



Holy Trinity

LUTHERAN CHURCH

N A R B E R T H

Growing in Faith - Making a Difference - Open to All

The Fourth Sunday in Lent **March 19, 2023**

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Christopher Ertelt, Organist and Choir Director; Rob Tucker, Men's Section Leader

Virtual choir: Meredith Beck, Emily Bigelow, Lauren Cupples, Christopher Ertelt, Dawn Falato, Elizabeth Fenton,
Sarah Gliko, Paul V. Patanella, Brittney Marquand Sedgwick, Daniel Smith, Rob Tucker

You are a child of God and you are welcome here: whatever your faith commitment, experience, or level of doubt, mental or emotional health, physical abilities, financial or employment status, race, ethnicity, or primary language; whatever your gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. We welcome you whether you are a parent or caregiver; whether you are a fussy baby, an energetic toddler, a 'tween, or a teen; whether you are an inquisitive young adult, exhausted adult, or wise senior citizen; whether you are single, in a relationship, married, divorced, or widowed; whether you struggle with an addiction to drugs, alcohol, or anything else. We welcome you however you found us: on the internet, from your neighbor or friend, or passing by our Giving Garden. We welcome those who hurt and those who celebrate, those who worship every week or just this once, and in whatever you choose to wear. We extend a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now. We welcome you to join us as we grow in faith through worship, study, and friendship. We welcome you as we seek to make a difference through combating food insecurity, ministering with those in need, and committing to racial equity. And we welcome you to help us be fully open to all. Whoever you are and wherever you are from, you are a child of God and you are welcome here.

+ GATHERING +

Prelude

"I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ"

J. S. Bach

Welcome

Confession & Forgiveness

L: In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

C: **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Holy One,
C: **we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.
Have mercy on us!
Forgive us and turn us again to you.
Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.
Amen.**

L: Beloved in Christ,
the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.
In ✝ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.
C: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at-ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen-tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf-fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris-'ners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn-ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm-ing storms and feed - ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem-ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Greeting:

- L: 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.**

Kyrie:

Leader




In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.


Assembly



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have




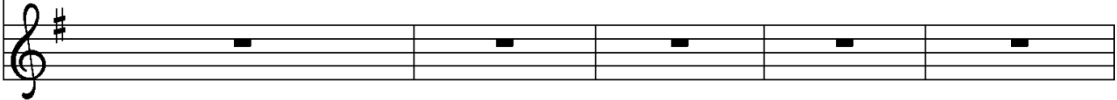
For the reign of God, and for




mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.




peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the




Lord. For your



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your



word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

Prayer of the Day:

- L: Let us pray together...
- C: **Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

L: A reading from the letter to the Ephesians, the 5th chapter.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

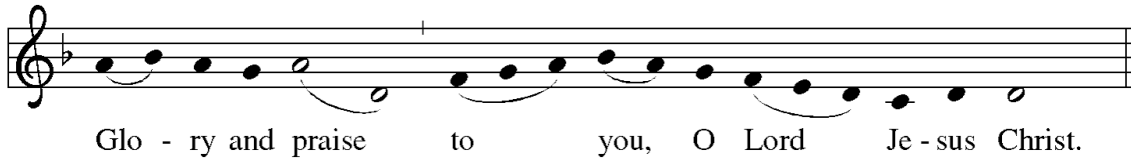
“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:



Gospel Reading: John 9:1-41

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 9th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents

said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Pastor Dan Smith

Hymn of the Day: Lead Me, Guide Me

Refrain



Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;



for if you lead me, I can - not stray.



Lord, let me walk each day with thee.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.



1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,



to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.



Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.
I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.
Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.



Refrain
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Apostles' Creed:

L: Let us make public profession of our faith together, reflecting on the love of God in Christ Jesus.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers:

L: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve, especially the family and friends of Doris Jane. Be with Dottie, Harvey, Linda, Sue, Frank, Alesha, and Rob. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: God of history, with thanksgiving we remember the people of faith who have cared for your people, especially Doris Jane Starankovic. We praise you for the ways they have formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

The Peace of Christ:

L: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share a sign of peace with one another, as you are comfortable.

Anthem:

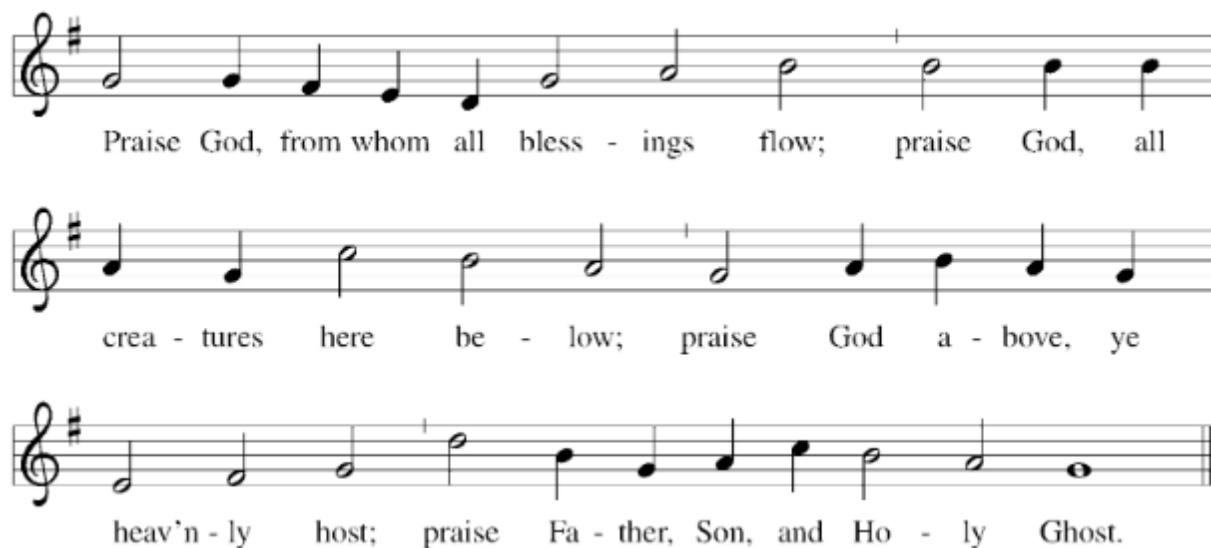
I Have Felt the Touch of God

Lloyd Larson

You are welcome to use this QR code if you wish to donate online, or to go to our church website.



Doxology & Offertory Prayer:



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Offertory Prayer:

- L: Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
- C: **Amen.**

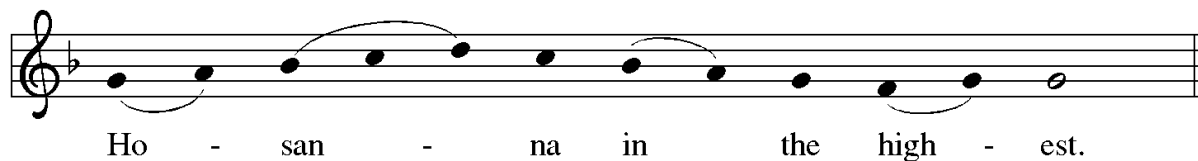
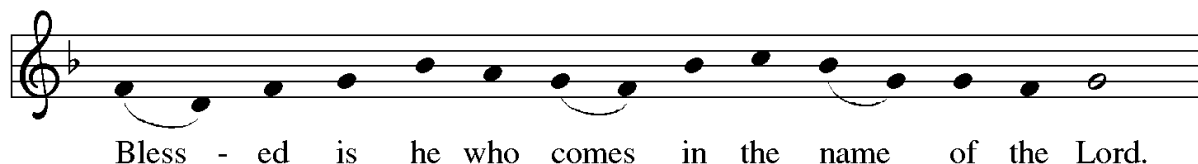
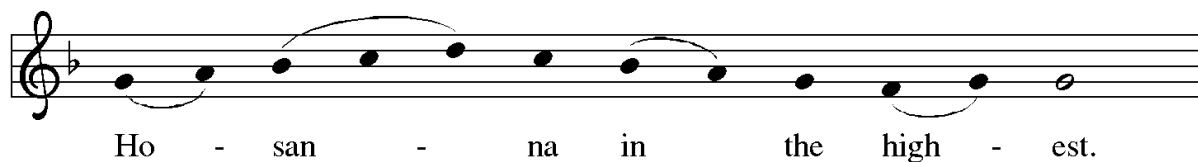
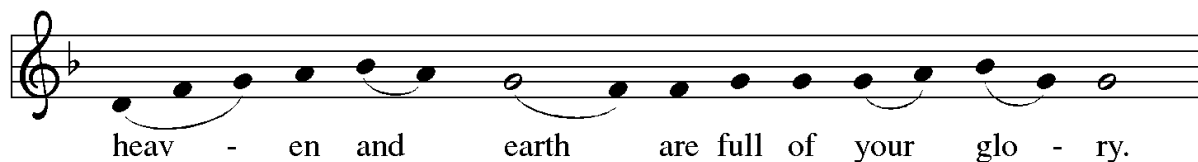
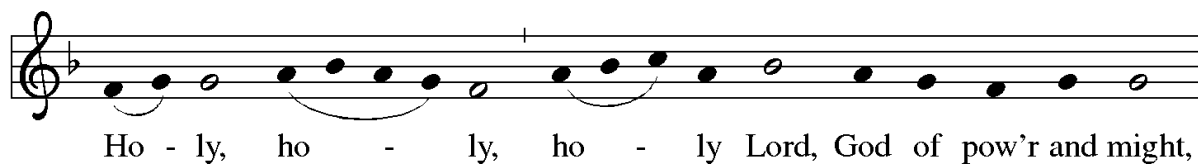
+ MEAL+

The Great Thanksgiving:

- L: The Lord be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**
- L: Lift up your hearts.
- C: **We lift them to the Lord.**
- L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Proper Preface:

L: 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:



L: 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.

L: In the night in which he was betrayed, when he gave himself up for the life of the world, 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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

L: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember his self-giving love. We look with hope for his coming.

C: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

L: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us and help us to endure the challenges of life. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

L: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

L: Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion:

L: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

Communion Song:

Eat This Bread

Jacques Berthier

Prayer after Communion:

L: Let us pray. Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and reach out to the world with your love.

C: **Amen.**

Announcements

+ SENDING +

Benediction:

L: You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. May Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✚ bless you this day and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Dismissal:

L: Go in peace, follow Christ. Grow in faith, make a difference, be open to all.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Fugue in C minor

J. S. Bach

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Happy Birthday to: Betsy Stout (3/22), Matt Grimaldi (3/24), and John Sargent (3/25).

Holy Trinity's Prayer List

Dottie Adams

Harvey Davis

Sue Steiger

Frank Wick

Linda Wieteha

Alesha Brophy

Rob Tucker

Georgette, her daughter Kara, and Chuck

Marbury Hooey

John & Rosemary (friends of Pat Brubaker)

June Duncan

Annette Steiger (Dave Steiger's sister)

Martin Eichner (Gloria Eichner's son)

Margie (Jan Doan's friend)

Eleanor Crissman (Bob Catherman's sister)

Joseph Davis

Winifred Joyce (friend of the Hoffmans)

Peter Stein (friend of the McCluskeys)

Danelle VanInstendal (friend of the Steigers)

Heinrich Mengel - cousin of the Hoffmann Family

Donna Dutten (daughter of June Duncan)

Peter Stein and Michelle Murdock (Peter's wife)

Louise Jackson (cousin of Julie Ackerman)

Jody and Alan (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Marian and family (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Carol Devine ("adopted sister" of the Hoffmans)

Oriana Eichner (Gloria Eichner's granddaughter)

Pr. Kris Peterson

Mary Fran (friend of Dorothy McCluskey)

Tara Echelmeier Dolan (friend of Julie Ackerman)

Condolences to the Starankovic family on the passing of Doris Jane.

Friends and Relatives

Bettina Chavanne (friend of the McCluskeys)

Kellie & Bob Coombs (friends of Anne Hoffman)

Vincent Sangmeister (Mary Williamson's brother)

Fran Gebhart

Sharon Neall (Hall family member)

Beth Brady (Kristine DelMonte's co-worker)

Norma DelMonte (Tom's mother)

Cindy and Bobbie (cousins of the Hoffmann's)

The Houghs (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Linda Baldi-Boyd

Cheryl & Donna (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Kelly (Carolmarie Scanlon's sister in law)

Beth Ann Force (friend of Louise Hoffman)

Want to add someone you love and care about to the prayer list? Contact the church office anytime.