

## COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sanctity of Life Sunday January 19, 2024

**Our Mission...** Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to the changing of lives through Jesus Christ by helping others find salvation in Jesus Christ.

**AS WE GATHER** Today we observe Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. The theme for our service today is "Life Shines in Darkness." St. John writes, "In him was life, and the life was the light of all humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:4-5). God loves and values all human life, from the baby in the womb to the oldest person among us. We are called to walk in the light of Christ and to defend all human life. As we speak up and defend life, the darkness will not overcome this powerful voice for Life. **GUESTS ARE ESPECIALLY WELCOME!** 

#### RINGING OF THE BELLS AND WELCOME

**OPENING HYMN** 

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

LSB 802

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest to both great and small In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all; We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree And wither and perish but naught changes Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight; All laud we would render: O help us to see 'Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.

#### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works

of darkness and put on the armor of light. Romans 13:12

People: God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 1 John 1:5

Pastor: And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people

loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. John

3:19

People: You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of

your presence. Psalm 90:8

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

All: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor miserable sinner, confess

to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy, and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be

gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained

servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

**PSALM** *Psalm* 27:1-2, 5-6, 13-14

Pastor: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Pastor: When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,

People: my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

Pastor: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

People: he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon

a rock.

Pastor: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,

People: and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and

make melody to the Lord.

Pastor: I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord

People: in the land of the living!

Pastor: Wait for the Lord;

People: be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was

LSB 906

in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**HYMN OF PRAISE** "O Day of Rest and Gladness"

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light, O balm of care and sadness, Most beautiful, most bright; This day the high and lowly, Through ages joined to bless, Sing, "Holy, holy, holy," The triune God confess.

This day at earth's creation The light first had its birth; This day for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth; This day our Lord victorious The Spirit sent from heav'n, And thus this day most glorious A threefold light was giv'n.

This day, God's people meeting, His Holy Scripture hear; His living presence greeting, Through bread and wine made near. We journey on, believing, Renewed with heav'nly might, From grace more grace receiving, On this blest day of light.

That light our hope sustaining, We walk the pilgrim way, At length our rest attaining, Our endless Sabbath day. We sing to Thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son; The Church her voice upraises To Thee, blest Three in One.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray... O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus

Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened

the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Pastor: Strengthen us in the confidence that because He lives, we shall live also,

and that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come will be able to separate us from Your love, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

## **OLD TESTAMENT** Isaiah 9:2-7 (The promised Messiah brings light to the world.)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## **EPISTLE READING** Ephesians 5:6-13 (God's children walk in the Light.)

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 1:1-14 (*The true Light has come into the world.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

#### **NICENE CREED**

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \* of the world to come. Amen.

**SERMON HYMN** 

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

LSB 849

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light; Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight. Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease, Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word; Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand; From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place. Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done; Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

SERMON "A New Beginning" John 1:1-14

**PRAYERS** 

Pastor: O Lord, our Heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, the fruit of

Your Spirit is love. Grant us to know that You have made all humankind for relationship and community and grant us to receive both our neighbor's life

and our own as gift and privilege. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: The fruit of Your Spirit is joy. Your Son has come among us as Savior that

we may find delight in You and in each other. By the blessings that come from sharing life together, especially Gergory, Sue, Owen, and Bob who mark birthdays this week and Josh and Ducky who celebrate their anniversary, move us to rejoice with them in Your daily care and blessing.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor:

The fruit of Your Spirit is peace. Let the authorities of our people respect the sanctity of every human life and let the laws of our land reflect it. Drive away all complacency and cowardice from us that we may undertake civic action and public service to secure the welfare of the vulnerable. Lord, in Your mercy.

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: The fruit of Your Spirit is pat

The fruit of Your Spirit is patience. Visit with the presence and power of Your Son any who experience surprise pregnancy, terminal diagnosis, infertility, or any other affliction. For His sake relieve quickly that they recover completely and strengthen them to wait upon Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: The fruit of Your Spirit is kindness. Work repentance, forgiveness, and

healing in the hearts of those broken by the abortion of their own children or any other sin against the sanctity of human life. Keep us from ever viewing death as a solution to difficulty and put our trust in Your words and

ways. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: The fruit of Your Spirit is goodness. Remove the evils of abortion, abuse,

abandonment, euthanasia, suicide, embryo destruction, discrimination, and all other forms of violence from among us. Make us instead to abound

as You do in charity, goodwill, and fellowship. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: The fruit of Your Spirit is faithfulness. Embolden us to give voice to the

worth and purpose of every person, no matter what age, appearance, or ability, and to hold fast this Gospel confession even under opposition and

ridicule. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: The fruit of Your Spirit is gentleness. Endow our witness with courage and

compassion, that we speak the truth of God in humility and show the love of Christ in servanthood. Soften and reform the hearts that advocate or entertain immorality until they stand beside us as sisters and brothers.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: The fruit of Your Spirit is self-control. Move us to expose and expel all the

works of darkness by beholding and belonging to Your Light, even Jesus

Christ, our Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

(Special petitions may be offered here.)

Pastor: Heavenly Father, hear our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ Your Son,

who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

**OFFERING** (Please sign the Friendship Register.)

#### **SACRAMENT A**

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all

places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your

glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS "Holy, Holy, Holy" LSB, p. 161

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who come in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Holy and mighty God, in Your goodness, You made all things, woman for

man and man for woman, and established the family under Your grace and favor. In Your mercy, You bore with us sinners who deserved only condemnation and sent forth Your own Son to rescue us as Your own people and restore us as the people of Your delight. With thanksgiving for all that our Savior did by His own self-offering in love on the cross, and living in hope because of His resurrection from the dead, we pray You to keep us as Your own sons and daughters, nourish us with the blessed food of Your body and blood, and bring us at last into the blest reunion of all Your family, gathered before Your throne on high forevermore.

People: Amen.

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST 1 Corinthians 11:26: Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's

death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and

blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to

pray:

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

All: 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.

#### **PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

**AGNUS DEI** "Lamb of God" LSB; p. 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** "The People That in Darkness Sat"

LSB 412

The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.

To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath'ring nations come; They joy as when the reapers bear Their harvest treasures home, Their harvest treasures home.

To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,
They joy as when the reapers bear All pow'r in earth and heav'n,
All pow'r in earth and heav'n.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord, The Wonderful, the Counselor, The God by all adored, The God by all adored.

His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend; On judgement and on justice based, His reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.

(stand) Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone, Who with the Father ever art And Holy Spirit, one, And Holy Spirit, one.

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

LSB 411

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, And show me the way to the Father. Refrain I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

## **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING** Psalm 118:1

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; **People:** for His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray... Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a

foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the

Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

#### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you

and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you

peace.

People: Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN** 

"Christ Be My Leader"

LSB 861

Christ be my Leader by night as by day; Safe through the darkness, for He is the way. Gladly I follow, my future His care, Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife; Death cannot hold me, for He is the life. Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## January 19, 2025

## ∞WEEKLY CALENDAR≪

MON	Northwest – No School		<u>THURS</u>	10:00am 2:00pm	Bible Study St. Anne's Worship	
<u>WED</u>	8:30am	Northwest Chapel				
<u></u>	7:30pm	Dartball	FRI	7:30pm	AA Meeting	

## SNEW THIS WEEK ≈

#### **END-OF-YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

End-of-year financial statements are in the church mailboxes. Please take a look at your statement and check for accuracy. If you have any questions, please call the church office Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thanks for supporting the mission of Covenant!

#### **DISASTER RELIEF - CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES**

LCMS Disaster Response is on the ground in the Los Angeles area, assessing the damage and providing assistance. If you would like to make a donation to help those affected, please donate at <a href="https://www.lcms.org/givenow/wildfires">www.lcms.org/givenow/wildfires</a>. Thank You!

#### **BOILER FUND**

Seider Heating will install a new two-boiler system as soon as possible with an approximate cost of \$77,000. We still need another \$5,000 to fully fund this project. If you are able to give an extra gift to help cover the cost of the new boiler system, please use the "Boiler Fund" envelopes found in the narthex. Boiler Fund has also been added to the online giving. Thank you!

#### **ALTAR FLOWERS - 2025**

The Altar Flower Chart for 2025 is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. If you would like to purchase altar flowers, please sign-up on the flower chart today and indicate if you are giving the flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion. Cost is \$27 and should be paid prior to the selected date by check or by scanning the online QR code below. *There are still openings on the Altar Flower Chart for February.* 

## ∞ MEETINGS & EVENTS ~

#### **COMMUNION SERVICE - FEBRUARY 5**

The monthly communion service will be Wednesday, February 5, at 1:30 p.m. This service is designed for those who can't get to church on Sunday morning, but all are welcome! Please join us for worship and fellowship and refreshments after.

## ∞ GENERAL «

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

We want all who commune with us to share our understanding of this sacrament; that Jesus offers His true body and blood for our forgiveness and salvation. (See 1 Corinthians 11:23-29.) If you are a visitor and wish to receive communion today, please speak with the pastor prior to the service. Gluten free wafers are available. We also offer alcohol-free wine for communion.

#### **ONLINE GIVING**



**Exciting News: Introducing Online Giving at Covenant!** We're thrilled to offer a new, convenient way to support our church and its ministries. You can now easily give your tithes & offerings and special donations, including contributions to our Food Pantry, through our online giving platform. Simply text "GIVE" to 414-404-9888 to receive a link or scan the QR code to access the portal directly. You can

also schedule recurring gifts using either method. We believe this will make it easier for everyone to contribute and stay connected with our mission. Thank you for your continued support and generosity! For assistance, please contact the church office.

## 

God provides power and strength for our daily lives through His Word. All members and friends are invited to join a Bible study group.

"Book of Exodus"	led by Bob Zeman	8:30am
"The Revelation of Jesus Christ"	led by Tom Buck and Jess Hardel	8:30am
"The Scriptures for the Day"	led by Pastor Voigt	10:45am
"Jr. Conf." (5 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	led by Karen Winefeld	10:45am
"Galatians"	led by Pastor Voigt	Thursday 10:00am

PREACHER: Rev. Steve Voigt

**ORGANIST:** Bill Laesch

A/V COORDINATOR: Ca'Marion Colson

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS: Joel Johnson & Dale Meyer

**READER:** Bob Zeman

**GREETERS:** James & Mai Kruse

Scan QR code for Online Giving

ATTENDANCE: Sunday, January 12 – 73

COUNTERS: Team 1

**OFFERINGS:** Current - \$9,420.54; Special - \$1,055.00; Needed Weekly - \$9,910.81

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Boiler Fund Total: \$3,280.00

## **SERMON OUTLINE**

# "A New Beginning" John 1:1-11

**Introduction:** The traditional Gospel reading for this Sunday of the Church Year is the story of Jesus' first miracle. At a wedding in Cana, Jesus turns water into wine. A wedding is the beginning of a new relationship. In our baptism into Christ, we are made new!

#### I. God is the Giver of Life.

- Today we remember that God is the Giver of life, that He loves and values all human life. Our lives are precious to Him.
- Abortion ends a human life. Our society today places little value on human life. This is true for the unborn child and it's true for the very old and infirm.

#### Jesus Entered This World of Death and Sadness.

- Many women (and men) have been devastated by the sin of abortion.
   Many are haunted by nightmares, sadness, and depression.
- All who are troubled by sin and guilt need Jesus. He offers forgiveness to all who confess their sins, mercy from the God of all mercy. Jesus paid for all sin by His death on the cross.

## III. The Role of the Church Today is Vital.

- We live in such a turbulent time. The lines between right and wrong, good and evil, are blurred and even erased. Often, we have turned a blind eye to the evil around us and have failed to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.
- We must speak out and defend life. There is only One whom we follow, One who can save us, One who can teach us right from wrong.

**Conclusion**: Only in Jesus can we battle the devil successfully. Only in Jesus our Savior do we find forgiveness for our sin and the assurance of eternal life in a better world without any evil and violence. Jesus gives us a new beginning today and every day. He will one day bring us to the heavenly banquet hall where we will experience joy that never ends!

## WEEKLY PRAYER SHEET January 19, 2025

"Pray continually in all circumstances, for this is God's will in Christ Jesus." (1 Thess. 5:17-18)

#### I will pray for:

- Those recovering from illness, injury or surgery including Kenneth Kosche, Pee Wee Schmidt, and Pastor Ron Meyer.
- 2. Those receiving treatment for cancer Dawn, the daughter of Diana Gutknecht, Joel Smith, Gail Tatro, Bonnie Gellert, and Ron Schroeder.
- 3. Those with long-term care needs Jadee Krueger, Jana McDonnell, Marcia Hottinger, Mario Carini, Eric Winn, Dennis Eiff, Betty Rasmussen, Carol Munz, Henrietta Cloyd, Marion Braatz, Tyler Yang, Odessa Flagg, Dylan Wangard, Herb Onasch, Beth Sellars, and Jonathan Tock, grandson of Mario and Karen Carini.
- 4. The President and other elected and appointed leaders of our nation, state, and communities, those who serve in the Armed Forces of our nation including Covenant member Jonathan Buck and Andrew Tock, grandson of Mario and Karen Carini; fire fighters and police officers who serve and protect our local communities.
- 5. The mission of the Church; missionaries Pastor David and Valerie Federwitz who are serving with Lutheran Bible Translators; Pastor Matt and Kali Wood who are back in Indonesia to continue their mission work there.
- 6. Those affected by natural disasters like hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes, floods, and the California wildfires, political unrest, victims of injustice, violence, and abuse; the poor and homeless, those affected by war in Ukraine and war in the Middle East.
- 7. Those celebrating birthdays this week: Gregory Nummerdor, Sue Dettmann, Owen Nummerdor, and Bob Zeman.
- 8. Those celebrating wedding anniversaries: Josh & Ducky Voigt.
- 9. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders who fought for justice and equality for all people.

10.

We pray that as we take advantage of God's invitation, we will truly be a congregation that is Powerful in Prayer