

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022

10 A.M.

INTRODUCTION

The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

PRELUDE

Leader: All:
May the peace of the Lord embrace us. May the

5 Leader:
love of the Lord light our way. We come to you

10 All:
lost and broken. Your brilliance illuminates our flaws.

16 Leader: All:
You know how our prayers ever fade. Yet always you

22
open your arms to us.

DEDICATION

My fount of beauty this year, O God,
Has been the building of Thy Tabernacle.
This task, so seeming hard, Thou hast stripped
Of difficulties, and lent Thine aid in overcoming
Many matters that blunt the sense and dull the vision.
Lift up the hearts of Thy people, Oh God,
And shed radiance over Thy House of Worship.
Help us to make it lasting and to keep it holy;
Prompt us to preserve peace, and in sweet serenity
To fathom the infinite wisdom and spiritual strength
Of Thy Teachings.

Written by Rebecca Fusfeld following the construction of a synagogue in Sioux Falls, MN in 1934



+GATHERING+

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

P Send us your silence, Holy God, that we may reflect on the ways we have turned away from you.

Silence for reflection.

P Accept our confession of sin, and bathe us in your forgiveness.

C Forgive us, gracious God. We fail to thank you for your gifts to us. We neglect those who are in need, those who could teach us of your love. And we have such a dim view of ourselves compared with your vision of us. You have given us wings and urged us to fly. But we keep our feet on the ground and our backs turned to you. Forgive us, mighty God.

P Through the gift we can never hope to deserve, the gift of Jesus Christ, God takes away our sin. In the warmth of God's loving gaze--Father, ✚ Son and Holy Spirit--we are forgiven.

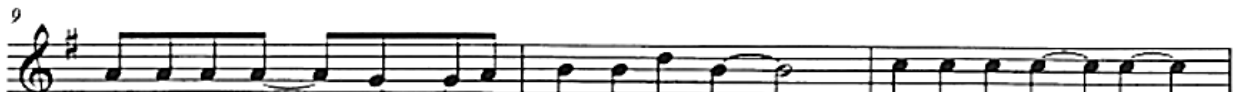
C We are forgiven!



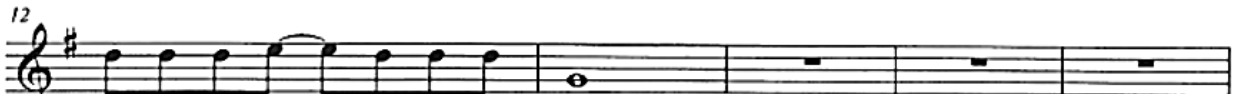
1 We are for-giv - en.____ We're clean a - gain._____



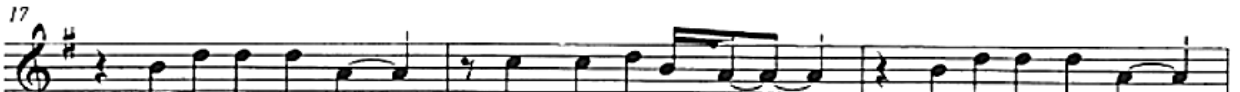
5 Gone is the dark night of sin;_____ in comes the light.



9 We are re - born____ through no power of our own.____ We are for-giv - en____



12 and we are giv - en a new start.



17 We are for-give - en.____ We're clean a - gain._____ We are for-give - en,____



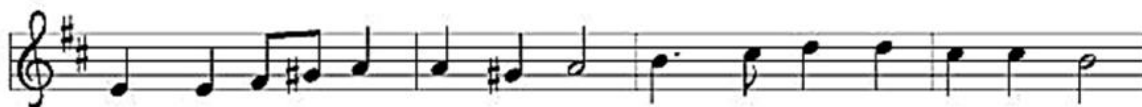
20 and we are giv - en a new start. A - men.____ A - men. A - men.____



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
 2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
 3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,



Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
 those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
 and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;



Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
 Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
 from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
 all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
 "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832-1916, alt.
 Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622-1702

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



If God were an ea - gle, he'd
 If God were the wind, she'd run
 If God were a moun - tain, a
 God's more than a moun - tain, an



swoop through the trees. He'd flex all his fea - thers to
 rings 'round the clouds. She'd swirl 'round the world just ca -
 tow - er of stone, it would reach to the hea - vens, al -
 ea - gle, the wind. God stretch - es be - yond where our



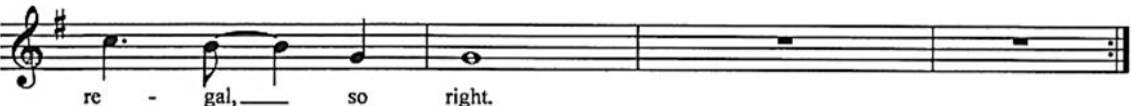
catch the least breeze. And peo - ple would shout,
 res - ing the crowds. And peo - ple would sigh,
 might - ty, a - lone. And peo - ple would cry,
 hymns of praise end. Al - might - y and yet



"Oh, what beau - ty in flight!" If God were an ea - gle, so
 "Oh, what gen - tle - ness there!" If God were the wind, whis - pering
 "Oh, what strength we can feel!" If God were a moun - tain, a
 del - i - cate and light, God came in the form of a



re - gal, so right. If God were an ea - gle, so
 in eve - ry - where. If God were the wind, whis - pering
 pow - er so real. If God were a moun - tain, a
 ba - by one night, and that is the rea - son our



re - gal, so right.
 in eve - ry - where.
 pow - er so real.
 hearts burn so bright.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON



+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Through a vision in the temple, the eighth-century prophet Isaiah is called by God to announce judgment against Israel. Aware of his sinfulness and shortcomings, Isaiah is initially hesitant. But when God calls, Isaiah responds, "Here am I; send me!"

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here am I; send me!" ⁹And he said, "Go and say to this people: 'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.' ¹⁰Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their

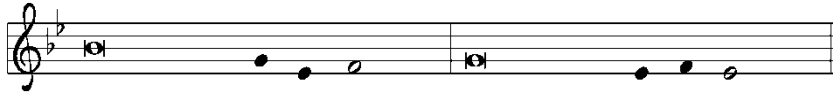
eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed.”
11Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said: “Until cities lie waste without inhabitant,
and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; 12until the LORD sends everyone
far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. 13Even if a tenth part remain in it,
it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is
felled.” The holy seed is its stump.]

Reader The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 138

We sing the psalm responsively.



Leader 1I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with 1 my whole heart;
before the gods I will 1 sing your praise.

**C 2I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of
your steadfast 1 love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- 1 bove all things.**

L 3When I called, you 1 answered me;
you increased my 1 strength within me.

**C 4All the rulers of the earth will praise 1 you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words 1 of your mouth.**

L 5They will sing of the ways 1 of the LORD,
that great is the glory 1 of the LORD.

**C 6The LORD is high, yet cares 1 for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty 1 from afar.**

L 7Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you 1 keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your
right 1 hand shall save me.

C ⁸You will make good your pur- | pose for me;
 O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the
 works | of your hands.

Spoken after the psalm is sung:

C **Amen.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul delivers in a nutshell the story of the gospel that was given to him. In the lineage of the Christian faith, we have received the good news of God's love from generations of believers before us, and we continue to tell this story to the world.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Reader The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11

Jesus' teaching of God's word has begun to draw great crowds. For Simon, James, and John, Jesus' teaching inspires hospitality, then obedience, and then risk. After Jesus' creative power is revealed, fear and amazement leads these three fishermen to leave everything behind to become apostles.

P The holy gospel according to Luke, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

1Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, 2he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. 3He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. 4When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." 5Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." 6When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. 7So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. 8But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" 9For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; 10and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." 11When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *We encounter the living word of God in the preaching.*

INTERPRETIVE DANCE *How Great Thou Art* Rita Ford & Colleen Holdcraft



+ ORDER FOR HEALING +

INTRODUCTION

P Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing - with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends: God of grace,

Congregational response: hear our prayer.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING WITH OIL

P Siblings in Christ, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

Those who wish to receive a laying on of hands (and anointing) may kneel or stand at the altar rail. After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands, and the presiding minister continues.

P Receive this oil as a sign of forgiveness and healing in Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

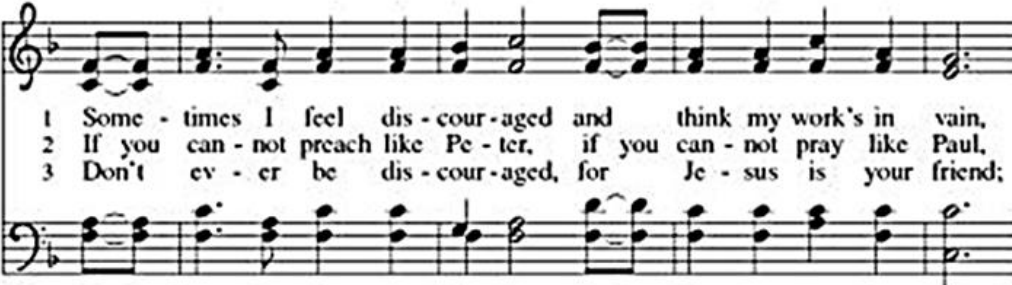
Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: BALMIN GILEAD, African American spiritual

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.

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

Refrain

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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P Let us pray.

Merciful Lord God, constant source of all healing, we give you thanks for all your gifts of strength and life, and above all we thank you for the gift of your Son, through whom we have health and salvation. As we wait for that day when there will be no more pain, help us by your Holy Spirit to be assured of your power in our lives and to trust in your eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

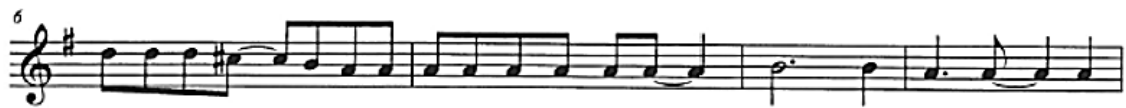
OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERING HYMN




I reach in my pock - et__ to



6 pull out an of - fer-ing as if this gift were real-ly__ mine. It's not, Lord, I




10 know, but I cling to__ it so__ un - til my__ soul's voice can__ re -




15 mind me that what - ev - er I have, __ what - ev - er I have,



20 __ what - ev - er I have, __ Lord, __ is yours.



25 I vis - it with you__ for an hour on Sun - days__ as if it's a fav - or I



29 do. Lord, help me__ to see that to live faith - ful - ly is__ to

34
turn my days o - ver to you be cause what - ev - er I have,

39
_____ what - ev - er I have, _____ what - ev - er I have, Lord, is

43
yours. And now down the aisle comes a

48
gift like no oth - er. The bread and the wine make me free. The best gift of

52
yours is the son we a - dore. The on - ly gift I have is

57
me. Take me. What - ev - er I have, _____ what - ev - er I have, _____

62
_____ what - ev - er I have, Lord, is yours.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

C **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.**

+ SENDING +

BLESSING *We receive the blessings of the triune God.*

P May the Lord who placed this fragile planet in the sky grant us the wisdom to preserve it and the love to make it shine. May Almighty God--Father, ✝ Son, Holy Spirit--soothe our hearts and heal us with the peace we truly need.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN 414 *Holy God, We Praise Your Name (vs. 1-3)*

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scepter claim,
 above are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
 and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from heav'n to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord; "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

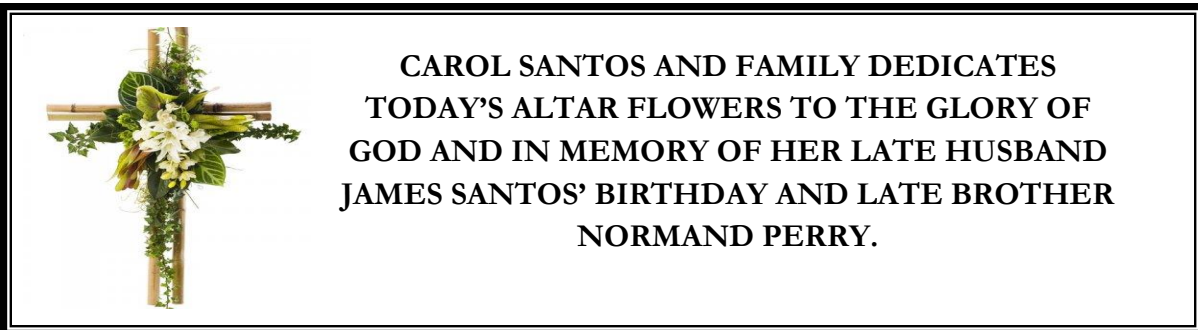
DISMISSAL

- A We believe out loud that God's mission for us is:
- C to be an active community that welcomes all people to nurture and share their faith and gifts with everyone, according to God's call.**
- A Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.
- C Thanks be to God.**

+ + +

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*Arise!
The St. Stephen Service
Music by Tom Buchanan
Lyrics by Ron Hartung
Of St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Tallahassee, FL*



Calendar for January 30 - February 6

Jan.	30	Sun.	10:00 am	Worship, Ministry of Reconciliation
Feb.	2	Wed.	noon	Bible study (online)
Feb.	6	Sun.	10:00 am	Worship, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

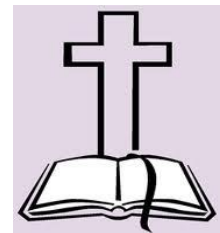
Next Sunday's Readings: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

[Isaiah 6:1-8 \[9-13\]](#)

[Psalm 138](#)

[1 Corinthians 15:1-11](#)

[Luke 5:1-11](#)



SERVING TABLE

Serving	February 06	February 13
Presiding	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom
Preaching	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom
Assisting Minister	Rob Schiffer	Jennifer Dritt
Cup Minister		
Lector	Colleen Holdcraft	Stephanie Leitch
Cantors	Kirsten Ebbesen Jake Hartung	Rudy Hehn Cassandra White
Altar Guild	Rita Ford Susan Warren	Erin Kenney Billie Reardon
Counters	Kirsten Ebbesen Rob Schiffer	Audrey Post Billie Reardon
Announcements	Pastor Tom	Pastor Tom

PRAYER REQUESTS

New concerns: Ruth Hartung and family, mourning the passing of her brother, Richard; Tim Larson and family mourning the passing of Tim's brother, Jon; Becky Button (cousin of Audrey Post), in critical condition after a car accident; Gladys Kane, recovering from surgery; Isaac (son of Terri Schmitt) for healing (both physical and emotional).

For the sick: Val Sullivan; Margarete Decker (mother of Caroline Collins); Don Dowd; Isabelle Taylor (granddaughter of Bill & Connie Taylor), being treated for rheumatoid arthritis and Primary Immunodeficiency; Theresa Martin (friend of Cheryl Stuart); Dan Graney (friend of Cheryl Stuart); Sarah (friend of Cassandra White).

In treatment for cancer: Stephanie Barber; Cathie Nitti (niece of Sharon Simmons); Jenny (niece of Laura Sullivan & Colin Hackley); Rosalinda Wright; Maggie Soff (friend of Sandy Sampson); James Sablan (brother of Donna Schiffer); Isabell Cintron (friend of Sharon Simmons); Sarah Lucas (friend of Cassandra White); Bruce Blubaum (cousin of Sharon Simmons); Chris Dickman (synod council member), child of Pr. Katrina Foster (friend of Cheryl).

For health and protection: For all affected by coronavirus: those experiencing mental health difficulties due to isolation; those with the disease struggling to recover; those on the front lines fighting, researching and treating the disease (doctors, nurses, medical personnel, EMTs, the millions of unemployed people, etc.); for the unaccompanied children entering the US, including those “unaccounted for”.

For prisoners: Femi and Eddie; all those on death row.

Other concerns: Karen Olson; Blanche White (Melissa Barton).

Church concerns: St. Stephen’s Congregational Council; The Florida-Bahamas Synod Council, all congregations searching for ways to stay connected and proclaim the Good News; Reconciling Works; Grace Lutheran Church; Bishop Pedro Suarez; Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; Our Savior Lutheran Church in Freeport, Bahamas; the ELCA Advocacy offices and ministry; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pensacola.

World concerns: For all recovering in the Florida Panhandle from Hurricane Michael, including Messiah Lutheran Church; the people of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands continuing to recover from hurricanes; migrants fleeing violence in Central America; all those migrants and asylum seekers imprisoned by the US government; the people of Venezuela (birthplace of Bp. Suarez) and Hong Kong; for the Supreme Court as it considers cases involving the LGBTQ community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWER CHART FOR 2022: Do you have an anniversary, birthday or special memory you would like to honor? Celebrate the occasion by sponsoring the flowers for our service and signing up for the 2022 Flower Chart located in the narthex. The cost is \$35, and you can place that in the offering plate.

RSVP FOR NEXT WEEK: Remember to use the Sign-up Genius to reserve your spot for worship service (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c45a4a62ea7fbc16-sunday>). The deadline is noon on the Friday before worship. The calendar has dates available throughout the summer.