

Grace Lutheran Church

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Hastings MI 49058



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Pastor Ken Scheck II

Ms. Cindy Olson, Minister of Music

In a Word, Believe

At the airport the young man's father and mother hugged him, stamped unremovable kisses on his unshaven cheek, draped "I love you" eyes upon him, mouthed "be safe" and sent him off to volunteer in Argentina, where he later disappeared. Did he perish?

Earth trembles, wind howls, fire refines. Do we perish? Famines devour by day, plagues creep by night, wars shriek. Do we perish?

"For God so loved the world . . .

Shamefaced in prisons, shivering on street corners, lonely in crowds, invaded all alone. Do we perish? At the top, exhausted; at the bottom, despairing; at the edges, ignored; at the center, shrinking. Do we perish?

. . . that he gave his only Son, . . .

Washed out memories, built up distances. Do we perish? Love discarded, hatred hoarded. Do we perish?

. . . so that everyone who believes in him may not perish."

Nicodemus came to Jesus in the dark. This is what he said: "no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God" (John 3:2). An unsteady, fitful confidence flickered like a sputtering wick in the dark. "How can these things be?" Riddled about the kingdom of God, flesh and Spirit, heaven and earth, he didn't hide inside of **cautious** silence or avoid heavy darkness.

Nicodemus came to Jesus in the dark. There he found God's answer in a word. Believe. Believe not in a world without death or disaster, not in a world without suffering or loss, not in a world without devastation or humiliation, not in a world without defeat or shame. Believe in God who refuses to abandon such a world. Believe in the sign of God, Jesus himself, God's love for this world where joys do agonize, flowers do fade, springs do thirst. Believe in God in the dark night hour.

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1st Sunday After Pentecost – Holy Trinity Sunday

May 27, 2018

Today we celebrate God in three persons – three persons in one God (the Trinity). The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost helps our understanding of the Trinity mystery. The color is white – a symbol of joy, triumph, glory and light.

Holy Silence is observed as we enter to worship.

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Worship Instructions

Stand as you are able

Greeting

P The steadfast love of God, the life of Jesus Christ, and the growth of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

A O Lord, open our lips,

C **and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

P Blessed God, satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,

C **that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

A Give praise to the Holy Trinity our true God,

C **who gives us life, salvation and resurrection.**

Gathering Music

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

ELW 527 (red book)

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray . . . Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three.

C **Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8

This reading narrates Isaiah's vision of the Lord surrounded by angels. They sing "Holy, holy, holy," a song the church sings at the beginning of the great thanksgiving. This liturgical text invites the church and all creation to sing in praise of God's glory. That glory is God's mercy toward sinners.

📖 A reading from **Isaiah**:

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

📖 The word of the Lord.

🎵 **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29



¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.** 📖

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**

⁷The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh. **

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, “Glory!”

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace. 

Second Reading

Romans 8:12-17

In describing the new life of faith, Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity: the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and sisters and brothers with Christ the Son.

 A reading from **Romans**:

¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

 The word of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

We Eat the Bread of Teaching

ELW 518

Refrain



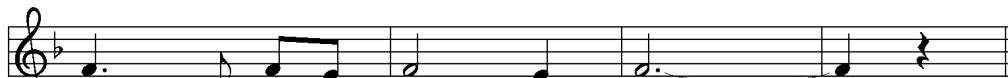
We eat the bread of teach-ing, drink wine of wis-dom, are



giv-en here a taste of the king-dom. To-geth-er



joined, the great-est and the least, we all are



one at Wis-dom's ho-ly feast.



- 1 Wis-dom calls through-out the cit-y, knows our
- 2 Sim-ple ones whose hearts are yearn-ing, come and
- 3 En-ter with de-light and sing-ing, for her



hun-ger, and in pit-y gives her lov-ing in-vi-gain from Wis-dom's learn-ing; bread and wine she is pre-rich-ness now is bring-ing us this joy-ous cel-e-



ta-tion to the ban-quet of sal-va-tion. par-ing, know her lov-ing in the shar-ing. bra-tion; eat and drink in ju-bi-la-tion.

Refrain

Gospel Reading

John 3:1-17

Jesus' miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.

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

👉 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

📖 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

Pastor David Augenstein

Silence for reflection

Song of the Day

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

ELW 412 (red book)

The Spir - it in - ter - cedes for us with
sighs too deep for words to ex - press. Oh, oh.

Kneel or sit as able.

Prayers

A Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the world that God so loves.

A brief silence.

A Abba, when we cry to you, your Spirit bears witness with our spirit. Give to your church the confidence of the children of God, so that we boldly share with everyone your world-saving love. Empower and guide the faith of our bishops and congregations and all the servants of your church, including *Bishops Elizabeth and Craig, Assistants David, Chrysanne and Sarah; our synod companion churches, Leer Lutheran Church in Posen, Community Baptist Church in Hastings; Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken.* Hear us, O God.

G **The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express. Oh, (2x's) oh.**

A The whole earth is full of your glory: cities teem, fields flourish, mountains soar, and waters abound. Blot out our sin of spoiling your creation. Send us to go for you, mending what is torn and tattered in your world. Hear us, O God.

G **The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express. Oh, (2x's) oh.**

A You so loved the world that you gave your only Son. In these days, when nation condemns nation, save us. Give us strength and fill us with your justice and peace. Protect the lives of those who serve in the military, including *Myrina Clements, Lance and Kayla Champaco, Joshua Wright, Parker Stancil, Tim Krewson, Alexi and Dylan Kelmer, Austin and Aaron Endsley and Tyler Van Houten.* Hear us, O God.

G **The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express. Oh, (2x's) oh.**

A Your people cry out to you, seeking the goodness and hope of your holiness. Let the wind of your Spirit blow into the lives of all who suffer from injustice, want, or anguish of any kind. Hear us, O God.

G **The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express. Oh, (2x's) oh.**

A In our living and in our dying, we belong to you. In loving remembrance, we honor those who live with scars or have died defending our nation. Beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks, and teach us your ways. Comfort the sick and their caregivers, including *Steve Kaiser, Joyce Daugherty, Fred Kogge, Willow Fuhr, Tim Lowe, John Glasgow, Audrey Burdick, Gladys Bishop, Olivia Stoy, Jamie, Rory, Fred, Wendy Eifler, Barbara Macaully, and Mary Golnek.* Hear us, O God.

G **The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express. Oh, (2x's) oh.**

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 Hear us, O God.

G **The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express. Oh, (2x's) oh.**

A With affection we remember the saints now departed and rejoice in their faithful witness. Through their example, provoke us to holy lives of loving service in your name. Hear us, O God.

G **The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express. Oh, (2x's) oh.**

P By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G **Amen.**

Stand as you are able

Sharing the Peace of God

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

G **And also with you.**

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

Sit

Offering of Gifts and Music

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

Stand as you are able.

Offering Song

Now Thank We All Our God

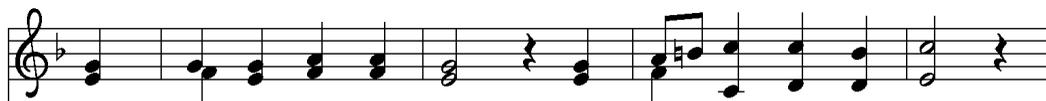
ELW 840 (red book)



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
 2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.



Offering Prayer

A Let us pray . . . Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing.

C You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

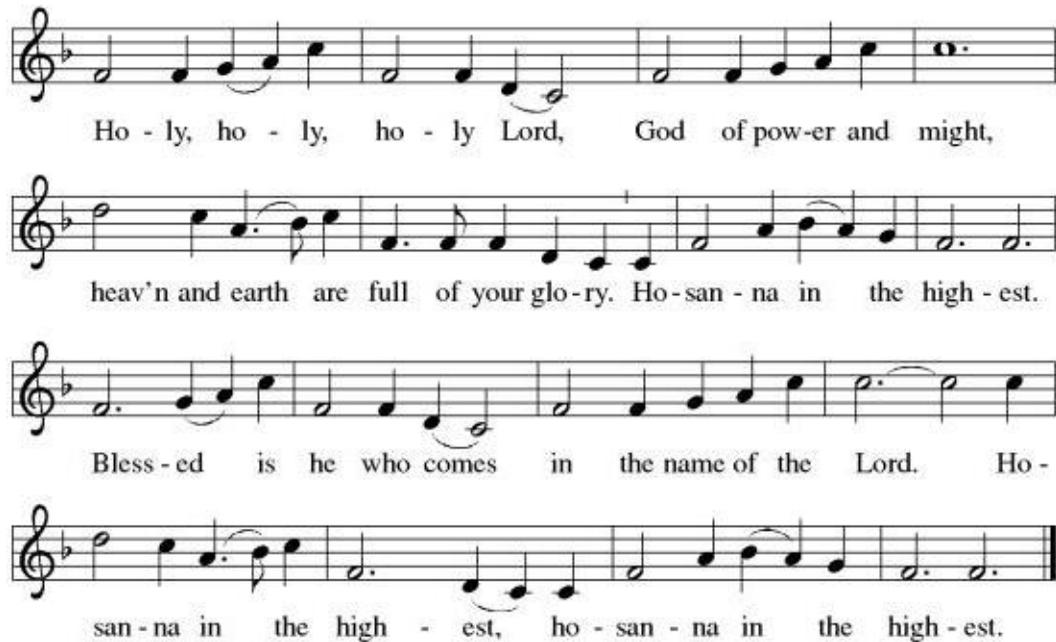
P Lift up your hearts.

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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

- P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
- C** **Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.**
- P** Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.
- C** **Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.**
- P** Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
- C** **Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.**
- 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. O God of resurrection and new life:
- C** **Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.**
- P** Bless this feast.
- C** **Grace our table with your presence. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.**
- P** Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us.
- C** **We praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us always to pray:
- 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** Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
- 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 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

We Are All One in Christ

ELW 643 (red book)

Baptized in Water

ELW 456

God Loved the World

ELW 323

Stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray . . . Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.

G Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen.

Congregational Announcements

Blessing

P May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

G Amen.

All children and youth, as well as the young at heart and playful spirits, are invited to come forward to make music and dance during the Sending Hymn. Please choose one instrument to play or one scarf to use for waving and dancing.

Sending Song

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

ELW 414 (red book)

Dismissal

A Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

G Thanks be to God.

Stewardship Information

Worshippers last week: 146

Weekly Giving: **\$3,748.00**

Budget Amount: \$4,181.22

The local **Food Pantry** located at the Methodist Church on Green Street is currently in need of chicken and beef based soups (not chicken noodle). Also salad dressing (not mayo), mustard, Hamburger Helper, Spam, chili-no beans, salmon, corned beef hash, coffee, non sugar cereals (chex, cheerios, etc). Pasta Roni, Rice A Roni (not chicken or beef please), cake mix (not yellow), brownie mix, large juices and canned pasta.

Welcome today to Pastor David Augenstein, who will be presiding at our worship services.

Worship schedule – the worship schedule for summer has been changed. All service times will continue on the winter schedule, ie, service will take place at 8:00 am and 10:45 am. This is in an effort to maintain continuity and alleviate any confusion for members as well as visitors.

Bell Choir at Thornapple Manor – the Bell Choirs will be playing for the residents and staff at Thornapple Manor on Tuesday, **May 29** at 6:15 pm. The public is invited to come worship with the staff and residents and enjoy the bell music.

Red Cross Blood Drive – The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive on Thursday, **May 31** from 12 noon – 6:00 pm, at the First Presbyterian Church, 405 N M-37 Hwy, Hastings. Please bring your photo ID or blood donor card. Donors who come to donate have a chance to win a \$1000 Home Depot gift card.

Grace Prayer Walk or Relax Cook Out Sunday June 10th, after second service, at the home of Phil and Amy Poholski, 6810 Highlandview Dr, Middleville. What to bring – lawn chairs. Food will be provided: Hot dogs, coleslaw, baked beans, chips, desert, ice tea and lemonade. If you would like something stronger, say beer or wine, please BYO. For those that would like, we will take a walk through the woods on a mowed path. There also will be some yard games. If you have questions, contact the Poholski's 269-948-3655

Annual Meeting is scheduled to take place on Sunday, **July 15, 2018**.

Renovation Update The original debt amount for the purchase of new carpet was \$16,258.38. To date we have received almost half of the amount, \$8,325, in generous donations from our members. The remaining debt for the carpet is **\$7,933.38**. **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.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today, May 27	Worship at 8:00 & 10:45 am
Monday, May 28	Memorial Day – office closed
Tuesday, May 29	Bell outing 6:15 pm
Wednesday, May 30	Special bell practice 5:30 – 7:30 pm
Thursday, May 31	Clapper Kids 3:45 – 5:00 pm Grace Notes 5:45 – 7:00 pm

Today's Worship Leaders

	8:00 am	10:45 am
Assisting Ministers	Randy Teegardin	Vickey Argo
Cantor	Jack Vos	Mark Anton
Lector	Carl Schoessel	Victoria Steadman
Communion Server	Brenda Teegardin	Mark Anton
Acolyte/Crucifer	Mark Anton	Hope Peck
Usher	Tom/Cheryl Drumm	Mark Anton, Joe Longcor Gwen Hansen, Sandy Mosteller
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Jack/Carol Vos	Eve Wright
Children's Church		Eve Wright
Chancel Team	Karen Halstead & Jan Schreiner	

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders, June 3, 2018

Assisting Ministers	Chris Bush	Mark Anton
Cantor	Jack Vos	Vickey Argo
Lector	Chris Bush	Sandy Mosteller
Communion Server	Melissa Patton	Diane Neeb
Acolyte/Crucifer	Grayson Patton	Lance Ogden
Usher	Dan & Gavin Patton	Gary/Lisa Golnek Doug/Diane Neeb
Greeter/Coffee Hr.	Jack & Carol Vos	Kristi Winick, Ingrid Morgan
Children's Church		
Chancel Team	Jeanette Ulrich & Mary Kleinbrink	

