

4th Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026 – 11:00am

Greetings and Welcome

GATHERING

Call to Worship

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

C: Amen.

Brief Order of 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.

Silence

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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.

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.

**Sharing Christ's Peace*

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

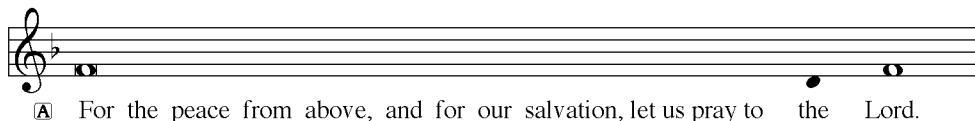
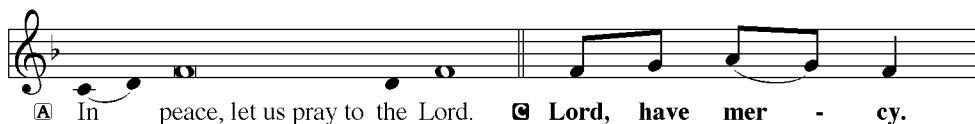
C: **And also with you.**

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Gathering Hymn – “God of Grace and God of Glory” ELW 705

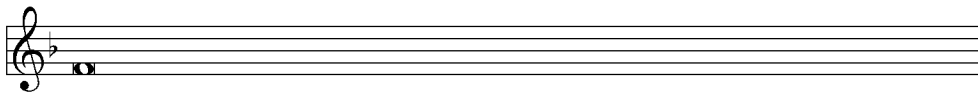
- 1 **God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;
Crown your ancient Church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**
- 2 **Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days**
- 3 **Cure your children's waring madness; bend our pride to your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**
- 4 **Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.**

**Kyrie*

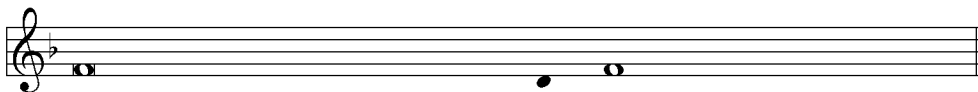




C Lord, have mer - cy.



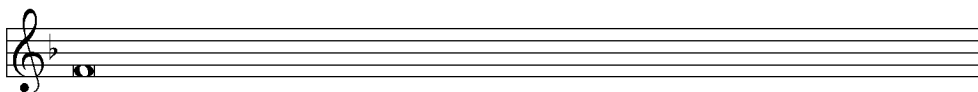
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

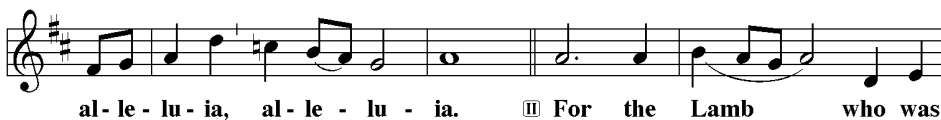
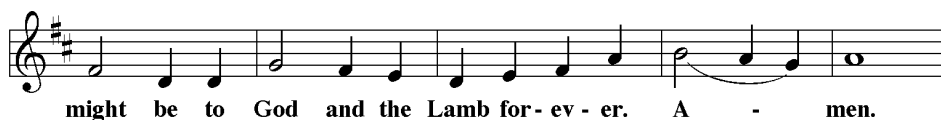
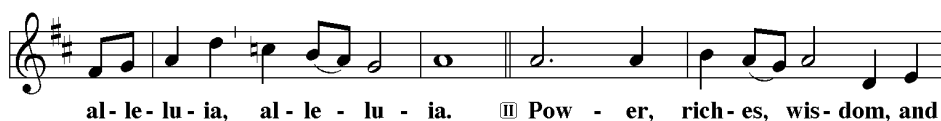
**Hymn of Praise*



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

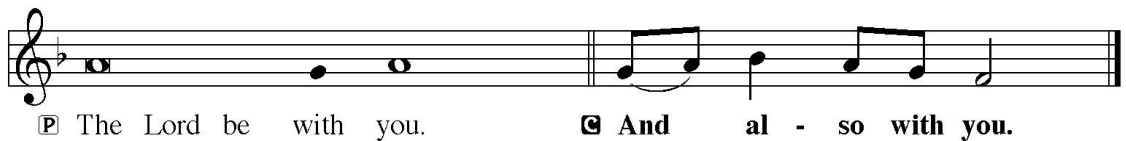


al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **I** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was





**Prayer of the Day*



P: Let us pray.

God of life, you meet us in the dry places of our lives. Fill us in your living water, bringing us to new life, fresh and clean. Walk with us as we share the knowledge of your living water with others, so that all might live in your abundance.

C: Amen.

WORD

Reading: Psalm 42:1-3

Reader: John Williams

¹As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.

²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When can I go and meet with God?

³My tears have been my food
day and night,

while people say to me all day long,
“Where is your God?”

R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation*



**Gospel Reading:* John 4:1-29, 39-42

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—²although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. ³So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee.

⁴Now he had to go through Samaria. ⁵So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” ⁸(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

¹⁰Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

¹¹“Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?”

¹³Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

¹⁵The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.”

¹⁷“I have no husband,” she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

¹⁹“Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

²¹“Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

²⁵The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

²⁶Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

²⁷Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?”

²⁸Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹“Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?”

³⁹Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹And because of his words many more became believers.

⁴²They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn – “For All the Faithful Women” ELW 419, vv. 1, 8, & 3

- 1 **For all the faithful women who served in days of old,
to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your pow'r to save.**
- 8 **Recall the outcast woman with whom our Lord conversed:
Christ gave her living water to quench her deepest thirst.
Like hers, our hearts are yearning; Christ offers us his word.
Then may our lips be burning to witness to our Lord.**
- 3 **All praise to God the Father! All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise to God the Spirit, who binds the church as one!
With saints who went before us, with saints who witness still,
we sing glad alleluias and strive to do your will.**

Sermon: "It is Necessary"

Hymn of the Day – “Help Us Accept Each Other” *tune of ELW 654*

“The Church’s One Foundation”

1. **Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.**
2. **Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all not just for some,
to love them as we find them or as they may be come.**
3. **Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.**

4. Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

**The Apostles' Creed*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

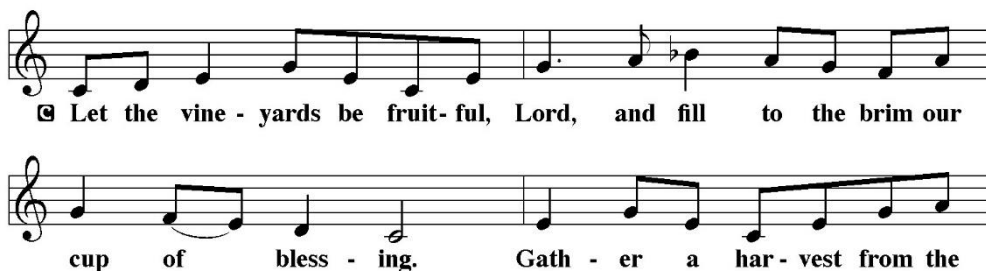
**Prayers of Intercession*

Stewardship Time

Susan Roegge, organ

*—We now have Worship Cards in the pews. Please let us know if you are
communing, share a prayer request, and place your card in the offering plate
as a gesture of stewardship as we grow in relationship with God
through the use of our time, talents, and finances—*

**The Offertory*



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the

prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your

pres - ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

**Offering Prayer*

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Great Thanksgiving*

Ⓟ The Lord be with you. Ⓜ And al - so 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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... and join their unending hymn:

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

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho - san-na.

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.

**Words of Institution*

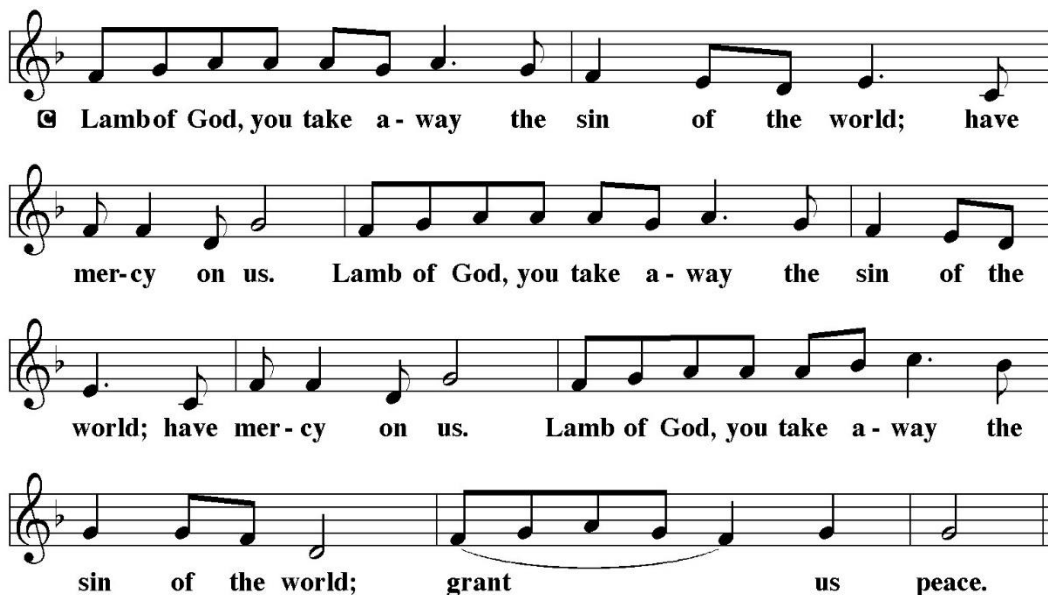
P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

**Lord's Prayer*

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.

**Agnus Dei*



♩ 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.

Communion Hymn

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”

ELW 488

Instrumental

**Post-Communion Canticle*



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re- calls his prom- is - es and leads his peo- ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks- giv - ing. Al- le - lu - ia. Al- le - lu - ia.

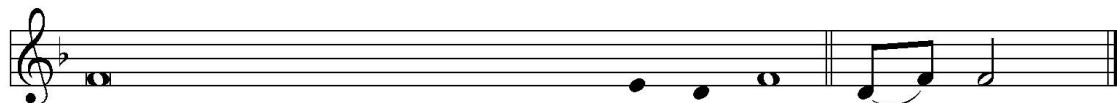
**Sending Prayer*

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

**Benediction*



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 A - men

**Sending Hymn – “To Be Your Presence” ELW 546*

- 1. To be your presence is our mission here,
to show compassion’s face and list’ning ear,
To be your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!**
- 2. To be your presence is our mission bold,
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,
To be your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!**
- 3. To be your presence is our mission blest,
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,
To be your voice of hope, your love expressed, alleluia!**
- 4. We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,
to serve your people is our call and choice,
And in his mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!**

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Song Credits

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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker

Reader: John Williams

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Organist: Susan Roegge

Financial Assistants: Kay Schnitker & to be determined

Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw

Coffee Hosts: Karen Sibert & Kay Schnitker



Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson
Ken Devlin

Marilyn Dichsen
Kelly Hartz

Greg Kimler
Patty Nelson

Monica Proefrock
Kay Schnitker
Kelly Street

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, February 1, 9:30am: Contemporary Worship **Friends from Faith**

11:00am: Traditional Worship

11:00-1:00: Extra Winter Cheer Event

Wednesday, February 4, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

Saturday, February 7, 8:00am: Cooking for

9:00am: Men's Breakfast

Sunday, February 8, 9:30am: Worship

11:00am: Annual Meeting

Wednesday, February 11, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

News Updates

Lay Ministry Sign-Up Sheets

Sign-Up Sheets are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Faith's Little Flock — (Ages 2–7)

gathers each Sunday after the Children's Sermon and returns to the sanctuary in time for Communion.

This February, Faith's Little Flock will continue the journey through the book of John alongside the rest of our congregation. Through simple storytelling, hands-on activities, and music, our youngest learners (and big-kid helpers) will explore what it means that Jesus is our Good Shepherd and discover the hope found in the story of Lazarus. As the Lenten season begins, we will focus on themes of love, trust, and new life, helping children understand that Jesus is always near, guiding and caring for them.

We look forward to walking this meaningful season together with your children through stories, creativity, and faith-filled fun.

If you would like to help with FLF, please contact Melissa Street, Pam Devlin, or Liddy Stark. Blessings, *Melissa*

Extra Winter Cheer

Everyone is invited for Extra Winter Cheer **today from 11:00am–1:00pm in the Great Room**. We'll have pizza to eat, cookie decorating, a hot cocoa bar, and a special Valentine's service project. Stay after either service and beat the winter blues with some fellowship and fun!

Annual Reports

The Annual Meeting has been postponed till February 8. Packets for 2025 are available in the gathering area by the coffee sales. Please take 1 per household, and bring it back with you to the Annual Meeting after the service on February 8.

Friends from Faith Card Ministry – A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn

Since last Sunday was snowy, everyone is welcome to send a greeting card today. Visit the tall table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Contribution Envelopes for 2026 are available in the gathering area. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please talk to Kris Roth, Barb Davenport, or Pam Devlin.

Financial Statements

for 2025 are available in the office.

Read the Bible in a Year

Join us in reading the Bible over the course of a year, **Wednesdays at 10:00am in the Faith Library** (this new group will take the place of the Discipleship Group). We will gather weekly to discuss our insights and reflections. We'll be utilizing The Bible Recap by Tara-Leigh Cobble, available on the YouVersion Bible app, to guide our journey. For more information, feel free to reach out to Pam Devlin. A sign-up sheet is available in the Gathering Area. People should read assigned daily readings from The Bible Recap so that we can discuss what we read.

Music is a Great Way to Connect!

We are always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering. Please contact Jean Welch if you are interested in sharing your musical gifts. jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)

Post-Service Discussions after Worship

On February 15, grab some refreshments and join us in the Justice Room to further encounter the readings – and the sermon. On February 8 after worship, the Annual Meeting will be held in the sanctuary after the service. *Naomi Hahn*

Bible Boot Camp and Faith Inkubators

Pastor Adam is available to lead gatherings on Feb. 15, March 15 & 22, & April 12 & 19. If others would like to help provide a meal or lead a fun activity, please contact Pam Devlin, Carol Freesen, or Celeste Hill on our Discipleship Core Team or **sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Area**. Our typical schedule is for Bible Boot Camp from 4:30-5:30, a meal from 5:30-6:00, and Faith Inkubators from 6:00-7:30.

Conference of Churches Collecting Dry Goods for Area Food Bank

Super Bowl Competition

to support the Food Center "Grains" event: choose a team and bring your donation to the Working Cross area in the Gathering Area.

Seahawks

Hamburger Helper or Mac n Cheese

Patriots

Crackers or Dry Pasta

Not a Fan

Cereal

Let's score a touchdown for the Food Center!

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$9.00** regular & decaf; **\$3.00** tea). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

Prayer and Meditation

Prayer and meditation are ways that we invite God into our lives and into those for whom we pray. The health challenges facing Marilyn Dichsen have focused our congregation's attention on the importance of prayers for healing cancer in a gifted young woman. Marilyn's challenges have also brought to our attention all who are struggling with physical and mental health issues. Faith members are encouraged to pray for all who are in need

wherever you might find yourself. The church sanctuary is open during regular church office hours (Tuesday-Friday, 9:00-1:00) for members to stop by and spend quiet time praying for Marilyn, her family, and all those who are in need of prayer. A prayer book is available at the back of the sanctuary by the tech station, along with the names of those who have been included in worship prayers and our prayer chain. Please sign your name and record your prayers or words of encouragement, if you so desire.