

September 17, 2017

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Our vision is to be an expanding community of faith, growing in the Holy Spirit, and practicing before the world a Christ-centered life.

Missionaries:	All the people of God
Music Director:	Art Hargrove
Instrumentalist:	Bradley Sowell
Church Secretary:	Deb Krahling
Church Office:	706-485-4600
Music Director's Cell:	706-473-1290
1089 Lake Oconee Parkway	Eatonton, GA 31024
lolcsec@plantationcable.net	<a href="http://www.lolc.info">www.lolc.info</a>

Aids for hearing, children's activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are available from the ushers



**WE OFFER NURSERY & CHILDCARE**

*If you need childcare, please see one of the ushers  
and we will happily accommodate you.*

**In Preparation of Holy Communion**

*We invite to the Lord's Supper all Christians who are baptized, who have  
communed in a Christian church, and who share our Lutheran understanding that,  
along with the bread and wine, we receive the body and blood of our living Lord  
Jesus – for the strengthening of our faith and witness.*

*The glasses in the very center of each tray contain grape juice for those who are  
not able to drink wine. Communicants may choose to receive the wine in an  
individual cup, from the Chalice or by immersing the wafer in the Chalice  
(intinction). It is very helpful to keep your empty glass visible so the Common Cup  
will not be offered.*

*Children who do not commune are invited to come for a blessing. Pastor asks that  
they fold their hands to show that they are not communing.*

*Ushers: Janis Lipacis & Walter Krause*

*Greeters: Eileen & Alan Oberdeck*

*Altar Care: Marcia Elkins & Loretta Hayes & Sharon Ross*

*Communion Assistants: Loretta Hayes & Dave Ringer*

*The Mulford family wishes to invite you for coffee after the worship service*

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*Pre-Service Music: This is time to turn our hearts & minds toward God in preparation of worship.*

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## **Choir Prelude: Thy Word**

**Welcome: Birthdays, Anniversaries, Welcome guests.**

*Please Stand*

## **The Peace**

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

**C: And also with you.**

*(You are invited to wish those around you God's peace. Please remain standing for the invocation.)*

## **Invocation**

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

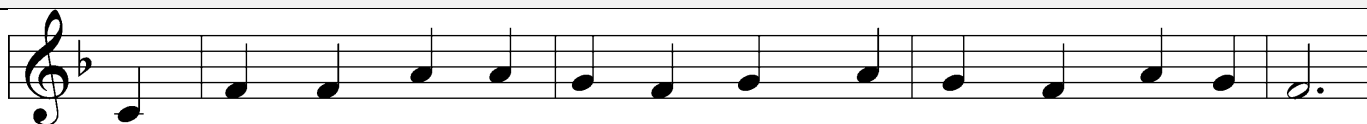
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His

sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Congregational Hymn** (To sing harmony, turn to # 549 in the Lutheran Service Book)

### All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;  
2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;  
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,  
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

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### Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: We pray for God's blessing as we Call a new pastor.

**C: Almighty God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on this Your Church in our time of transition. Give guidance from the Holy Spirit to all involved in the Call process. Our prayer is that, in Your good time and according to Your good plans, we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for Your people and equip us for witness and service to the world around us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*You may be seated*

**First Lesson –Genesis 50:15-21**

**Reader: Kayleen Ringer**

**Psalm 103:1-12**

P:<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,

**C: and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**

P:<sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,

**C: and forget not all his benefits,**

P:<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your iniquity,

**C: who heals all your diseases,**

P:<sup>4</sup>who redeems your life from the pit,

**C: who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

P:<sup>5</sup>who satisfies you with good

**C: so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

P:<sup>6</sup>The LORD works righteousness

**C: and justice for all who are oppressed.**

P:<sup>7</sup>He made known his ways to Moses,

**C: his acts to the people of Israel.**

P:<sup>8</sup>The LORD is merciful and gracious,

**C: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: <sup>9</sup>He will not always chide,  
**C: nor will he keep his anger forever.**

P: <sup>10</sup>He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
**C: nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

P: <sup>11</sup>For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
**C: so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

P: <sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west,  
**C: so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

## Second Lesson –Romans 14:1-12

Reader: Kayleen Ringer

*Please Stand*

### Common Alleluia and Verse

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.  
**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup> And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for

him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup> He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup> So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*You may be seated*

**Sermon**

**Rev. Larry Townsend**

**Congregational Hymn** (To sing harmony, turn to # 814 in the Lutheran Service Book)

**O Bless the Lord, My Soul**



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with - in me join  
 2 O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mer - cies lie  
 3 'Tis He for - gives thy sins; 'Tis He re - lieves thy pain;  
 4 He crowns thy life with love When ran - somed from the grave;



And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.  
 For - got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die!  
 'Tis He that heals thy sick - ness - es And makes thee young a - gain.  
 He that re - deemed my soul from hell Hath sov - 'reign pow'r to save.

*Please Stand*

## **Nicene Creed**

**C: 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.**

**Offering**

**Anthem**

**Bradley Sowell**

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*Please stand as the offering is brought to the altar.*

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# Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows a slight change in the melodic line, and the bass staff continues with its accompaniment. The lyrics are split across the two staves.

way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows a slight change in the melodic line, and the bass staff continues with its accompaniment. The lyrics are split across the two staves.

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows a slight change in the melodic line, and the bass staff continues with its accompaniment. The lyrics are split across the two staves.

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

The fifth system concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The bass staff also ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The lyrics are split across the two staves.

## Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray

P: Merciful Father

**C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, You sent Your Son to live a perfect life and die in our stead, to pay the price for our sins in order to reconcile us to You. Grant us to live in daily contrition and repentance, not despairing over our sin, but ever mindful of the reconciliation Christ won for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Almighty Father, just as Joseph forgave his brothers and provided for them and their families, let us forgive those who have sinned against us. Grant that we would share with them the Gospel of reconciliation in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Loving heavenly Father, look with mercy upon those who have been forced from their homes and seek refuge in our country. Let the love of Christ be evident in those who serve them, keep them safe from harm, and provide for their needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all comfort, be with those who are poor, homeless or destitute. Give them reassurance of Your care and provision, and fill them with hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Merciful Father, guard and keep all who are sick, lonely, overwhelmed by grief or poor in spirit, [especially \_\_\_\_\_], that they may be comforted and healed according to Your good and gracious will. Let them look to Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, in their time of need, and remind them that He is the Light no darkness can overcome. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, we come to Your table as servants who owe a debt we cannot pay. Thanks to Christ, that debt has been forgiven in its entirety. As we receive His very body and blood for our forgiveness, let us be ever grateful, that we may go out to serve others with that same spirit of forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Ever-living God, You gather to Your safe keeping the souls of those who have departed this world in the hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ. Receive our thanks for all the faithful departed, and grant that we may share with them the joys of Your everlasting Kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

### Preface

*LSB 177*

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 Him thanks and praise.**

### Proper Preface

P: 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

*LSB 178*

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*LSB 178*

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **The Words of Our Lord**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P: In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **Proclamation of Christ**

*LSB 179*

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: 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:

## The Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

**C: 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

LSB 180

**P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.**

**C: Amen.**

*You may be seated*

## Distribution

**Communion Hymn** (To sing harmony, turn to # 621 in the Lutheran Service Book)

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and  
2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As of old on  
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard  
4 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,  
earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,  
on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing  
sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence



For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -  
In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the  
From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to  
As with cease-less voice they cry: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.  
faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.  
van - quish As the dark - ness clears a - way.  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

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*Please Stand*

**Post-Communion Collect**

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## Announcements

*Please Stand*

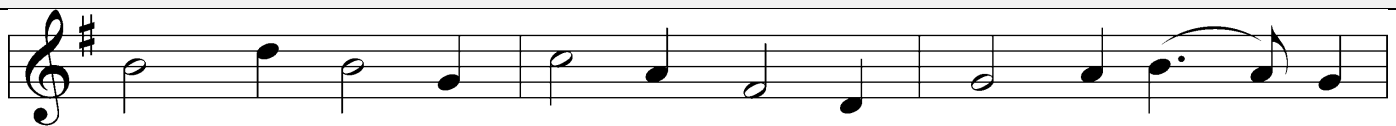
### Benediction

P: Almighty God, Father, Son ✠, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

**Congregational Hymn** (To sing harmony, turn to # 909 in the Lutheran Service Book)

### Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



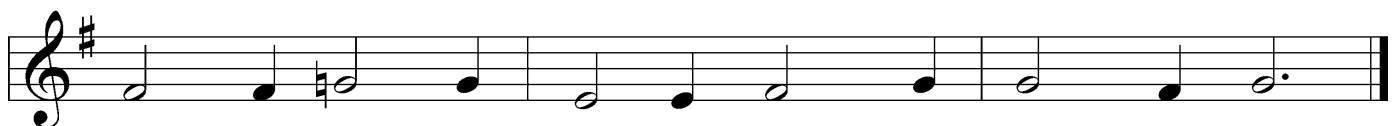
1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and  
2 To this tem - ple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of  
3 Grant, we pray, to all Your faith - ful All the gifts they  
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
hosts, and stay; Come with all Your lov - ing - kind - ness,  
ask to gain; What they gain from You, for - ev - er  
to the Son, Praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



Bind - ing all the Church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's  
Hear Your peo - ple as they pray; And Your full - est  
With the bless - ed to re - tain; And here - af - ter  
Ev - er three and ev - er one: One in might and



help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in these walls to - day.  
in Your glo - ry Ev - er - more with You to reign.  
one in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run!

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## The Dismissal

P: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

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### Post-service Music

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**THANK YOU TO REV. LARRY TOWNSEND** for leading us in worship today.

### **GOD'S BLESSINGS to all those celebrating birthdays this week:**

- Today, Sept 17<sup>th</sup> – Marge Braun  
Best wishes!

### **LET US PRAY FOR THE FAMILY OF THE WEEK: Loretta Hayes**

**CALL FOR USHERS:** we need 2 for each of the coming months. A signup sheet is on the round table. Thank you in advance for your service.

**ALTAR CARE NEEDED:** We need help for November & December. This is so important, especially when we have visiting pastors! Sign up now. The church doors will be unlocked on Sundays by 9:00 a.m. If you prefer, you can setup the altar prior to the worship service.



### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

TODAY	Council Meeting	after worship
Wednesday	Choir Practice	5:00 p.m.
Saturday	ECR Bible Study	3:30 p.m.
	ECR Service	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Adult Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	9:15 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:30 a.m.



**NEW FACEBOOK PAGE:** Lake Oconee Lutheran Church has a new Facebook page. Search "Lake Oconee Lutheran Church" and "like" our page for updates and information.

**REFORMATION CELEBRATION:** Lake Oconee Lutheran Church will be hosting a 500th Reformation Celebration on **Saturday, October 28 from 4 PM to 7 PM.** Join us for a German-style dinner, fun activities, and celebration with the community. All other congregations in the area will be invited, as well as the community. Be sure to invite your friends and family to this event! Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet on the back table. If you have any questions, contact Laura Shipman at 706-830-4809.





## ***Prayer Requests***

### **Those we keep in our prayers:**

Sue Amick  
Cathy Chambers  
Barbara Crawford  
Carol Dunn  
Mike Dunn  
Martha Glenn  
Donna Hansen  
Jim Kueven  
Phil Larsen  
Patsy Mahs  
Sandy Mathson  
Phil Riley  
Pastor Andy & Carol Schroeder  
John Zawislak  
Francis Cooper  
Wanda Davis  
Cindy Fritch

Nadine Haydon  
Cathy Hayes  
Cliff Leiter  
William & Nancy Mickler  
Roy & Joyce Miller  
Donald Mulford  
Ricky Newsom  
Dalton Pearce  
Carol Pope  
Larry Porter  
Jean Smith  
Beau Tyler  
Larry Wells  
Alexis Ward  
Ilene Wolfe  
Jody Worth

### **Those families who are grieving:**

The Mahs family  
The Sollenberger family  
The Fuller family  
The Hansen family

## **OUR VALUES AS A CONGREGATION**

### **Word and Sacrament –**

...believing in and making faithful and frequent use of the Bible, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper as the means by which God gives and sustains faith and empowers and strengthens us for Christian living.

### **Christian Education –**

...providing quality, Bible based instruction to foster greater understanding of God's Word and to better equip members for their discipleship.

### **Evangelism –**

...reaching out to others by word and deed to join in the sharing of God's blessings and grace, which is free to all believers.

### **Stewardship –**

...utilizing fully our time, talents, and resources to serve and love the Lord, furthering our commission of discipleship.

### **Fellowship –**

...caring for and sharing with our church family; fostering greater love, understanding, and concern for the physical and spiritual well-being of all brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

### **The window behind the altar is our EASTER SUNRISE WINDOW.**

The cross hanging in front of the window is an empty cross, reminding us that Jesus rose from the dead and is alive now to be with us here and always. Every Sunday is a celebration of Easter. The symbol on the front of the ALTAR is a combination of two Greek letters: the "chi," which looks like our English "x," and the "rho," which looks like our "p." In the Greek, these letters are the first two of "Christ." Combined as they are, they suggest the cross. Superimposed on the cross is a heart, the reminder that God's love for us is the reason Jesus died on the cross. God's love for us empowers us to share his love with others.