



## PRELUDE

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# GATHERING

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

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## B R I E F   O R D E R   F O R CONFESSIO AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Friends in Christ,  
in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call  
to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—  
all that keeps us from loving God and each other.  
This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church,  
God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation.  
On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor,  
and enter the celebration of the great Three Days  
reconciled with God and with one another.

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive 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.**

God, who is rich in mercy,  
loved us even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ.  
By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.  
**Amen.**

## **GREETING**

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

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray...

Holy God, source of all love,  
on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment,  
to love one another as he loves us.

Write this commandment in our hearts,  
and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all,  
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

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# WORD OF GOD

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

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*T*his evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

*Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another.*

*Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.*



# **FIRST READING**


*Exodus 12:1-14*

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## **THE PASSOVER OF THE LORD**

*Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.*

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he Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,

*<sup>2</sup>"This month will be the first month; it will be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole Israelite community: On the tenth day of this month they must take a lamb for each household, a lamb per house. <sup>4</sup>If a household is too small for a lamb, it should share one with a neighbor nearby. You should divide the lamb in proportion to the number of people who will be eating it. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb should be a flawless year-old male. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You should keep close watch over it until the fourteenth day of this month. At twilight on that day, the whole assembled Israelite community should slaughter their lambs. <sup>7</sup>They should take some of the blood and smear it on the two doorposts and on the beam over the door of the houses in which they are eating. <sup>8</sup>That same night they should eat the meat roasted over the fire. They should eat it along with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Don't eat any*

*of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over fire with its head, legs, and internal organs. <sup>10</sup>Don't let any of it remain until morning, and burn any of it left over in the morning. <sup>11</sup>This is how you should eat it. You should be dressed, with your sandals on your feet and your walking stick in your hand. You should eat the meal in a hurry. It is the Passover of the Lord. <sup>12</sup>I'll pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I'll strike down every oldest child in the land of Egypt, both humans and animals. I'll impose judgments on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup>The blood will be your sign on the houses where you live. Whenever I see the blood, I'll pass over you. No plague will destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.*

*<sup>14</sup>"This day will be a day of remembering for you. You will observe it as a festival to the Lord. You will observe it in every generation as a regulation for all time."*

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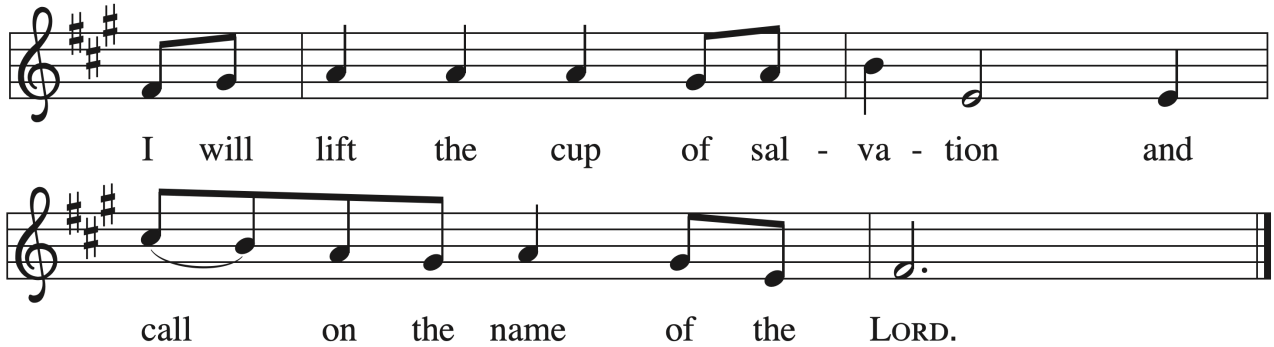
Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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# PSALM

## Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

*We respond to the story of the Passover meal with our thanksgiving song. In the words of Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19, we join the ancient Israelites by lifting the cup of salvation, our sacrifice of thanksgiving, for we too have been freed from our bonds.*



<sup>1</sup>I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,

**<sup>2</sup>for the Lord has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**

<sup>12</sup>How shall I repay the Lord  
for all the good things God has done for me?

**<sup>13</sup>I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord. – Refrain**

<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all God's people.

**<sup>15</sup>Precious in your sight, O Lord,  
is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup>O Lord, truly I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.

**<sup>17</sup>I will offer you  
the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all God's people,

**<sup>19</sup>in the courts of the Lord's house,  
in the midst of you. O Jerusalem. – Refrain**

## **SECOND READING**

*1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

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### **PROCLAIM THE LORD'S DEATH UNTIL HE COMES**

*In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.*

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**I** received a tradition from the Lord, which I also handed on to you: on the night on which he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread. <sup>24</sup>After giving thanks, he broke it and said,

***"This is my body, which is for you;  
do this to remember me."***

***"This cup is the new covenant in my  
blood. Every time you drink it,  
do this to remember me."***

<sup>26</sup>Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you broadcast the death of the Lord until he comes.

<sup>25</sup>He did the same thing with the cup, after they had eaten, saying,

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Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

# **THE HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 13:1-17, 31-35*

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## **THE SERVICE OF CHRIST: FOOTWASHING AND MEAL**

*The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.*

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**B**efore the Festival of Passover, Jesus knew that his time had come to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them fully.

<sup>2</sup>Jesus and his disciples were sharing the evening meal. The devil had already provoked Judas, Simon Iscariot's son, to betray Jesus. <sup>3</sup>Jesus knew the Father had given everything into his hands and that he had come from God and was returning to God. <sup>4</sup>So he got up from the table and took off his robes. Picking up a linen towel, he tied it around his waist. <sup>5</sup>Then he poured water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he was wearing. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus replied,

*"You don't understand what I'm doing now, but you will understand later."*

<sup>8</sup>"No!" Peter said. "You will never wash my feet!" Jesus replied,

*"Unless I wash you,  
you won't have a place with me."*

<sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said, "Lord, not only my feet but also my hands and my head!"

<sup>10</sup>Jesus responded,

*"Those who have bathed need only to have their feet washed, because they are completely clean. You disciples are clean, but not every one of you."*

<sup>11</sup>He knew who would betray him. That's why he said, "Not every one of you is clean."

<sup>12</sup>After he washed the disciples' feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them,

*"Do you know what I've done for you? <sup>13</sup>You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you speak correctly, because I am. <sup>14</sup>If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. <sup>15</sup>I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do. <sup>16</sup>I assure you, servants aren't greater than their master, nor are those who are sent greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>Since you know these things, you will be happy if you do them."*

*(Continued...)*

<sup>31</sup>When Judas was gone, Jesus said,

*but, just as I told the Jewish leaders,  
I also tell you now—*

*“Now the Son of Man has been glorified,  
and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If  
God has been glorified in him, God will  
also glorify the Son of Man in himself  
and will glorify him immediately.*

*‘Where I’m going, you can’t come.’*

<sup>33</sup>*Little children, I’m with you for a little  
while longer. You will look for me—*

<sup>34</sup>*“I give you a new commandment: Love  
each other. Just as I have loved you, so  
you also must love each other. <sup>35</sup>This is  
how everyone will know that you are my  
disciples, when you love each other.”*

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The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Where Charity and Love Abide"*



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# THE NICENE CREED

In the presence of God and one another, let us confirm our faith:

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the 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;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from 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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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.**

# THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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*Holy*

God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need.

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Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all who gather around the world and in this community for these holy three days.

God of grace,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Renew the life of your creation. Restore lands suffering from chronic drought or flood, and protect fragile habitats from destruction. Encourage all who strive to build more sustainable systems for life and thriving.

God of grace,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus.

God of grace,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Console all who suffer. We pray

especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. Come alongside all who cry out to you in any need.

We pray especially for those on our prayer list, and for those who remain in our hearts forever.

God of grace,  
**Hear our prayer.**

In the bread and cup we share, you show us the way of love poured out for the whole world. Nourish all who hunger in body or in spirit, that they experience the life abundant that flows from you.

God of grace,  
**Hear our prayer.**

We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead (*especially*). Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care.

God of grace,  
**Hear our prayer.**

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*Receive*

the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.  
**Amen.**

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## THE PEACE & OFFERING

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray...

Jesus, you are the bread of life  
and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered  
that all people may know your goodness.  
Feed us not only with this holy food  
but with hunger for justice and peace.  
We pray this in your name.  
**Amen.**

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## MEAL

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

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## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.

You gather your people around the tree of the cross,  
transforming death into life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav'n 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.

God of our weary years,  
 God of our silent tears,  
 you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness  
 you did not abandon us,  
 but guided us into the path of love and light.

In every age,  
 you sent prophets to make known  
 your loving will for all humanity.  
 The cry of the poor  
 has become your own cry;  
 our hunger and thirst for justice  
 is your own desire.

In the fullness of time,  
 you sent your chosen servant  
 to preach good news to the afflicted,  
 to break bread with the outcast and despised,  
 and to ransom those in bondage  
 to prejudice and sin.

*(Continued...)*

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."  
For as often as we eat of this bread  
    and drink from this cup  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,  
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup  
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.  
**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,  
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,  
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

**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.**



## COMMUNION CANTICLE



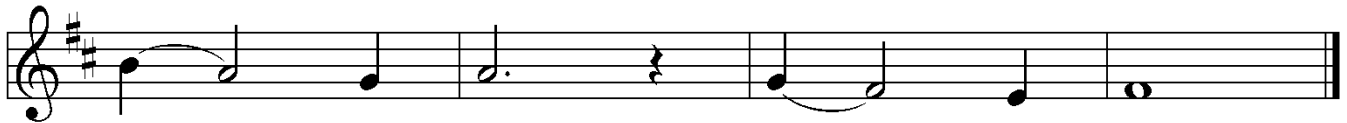
**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Where charity and love abide, there is God.  
Rejoice in the Holy Communion.

## COMMUNION BLESSING

*(After all have returned to their seats, the minister will say:)*

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

**Amen.**



## POST-COMMUNION HYMN

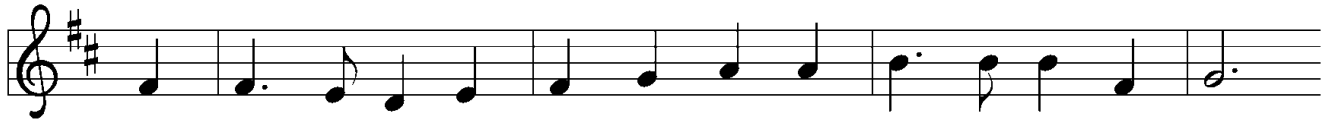
### *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869  
Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Compassionate God,  
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.  
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage:  
may our fasting be hunger for justice,  
our alms, a making of peace,  
and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts;  
through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*The stripping of the altar is symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at the soldiers' hands.  
After the altar is stripped, all may leave in silence.*

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# PRAYER CONCERNS

*Pray for our families and friends*

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Added</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
John Coppola.....	∞	Pastor McKinley.....	∞
Shannon Martin Duh.....	∞	Bailey McLain.....	9/24
Ingie Gilluly.....	∞	Dante Palmieri.....	∞
June Gribbon.....	∞	Louise Palmieri.....	∞
Nathan Hendricks.....	∞	Margaret Poss.....	∞
Ernie Hyer.....	3/25	Patrick Racut.....	∞
Mary Shirley Hyer.....	3/25	Monica Rebscher.....	3/25
Sue Hyer.....	3/25	David Lee Ritchie.....	∞
Janice Jones.....	?	Joedy Sheets.....	∞
Alex Kavoleff.....	2/25	Sue Wartur.....	3/25
Muriel Lance.....	3/25	Debbie Watson.....	∞
Dee Marszalek.....	∞	Ray Wilson.....	∞
Marion Marusak.....	∞	Craig Ryan Zucker.....	∞

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*All names on this list will be kept for one year or until we are informed otherwise.*

*To have a name added or removed, please contact the church office via phone or email,  
or visit our website at [www.ilutheran.net/pray](http://www.ilutheran.net/pray).*

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