

January 28, 2024 • 9am

4th Sunday of Epiphany • Stewardship Emphasis • Now the Feast & Celebration Liturgy

### INTRODUCTION

We continue our annual stewardship emphasis today. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross--as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news. One way we do so is through our stewardship.

## **PRELUDE**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling Michael Burkhardt

# CALL TO WORSHIP & CONFESSION FOR THE EPIPHANY SEASON

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word

of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Congregation: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

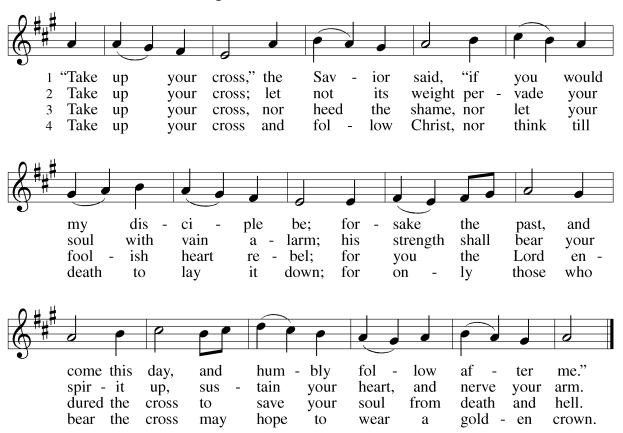
- P: God, our rock and refuge,
- C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.
- P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

+

C: Amen.

# PROCESSIONAL HYMN hymnal, #667, stand

# Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said



# **GREETING**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion

of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.



# **NOW THE FEAST**





# **SALUTATION**



# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray,

Congregation: O Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior.

Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son,

Amen.

# **CHILDREN'S TALK**

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS & PARISH NEWS**

### STEWARDSHIP TEMPLE TALK

Laura Beardsley

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-4 Pew Bible page #665 How is God using you? What is your mission?

Will Dickinson, Lector

<sup>1</sup>Praise the Lord! Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver, he hid me away.

<sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

<sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 111 Pew Bible page #551

Lector: <sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Congregation: <sup>2</sup>Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

- L: <sup>3</sup>Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- C: <sup>4</sup>He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.
- L: <sup>5</sup>He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- C: <sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.
- L: <sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.
- C: <sup>8</sup>They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- L: <sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.
- C:<sup>10</sup>The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

### SECOND READING: I Corinthians 8:1-13 Pew Bible page #1045

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not bring us close to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

# **GOSPEL VERSE**



### GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25-34 Pew Bible pg. #884

Worry and faith will always be in tension until we understand God's desire for us to be good stewards of God's gifts..

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>25</sup> "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup> And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup> And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? <sup>31</sup> Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. <sup>34</sup> "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ!



SERMON
Polished Arrows

Pastor Bob Stelter

A manuscript of this sermon is available on our website: faithloves.org.

# HYMN OF THE DAY hymnal #688 stand

# Lord of Light



Fa - ther, as in high-est heav-en, so on earth your will be done.

## **APOSTLES CREED**

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us proclaim our faith.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

# THE PRAYERS stand or kneel

Assistant: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

#### A brief silence.

Assistant: Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace,

# Congregation: receive our prayer

A: Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace,

# C: receive our prayer

A: Justice seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace.

## C: receive our prayers.

A: Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer. God of grace,

# C: receive our prayers.

A: Still speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness and love. God of grace,

# C: receive our prayers.

Silence for individual prayer petitions.

Pastor: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

# Congregation: Amen.

## THE PEACE

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

Congregation: And also with you.

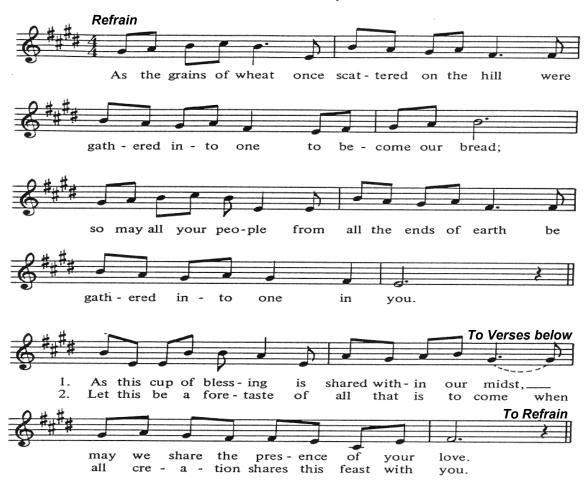
# **OFFERING FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY sit**

# **OFFERING ANTHEM**

Bread of Life from Heaven

### **OFFERING HYMN** stand

# As the Grains of Wheat

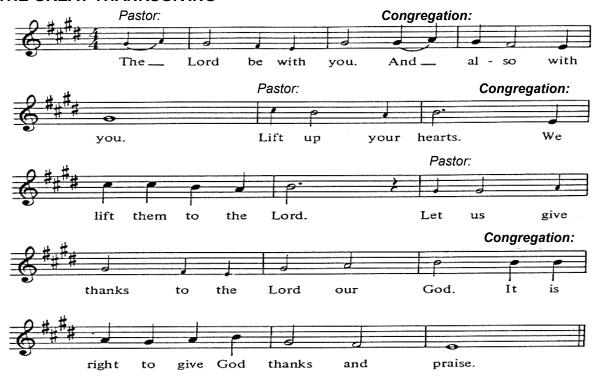


## **NOW THE FEAST & CELEBRATION OFFERING PRAYER**

Assistant: Let us pray. Merciful God,

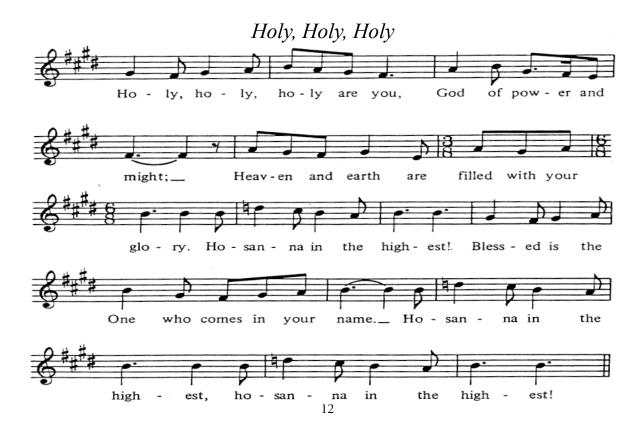
Congregation: everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



## THE PREFACE

Pastor: 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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God, creator of heaven and earth; everything, everywhere is filled with your glory. You sent Jesus, who in word and deed announced your rule of justice and peace. He was obedient unto death, even death on a cross. We remember how on the night of his betrayal 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."

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 his command that we love one another, his life and death, and his glorious resurrection, we look for his coming again.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

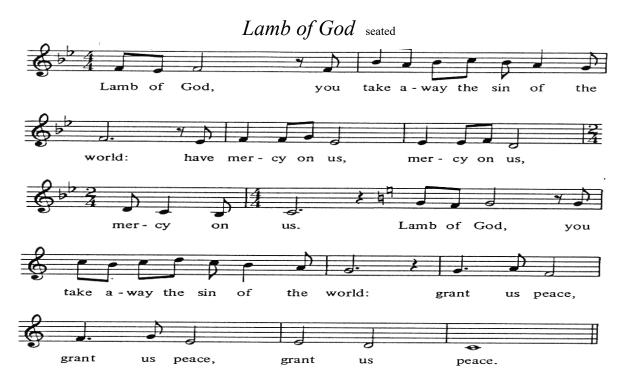
Pastor: With one will and one voice, we pray:

All: 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.

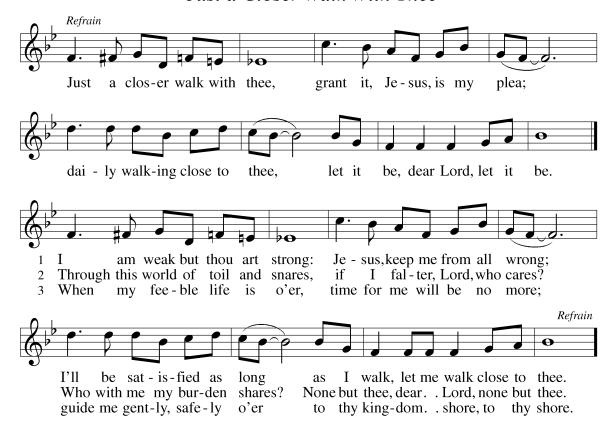
### INVITATION

Pastor: Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. If you believe in me, though you die, yet shall you live." This meal is a foretaste of the feast to come!



# **DISTRIBUTION HYMN** hymnal #697

# Just a Closer Walk With Thee



# **COMMUNION BLESSING** stand

Pastor: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

# **COMMUNION CANTICLE**



# POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray.

All: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

Silence for reflection.

## PRAYER FOR SENDING OF DEACONS

Pam Brown 1/28 - 2/10/2024

Deacons come forward to receive communion kits.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Congregation: Compassionate God, bless our deacons who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound.

May this ministry be a sign of our love, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and

healing. Amen.

# **IN-GATHERING OF TIME & TALENT INVENTORIES**

Flowers on the altar today are given by Larry Koran, Jr. in memory of his father, Larry Koran, Sr.

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### Sunday worship: 9am traditional with organ & choir 11:11am contemporary with praise band

in person and on our YouTube livestream

225 Jamestowne Blvd | Farragut, TN 37934 www.faithloves.org | 865-966-9626

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Welcome! As followers of Jesus, we rejoice in God's plan for a just, loving and peaceful world. We commit ourselves to making it a reality for all people everywhere. Just as all are welcome at the Lord's table during holy communion, all are welcome to this family of faith. People of all races, ages, social status, sexual orientations and gender identities are united here in our mission to love God, love others and serve.

Please sign a **Worship Card** and place it in offering plate.



Sun Feb 25, 10:15am, to learn about Faith Lutheran Church and the process of church membership. For more info or to RSVP, talk to Greg Bohlken, greg@faithloves.org





# **Lenten Book Study**



Book available Feb 4

**Book Group** Begins Feb 21

Rasis for Lent **Sermon Series** on Suffering

#### **WORSHIP THEMES**

- † Jan 28 How can I give my time and talents as a way to love God and serve others? In-gathering of time and talent inventories.
- † Feb 4 How can I give my finances as a way to love God and serve others? In-gathering of financial pledges for 2024.
- † Feb 11 Transfiguration Sunday Christ's presence all around us.

### DIG IN, GROW DEEP, LEARN WITH OTHERS

- † Adult Bible Class Sundays, 10:15am in The Cup
- † Teen Sunday School, 10:15am in the Youth Room
- **†** Confirmation, 10:15am in the Library near the Nursery
- † Children's Sunday School, 10:15am in the classroom near the Nursery
- † Tuesday Bible Study, 1:30pm in The Cup

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS**

- † Spirituality Book Group, Tuesday, February 6, 6:30pm in the library. Join us as Donna Deichert presents **Penny Wise** by Neta Jackson and Dave Jackson.
- † 2024 Offering Envelopes are in the narthex for you.
- † 2024 Flower Chart is posted by the library. Sign up now to honor or remember loved ones with flowers on our altar.
- t Columbarium Niches are available for \$1.800 (members) and \$2.500 (non-members). Application forms are found in our Columbarium Booklet located in the narthex.
- † Handbell Rehearsal, Wednesdays 5:30pm
- † Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Wednesdays 6:30pm
- † Praise Band Rehearsal, Thursdays 6pm & Sundays 10:15am

#### **FIRST WEDNESDAY FEB 7**



Join us for dinner, fellowship, and growing in faith with classes, choirs, and groups. There's something for everyone! RSVP for dinner with this QR code or at tinyurl.com/FirstWed020724





# SHEPHERD OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY Open Monday Feb 5, 3-5pm

**Current Needs** 

Boxed potatoes • Syrup (plastic bottles) Jelly (plastic bottles) • Soup (large cans) Contact Reneé Stone, 865-599-7424.

### YOUTH EVENTS

Wed Feb 7, 6:30-7:30pm First Wednesday Youth at Faith Lutheran Church for grades 6-12

Sun Feb 18 Faith Lutheran Church hosts 3rd Sunday of month event with Knox-area Lutheran youth for faith and fun fellowship..

3rd-5th grade, 12:30-2pm | 6th-12th grade 2:30-4pm



#### AFFIRM registration opens in Feb

Incredible youth camp June 9-14 for students grade 6 to college. Use sesyouth.org/AFFIRM to sign up. Questions? greg@faithloves.org

# **Preparing for Next Week**

Monday: Numbers 22:1-21, Acts 21:17-26, Psalm 35:1-10 • Tuesday: Numbers 22:22-28, 1 Corinthians 7:32-40, Psalm 35:1-10 Wednesday: Jeremiah 29:1-14, Mark 5:1-20, Psalm 35:1-10 • Thursday: Proverbs 12:10-21, Galatians 5:2-15, Psalm 147:1-11, 20 Friday: Job 36:1-23, 1 Corinthians 9:1-16, Psalm 147:1-11, 20 • Saturday: Isaiah 46:1-13, Matthew 12:9-14, Psalm 147:1-11, 20 Sunday: Isaiah 40:21-31, Psalm 147:1-11, 20, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39

Dr. Bob Stelter — Pastor Greg Bohlken — Ministry Associate Lynn Rognsvoog — Organist Collin Kasefang — Choir Director

Members of Faith Lutheran Church — Ministers

Sandra Bohlken — Contemporary Worship Leader Trace Taylor — Sound Technician Tiffany Bryson - Nursery Caregiver Kim Frasch - Quiet Music Ministry

Mary Boring - Office Manager Phylis Garrison — Publications Barbara Birkholz — Financial Secretary Mildred Fenske — Prayer Chain Coordinator Alicia & David Brondos — Missionaries

#### PRAYER CONCERNS

Members: Shaun Allred, Arlene Aring, Barbara Bird, Mary Blackburn, Leon Cole, Myles Cooper, Mac Curtis, Patsy Elmore, Pat & Nick Gary, Green family, Jonas Greenman, George Herbold, Bonnie Legako, Kris Lehman, Lin & Mike McKinley, Harold Peters, Joe Poole, Randy Schaefer, Bobbie Steele, Ann Stelter, Maurice and Rebecca.

This column will start anew on the first Sunday of each month.

Friends: Emorie Berry, Nicole Blackburn, Marsha Bode, Dee Bohn,
Sharon Brokenshire, Karen Bryant, Ginger Cameron, Jan Colangelo,
Mary Beth Connor, Bill Crain, Nancy Crain, Errol Dennis, Sr. & family,
Doran family, Brandy & Brian Duke, Vader Ernst, Joel Garber, Grayson
family, Gutelius family, Terry Ann Hackney, Rita Heavner, Ross Holt,
Linda Holtz, Hwangbo family, Joy Hymer, Mike Jones, Donna Knick,
Liebert family, Buddy Little, Loyacano family, David Matthews, Reuben
Meland & family, Audra Tyler Moore, Joe Morelli, Noble family, Ray
Reason, Marilyn Savilisky, Scaglione family, Scalise family, Jim Shea,
Lynn Siegfried, Donna Smith, Austin Stephens, Micki Weith, Frank Tyler,
Lauren Wolfe, Mya, Ro & Haven Wolfe, Martha Woodward, Darcy, Donna,
Caleb, Carol, Diane & Gabe, Joy & Bobby, Jodi, Teresa and those we
name to you.

**Joy**: First Wednesday gatherings each month!

<u>Blessings</u>: Installation of Rev. Rosy Rivera today at Grace Lutheran Church in Oak Ridge

**Love**: Marriage of Ben Dickinson to Ericka Beane on Jan 13, 2024 and the marriage of Brittany Moore to Douglas Rountree on Dec 27, 2023.

#### Joy at the Birth of:

Alvin, son of Antonia & Kevin Roberts; big brother, Felix. Adam Christopher, son of Abby & Travis Dean; grandparents: Nancy & Stephen Dean. Carter, son of Kristen & Chris Joy; big sister, Cora.

<u>Comfort in the Midst of Death for Family & Friends of</u>: Olga Kelso, David Joyce, Harold Chapel, Charles Carroll, Alexine Adams, Klaus Meier, Aldene Meland, Roger Madson, Mary Ruth Frazier, Jack Cleave, Lee North.

<u>Salvation Army Friends</u>: Denisha, Carolina, Maggie, Stephanie, Scott, Ty, Brandon, Leo, John, Steve, J. R., Brad, Colin, Jeffery, Bill, Eddy, Scott, Teddy, Franklin

<u>Prayers, Concern & Assistance</u>: The people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia. Mentally & physically challenged. Veterans.

<u>Learning & Pastoral Development</u>: William Bales at Concordia Seminary.

Partnerships: Bishop Pro-Tem Michael Burk & the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Bishop Strickland & the Southeastern Synod; Alicia & David Brondos, Missionaries in Mexico; Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry; Quiet Music Ministry; Tyson House; Deacon Ministry; Knox Area Rescue Ministry; Via de Cristo Ministry; Salvation Army Women's & Men's Homeless Shelters; Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking; Cole Center Caregivers and Parkinson Band, Mercy Ships, Lutheran Church & School in Guatemala, AL-ANON, Narcotics Anonymous.

**Peace**: Protection for all armed forces, especially: Anthony Hu, Jacob Cole, Tyler Hitter, Anthony Hu, Chase Linell, Olivia Parrott, Alex Primka, Christine Russ, Alex Serrano, Sam Thompson, Mitchell Yount, Greg Zager.



#### Giving 1/21/24

Offerings last Sunday: \$ 3,937 Offerings Year-to-Date: \$ 40,370

Scan this QR code with your phone camera to donate now on our secure webpage

# Week of January 28 - February 3, 2024 Sunday, January 28 - Giving Time and Talents

9:00am Traditional Worship Service

10:00am Fellowship

10:15am Adult Sunday School

Children's Sunday School

Confirmation

Teen Sunday School

11:11am Contemporary Worship Service

#### Monday, January 29

Noon Via de Cristo Reunion Group Library

#### Tuesday, January 30

10:00am Mom's Club of Northshore

1:30pm Bible Study Small Group *The Cup* 7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous *The Cup* 

#### Wednesday, January 31

5:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, February 1

9:00am Authors Guild of Tennessee The Cup

6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal

7:30pm Narcotics Anonymous The Cup

#### Friday, February 2

9:30am UT Cole Center Parkinson Band
7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous Group *The Cup* 

### Saturday, February 3

11:00am AL-ANON meeting

### Sunday, February 4 - In-Gathering of Financial Pledges

9:00am Traditional Worship Service

10:00am Fellowship

10:15am Adult Sunday School

Childrens Sunday School

Confirmation

Teen Sunday School

11:11am Contemporary Worship Service

# WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY 9am Traditional

Altar Guild: Mary Bales

· Assisting Minister: Collin Kasefang

• Lector: Will Dickinson

Communion Ministers: Lisa Stelter, Debby Palatinus,
 Pat Lyman, David Mabry

Greeter: Jane Dakolios

• Ushers: Brad Nelson, Ritchie Case

• Offering Stewards: Gary Dakolios, George Herbold

#### 11:11am Contemporary

· Altar Guild: Melissa Horning

 Communion Ministers: Lisa Stelter, Shirley Hahn, Jennifer Berry, Katie Lehner, Richard Lehner

Greeter: Carol Nanney

• Ushers: Brad Berry, Christian Berry, Earl Kripas

• Offering Stewards: Gary Dakolios, George Herbold

