GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1200 River Road, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666 (201) 836-0994 THE REV. PEGGY NIEDERER – PASTOR (201) 403-4341 + pegniederer@gmail.com GEORGE FRANCOIS – GUEST ORGANIST

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

June 8, 2025

TO AM

To

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages,

as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:3-4

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts, the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

VISIT US AT:

WWW.GRACELUTHERANTEANECK.ORG and on Facebook

Welcome to worship!

Masking is optional but recommended while indoors.

PRELUDE:

Air for G String, from Suite in D major, BWV 1068

Johann Sebastien Bach

Please stand and face the baptismal font near the entrance of the church.

- P Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord fills the world,
- C Let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God. Alleluia!
- P With tongues of fire, the Spirit kindles the apostles' zeal.
- C They declare in new tongues the wonderful works of God.
- P Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C And blessed be his kingdom now and forever.
- P Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit!
- C Fill the hearts of your faithful people with your love. Alleluia!





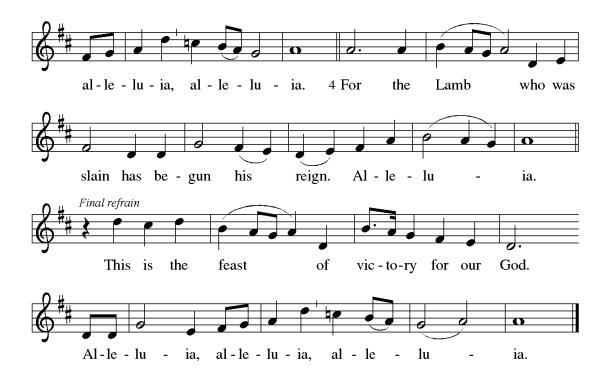
Text: German hymn, 15th cent., st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483–1546, sts. 2–3; tr. composite Music: KOMM, HEILIGER GEIST, HERRE GOTT, Enchiridion, Erfurt, 1524

THE 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.







PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

P Let us pray.

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, 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: Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

A A reading from Acts, the 2nd chapter.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

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

PSALM 104:24-34, 35b READ RESPONSIVELY

- ²⁴ How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
- Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.
- ²⁶ There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan which you made for the sport of it.
- ²⁷ All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.
- ²⁸ You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
- ²⁹ When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
- ³⁰ You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.
- May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works.
- ³² You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.
- 33 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.
- ³⁴ May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.
- 35b Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Romans 8:14-17

Here Paul speaks about the mystery of baptism: through the Holy Spirit we are claimed, gathered, and welcomed into Christ's body, the church. And we receive a new name in our adoption: child of God.

A A reading from Romans, the 8th chapter.

- 14 \mathcal{F} or all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For 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!" 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and 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.
- A The word of God. The Word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please stand.



Text: attr. Rhabanus Maurus, 776-856; tr. John Cosin, 1594-1672 Music: VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS, Sarum plainsong, mode VIII

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.

- P The Holy Gospel According to John, the 14th chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

⁸ Philip said to [Jesus,] "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. [

²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."]

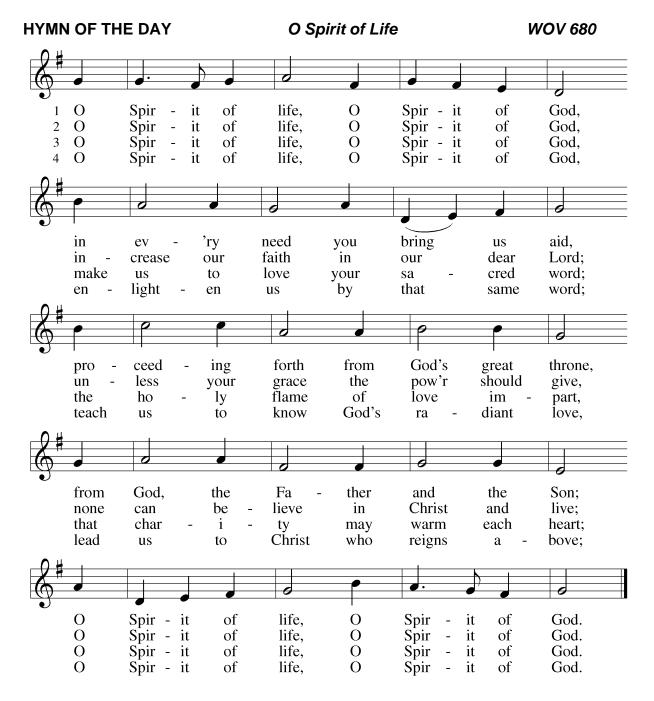
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON Pastor Niederer

Silence for Meditation

Please stand.



Text: Johann Niedling, 1602–1668; tr. John C. Mattes, 1876–1948 Music: O HEILIGER GEIST, *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623



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

NICENE CREED

C 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 Janet Thalmann

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church and our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the New Jersey Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian community, our friends from the Light & Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere. as they live out their callings to serve. Continue to inspire our sharing of the Gospel and equip us to tear down the barriers we have erected. Make our welcome expansive, intentional, and open to loving challenge. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for Pastor Ron Miller as he celebrates his 50th anniversary of ordination today. We give thanks for his many years of leadership in the church and in the wider community. Continue to guide and bless him.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We pray for creation. Allow fire to burn safely in habitats where it's needed and quench flames when they threaten to run wild. Protect forests, prairies, and grasslands from destruction by natural forces or human misdeeds. Safeguard firefighters and rescuers in their dangerous work.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We pray for courts and legislatures. Write your commandments on our hearts, and inspire all who govern to lead with love over retribution. Unite judges, lawyers, and systems of justice in a desire for reconciliation.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We pray for the sick in body, mind, or spirit, including those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*). Lift up all who have been bowed low by circumstances or internal strife. Bring to wholeness those who cry out to you in need.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We pray for this congregation. Raise up in us a deep desire to live out our baptismal promises and to support those of all ages in our shared journey of faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in you. Let their lives encourage our own daily living. Console us with the promise of eternal life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

- P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior
- C Amen.

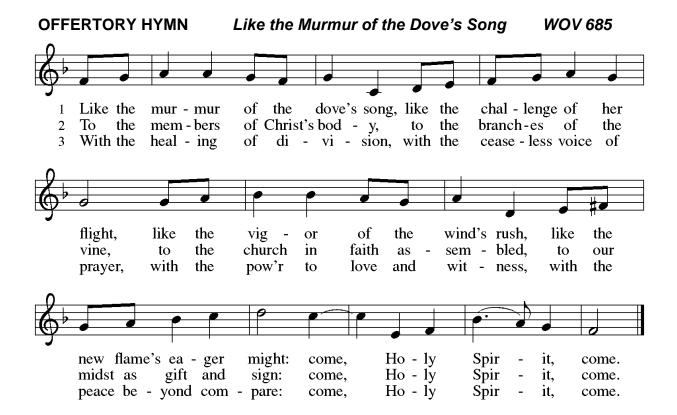
PEACE Please stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.

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

Please be seated.

OFFERING

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



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BRIDEGROOM, Peter Cutts, b. 1937

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Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

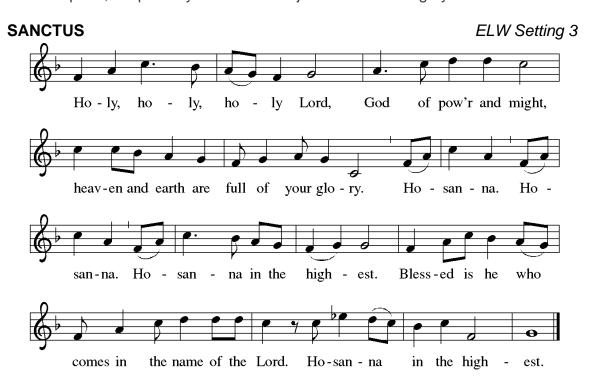
- A Risen One,
 - you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
- C Amen.

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.

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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Please kneel or be seated.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

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.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and Holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

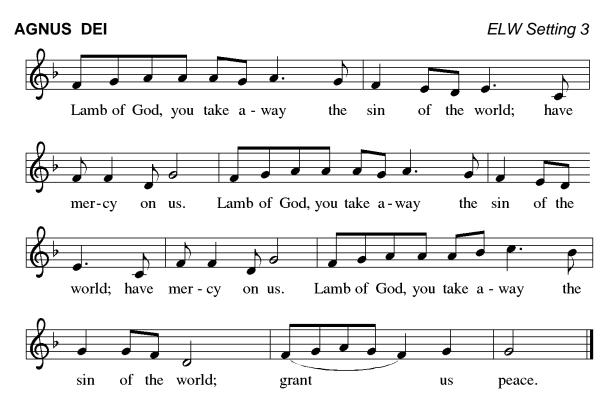
THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us:
- 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 Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Come to the table where all are welcome.





COOKE / YAFFE FAMILY MARC YAFFE HAS COMPLETED INSTRUCTION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION. HE AND HIS FAMILY WILL BE FIRST TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION THIS MORNING. AFTER THEY RECEIVE, OTHERS MAY COME FORWARD.

CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

Please come forward for Communion beginning with those in the back pews, from alternating sides, leaving adequate space between you and the person in front of you.

Masking is optional but recommended as you come forward to receive the wafer & cup until you step 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 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

ELW 204



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



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



Send us with your prom-is - es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with



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.

Living One,

in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C Amen.

BLESSING

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.
- C Amen.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand.



Text: Danish folk hymn, c. 1450; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001 Music: DEN SIGNEDE DAG, Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842

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DISMISSAL

- A Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE:

Messiah, HWV 56: No. 44, "Hallelujah Chorus: George Frederic Handel

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY TO

George Francois, Guest Organist
Pastor, Greeter
Julie Buckingham, Liturgical Cantor
Kaitlin Shinholster, Liturgist & Reader
Janet Thalmann, Prayers of Intercession
Lynn and Julie Buckingham, Altar Guild

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the gift of the Holy Spirit.



Following Mass Today

In the Memorial Room



Via Zoom Thursday, June 12th, at Noon

A Comparison of the Gospel Passion Narrative Connection link & Readings will be emailed



PRAYERS

Joan Costello (Jackie's mother-in-law & Kaitlin's & Lindsay's grandmother); Doris Baumann, Dale Lambson, and Family as they grieve the loss of Carol; Darla Lambson (leukemia); Brad Gohmann (cancer); Zulema's friends and family: Donald Lazlear and his family, Katie and Surella Borowski; Rose Davis (cancer); Marc & Bella Yaffe and Leslyn Cooke; Susan Bethke (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); Marion Soohoo (Will's Mother-in-law recovering from surgery); Sue Papera's friends and Arlene Rizzo (cancer) and Arlene's family; Chris Palmer (health concerns); Caleb (mental health issues); Jenny L. (health issues); Carol Mulvaney (breast cancer); Michael Mulvaney (prostate cancer); Edward Foley (back surgery); Janet's family and friends: Janet Thalmann; Jason and Paul Thalmann; Beverly Philip (severe dementia), Kathy O'Brien, Bert Maltz (health concerns), Michele Rusciano; Al & Mark Crovatto; Anita & Harold Bontekoe (health concerns), Hana Kim (health concerns); Fred Lewis (health concerns); Mary Ellen's family and friends: Susan Beever; Dominick Capalba (6 year old with brain cancer); Patty Fitzgerald (terminal lung cancer); Kay Roseen's family: Jessica and Casey O'Neil (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law who work for the State Department); Marcia & Chuck Hendron (Kay's parents - memory care); John Steffen (Lorli's brother with health concerns); Tammy (Lorli's niece with an immune disorder); Judy Letwink (Lorli's nephew's Mother-in-law recovering from a stroke); Erika Ilgenfritz (health concerns); James Ilgenfritz (Erika's son); Peter Schelbli (Erika's nephew with cancer); Friends of the congregation: **Arouss Darpinian** (health concerns); Chris Niederer (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); Nancy & Don Barbee (Pastor's friends with lung cancer); Dennis Keohane (Catherine's uncle); Willi Lewis' Aunt Kelly (health concerns); Donna Maxwell (recovering from hip surgery); James Mingo (Donna's grandson with health concerns); Mary **Sue Kaplow** (health concerns); **Gail Storero** (recovering from shoulder surgery); (baby) Chris (Ruth DiCicco's daughter) & Bob Wheeler; Jeanne H. (Lorli's sister with health issues); Krystyna Kirsch; Alison (Ali) Krasnow & Family; the hostages in Gaza; Christians under persecution and all experiencing violence, captivity, or war: the people of Haiti, Israel, Gaza, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Ukraine, Russia, Afghanistan, Sudan, and organizations and individuals who are providing resources, care, and relief for refugees; front line workers, medical researchers; health care workers; national and regional relief workers and firefighters and all affected by natural disasters and wildfires.

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



COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Columba, died 597; Aidan, died 651; Bede, died 735; renewers of the church

Monday, June 9, 2025

These three monks from the British Isles helped keep the light of learning alive during the Middle Ages. Columba founded three monasteries off the coast of Scotland. Aidan was a pastor who led people to works of charity. The Venerable Bede was a Bible translator, historian, and hymnwriter.

Barnabas, Apostle Wednesday, June 11, 2025

Barnabas was not numbered among the twelve apostles, but the book of Acts gives him that title. After Paul was converted to Christianity, Barnabas welcomed him to Jerusalem, and later the two traveled together on missionary journeys.

Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, died 379; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, died around 385; Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, died around 389; Macrina, teacher, died around 379 Saturday, June 14, 2025

The Cappadocian fathers, as the three men in this group are known, explored the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Basil's monastic rule forms the basis for Eastern monastic life. Gregory of Nazianzus defended orthodox Christianity in Constantinople. Gregory of Nyssa, Basil's younger brother, wrote on the spiritual life. Macrina, older sister of Basil and Gregory of Nyssa, was the leader of a community dedicated to asceticism, meditation, and prayer.

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