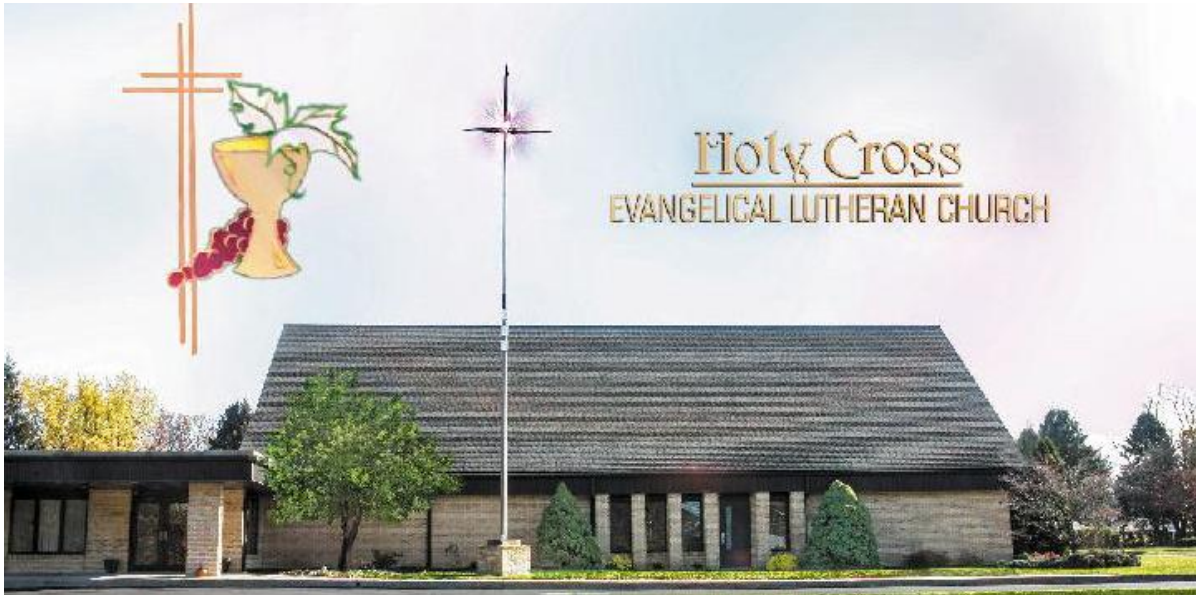


Full Service Bulletin



HOLY COMMUNION JUNE 16, 2023 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." (Psalm 122:1)

PRELUDE AND PREPARATION

*During the prelude, prepare your heart for worship: read the introduction, peruse the bulletin, find the scripture readings in the pew Bible, and focus your thoughts on the Lord. You may pray: **Almighty God, You provide the true bread from heaven, Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Prepare us to receive His body and blood, that abiding in Him, and He in us, we may be filled with the power of His endless life. Amen.***

CHILDREN

We welcome children of all ages. The Children's Library is available if a child needs a break during the service.

INTRODUCTION

For the next three Sundays, the gospel readings present the image of the seed. Though it is very small and seemingly insignificant, the seed contains its entire future; with light and nourishment it will grow and prosper. The seed is a vital image of faith in God, baptism, a congregation's life, the word, and the great paradox at the center of Christian faith: God brings flourishing life out of what appears to be little, dormant, even dead. It is a primary image of faith's central mystery: the dying and rising of Christ. There is ground for hope here.

WELCOME AND MEDITATION

GATHERING HYMN *(Please rise.)*

"This Is My Father's World" (Maj # 73 - favorite)

Maltbie D. Babcock

TERRA BEATA English Melody
Adapted by Franklin L. Sheppard

1 This is my Fa - ther's world, And to my lis - tening ears
2 This is my Fa - ther's world, The birds their car - ols raise,
3 This is my Fa - ther's world, O let me ne'er for - get

1 All na - ture sings, and 'round me rings The mu - sic of the spheres.
2 The morn - ing light, the lil - y white, De - clare their Mak - er's praise.
3 That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.

1 This is my Fa - ther's world: I rest me in the thought Of
2 This is my Fa - ther's world: He shines in all that's fair; In the
3 This is my Fa - ther's world: The bat - tle is not done; Je -

1 rocks and trees, of skies and seas— His hand the won - ders wrought.
2 rus - tling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me ev - ery - where.
3 sus who died shall be sat - is - fied, And earth and heaven be one.

INVOCATION (*= All may make the sign of the cross.*)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: AMEN.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, to Whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: AMEN.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God Who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Please kneel. Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.)

P: Most merciful God,
C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. AMEN.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

C: GREETING (*Please rise.*)

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

C: And also with you.

WE PRAISE GOD'S NAME

With one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
"Let all the peoples praise him." (Romans 15:6,11)

HYMN OF PRAISE "This is the Feast" (ELWp140)

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was

slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Refrain

II Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and

strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

Refrain

I 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.

Refrain

II For the Lamb who was

slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**
 L: Let us pray together: **C: Almighty God, we thank You
 for planting in us the seed of Your word. By Your Holy
 Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it,
 and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus
 Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN.**

RESPONSIVE READING.....Psalm 119:105-112

(congregation reads indented)

Your word is a lamp to my feet

and a light for my path.

I have taken an oath and confirmed it,

that I will follow Your righteous laws.

I have suffered much;

preserve my life, O LORD, according to Your word.

Accept, O LORD, the willing praise of my mouth,

and teach me Your laws.

Though I constantly take my life in my hands,

I will not forget Your law.

The wicked have set a snare for me,

but I have not strayed from Your precepts.

Your statutes are my heritage forever;

they are the joy of my heart.

My heart is set on keeping Your decrees

to the very end.

PRAISE SONG “Thy Word” (Maj # 318 - favorite)

Amy Grant
Based on Psalm 119:105

THY WORD
Michael W. Smith

Unison

Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

2nd time rit. *2nd time Fine*

Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

The musical score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The first system is marked 'Unison' and the key signature has one flat (Bb). The second system has a key signature of three sharps (F#). The third system has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and includes performance directions: '2nd time rit.' and '2nd time Fine'. The lyrics are repeated in each system.

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

For everything was written to teach us, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

FIRST READINGGenesis 25:19-34.....Pew Bible pg. 38

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READINGRomans 8:1-11.....Pg. 1756

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Please rise.)*

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil” (ELW # 512 - Handt Hanson)

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o - pen to the seed of your
word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where
love can grow and peace is un - der - stood. When my heart is hard,
break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th Chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPELMatthew 13:1-23.....p. 1516

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON *(Please sit. See outline in Announcements insert.)*

“Claiming Your Birthright”

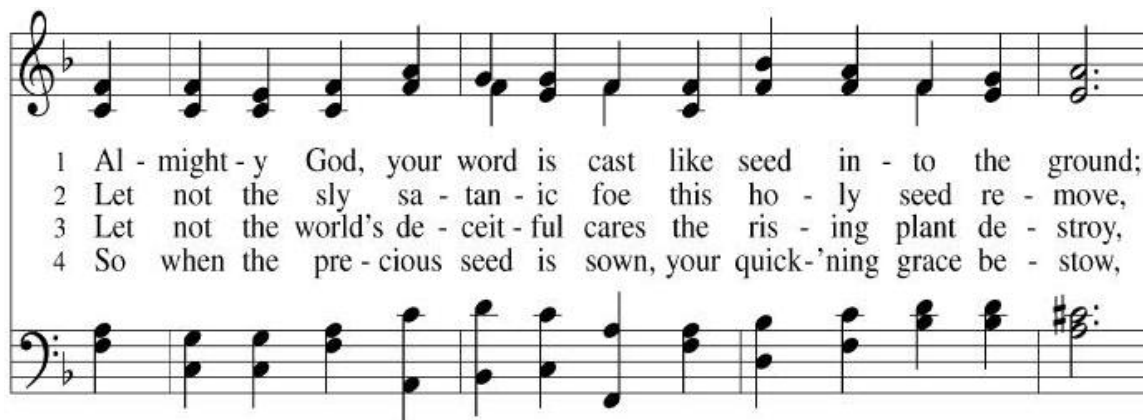
WE RESPOND IN FAITH

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.

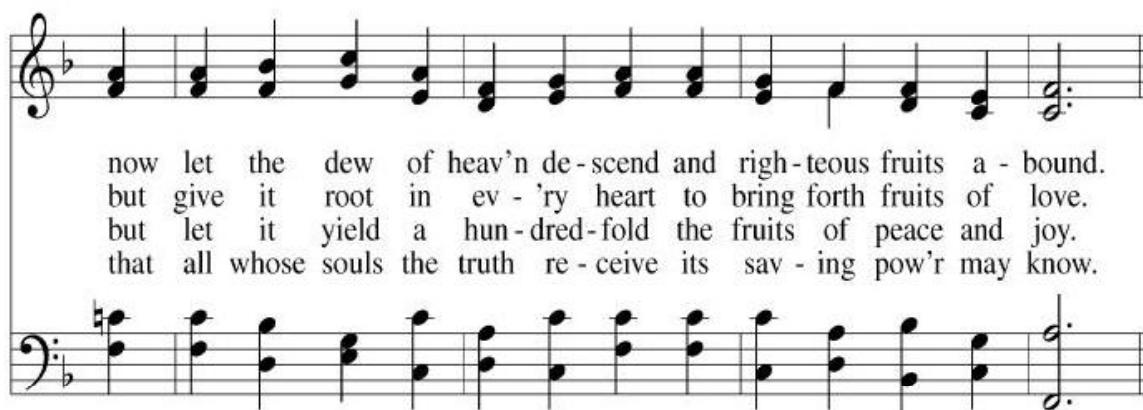
(Romans 15:13)

HYMN OF THE DAY *(Please rise.)*

“Almighty God, Your Word is Cast” (LBW #234-ELW #516)



1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, your quick - 'ning grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.

Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, Psalter, 1562

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the scriptures; He ascended into heaven and

is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Please kneel.)*

(Response: L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)

OFFERING

We no longer pass the plate, but your offerings are needed more than ever. The plate is located at the back of the center aisle. Please place your offering and your Communication Card there as you come in or go out. Thank You!

WE COMMUNE WITH CHRIST

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. (1 Corinthians 11:26)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Please rise.)*

P: The LORD be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the LORD.**

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord; Who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn: *(WOV p 22)*

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

PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. In great love You sent to us Jesus, Your Son, Who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, Who preached good news to the poor, and Who, on the cross, opened His arms to all.

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 in 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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await His coming in glory. Pour out Your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all Your people in the body of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(sung)*

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. AMEN.

COMMUNION *(Please be seated)*

P: Come to the table and taste of God's goodness and mercy. *All who are baptized and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior may partake. Please fill out a communication card and put it in the offering plate. We have returned to kneeling for communion by "tables." People who want to minimize contact and maintain greater physical distance can take a pre-filled glass and stand a foot back from the altar rail. For a gluten-free rice wafer (blue-green) say "Rice." Grape juice (white) is in pre-filled glasses. Those not ready to receive communion may come for a blessing.*

LAMB OF GOD *(WOV p39)*



☪ 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.

COMMUNION HYMNS *(sung while others are receiving.)*

1. "We Eat the Bread of Teaching"

(ELW # 518 - Text: Omer Westendorf; Tune: Jerry Ray Brubaker)

Refrain

We eat the bread of teach-ing, drink wine of wis-dom, are
giv-en here a taste of the king-dom. To-geth-er
joined, the great-est and the least, we all are
one at Wis-dom's ho-ly feast.

1 Wis-dom calls through-out the cit-y, knows our
2 Sim-ple ones whose hearts are yearn-ing, come and
3 En-ter with de-light and sing-ing, for her
hun-ger, and in pit-y gives her lov-ing in-vi-
gain from Wis-dom's learn-ing; bread and wine she is pre-
rich-ness now is bring-ing us this joy-ous cel-e-
Refrain

ta-tion to the ban-quet of sal-va-tion.
par-ing, know her lov-ing in the shar-ing.
bra-tion; eat and drink in ju-bi-la-tion.

2. "I Am Loved" (Maj # 458 - favorite - William & Gloria Gaither)

1, 2, 3 I am loved, I am loved, I can risk lov-ing you For the
4 You are loved, you are loved, you can risk lov-ing, too, For the

1, 2, 3 One who knows me best loves me most. I am loved, you are
4 One who knows you best loves you most. I am loved, we are

1, 2, 3 loved— Won't you please take my hand? We are free to love each
 4 loved— Won't you please take our hand? We are free to love each

Fine

1, 2, 3 oth - er— we are loved.
 4 oth - er— we are loved.

1 All I had to bring was im - per -
 2 I said, "If You knew, You would - n't
 3 For - giv - en, I re - peat it, I'm for -

1 fec - tion;
 2 want me;
 3 giv - en;

There was so much more I lacked than I pos -
 My scars are hid - den by the face I
 Clean be - fore my Lord I free - ly

1 sessed.
 2 wear."
 3 stand.

I could hard - ly com - pre - hend His
 He said, "My child, My scars go
 For - giv - en, I can dare for - give my

D.C.

1 of - fer:
 2 deep - er;
 3 broth - er;

I'd give all I had—He'd give the rest.
 It was love for you that put them there."
 For - giv - en, I reach out to take your hand.

WE ARE SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! (Isaiah 2:5)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(Please remain seated.)*

L: Let us pray together: **C: Almighty God, You provide the true bread from heaven, Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of His body and blood may abide in Him, and He in us, that we may be filled with the power of His endless life, now and forever. AMEN.**

(All those helping with VBS please stand in place.)

INSTALLATION OF VBS STAFF

P: Dear Christian Friends, baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we all are called to offer ourselves to the Lord of the Church in thanksgiving for what He has done and continues to do for us. It is our privilege to recognize and support those engaged in the ministry of teaching, presenting the Gospel to children through Vacation Bible School.

P: Thank you for giving of your time and talents for this important ministry of the church. Will you endeavor to discharge your responsibilities faithfully, following our Lord's example of humble service?

R: We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: And you, people of Holy Cross Church, will you support and pray for the VBS Team as they diligently minister this week?

C: We will.

P: The Vacation Bible School ministry is now committed to you in the name of the triune God. May you be fully equipped and enabled by the Holy Spirit, to accomplish all that the Father desires these next six days as you faithfully serve Him to the glory of Jesus Christ.

C: AMEN.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **C: AMEN.**

SENDING HYMN *"On What Has Now Been Sown"*

(SBH # 193 - Text: John Newton; Tune: John Bacchus Dykes)

PASSING THE PEACE

L: As we leave to serve the Risen Lord in the power of His Spirit, let us share with one another some of the blessings of peace we have received. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

In moderate time

1. On what has now been sown Thy blessing, Lord, bestow; The
power is thine a - lone To make it spring and grow; Do thou the
gra - cious har - vest raise, And thou a - lone shalt have the praise. A - men.

2 To thee our wants are known,
From thee are all our powers,
Accept what is thine own,
And pardon what is ours;
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,
And to thy word a blessing give.

3 O grant that each of us,
Who meet before thee here,
May meet together thus
When thou and thine appear,
And follow thee to heaven our home;
Even so, Amen, Lord Jesus, come! Amen.

POSTLUDE

FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS

*Everyone is invited to remain for fellowship and refreshments.
Snacks, coffee and hot water are available in the Gathering Place.
You can brew your own coffee/tea using the Keurig® in the Parlor.*

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE SPONSORED BY:

Holy Cross to the glory of God

BULLETINS ARE SPONSORED BY:

*Bettie Tkacik
in honor of Ed's Birthday*

JULY 16, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SERVANTS OF THE LORD THIS WEEK

GREETERS: 8:30-Adam Barlow / 10:45-Irene Graham

SOUND SYSTEM: 8:30-Chris Chmela / 10:45-Ken Yoxheimer

LIVESTREAM: 8:30-Jan Stryker

PROJECTOR: 8:30-Karen Brown 10:45-Jim Femister

SONG LEADER: 8:30-Bella Zyskowski

LITURGIST: 8:30-Jonathan Miller / 10:45-Lyn Stryker

LECTOR: 8:30-Ruthann Kistler / 10:45-Lyn Stryker

USHERS: 8:30-Jan Stryker / 10:45-Irene Graham

COMMUNION: 8:30-Josh Miller, Mike Zyskowski, Jonathan Miller
/10:45-Lyn Stryker

ALTAR GUILD: Alyce Stein, Patty Stein

PHONETREE: Jonathan Mosebach

GRASS CUTTERS: Tom Barlow, Larry Wonderly, Melissa Yalch

COUNTERS: Karen Brown, Jan Stryker

HOSPITALITY: Holy Cross Social Ministry

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Mike Zyskowski

PRAYER CARE: call Pat Gilbert (610) 867-7759

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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. David L. Brown, *Pastor* † Ruthann Kistler, *Christian Ed. Dir.*
Nancy Cook, *Music Director* † Jonathan Mosebach, *Office Secretary*
Jim Steiner, *Sexton* † Karen Steiner, *Pre-school*
Lisa Wechsler, *Treasurer* † Glade Schroeter, *Webmaster*

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship - 8:30 & 10:45 AM † Sunday School - 9:45 AM
(*Holy Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays & Major Feasts*)

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