



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 12, 2023

Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Whether you are joining us in-person or on-line we are blessed to have you worshipping with us today. We pray that our time of worship together further encourages and strengthens our call to discipleship.

MISSION STATEMENT

As servants of Jesus Christ, we share God's grace and mercy. We welcome and encourage all to grow with us in God's kingdom through praise, worship, and service.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.
For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,
that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior.

Amen.



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the
 Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be
 peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
Refrain
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of
 vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -
 le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The LORD sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:1-8 **READ RESPONSIVELY**

¹Happy are they whose ¹ way is blameless,
who follow the teaching ¹ of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe ¹ your decrees
and seek you with ¹ all their hearts,**

³who never do ¹ any wrong,
but always walk ¹ in your ways.
⁴**You laid down ¹ your commandments,
that we should ¹ fully keep them.**
⁵Oh, that my ways were made ¹ so direct
that I might ¹ keep your statutes!
⁶**Then I should not be ¹ put to shame,
when I regard all ¹ your commandments.**
⁷I will thank you with ¹ a true heart,
when I have learned your ¹ righteous judgments.
⁸**I will ¹ keep your statutes;
do not utter- ¹ ly forsake me.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Human leaders in the church are not the ones who control ministry. Rather they are coworkers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:21-37

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 5th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

The gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mary E. Zupansic

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL

ELW #612

Refrain

Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL., Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL, 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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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

* Prayers are offered for the church, the world, and all in need.

Merciful God. *Receive our prayer.*

THE SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ THE MEAL +

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS *Thank you for your continued support of the ministry of Peace Lutheran Church. We gladly accept your offerings via US Postal Service, Tithe.ly, or direct deposit from your bank.*

OFFERING HYMN

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

ELW #184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



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

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Liberating God,

you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. Amen.

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 our 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW P. 190

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

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.

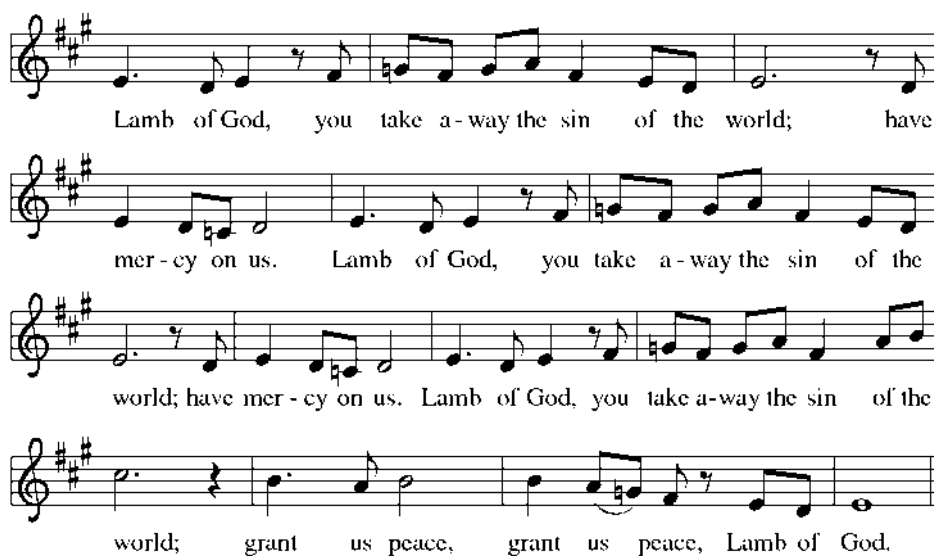
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come the table is ready. All are welcome.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW P. 191



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.

COMMUNION SONG/HYMNS

CONTEMPORARY SONG
ONE BREAD ONE BODY

ELW # 496

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy One,

we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.

Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod

✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

THE LORD NOW SENDS US FORTH

ELW #538

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta, es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,

pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.

Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor:
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

me ha to - va - do, a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad,
 that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
 Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
 Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America
 English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

IN TODAY'S READING FROM DEUTERONOMY WE ARE CALLED TO CHOOSE LIFE BY LOVING AND OBEYING GOD. MUCH OF TODAY'S GOSPEL READING ECHOES PORTIONS OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. JESUS' INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CROWD REVEAL A PATTERN OF BEHAVIOR THAT HONORS BOTH GOD AND THE NEIGHBOR, RESULTING IN LIFE AND HEALTH FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY. WE TOO ARE INVITED TO EMBRACE THESE COMMANDMENTS, NOT OUT OF FEAR OF RETRIBUTION, BUT BECAUSE GOD HAS PROMISED THAT TO DO SO MEANS LIFE FOR US.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

PETE ELLERTSEN, DEBI ELLERTSEN, LARRY WEYHRICH
 JUDY BARHOOVER, MICK BUCHLER, TOM CHRISTELL, ELAINE UREKAR
 DALE KRUCKEBERG, FAMILY OF JAN TURNER

If you would like to be added to the prayer list, or know someone who would like to be added to our list, please fill out a Prayer Request Card, send an email to peace.lutheran@comcast.net OR call the Office at (217)546-7646. Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name.

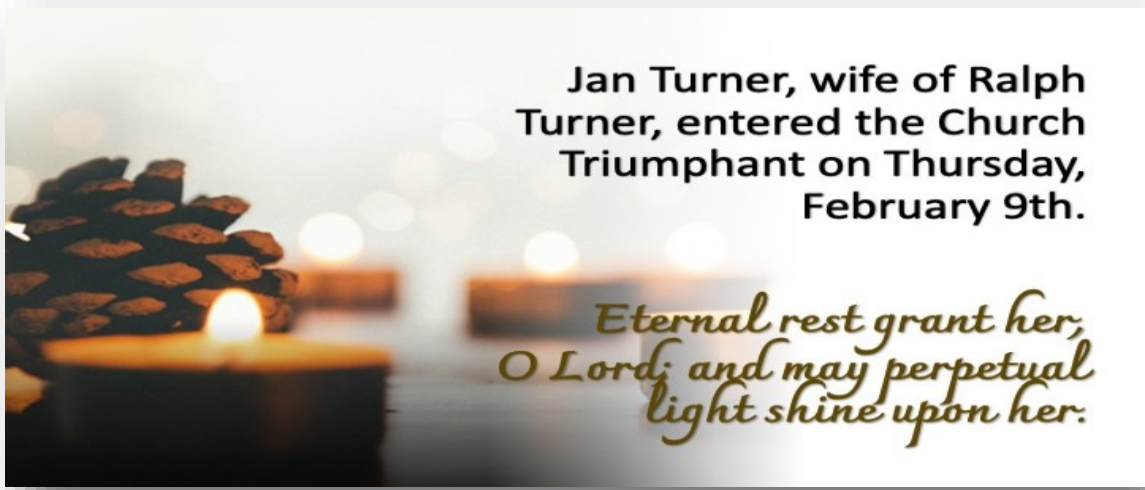
ANNOUNCEMENTS

ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, FEB. 12	IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM—9:30AM FAITH FORMATION—10:30AM DRIVE THRU COMMUNION—11:00AM SUNDAYS@6—6:00PM VIA ZOOM
MONDAY, FEB. 13	QUILTERS—6:00PM
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15	CHOIR REHEARSAL—7:00PM
THURSDAY, FEB. 16	VIOLIN RECITAL—5:00 PM
SUNDAY, FEB. 19	IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM—9:30AM

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12:

PRESIDING: REV. MARY E. ZUPANSIC	CAMERA: JANET KOCIS
ASSISTING MINISTER: CARTER KIM	POWERPOINT: LINDA RICE
MUSICIAN: BRENDA PECK	FELLOWSHIP: ANNIE ALLEN-JONES
USHERS: DOUG MCFARLAN, VERN KLEEN	
FLOWERS: BY ANN BECKER FOR THE GLORY OF GOD	



**Jan Turner, wife of Ralph
Turner, entered the Church
Triumphant on Thursday,
February 9th.**

*Eternal rest grant her,
O Lord; and may perpetual
light shine upon her.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

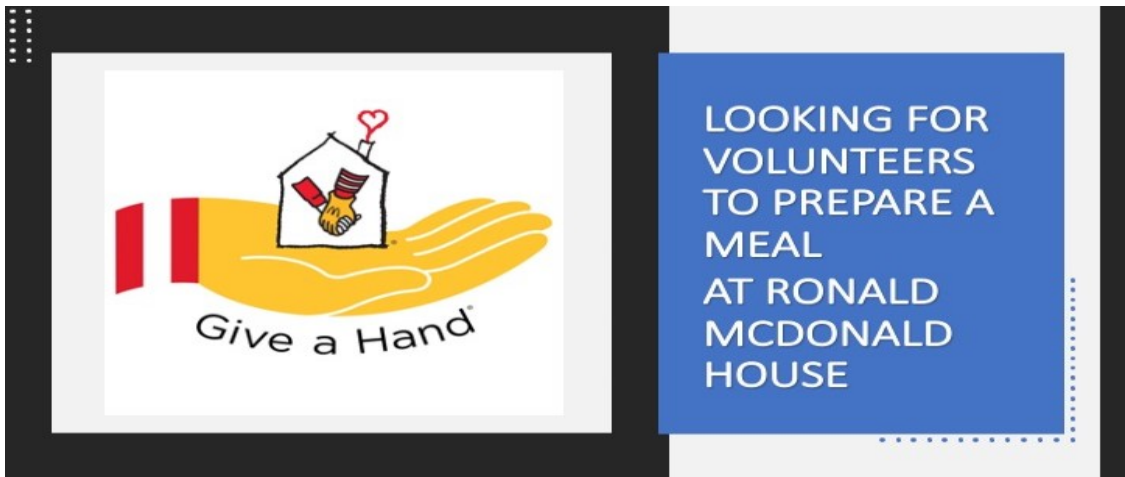
SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

MEMBERS OF PEACE ARE CHALLENGED TO BRING TWO CANS OF SOUP EACH WEEK UNTIL FEBRUARY SUPER BOWL SUNDAY ON FEBRUARY 12TH.

ALTAR FLOWERS

WE ARE TAKING ORDERS FOR 2023 ALTAR FLOWERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF OR IN HONOR OF A PERSON OR EVENT IN THE COMING YEAR PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. YOU CAN ALSO SIGN UP FOR FLOWERS ON OUR WEBSITE IN THE MEMBERS' SECTION. FLOWERS ARE \$35.00

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE



CONTACT AMANDA KIM IF YOU ARE INTERESTING IN PARTICIPATING!

CROSS-GENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION

JOIN US ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, FOLLOWING THE REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICE, FOR A CROSS-GENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITY! WE WILL BE LEARNING ABOUT **LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES** AND HOW THEY WORK TO PROVIDE BOOKS IN OUR COMMUNITY. FEEL FREE TO BRING A FEW PREVIOUSLY LOVED BOOKS TO DONATE!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ADULT FICTION:

"Under the Whispering Door" by T.J. Klune.

"The Man Who Sold Air in the Holy Land" by Omer Friedlander.

"Other Birds" by Sarah Addison Allen.

"Olive, Again" by Elizabeth Strout.

"The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson.

"The Book Woman's Daughter" by Kim Michele Richardson.

ADULT NON-FICTION:

"Reclaiming the "E" Word: Waking Up to Our Evangelical Identity" by Kelly A. Fryer.

"Unlocking a Broken World: A Story of Discovery" by Scott and Connie Payne.

ADULT BIOGRAPHY:

"I Am a Girl from Africa" by Elizabeth Nyamayaro.

GRAPHIC NOVEL:

"Jesus: Messenger of Peace!" by James Buckley Jr.

JUNIOR BIOGRAPHY:

"I am Martin Luther King Jr." by Brad Meltzer.

PICTURE BOOKS:

"Binny's Diwali" by Thrity Umrigar.

"Mother God" by Teresa Kim Pecinovsky.

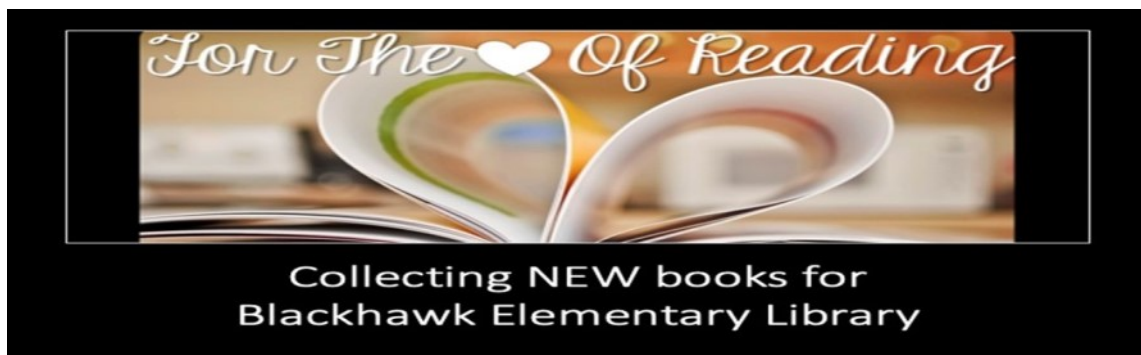
DVD:

Peter & Paul and the Christian Revolution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



If you would like a visit from Pastor Mary OR have a pastoral emergency, PLEASE contact Pastor on her cell phone @ 920-671-4338. You may also call the church office @217-546-7646 and leave a message.



Non-Fiction Cookbooks, World Records

Fiction (Picture Books)

Pete the Cat or Pete the Kittie by James and/or Kimberly Dean
If You Take a Mouse to School, If You Give a Moose a Muffin, If You Give a Pig a Party, If you Take a Mouse to the Movies by Laura Numeroff
Any Fly Guy by Tedd Arnold
No, David by David Shannon
Any NEW Books

Fiction (Novels- any by these Authors)

Andrew Clements	Patricia Reilly Giff	Any Last Kids on Earth by Max Brallier
Chris Grabenstein	Dan Gutman	
Lenore Look	Wendy Mass	
Claudia Mills	Judith Viorst	

13th St Mysteries by David Bowles (We have: Battle of the Bad Breath Bats, Clash of the Cackling Cougars, Fire Breathing Ferret Fiasco, Shocking Shark Showdown)



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VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED
TO TIE
FLEECE
BLANKETS
CONTACT,
NORMA
MCFARLAN

WE HAVE BEEN GENEROUSLY DONATED ENOUGH FLEECE MATERIAL TO MAKE 8 TIED BLANKETS FOR **HOPE FOR THE FIRST NATIONS**. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH TYING THESE BLANKETS, PLEASE CONTACT NORMA MCFARLAN AT 217-725-2439 OR SEE HER IN CHURCH. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!