GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1200 River Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666 (201) 836-0994 THE REV. MARGARET NIEDERER – PASTOR (201) 403-4341 + pegniederer@gmail.com CAROL WEBER – CANTOR

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY November 20, 2022

10 AM



Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

VISIT US AT:

WWW.GRACELUTHERANTEANECK.ORG

and

ON FACEBOOK

Welcome to worship! While indoors, please continue to mask and social distance.

 PRELUDE
 Adagio in e minor
 Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

 Lisa Steinberg, Violin
 Lisa Steinberg, Violin

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand to face the baptismal font. All may make the sign of the cross as Pastor begins:

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who redeems us in Christ Jesus, whose steadfast love endures forever.
- C. Amen.
- P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P. Most merciful God,
- C. we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have ignored voices that call for your justice. We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness. We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community. We truly repent of things we have done and left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness, follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen.
- P. Rejoice and be glad!

God hears the prayers of all who cry out, and restores us to life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

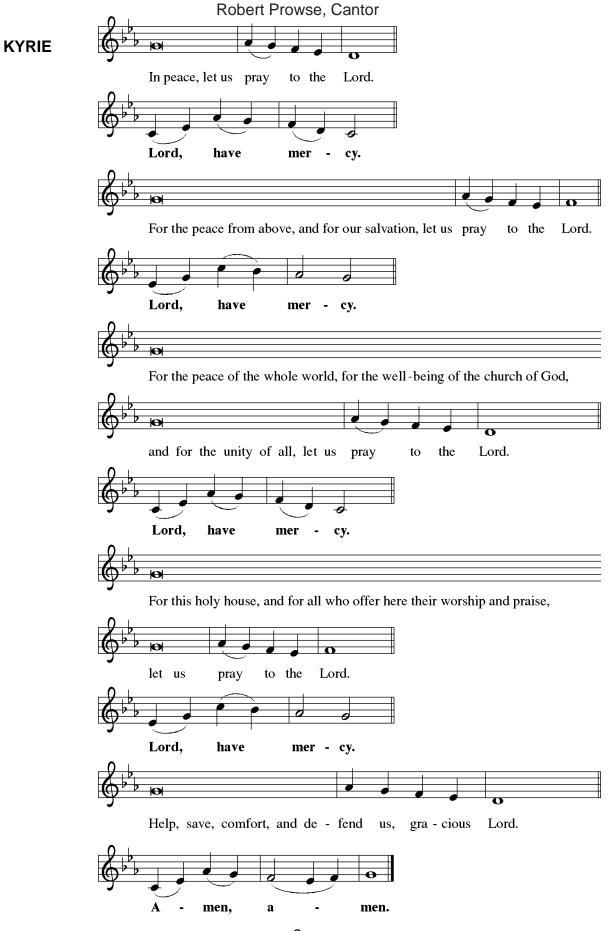
LBW 172

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Text: George H. Bourne, 1840–1925 Music: BRYN CALFARIA, William Owen, 1814–1893

GREETING

- P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C. And also with you.



- 3 -



- 4 -

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. And also with you.

P. Let us pray.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

A. A reading from Jeremiah, the 23rd Chapter.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

- A. The Word of God. The Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46 READ RESPONSIVELY

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea; ³though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult. ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

- Gou speaks, and the earth ments av
- ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
- the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD,

what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

A. A reading from Colossians, the 1st Chapter.

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

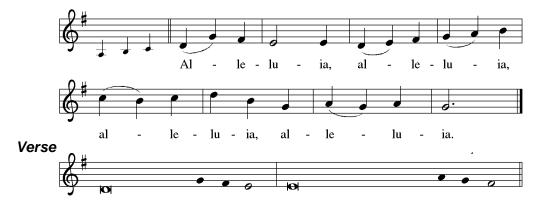
¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

A. The Word of God. The Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first ' and the last, the beginning ' and the end. (Rev. 22:13)

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

GOSPEL Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

P. The Holy Gospel According to Luke, the 23rd Chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴[[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

SERMON

Pastor Niederer

Silence for Meditation

Please stand.



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ALL SAINTS NEW, Henry S. Cutler, 1824–1902

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NICENE CREED

A. Let us confess our faith with Christians throughout the world by using the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God. eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Lynn Buckingham

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, the New Jersey Synod, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian Community, our friends from Light and Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere, as they live out their calling to serve and welcome the stranger in your name. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader's heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for all who are homeless, naked, hungry, or sick especially for those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*). Bring peace to any experiencing mental illness, that they can clearly recognize your loving presence. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer**.

We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. Guide our pastor/s, deacon/s, and council members in discernment, and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all who have died in the faith. Console us who mourn and comfort us with the beautiful promise of life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

- P. Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C. Amen.

PEACE *Please stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.*

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

OFFERING Please place your offering in the plate located on the table at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.

Please sit.

SOLO AT THE OFFERING

Meinem Jesum Iaß ich nicht Johann Sebastian Bach (I will not leave my Jesus) from Cantata 98, Was Gott tut, das ist wohl getan (What God does, that is done well)

> Robert Prowse, Baritone Lisa Steinberg, Violin

Meinen Jesum laß ich nicht, Bis mich erst sein Angesicht Wird erhören oder segnen. Er allein Soll mein Schutz in allem sein, Was mir Übels kann begegnen. I will not leave my Jesus, until first he will hear or bless me. He alone will be my protection in all the evil I may meet.

Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. Let us pray.

Blessed are you, Maker of all things. As you have entrusted us with all that you have created, now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament, and send us to those who hunger and thirst, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

C. Amen.

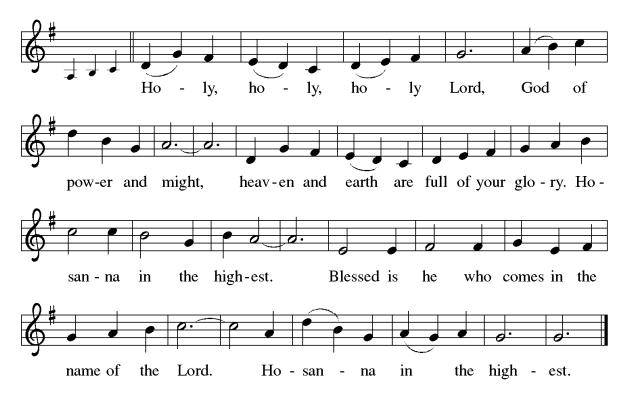
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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.
- C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

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; 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:

SANCTUS



Please kneel or be seated.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Holy mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, Blessed and 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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the mystery of faith;

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P. Pour out upon us and this bread and cup the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and forever.
C. Amen.

LORDS PRAYER

- P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we say the prayer Jesus has taught us:
- C. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is 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.

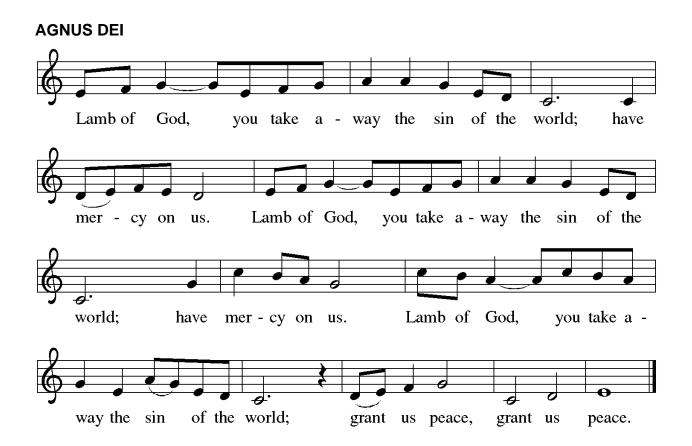
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, Now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints.

Come to the table where all are welcome.





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CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

Please stay seated until the person in front of you has received the wafer. Continue to mask until after you have received the wafer & cup and have stepped away from the communion tray.

A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section. The center contains purple grape juice. White wine is in the remainder of the tray. After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section.

Baptized Christians who recognize the presence of Christ in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life, are welcome to receive communion. If you have not yet been baptized or have never before received Holy Communion, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Fold your arms across your chest to let the Pastor know that you wish to receive a blessing.

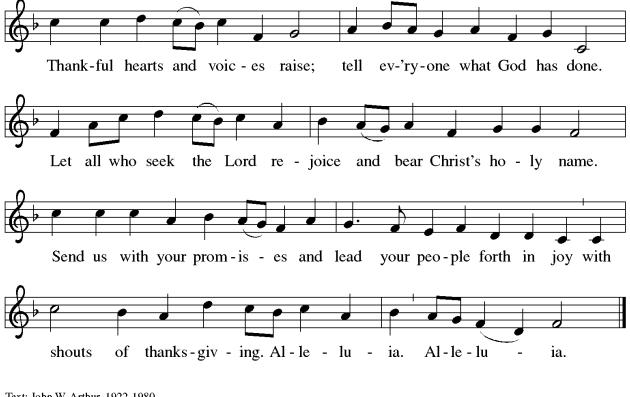
Please stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING:

- P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C. Amen.



POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A. Let us pray:

We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

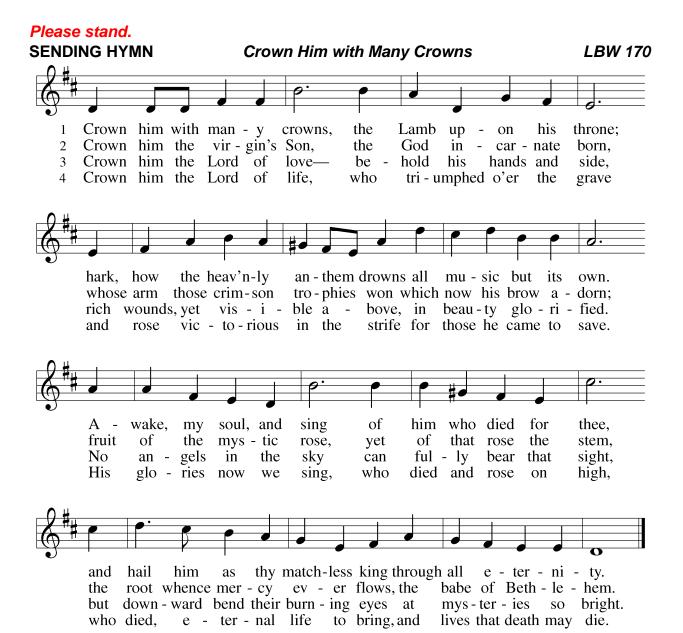
BLESSING

P. The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good, who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope, + bless you now and forever.

C. AMEN.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



5 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose pow'r a scepter sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise. His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey 1816–1893

et. thro y Thring, 1823–1903 1893

DISMISSAL

- A. Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world.
- C. Thanks be to God.

6 Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time, creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me; thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Please be seated.

POSTLUDE

Violin Concerto in D Major, RV 230

Antonio Vivaldi

Allegro

Lisa Steinberg, Violin

+ + +

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY TO

Robert Prowse, Cantor Lisa Steinberg, Violin Fred Lewis, Greeter Janet Thalmann, Liturgist & Reader Lynn Buckingham, Prayers of Intercession Sue Papera, Altar Guild



No Bible Study This Week





WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

"A Shared Contemplative Advent Worship Series" Nov 30, Dec 7, 14, "Blue Christmas" Dec 21

> Held Each Week In-Person at Trinity Lutheran Church 167 Palisade Ave, Bogota Please Mask & Social Distance.

SOUP & SANDWICHES FOLLOWING WORSHIP Stay or Grab 'n Go

PREACHING SCHEDULE Nov 30th Pastor Peggy Niederer – Grace, Teaneck Dec 7th Pastor Danielle McCleary – St. Matthew, Secaucus Dec 14th & 21st Pastor Lisa Holliday – Trinity, Bogota



DECORATE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 18th after Mass



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT MASS DECEMBER 24th - 9 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th - 11 AM NOTE: 11 AM time is for Christmas Day only.



PRAYERS

Carol Weber; Doris Baumann (Carol's mom); Katie Wolfe recovering from a brain aneurism (Carol's cousin); Donald Lazlear and his family (Zulema's friends); Katie (Zulema's niece), Surella (Katie's mom), and Frank Borowski (Katie's dad), and aunt; Enrique Perez (Jack's father-in-law); Marc Yaffe (Leslyn's and Michael's son); Melanie M. (Julie's friend); John Fiore, Sr. (Julie's friend with cancer); Susan Bethke (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); Nancy McCabe (Lynn's sister-in-law who has COPD); Arlene Rizzo (Sue's friend undergoing cancer treatments) and Arlene's family; Chris Palmer (Sue Papera's friend who has health concerns): Ron Barlotta (Sue's sister's brother-in-law being treated for cancer); Caleb (Sue's friend with mental health issues); Jenny L. (Sue's friend with health issues); Jason and Paul Thalmann (Janet's nephew and brother); Kathy Obtain (a co-worker of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Mark Crovatto (Al's son); Susan Beever (Mary Ellen's friend); Dominick Capalba (Mary Ellen's 6 year old friend with brain cancer); Jessica and Casey O'Neil (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law) who work for the State Department; Dan and John Steffen (Lorli's brothers with health concerns); Tammy (Lorli's niece who has an immune disorder); James Ilgenfritz (Erika's son); Gerry Schlask (health concerns); Kevin (a friend of the congregation undergoing treatment for cancer); Chris Niederer (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); Cathyann (Pastor's friend from seminary with pancreatic cancer); Dennis Keohane (Catherine's uncle); Charlie and Mary Lewis (Fred's brother and sister-in-law with health concerns); the people of Ukraine, Russia, Afghanistan and those who are providing resources and care for refugees; front line workers, medical researchers; health experts, national and regional officials; those affected by natural disasters and wildfires.

Let Lynn or Pastor know of any changes needed in the prayer list.



COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100 Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927 Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America

Thursday, November 24, 2022

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748 Friday, November 25, 2022

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.

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