

# Faith Lutheran Church

January 27, 2019



## Jesus Teaches at the Synagogue in Nazareth

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# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



- To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .  
..we **Gather** in faith for worship, prayer,  
study and fellowship  
..we **Equip** the people of God with a faith  
that works in real life  
..we **Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ
- 



## Faith Lutheran Church's Welcoming Statement:

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as a child of God. As Paul said in his letter to the Galatians, “for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26)  
We strive to be a place where everyone is welcomed and affirmed.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, faith background, political leanings, or mental or physical ability - you are welcome as you are. As children of God, we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide.

### Email address

faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

### Websites

Faith Lutheran Church ≈ [www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org)  
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ [www.mittensynod.org](http://www.mittensynod.org)  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

### Facebook

[facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos](https://facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos)

You also can find the audio available on Faith’s website under worship  
Sermons

## **RIC Sunday**

Today we celebrate RIC Sunday. This Sunday is recognized ecumenically throughout the welcoming church movement. For faith communities that have made a public stand in welcoming people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, this Sunday is set aside to highlight our shared ministry of hospitality and reconciliation.

We celebrate and recommit ourselves to being fully inclusive and welcoming to all God's people. As you worship today, reflect on how you live your life to reflect God's love and how it is for all people. Review our welcoming statement and consider ways that we can fully live into our welcome for all.

Portions of our service came from ReconcilingWork's 2019 Reconciling in Christ Sunday resource. The materials were created by adults and youth of The Naming Project. The mission of The Naming Project is to create places of safety for youth of all sexual orientations and gender identities where faith is shared, and healthy, life-giving community is modeled.

The Naming Project Summer Camp is for 14-18 year-olds or those who have completed 8th-12th grades who are of any sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, who are interested in discussing and understanding sexuality and gender in terms of their own spiritual journey and are excited to spend time with other teen campers and staff while canoeing, swimming, hiking, singing, and doing arts and crafts.

**Sunday, January 27, 2019**

RIC Sunday

3rd Sunday after Epiphany, Year C

**Introduction to the day**

The glory of the Lord is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of the glory of God. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

*If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.*

*The ushers also have large print copies of today's worship folder available.*

*If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.*

*There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.*

**WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS**

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.  
Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

**PRELUDE**

“Bouree”

(Handel)

Rachel Ngasala, violin

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## GATHERING

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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
Who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**Our hearts are broken. We don't know how to love properly.  
Our trust is broken. We cannot earn it faithfully or give it freely.**

**Our community is broken. We cannot love our neighbor as ourselves.**

**We confess that we are both the victims and the perpetrators of our brokenness.**

**We implore you, dear God:**

**Break the cycle of brokenness.**

**Provide the grace and trust that we cannot provide.**

**Open our eyes to our neighbors who are near to us, and those who are far away.**

**Heal our hearts.**

**Restore our trust.**

**Build our human community.**

**Amen.**

God created you, knows you intimately, and calls you "Good." As a minister of Christ, I proclaim that God loves you and forgives all your sins.

But this absolution is not just for you. We live as forgiven in cycles of oppression. As forgiven Children of God, created in God's image, our forgiveness creates our ability to fight the unjust system we find ourselves in.

Go forth as created, known, and loved people, forgiven to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim God's favor.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

*All are Welcome*

*ELW #641*

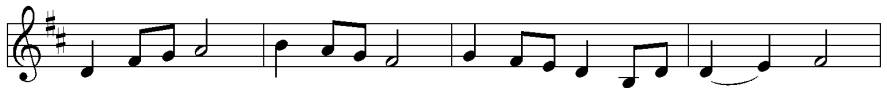
**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**



# CANTICLE OF PRAISE



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Naming God, you sent your Beloved Child to us to dissolve the binaries between clean and unclean, holy and unholy, human and divine, saved and unsaved, and even death and life. Grant that we, following in your Child's footsteps, may see our whole lives as Scripture, so the coming of your Kingdom may be witnessed in the way we love one another beyond binaries. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Companion and Protector.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated*

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## WORD

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*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

*The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that the joy of the Lord is their strength.*

A reading from Nehemiah.

<sup>1</sup>All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup>Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup>Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup>So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep."



For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

<sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

*The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.*

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer

together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31a</sup>But strive for the greater gifts.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21**

*Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON (by Rich Weingartner)

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*We Are Called*

***ELW #720***

## CREED

With the whole church

**We affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.**

With people everywhere

**We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.**

With all creation

**We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.**

## Prayers of Intercession

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*Prayers of intercession are prayed.*

*To each petition, the assembly responds:*

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers,  
and the assembly responds:*

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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## MEAL

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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING

“Speak, O Lord”

(Ferguson)

### OFFERING RESPONSE



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**God of all creation,  
all you have made is good,  
and your love endures forever.  
You bring forth bread from the earth  
and fruit from the vine.  
Nourish us with these gifts,  
that we might be for the world  
signs of your gracious presence  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

Spirit of Life and God of Many Names, we give you thanks and praise that you have poured out your grace upon us, now in this moment. It is through grace that you have called us all, in our many differences and vocations, to be together in this moment and offer our common prayer to you. You love us so much that, even when we are dead in our sin and incapable of wholly loving, you send Jesus our Brother and Teacher to dwell amongst us. We praise you, because you have promised that whenever a few of us are gathered together in the name of liberation and love, that the Spirit of Jesus is already there in the midst of us.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

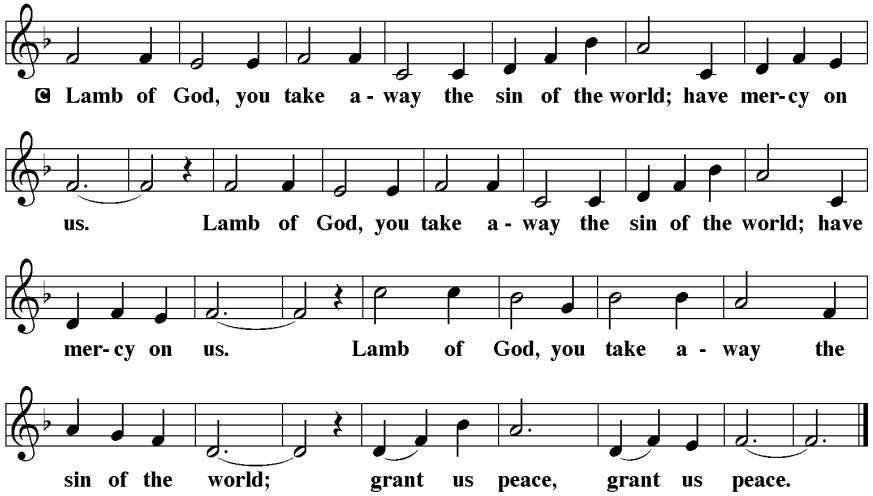
Hunger no more. Thirst no more.  
Come to the banquet of life.

### **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
Amen.



## COMMUNION SONG



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*One Bread, One Body*

*ELW #496*

**“Given  
for  
you.”**



# CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Chancel Choir will sing verse 1, congregation joins for verses 2 – 4.*

## For All the Children



1. God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2. Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3. Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4. God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the pro-mise of Your love.  
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,  
shame so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.  
wide, can live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will  
that they nev - er have a rea - son to doubt that they are  
May the mess - age now be ban - ished that Your love is for the  
As they grow in strength and sta - ture, may they join us hand in



be, when your chil - dren will be free.  
blest. May they, in Your love, find rest.  
few, may their faith in You re - new.  
hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.



O, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e-nough for ev-'ry-one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

Text: David Lohman  
Music: David Lohman

DavidLohmanMusic.com

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The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

We thank you, O God,  
that you have fed us at your banqueting table  
with bread and wine beyond compare,  
the very life of Christ for us.  
Send your Spirit with us now,  
that we may set the captive free,  
use your gifts to build one another up,  
and in everything reflect your glory  
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

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*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **BLESSING**

In work and worship

**God is with us.**

Gathered and scattered

**God is with us.**

Now and always

**God is with us.**

God is with you - of whom shall you be afraid? May you go out into the world filled with Spirit of the God who made you, loves you, and empowers you to live fiercely.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

*We All Are One in Mission*

*ELW #576*

## **DISMISSAL**

*(heavily adapted from Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals)*

In the name of the divine Trinity, let us pray.

God, you have called us into being through love.

You have joined us to one another in love.

How good and pleasant it is when your people dwell together in unity.

Shine your light upon your LGBTQIA children, that we can see the glory of eternal life.

Grant each of these individuals the strength to carry your blessing from this place to the next.

May they be at home in any land, for all the earth is yours.

May their hopes be set on your kin-dom of justice and peace.

May the lamp of your word guide their feet on the unsure paths of life.

Our lives are but a breath, but our breaths are drawn from your divine Spirit.

You have created us as walking paradoxes. Specks of dust and divine-image bearers.

We are constantly restless until we rest in you.

Grant them a deeper fullness of being and spirit,  
by carrying the memory of this time and this place in the coming journey.

May their work ahead be fuller in glory and joy, now bearing new shape,

as our work transforms and supplements one another.

Go in the peace of Christ to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

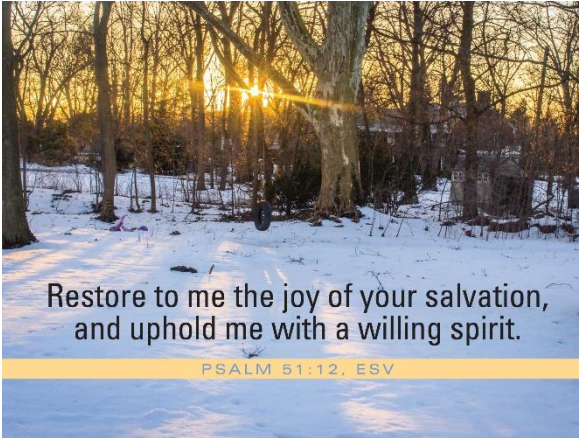
“All are Welcome”

arr. Schmoltze

The annual meeting and luncheon will be held following the worship service in the large fellowship hall downstairs. All are welcome to join.



**ANNUAL MEETING**



Siblings in Christ, welcome to worship! May your time in the Lord be rich and blessed.

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Secretary	Katie Love	klove@faithlutheranokemos.org
High School Director		Katie Love
Trinity/Middle School Director		Maddie Wosinski
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

**Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the narthex.**

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January 20 Attendance: 91

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	January 27	February 3
Serving Faith	Kaden Steinke	open
Acolyte	Cecelia Kramer	Peggy Crum & Nina Schrote
Altar Care	Kaden Steinke	open
Communion Assistants	Brenda Kopf	Brian Ransom
	Rich Weingartner	Bob Shorman
Greeters	Marla Holle	Ken & Karen Whitmyer
Readers	Brenda Kopf	Brian Ransom
Lay Assistant	Rich Weingartner	Bob Shorman
Ushers	Gerard/Milne	Doug & Linda Hirt
Nursery	O'Briens	Melinda & Lauren Schultz
Coffee Hosts	Heidi Magyar	Nina Schrote

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**Altar Flower Dedications:**

**Sunday, January 27:** Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Pastor Ellen in honor of Kim O'Brien and her gifted leadership as president of this congregation over the past year.