

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



Boy offering a greeting of namaste (the god in me sees the god in you)
Simikot, Nepal; photo by Cora Edmonds

February 12, 2023 + 10:00 am

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.
- Please silence your cell phone.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Bind Us Together, arr. Joel Raney

Welcome



Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment

1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,

Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.

Refrain

Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.

Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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This hymn's refrain includes words meaning peace from other religious traditions. Shanti (Sanskrit) is pronounced "shahn-tee" and is used in Hindu and Buddhist traditions. Pax (Latin) is pronounced "pahks." Shalom (Hebrew) is pronounced "shuh-lohm" and means peace, wholeness. Maslaha (Arabic) is pronounced "muhs-lah-hah" and means reconciliation.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

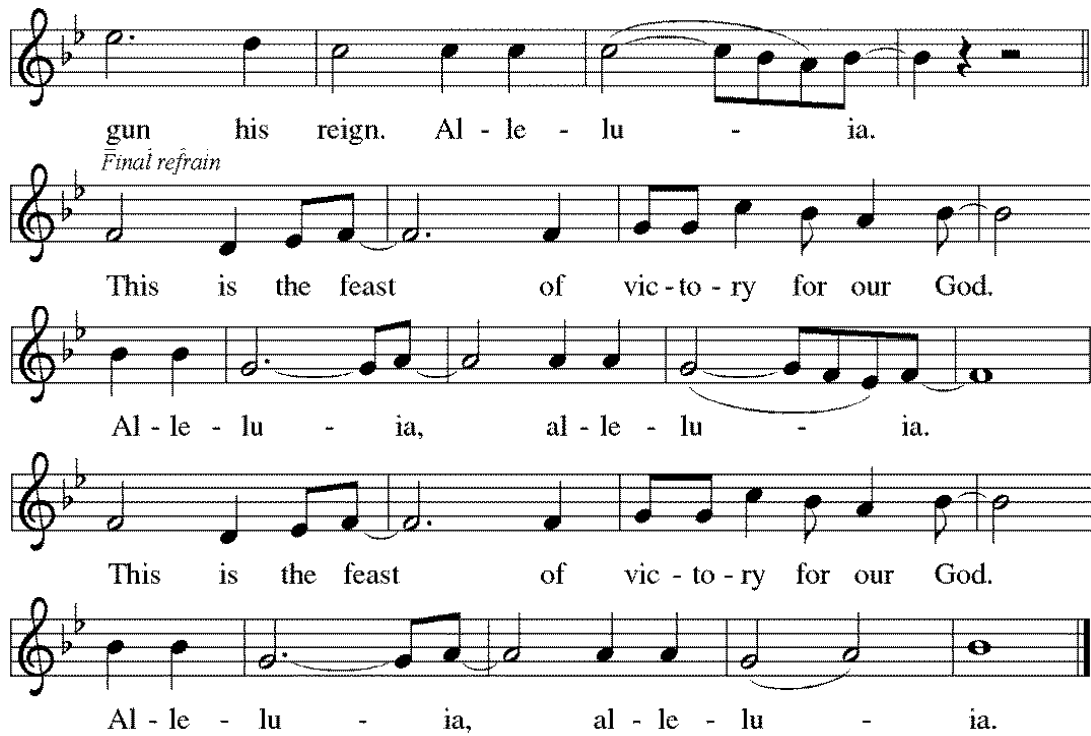
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Please be seated

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading **Deuteronomy 30:15-20** (The Message, inclusivized)

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Look at what I've done for you today: I've placed in front of you

Life and Good

Death and Evil.

And I command you today: Love God, your God. Walk in God's ways. Keep God's commandments, regulations, and rules so that you will live, really live, live exuberantly, blessed by God, your God, in the land you are about to enter and possess.

But I warn you: If you have a change of heart, refuse to listen obediently, and willfully go off to serve and worship other gods, you will most certainly die. You won't last long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

I call Heaven and Earth to witness against you today: I place before you Life and Death, Blessing and Curse. Choose life so that you and your children will live. And love God, embrace your God, and listen obediently. Oh yes, God is life itself, a long life settled on the soil that God, your God, promised to give your ancestors, Abraham and Sarah.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!

**Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,**
who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.

**You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.**

Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!

**Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.**

I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

**I will keep your statutes;
do not utter-ly forsake me.**

Please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Matthew 5:21-24, 33-37 (The Message)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

"You're familiar with the command to the ancients, 'Do not murder.' I'm telling you that anyone who is so much as angry with a brother or sister is guilty of murder. Carelessly call a brother 'idiot!' and you just might find yourself hauled into court. Thoughtlessly yell 'stupid!' at a sister and you are on the brink of hellfire. The simple moral fact is that words kill.

"This is how I want you to conduct yourself in these matters. If you enter your place of worship and, about to make an offering, you suddenly remember a grudge a friend has against you, abandon your offering, leave immediately, go to this friend and make things right. Then and only then, come back and work things out with God.

"And don't say anything you don't mean. This counsel is embedded deep in our traditions. You only make things worse when you lay down a smoke screen of pious talk, saying, 'I'll pray for you,' and never doing it, or saying, 'God be with you,' and not meaning it. You don't make your words true by embellishing them with religious lace. In making your speech sound more religious, it becomes less true. Just say 'yes' and 'no.' When you manipulate words to get your own way, you go wrong."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Message

WHAT LANGUAGE DO YOU SPEAK?

Ministry of Music

“Lord, Lead Me, Lord”

Gilbert M. Martin
Senior Choir

Shepherd and guide me, stay close beside me,
Lord, lead me, Lord;
Tend and protect me, bend and direct me,
Lord, lead me Lord.

REFRAIN

Last in my sleeping, first in my day,
Ever my Master, always my Way;
Touch me completely, hear when I pray; “Dear
Lord, lead me, Lord, lead me, Lord.”

Anchor and hold me, shape and remold me,
Lord, lead me, Lord;
Pilot and steer me, comfort and cheer me,
Lord, lead me, Lord. *REFRAIN*

Lord lead me, lead me in thy righteousness,
Make they way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only,
That makest me dwell in safety.

Stanza 1 and REFRAIN

Apostles Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Kathleen Zwanziger, Laura Warren's brother Walt Hudson, Jennifer Young and family on the death of her mother-in-law Shirley, Julie Larson and husband Eli receiving cancer treatment in Houston

The people of African International Lutheran Mission, Columbus; Redeemer community members Elizabeth George and Paul Voytas

Children's Time

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We take time to greet one another with words like Peace be with you.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

In body or spirit, please stand

Offertory

Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

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Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.
We lift them to the Lord.**

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

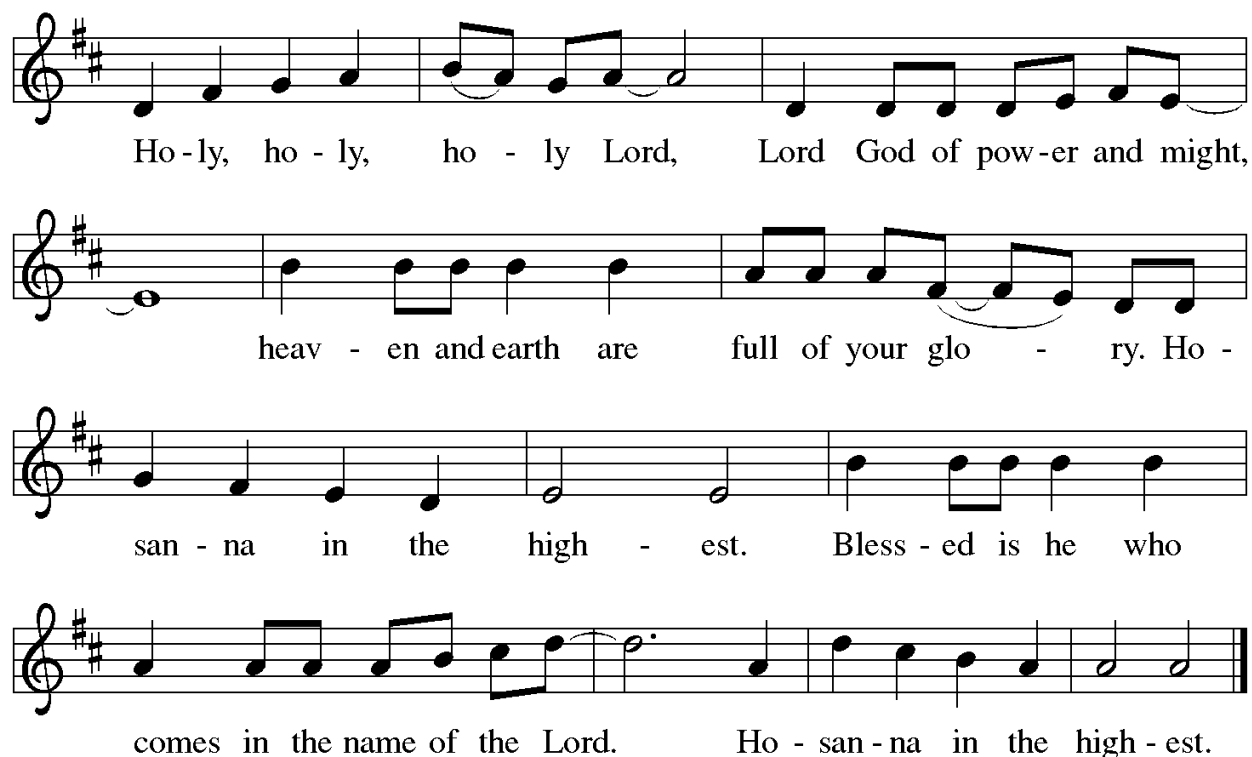
In a refugee child playing under a star, in an unknown young man requesting baptism, in a wandering preacher refreshed by water from a woman's hand, God was waiting to be recognized and known, to transform seeing and change the world.

In the routine smallness of everyday life, in the painful uncertainty of struggle and transition, in the timeless grace of hospitality, and the gifts of bread and wine, God is waiting to be recognized and known, to transform our seeing and change our world.

Here, at this table, under the welcoming light of a morning star, the God of epiphanies waits to be encountered. So – though you may be weary and worn by your journey or stained and sore with travel – look up and see the star, lay aside your packs, and enter with joy for God waits here – to refresh and renew, to comfort and restore, to challenge and transform, to know, and be known.

Now, gathered around this table, we recall and recount how the Epiphany God appeared in the actions and words of Jesus as he shared a last supper with his friends in which Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take this and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me." And after supper, Jesus took the cup and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. As often as you drink this, do so to remember me."

Recalling and treasuring these things, we join our voices with those of all creation to recognize and celebrate the grace and goodness of God present and at work in the world.



Epiphany God, send down your Holy Spirit now on us, and on these gifts of bread and wine – that we might recognize and know you present with us here, and in receiving the gifts of your love find ourselves renewed. By this meal, renew our commitment to make real the prayer Jesus teaches:

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.
 So do we.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.

Hymn

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.
 Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.



Hymn

O Living Bread from Heaven

1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
 2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
 4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here

The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
 and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
 And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
 my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;

O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
 for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
 My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
 and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,

My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
 the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
 and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
 where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Emmanuel – bright Morning Star: Gift us with the grace and generosity to respond freely and fully, whatever you might ask of us. So may our loving and living become places of epiphany where you can be recognized and known, and the transforming life of your Kingdom unleashed.

Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,
the peo - ple of our God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—
The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,
the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.
The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.
Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing
to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

I Sing the Mighty Power of God, arr. Mark Hayes

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Communion liturgy adapted from one written by the Rev. Bill Loader of the Uniting Church in Australia.

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Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all
Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community

Adult Education
Sundays in February – 11:15 am
Brad Binau
*recently retired Professor of Pastoral Theology
Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University*

**"EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE, ALL AT ONCE:
GOD AND THE COSMIC STORY"**
"For the creation waits with eager longing..." Romans 8:18 (NRSV)
"All around us we observe a pregnant creation." Romans 8:22 (The Message)

Week #1: *Your God Is Too Small* and Why I Got Interested in All of This
Week #2: *As It Was in the Beginning: The Big Bang and God after Darwin*
Week #3: *Is Now: Time and God After Einstein*
Week #4: *And Evermore Shall Be: The Future and a Big-Enough God*

IN-PERSON and ZOOM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86928691370?pwd=VkrHYXRiTI10aG9tcjFDRGJFQTJldz09>
Meeting ID: 869 2869 1370 +++ Passcode: 603299
Phone Only: 312-626-6799

EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY

- **7.8 magnitude quake struck early February 6**
- **Hundreds of lives lost and buildings destroyed**
- **Urgent needs include food, shelter and water**

YOU CAN HELP NOW!
lwr.org/quake

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

JUDGES
STORIES OF DELIVERERS

"The Book of Judges"
Bible Study
Tuesdays – 1:00 pm
Beginning January 31

Join us in-person or on Zoom, from 1-2:30
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89816662484?pwd=UnpVZHV3M2ZTSW14K1R1VnRySXIiQT09>
Meeting ID: 898 1666 2484= Passcode: 072258
Phone only: 646-876-9923



Monthly Sunday School for all ages!
 Sunday, February 12 == 11:15 am
 Meeting with Middle / High School
 Students and Parents



Coffee and Conversation

Wednesday February 15

10:00 AM-11:30 PM – Narthex

Honest exploration of questions about faith and life



A Brewing Faith

Tuesday, February 14, 6:30 pm

Conversation and fellowship

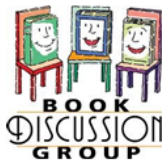
Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89679620020?pwd=Mk4wYWJlZk2MUVNSTJEelM0VGtGQT09>

[YWJlZk2MUVNSTJEelM0VGtGQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89679620020?pwd=Mk4wYWJlZk2MUVNSTJEelM0VGtGQT09)

Meeting ID: 896 7962 0020- Passcode: 162684

Phone only: 312 626 6799



Wednesday, February 15

7-8:30 pm

Dancing on the Edge of the Roof

by Sheila Williams

Copies are available in public libraries.

IN-PERSON and ZOOM

<https://us02zoom.us/j/86581504887?pwd=ZkFSV2tKM2xEd3dyK1RvSURJYlFuZz09>

[2tKM2xEd3dyK1RvSURJYlFuZz09](https://us02zoom.us/j/86581504887?pwd=ZkFSV2tKM2xEd3dyK1RvSURJYlFuZz09)

Meeting ID: 865 8150 4887 +++ Passcode 274918

Phone Only: 312-626-6799



Birthdays this week:

14 - Kurt Goshen

15 - Nancy Ehrich

16 - Heidi Carman

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Mary Benis
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal / Kiara Santiago
Reader	Kathleen Zwanziger, Marit Johnson
Cantor	Connie Criswell
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Michael Benis
Verger	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
Producers	Sue Yehling, April Smith
Communion Prep	Eileen Day, Nancy Magargal, Michelle Clemence

*Flowers are given by **Kathleen Zwanziger**, in honor of **Jeremy Hutton**.*

Noisy Offering will go to CHOICES for Victims of Domestic Violence.

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER FEBRUARY 12 - 19

Today	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
	11:15 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday	1:00 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study
	6:30 pm	ZOOM a Brewing Faith
Wednesday	10:00 am	Coffee and Conversation
	7:00 pm	Book Group
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
	11:15 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	1:00 pm	Confirmation Class at Pastor Dave's home

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Office hours –9am-1pm, M-W and F
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America