

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship - Season of Creation



Please place white portion of bulletin in basket for re-use.

WELCOME



ELCA

Your presence builds up the body of Christ. We welcome and affirm God's diversity, including all ethnicities, cultures, races, sexual

orientations, gender identities and expressions, abilities, ages, and life experiences. You are invited to full participation in our congregation because of who you are. We lament and confess how the Christian Church has withheld Christ's love by misusing the power of institution. We commit to advocating for God's justice and mercy for all of creation, including humans. We commit to anti-racism and other ways of ending systems that cause harm. Christ is our peace and breaks down the walls that divide us. Our communion table is Christ's table. You and all people are welcome without exception.



RECONCILING IN CHRIST

Welcome Newcomers

We hope you are comfortable here. A few notes about our bulletin and worship. The white part of the bulletin gets re-used each week to conserve resources. The right-side margin contains details about the service and readings to help you connect more fully with worship. The yellow insert contains today's readings, songs, prayer requests, and announcements. Please take it home for your continued use this week. You can find more details for newcomers on the back page of the white bulletin. We are glad you are here - you are welcome in this space because of who you are.

Being Lutheran

As Lutherans, we see, hear, teach, and follow Jesus for the sake of our neighbor. Neighbor means anyone other than us, including creation. We see God in vulnerability - God meets us at the cross. In our deepest pain, God is present. Baptized into Christ, we live a new life - claimed and named forever as God's beloved. In the bread and wine of communion we receive and share Christ with all of creation. This is because of who God is, not because of what we do (or don't do). We receive God's grace through faith - in Scripture, the living word of God, and the sacraments of baptism and communion, which transform our lives so that we love and serve God, our neighbor and all of creation. A transformed life is one centered in Christ by the Spirit, following and trusting in God alone; freed to love, liberate, and serve.

Season after Pentecost

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence for Reflection

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

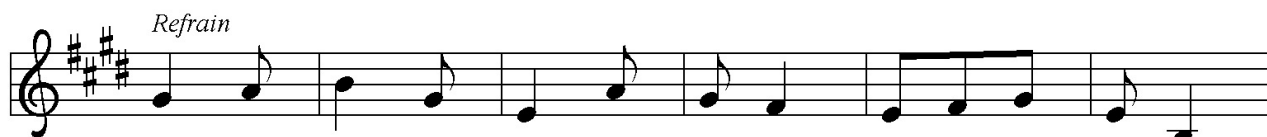
*An asterisk indicates
the congregation
should stand in body
and/or spirit.
Congregation's
speaking and singing
parts are in bold
font.*

*As we prepare for
worship, take time to
look around, to settle
in, to receive the Holy
Spirit's presence.*

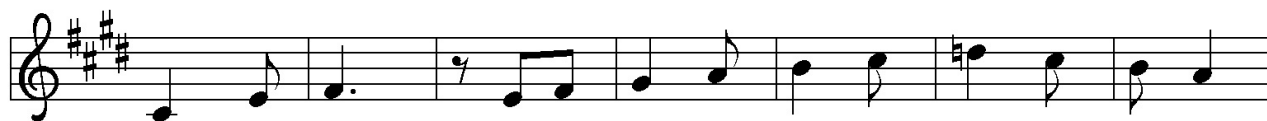


*All may make the sign
of the cross, the sign
that is marked at
baptism, as the
presiding minister
begins.*

***GATHERING HYMN** *Now the Feast and Celebration*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



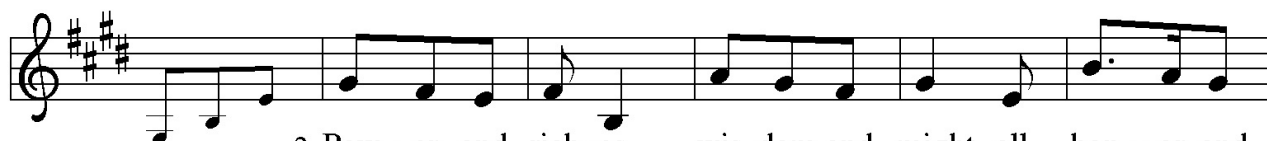
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

***GREETING**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

FIRST READING: *See insert*
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: *See insert*

SECOND READING: *See insert*
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



The readings and psalm can be found in the yellow insert.

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

***GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to...
Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of Jesus Christ. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Listen deeply as the gospel lesson is being read

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *See insert*

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**
...God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

***EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

OFFERING



*OFFERING PRAYER

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

Refrain:
Congregation:



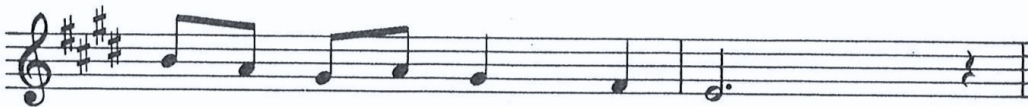
As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;



so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be



gath-ered in - to one in you.



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,—
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

to Refrain

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, mighty and merciful...

...Your mercy endures forever. **Your mercy endures forever.**

Trusting in the mercy and compassion of God who is with us as Parent and Creator, we pray as Jesus taught,

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.

This congregation tends to use the traditional form of the Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to pray using other versions, words, or languages that may be more familiar to you. You are also encouraged to address God in a way that most opens your heart to relationship with God (Creator, Father and Mother, Abba, Our Only Home are a few options). Jesus taught this form of prayer to the disciples to encourage sincere and meaningful conversation with God.

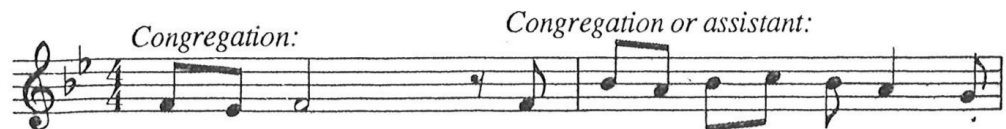
COMMUNION

The gifts of creation shared with God's creatures.
Come and share!

COMMUNION HYMNS

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: *Congregation or assistant:*



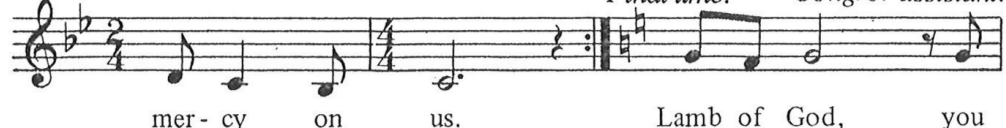
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

Congregation:



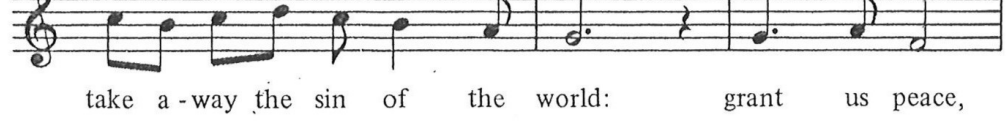
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,

Final time: *Cong. or assistant:*

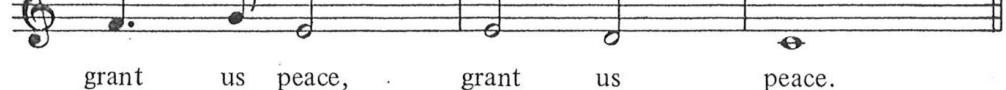


mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

*This is Christ's table.
You and all are
welcome, without
exception. If you
prefer a blessing only,
cross your arms over
your heart. Gluten-
free wafers available
by request. The wine is
red; the grape juice is
clear. Please let an
usher know if you
would like communion
brought to your pew.*

Communion Hymns: *See insert*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING PRAYER

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

*SENDING HYMN *See insert*

*DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God!



*Turn to follow the
cross as it passes and
leads us to love and
service in the world.*

Deepen Your Faith This Fall

Come & See – Tuesdays at 11:00 AM, Patio Room

Weekly faith formation conversations for anyone, no preparation needed. We spend time reflecting on one of the upcoming readings for Sunday and with the "Hidden Gem" reflection prepared by John Indermark. The conversation is intended to deepen contemplative Scripture reading and prepare for Sunday worship. Held in the Patio Room. Bring your Bible or borrow a Lutheran Study Bible. Led by Pastor Amalia.

Bell Choir - Mondays at 6:30 PM, Sanctuary

We welcome all who are interested in ringing or just curious to see what is involved. If you have any questions, ask any current bell ringer or contact Kathie Miller.

Chancel Choir - Thursdays, 6:30 PM, Activity Building

Everyone is welcome to join our choir. Experienced and new singers are invited to help us share music during worship. Chancel Choir rehearses weekly with Dr. Aysen Millioğulları and sings twice a month during worship. Talk to Aysen if you would like to learn more.

Public Faith Team - 4th Monday of the month, 6:00 PM, Patio Room

Hear the Gospel on Sunday, live it on Monday. Meet with others to engage in community advocacy in support of immigrants, people who are homeless, and others in need. Talk with Paula Miller.

Sunday Forums, Sundays at 10:30 AM, Activity Building

Throughout the fall, we will hold a variety of learning opportunities on Sunday mornings following worship. Check the bulletin or Weekly eNews for upcoming forums.

Worship Ministers

Help prepare for and lead worship. Ushers, assisting ministers, altar care, A/V tech team – offer to do what you love or learn a new skill. Talk to Pastor Amalia or email oslc@lutherantucson.org

Coffee Hosts

Do you come to church for the coffee? Help make it happen – hospitality-minded people needed to prepare coffee and serve treats (brought by others)

Other Weekly Events at Our Saviour's

Meditation Group, Mondays at 1:30 PM. Call Kevin 520-290-6949 for more information.

Men's Bible Study, Tuesdays at 7:00 AM, Activity Building

Spanish Class, Tuesdays, 6:30 PM, Activity Building – open to all levels, free

Community Bible Study, Wednesdays, 10:30 AM, Activity Building

Lutheran Campus Ministry Dinner & Worship, Wednesdays (UA, PCC, other young adults) 6:00 PM



Newcomers + We're glad you're here. Please fill out the green slip in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. You're welcome to share in Holy Communion.

Families + we have a small play area (pray-ground) up front. The joyful sounds and movements of children in worship are the welcome sounds of children growing in faith. Parents, thank you for doing the hard work of worshipping with children. This congregation is here to support you.

Hearing Assistance + headphones are available to assist in hearing the service. Please contact an usher to get set up with one.

Nametags + Nametags help us get to know and remember each other. Please let the ushers know if you need one made for you.

Expansive Language + As Lutherans, we teach that "God calls all creation into being and gives people language as a way of responding to God and forming community" (Principles for Worship, Principle L-1). In worship at Our Saviour's, we seek to use expansive language for God and people, sometimes changing or offering alternatives to the printed text.

Liturgy + Our sung liturgy is from Now the Feast and Celebration, by Marty Haugen.

Online Offering

We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering. Or, contact the church office to set up regular online giving.



Our Saviour's Council Members

Patty Sirls - President
Meg Hughes - Vice President
Jennifer Strand - Secretary
Shelly Adrian
Eric Howard

Joanna Keyl
Diane Siefkes
Rachel Starner

Sheila Bustamante - Treasurer



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

1200 N. Campbell Ave.
Tucson, Arizona 85719

Phone: (520) 327-6521

Website: lutherantucson.org

E-Mail: oslc@lutherantucson.org

Sunday Worship

9:00 - Sanctuary
Coffee following

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ministry Team

Rev. Amalia Vagts (ex 1004)

Michele Ruttinger
Parish Administrator

Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Music Director

Dawn Hartley
Collaborative Musician

Paula Miller
Minister of Community
Engagement

David Zezulka
Facilities Director

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Pastor Jenn Luong
Director

www.lcmuofa.org
520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Deacon of Community
Engagement

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FIRST READING Ezekiel 47:1, 9-12

¹ Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there water was flowing from below the entryway of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east), and the water was flowing down from below the south side of the temple, south of the altar. ⁹ Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish once these waters reach there. It will become fresh, and everything will live where the river goes. ¹⁰ People will stand fishing beside the sea from En-gedi to En-eglain; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. ¹¹ But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. ¹² On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing."

Psalm 148 (Pulpit Side - Regular; Organ Side - Bold)

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.
² **Praise the Lord, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**
³ Praise the Lord, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.
⁴ **Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**
⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord,
who commanded, and they were created,
⁶ **who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**
⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
⁸ **fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**
⁹ mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
¹⁰ **wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**
¹¹ sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
¹² **young men and maidens,
old and young together.**
¹³ Let them praise the name of the Lord,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
¹⁴ **The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all
faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING Acts 17:22a, 24-28

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL John 1:1-5

The gospel of Jesus Christ. **Praise to you, O Christ**

The book of Ezekiel is a complex work. Its opening chapters contain a devastating vision of judgment. The Presence of God takes flight from the Temple and leaves Israel. Exile follows. But Ezekiel also perceives the coming of hope. Chapters 40 onward envision a restored Jerusalem. Today's reading, the vision of a river of living waters whose source is God, is set in this section. So hear the words from the 47th chapter of Ezekiel, beginning at verse 1,

Psalms of praise are not unusual. But what makes this psalm unique is the "congregation" summoned to praise. Its worshippers consist of an inventory of God's created works, not only on earth but in the "heights." The psalmist does not bother with any "whys" as to their praise. God's powerful and sovereign hand in forming all is sufficient cause. Praise God!

The setting for our reading is Athens, the center of Greek culture and religion. In the verses immediately before, Luke writes of Paul's distress at seeing all the idols set up in the city. Our reading is but one portion of Paul's "sermon" that follows. In it, Paul testifies to the God who is Creator of all, the God not fashioned by human hands nor confined to manmade shrines.

This Is a Sacred World

Text by
Sharon Reinbott, 2013



1. This__ is a sa-cred world. The__ u - ni - verse di -
2. This__ is a sa-cred world. It__ per - me - ates our
4 3. This__ is a sa-cred world, though death will have its



vine Pours in - to night crea - a - tive might, and
sense. The moon, the tree, the__ cloud, the sea, in
7 due. It makes me dare to__ live a - ware, my



we__ re - flect its__ shine. This is a sa - cred
pure mag - ni - fi - cence. This is a sa - cred
10 deep - est dream pur - sue. This is a sa - cred



world. We__ see its first-born light cre -
world. Oh__ may it all em - ploy to
13 world. May I a - rise and see prim -



a - ting stars, their__ worlds and ours, flared
lis - ten well, with__ ev - 'ry cell, trans -
15 - e - val flame, cre - a - tion's name, now



forth__ in deep - est__ night.
formed in won - drous__ joy.
come__ to birth in__ me.

Tune: Franklin L. Sheppard 1852-1930

TERRA PATRIS

About the Hymn:

Our hymns are rich in metaphor and often evoke God, the benevolent Father-King, who owns the world he created. This metaphor can encourage attitudes of benign passivity on the part of humans, who never grow up to take responsibility for their relationship to the earth. This seems true of the hymn "This is My Father's World", in which it would seem that God is pictured as a kind of cosmic landlord. But instead, can we sing of the world, not as an object created and maintained by a parent (or landlord), but as a living, unfolding story, which includes us humans as well as stars, water, mountains, plants and other animals? Can we acknowledge that the creativity which began it all is birthing itself in the present moment? The first verse of the hymn sets an active universe in the time of primeval flaring forth we call the "big bang", the light of which our science has now learned to see. The second verse is a human response: humans as the creation reflecting on itself, and paying enough attention to allow its wonder to enter and transform. The third verse acknowledges that knowledge of death enables humans to participate in the ongoing creative process by embracing the deepest, truest desires of their hearts, and that the primeval flame from the first flaring forth is, even now, alive in us.

OFFERING *God of the Sparrow* setting by Nancy M. Raebe

COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW #639 When We Are Living

ELW #470 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

***SENDING HYMN** ELW #679 For the Fruit of All Creation

For the Fruit of All Creation

*Please turn to follow
the cross as it passes
and leads us to love
and service in the
world.*

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

PRELUDE *All Creatures of Our God and King*, arr. by Lloyd Larson

Prayer Requests: Pam Hardman; Chris Doak; Alecia Chrin; Justin Schneider; Gerry Meyer; Corky Ronstadt; Mary Neff; Lydia Slipp; the Hughes Family; and all at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Community: Friends and Family of John Shelton upon his death (former member); Friends and Family of Kathy Gregory upon the death of her husband Gary (friends of Ann and Bill DeVinney); Liz (friend of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Sarah (great niece of Donna Lounsbury); Becky (Daughter of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Josh, Melissa, Mary Ann Libby (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Jennifer, Sally, and Ashley, Elora, Gwen, and Tyler (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in-law of Theda Doak); John (son of Martha Neff Stum and Paul Stum); Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak); Leaticia, Azogan, Sidibe, and Zinsou, (friends of Rachel Starnier); Mary Etta (friend of Suzanne Hesh); Rita (friend of John and Judy Indermark)

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Names will generally remain on the list for three weeks, unless requested for renewal. Please contact the church office for corrections, updates, and additions.

OVERVIEW OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

The readings for this inaugural Creation in Christ Sunday celebrate God's hand and purposes in creation. Ezekiel envisions the river of life-giving water that flows from God. The psalm summons all creation to praise God. Paul witnesses to the God who is Creator of all. The Gospel of John testifies to the Word, identified in later verses as Christ, who with God brings all life into being and light into darkness.

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THOSE SERVING THIS SUNDAY 9/6/26

Presiding Minister	Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister	John Indermark
Communion Assistants	Deacon Wendi Van Beek, Sharon Reinbott
Acolyte	Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Keyboard	Dawn Hartley
Cantor	Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Usher	Judy Indermark, Jeanne Gacke
Greeter	Gloria Schmidt
Cross Bearer	Sharon Reinbott
Coffee Host	Melissa Wyatt
Treats	Mary Pflibsen
Tech Team	Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background	John Indermark

THOSE SERVING NEXT SUNDAY 9/13/26

Preaching Minister	Rev. Jenn Luong
Presiding Minister	Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister	Olga Ryan
Communion Assistants	Deacon Wendi Van Beek, Mary Pflibsen
Acolyte	Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Keyboard	Dawn Hartley
Cantor	Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Usher	Jennifer Strand, Patty Sirls
Greeter	Sophia Rankin
Cross Bearer	Olga Ryan
Coffee Host	Catalina Rankin
Treats	Adrian/Saphir Family
Tech Team	Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background	John Indermark