke
<b>Greeter/Coffee Hr.</b>	Volunteers	Kristi Winick, Ingrid Morgan
<b>Children's Church</b>		Tom, Hope, Emma Peck
<b>Chancel Team</b>	<b>Vickey Argo &amp; Kay Howell</b>	