

# The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, Rejoicing Spirits, and handicap friendly Congregation

3461 Cedar Crest Blvd.  
Emmaus, PA 18049-1599  
PHONE 610.967.2220  
FAX 610.966.3021

email [info@holyspirit-emmaus.org](mailto:info@holyspirit-emmaus.org)  
[www.lchsemmaus.org](http://www.lchsemmaus.org)  
[www.facebook.com/lchsemmaus](http://www.facebook.com/lchsemmaus)



Sunday, January 12, 2025  
10:30 am

## **The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life**

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey  
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ  
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

**We welcome all who worship with us today.**

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,  
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

**Children are welcome and celebrated!**

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby contains  
a variety of items for children’s use during worship.  
Stop by to borrow a book, pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent  
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

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**HOLY COMMUNION**

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children may receive the sacrament if they have completed instruction with a pastor.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

# GATHERING

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

**Gathering Music**

Andante Cantabile  
from the Fourth Organ Symphony

Widor

## **Welcome and Announcements**

*We rise in body or spirit.*

## **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden.  
In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched,  
and you gave us water from the rock.  
When we did not know the way,  
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.  
At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side,  
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,  
 for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.  
 Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
 Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.  
 To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water,  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen**

**Gathering Hymn**

Crashing Waters at Creation

ELW 455



- 1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,
- 2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed on through,
- 3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,
- 4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.

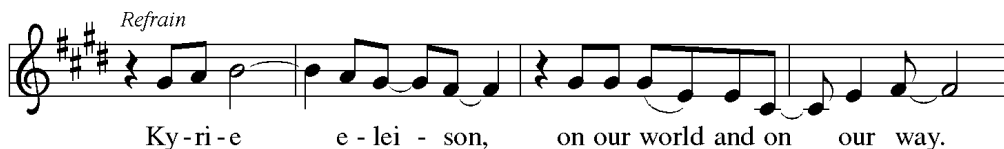


first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.  
 wash - ing off the chains of bond - age — chan - nel to a life made new.  
 o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.  
 Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

**Greeting**

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

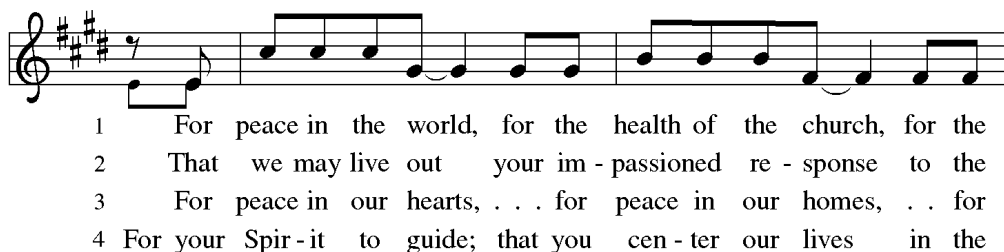
*Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

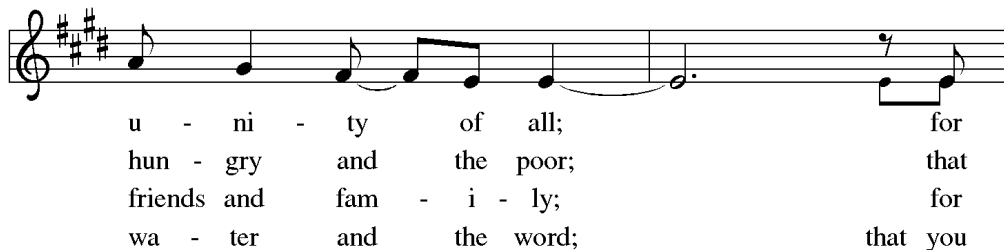


1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

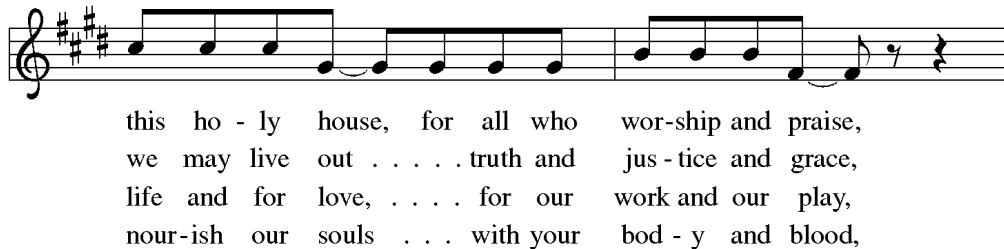
2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for  
hun-gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam-i-ly; for  
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus-tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son.

Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

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

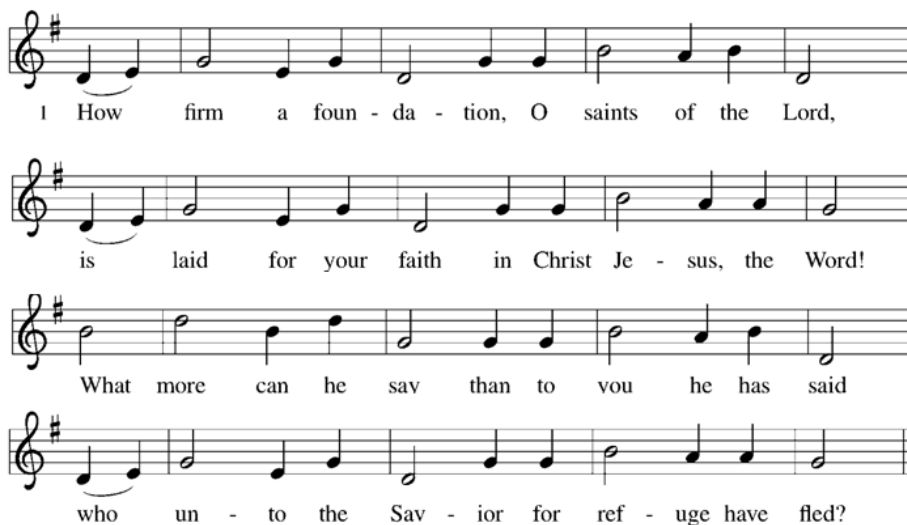
### Litany for Isaiah 43

A Reading from Isaiah, the 43<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you,

O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel.

Our God, who created us and formed us speaks:



1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?

Don't fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.



2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,



for I am your God and will still give you aid;



I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,



up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

The rivers won't sweep over you.



When through the deep wa - ters I call Thee to go,



the ri - vers of woe will not thee o - ver - flow;



for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,



and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.

When you walk through the fire, you won't be scorched and flame won't burn you.



3 "When through fi - ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,



my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.



The flamès shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign



your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."

Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you,  
I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.



The soul that on Je - sus still leans for re - pose,



I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



that soul, though all hell should en - dea - vor to shake,



I'll ne - ver, no, nev - er, no, ne - ver for - sake.



Do not fear, for I am with you – bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – Acts 8:14-17

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from Acts.

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

*We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia

ELW Setting 8

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Good News from Luke, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**Open our hearts, Lord.**

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

This is the Good News!

**Thanks be to God!**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Sermon**

Pastor Shari Duminy

*We rise in body or spirit.*



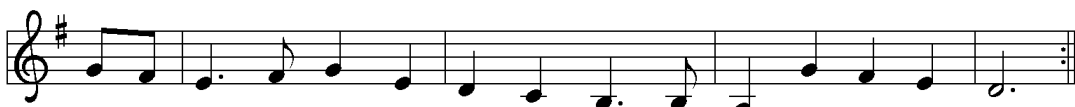
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;  
 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.  
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.  
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
 If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."  
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."  
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

## Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us,  
let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

After each petition:

God, whose voice stirs the waters,  
**receive our prayer.**

Pastor's closing prayer:

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope  
that your promise is revealed among the people.  
Amen

## Peace

Peace is a gift of God's love. Let the Lord bless us and give us strength,  
as we share signs of this peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,  
"Peace be with you."*

*The assembly is seated.*

## MEAL

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

*During the Musical Offering, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated.  
If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the  
tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.*

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

Loving God, you bless us with your love.

You know each one of us by name.

We live in confidence and trust, knowing your care for us.

We bring these gifts to you, our source of life.

Use them, we pray, that others may experience your grace and live free from fear.

**Amen**

*We rise in body or spirit.*

**Great Thanksgiving**

May the God of glory be with you!

**And also with you.**

People of God, offer your hearts to God.

**We give them to the One who comes to save us.**

Children of God, sing songs of praise and joy.

**We lift our voices to the One who journeys with us through the waters of baptism,  
and who feeds us at the table of hope.**

With angel choirs in every region, with shepherds who caroled a homeless family, with those who came home singing from exile, we lift our voices in joy and hope:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

### Word in Meal

As we remember Christ's baptism, as we recall his life and ministry,  
 as we follow him through death into the resurrection of the new life,  
 we proclaim that mystery we call faith:

**Baptized, Christ was called your Beloved;  
 dying, Christ was your heart broken for us;  
 risen to new life, Christ is the voice which shatters all our fears;  
 coming to gather us up, Christ will bring us home to you.**

Holy Spirit, fill us with the bread of forgiveness and with the cup of hope.  
Flow through us like baptismal waters,  
so we might become a river of reconciliation.  
Grant us your peace, so we might carry this gift to the world.

Set our hope on Christ, so we might build such hope in our neighbors and communities.  
And when the river of time stops flowing,  
when we gather as one around your table,  
we will join our voices as your children, singing to God.  
**Amen**

### **Lord's Prayer**

God in Community, Holy in One, we lift our prayers of joy to you,  
even as we pray together saying:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen**

## Invitation to the table

Come to the table of love.

**Jesus meets us here.**

We gather as the beloved community,  
**hungry to be fed with the gifts of the spirit,  
thirsting for the waters of life.**

God is here and everyone is welcome.

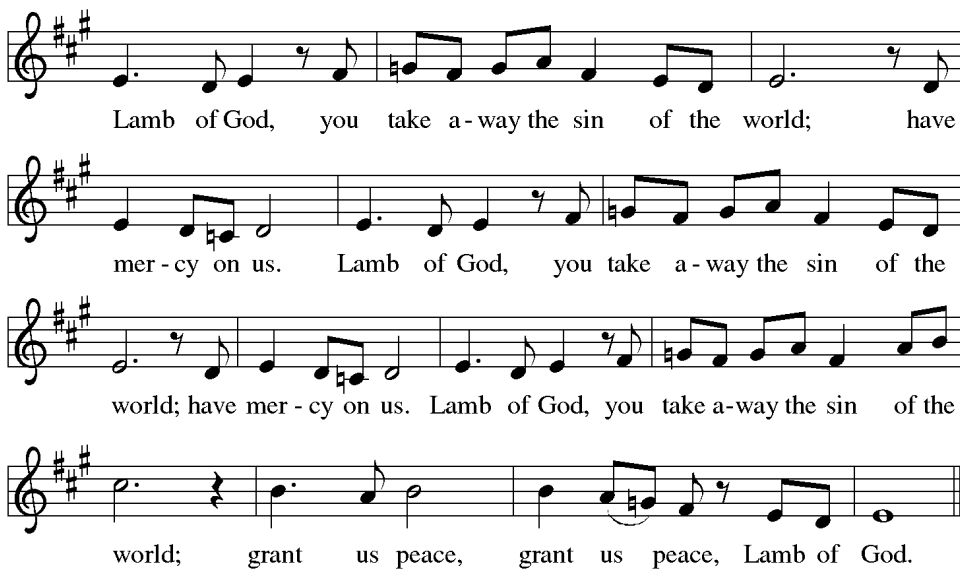
*The assembly is seated.*

## Distribution of communion

### Agnus Dei

### Lamb of God

### ELW Setting 8



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, Lamb of God.





1 Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.  
 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.  
 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.  
 Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.  
 To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.  
 God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,  
 We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.  
 one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.  
 By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,  
 2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,  
 in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



*Refrain*  
 Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

*We rise in body or spirit.*

### Prayer after communion

Let us pray.

O Lord our God,

we give thanks that you have called us to feast on the abundance of your house  
 and have allowed us to drink from the river of your delight.

Continue to provide for us through the gift of your steadfast love,  
 and help us to provide for others; through the grace of Christ Jesus.

**Amen**

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion and send you in love.

**Amen**

## Sending Hymn

## Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW 310



- 1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
- 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph - et, priest, and king su - preme;
- 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak - ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;
- 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;  
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill:  
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,  
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Live in hope.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Sending Music**

Postlude in G Major

Handel

**Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:**



**venmo**

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: [lchsemmaus.org](http://lchsemmaus.org).

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## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor  
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor  
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor  
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy  
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music  
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

## **WORSHIP HELPERS**

### **Assisting Minister**

Marian Snyder

### **Reader**

Marian Snyder

### **Communion Assistants**

Jackie Leipert, Dianna Olszewski

### **Greeter**

Nancy Slimmer

### **Usher**

Rick Slimmer

### **Production/Technology Team**

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross, Eric Kahler,  
Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill,  
Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,  
Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

### **Altar Care**

Kitti Berkheimer, Brenda Brookover, Marian Harrison, Terri Hinderliter,  
Linda Letts, Carole Osenbach, Nancy Pfeffer, Barb Roba, Deb Stevens,  
Julie Timmcke, and Jennifer Wetzell

