# Sunday, May 8, 2022 **4th Sunday of Easter** ST*J*OHN'S



# 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER Sunday, May 8, 2022 9:30 am

#### INTRODUCTION

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It is true for us and for all the baptized. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

#### Prelude

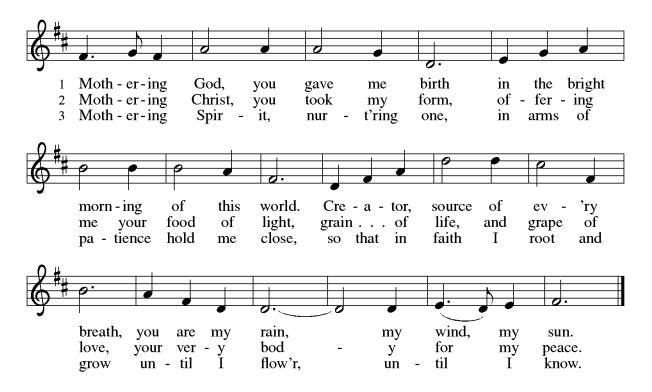
"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" arr. Cindy Berry arr. Mark Hayes

# + Gathering +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**RINGING OF THE BELL** 

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth (ELW 735) The congregation may stand and face the cross. The congregation may turn to continue facing the cross as it is carried forward.



Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342–c. 1413 Music: NORWICH, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

# EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! 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.

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God, fountain of living water, source of mercy, tender and mighty, you are clothed with majesty and splendor. **Your steadfast love fills the earth.** 

Your love flows through water, satisfying the thirst of all living things, sustaining life in this community, nourishing and delighting us. We bless you for these gifts of water: Lake Michigan, the Chicago River, and the Skokie Lagoons. **Your steadfast love fills the earth.** 

Your love flows through water, a sign of your saving power: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again. **Your steadfast love fills the earth.** 

Your love flows through the water of baptism joined to your life-giving Word: your well of mercy and cleansing flood, your sea of deliverance from death into life, your healing river washing sin away, your living water springing up to eternal life. **Your steadfast love fills the earth.** 

Shower us with your Holy Spirit. Fill us with your love. Clothe us and all your people with grace. Embolden us to do justice. Bless us to love mercy. Guide us to walk humbly with you, whom we thank and praise, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**  CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

O God of peace, you delivered out of death our sister Tabitha, a great ancestor in the faith. By your grace and eternal covenant, deliver us also, and make us whole. Open our hearts to the movement of the Holy Spirit among us, that we may join the joyful dance of your creative activity in the world. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# + Word +

READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he staved in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;

## **PSALM**

Read in unison.

I shall not be in want. <sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. <sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil: <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu ia. Repeat alleluia O Our hearts burn with - in us

as you open to us the scriptures.

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

### GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup> The time came for Hanukkah, the Feast of the Dedication, in Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup> It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the Temple area, in Solomon's Porch, <sup>24</sup> when the Temple authorities surrounded him and said, "How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you really are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup> Jesus replied, "I did tell you, but you don't believe. The work I do in my Abba's name gives witness in my favor, <sup>26</sup> but you don't believe because you're not my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never be lost. No one will ever snatch them from my hand. <sup>29</sup> Abba God, who gave them to me, is greater than anyone, and no one can steal them from Abba God. <sup>30</sup> For Abba and I are One."

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

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2312). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

SERMON

# HYMN OF THE DAY

For All the Faithful Women

Pastor Allison Bengfort

See page 5.

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.

Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas, who served the sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kindness, her heart an open door. Send us, O Christ, your Body, where people cry in pain, and touch them with compassion to make them whole again.

O God, for saints and servants, those named and those unknown, in whom through all the ages your light of glory shone, we offer glad thanksgiving and fervent prayer we raise that, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.

All praise to God the Mother! All praise to Christ the Child! All praise to God the Spirit, whose dance is bold and wild! With saints who went before us, with saints who witness still, we sing glad alleluias and live to do your will.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

I invite you to assume a posture of prayer. You may sit, stand, or kneel; fold your hands or turn them upward; close your eyes or lift them to the altar.

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers, those who have lost mothers, and those who have lost children. Help us to heal from broken family relationships, and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation. Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding. Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

People of God, for what else shall we pray this day? Your prayers are invited now, either silently or aloud. (*Pause for prayers.*)

God, in your mercy,	or	Lord, we praise you,
receive our prayer.		Thanks be to God.

Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

### THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (wave, handshake, hug, etc.), honoring the personal boundaries of all. Those online may unmute and verbally share the peace.

# + Meal +

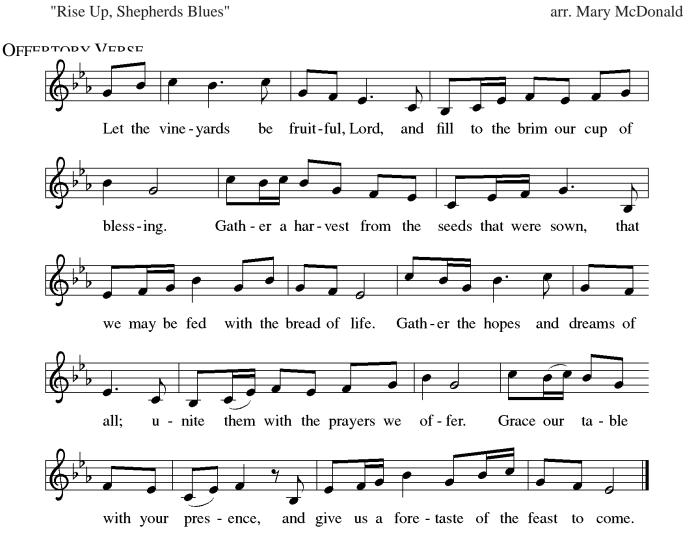
#### INVITATION TO OFFERING

During this season of Easter, we are inspired by the beloved community of the early church, where resources were shared by all. We, too, seek to share our resources so that we can live in harmony, balance, and mutuality with one another. Following the example of the earliest Christians, we offer our gifts now, so that the ministry of this church may continue to participate in God's compassion and renewal.

#### OFFERING

We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's! Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, made in the Vanco Mobile app, or given online at stjohnswilmette.org/give. Thank you for your generosity!

#### **OFFERTORY MUSIC**

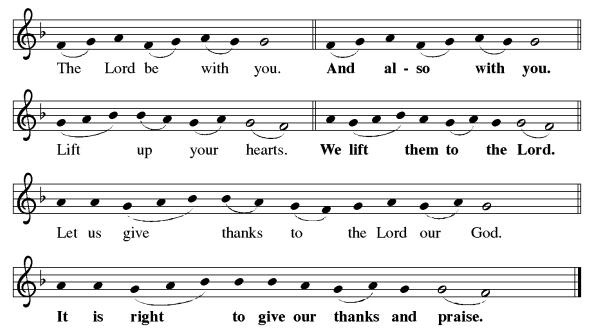


Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together. God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

DIALOGUE



PREFACE

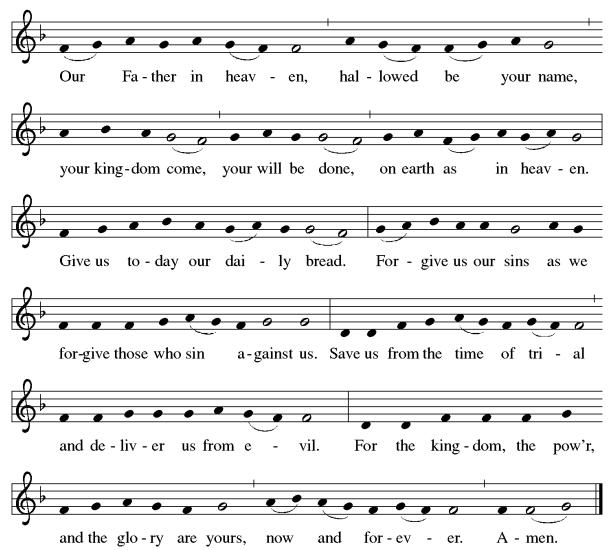
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Those worshipping online are invited to raise their bread and wine along with the pastor to be blessed.

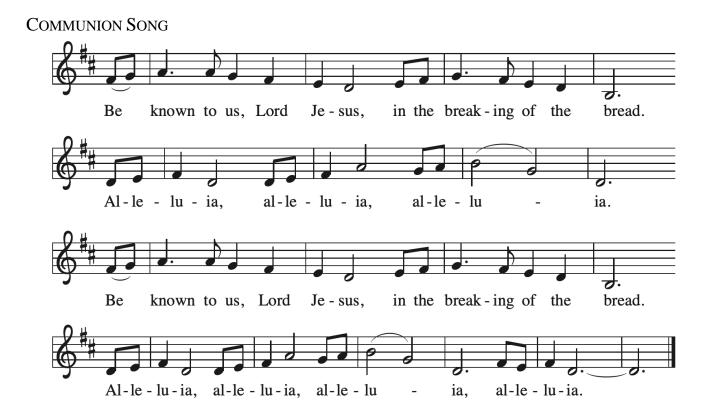
LORD'S PRAYER



#### **INVITATION**

#### COMMUNION

All are welcome to commune at Christ's table! If you are online, serve yourself or those worshipping with you by saying, "The body of Christ, given for you," and "The blood of Christ, shed for you." If you are communing in person, please proceed down the center aisle at the direction of an usher, maintaining social distancing. You may receive bread or request a glutenfree wafer. Please step forward and then remove your mask to eat in front of the altar. A glass of wine (dark colored) will be placed on the table next to you, or you may request grape juice (light colored). You may drink and then place the empty glass in the basket. Please put your mask back on before returning to your seat. If you would prefer to receive only a blessing, you may cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please inform an usher, and the elements will be brought to you.





Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23 Music: SHEPHERD ME, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt., based on Psalm 23 Music: RESIGNATION, North American traditional

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together. Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal, may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

**POST-COMMUNION VERSE** Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and bear Christ's ho ly name. \_ Send us with your prom - is - es, God. and lead us forth in 0 of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu joy with shouts ia. Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Liturgy of Joy, James M. Capers, b. 1948 Text © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

# + Sending +

### **BENEDICTION**

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in + Christ Jesus. Amen.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** 

Come Rejoicing, Celebrating Life Together The congregation may turn to continue facing the cross as it is carried out.

Come rejoicing, celebrating life together through the years, being church in many places, joined in mission far and near. Holy Wisdom still is guiding, showing all her paths of peace; like the trees in fullest blossom, all our talents will increase.

Learning, growing here together, we create the church anew, still reforming and transforming, leading to a wider view. Sister Brother Spirit guiding, we claim all we're meant to be, future visions guide us forward, making dreams reality.

Celebrate the Holy Mystery, deep within us and above, giving power for each challenge, filling all with hope and love. Past and present flow together, streams of blessing, full and free; future visions guide us forward, making dreams reality.

Text: Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Tune: Nettleton

# DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Go in peace. Tell everyone what God has done. Thanks be to God!

### POSTLUDE

"Blessed Assurance"

arr. Phoebe Palmer Knap

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### First Communion/Thanksgiving for Communion Classes

Student Pastor Derek is concluding a three-week First Communion/Thanksgiving for Communion class with children and youth today. The class meets during Children's Church time, in person only. We will celebrate and receive first communion next Sunday, **May 15<sup>th</sup>** during the 9:30 am service. All children are welcome and encouraged to participate regardless of whether they've received communion previously. If you'd like to volunteer to assist or have questions, please email derek@stjohnswilmette.com.

#### Family Promise at St. John's

St. John's is excited to be hosting Family Promise families for three weeks, from May 1-22. Currently there are two families in the program: Marcus and his three boys: Marius, 4 yr., Ky, 3 yr. and Maison, 1 yr. and Dulce and her daughter, Valerie, 15 months. We had a great first week getting to know the families and sharing dinner meals with them. For the remaining two weeks, there are four open evenings for dinner volunteers: Thurs. 5/12, Mon. 5/16, Thurs. 5/19, and Fri. 5/20. If you would like to provide dinner and eat with the families on any of these nights, please contact Pastor Allison.

#### **Mission & Vision Special Service**

On Sunday, May 22, we will have a special worship service that includes a focus on the ongoing development of our strategic plan. The Mission and Vision Team will share the ideas and reflections we heard during the small group sessions in March-April, and there will be opportunity for further reflection. The service will be held in the Fellowship Hall, and there will be no Zoom or streaming of the service that Sunday. See you there as we continue discern together where the Holy Spirit is leading St. John's!

#### **Family Promise Farewell Party for Tracy McKeithen**

You are invited to a farewell party for Tracy McKeithen, Family Promise North Shore Executive Director, at St. John's next Sunday, May 15, 1:00-3:00 pm. Tracy has been with Family Promise since August of 2011, and is leaving for another position. Come for refreshments and to wish Tracy farewell and godspeed. See the link in this week's Enews for further information.

#### Wilmette's Sesquicentennial Celebration

The celebration of Wilmette's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday includes the improvement of a Village Center alley to provide safe pedestrian access between the Metra parking lot and the shops and restaurants in the Village Center. Part of this work will be a sidewalk with commemorative bricks identifying citizens, businesses and organizations that have been part of the development of the community. St. John's is certainly one of the foundational organizations dating back to its establishment in 1903 and it would be great to commemorate that fact. The cost of a brick is \$150 or \$250 depending on its size and so far, \$50 has been pledged towards a St. John's brick. If you would like to contribute towards this effort, please do so through Jan Wendel in the church office. The deadline is May 31.

#### **Bible Study Remains Online Only**

Weekly Bible Study will remain meeting online from 11:00 am-12:00 pm on Tuesdays. Bible Study can be accessed via our worship Zoom link.

### **Visitors for Sarah**

Sarah Rink, a regular participant at the Saturday service and now a participant in Sunday morning services, is looking for folks who would be willing to visit her in her home (1900 Wilmette Ave. #2F). She is experiencing chronic pain, and having visitors would be a great blessing in her life. She is open to hosting visitors at 4 pm or 5 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Sarah is fully

vaccinated and happy to wear a mask if that is preferred. Please give her a call at 847-251-2758 to let her know when you can stop by!

#### Mask Update

Masks are now optional for activities at St. John's with the important exceptions of worship and youth programming. Worship leaders, including cantors/song leaders, may now remove masks while leading, but the congregation will remain masked and socially distanced from leaders. If you have any questions or concerns about our current policy, please contact our Re-Entry Team (Pastor Allison, Michel Hauser, Al Swanson, Christi Wise).

#### **Amazon Smile**

Amazon Smile is a nonprofit that donates a small percentage of your Amazon purchases to a charity of your choice. If you plan to make any orders on through Amazon, please consider using smile.amazon.com rather than amazon.com to make your purchases. There, you can search for all the same products and have access to all your prime benefits, and when you place your order, you can designate "St John Evangelical Lutheran Church" as your charity. Please note that we recommend Amazon Smile to be used only as an alternative to Amazon.com. Whenever possible, St. John's encourages all its members to make purchases locally.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY		
9:30 am	Hybrid Worship with In-person Communion Class	
10:30 am	Coffee Hour	
Tuesday		
11:00 ам	Zoom-only Bible Study	
WEDNESDAY		
7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting	
Thursday		
12:00 рм	Zoom-only Men's Lunch	
Sunday, May 15		
9:30 am	Hybrid Worship with First Communion	
10:30 am	First Communion Reception	
1:00 pm	Farewell Party for Tracy McKeithen, Family Promise Executive Director	
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ST/OHN'S

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# SERVING TODAY

Preaching & Presiding Minister: Assisting Minister: Guest Organist & Pianist: Cantor: Minister of the Word: Crucifer: Bell Ringer: Usher: Altar Guild: First Communion Class: Livestream Camera Operator: Zoom Host: The Rev. Allison Bengfort Chris Maglocci Christine Verity Stephanie Chee Jan Wendel Aidan Maglocci Tina Ziegler Tom Morrison Jan Wendel Derek Stienmetz Jason Shutters Luke Rasmussen

# BULLETIN COVER ART

## **Tabitha: The Creative Leader**

By Cara Quinn From knowyourmothers.com

Know Your Mothers is a project that seeks to unearth the buried stories of Christian women who have been ignored for too long. The art is a significant part of this project and seeks to honor these women in a visually dynamic way. Inspired by the icons which are venerated in Eastern Orthodox and the Catholic church traditions, these "modern icons" hope to aid in elevating these women to a place of honor as a part of worship.

Worship elements from sundaysandseasons.com.

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# IN OUR PRAYERS

- The family & friends of Brett Genovese, brother of Courtney Radde, who died 4/21/22
- Chad Johnson, shoulder replacement surgery on 4/27/22
- The people of China, who are still suffering greatly from the Covid-19 pandemic (4/18/22)
- The people of the US, that we as a predominantly white country may respond to the people of China's need with loving, useful action (4/18/22)
- David & Allie Swanson, son & daughter-in-law of Jan Rassenfoss & Alan Swanson, on the birth of a son, Daniel Joseph, on 4/12/22
- + Stephanie Gonder, recovery from oral surgery 3/28/22
- + Craig Gonder, recovery from hernia surgery on 3/23/22
- Mindy Davis, seeking permanent housing (2/23/22)
- Tyler MacAvoy, daughter of Bill & Medwin Kaspar, in need of healing (2/22/22)
- Laurel Malhotra, in need of healing (2/23/22)
- Frank Ziegler, recovering from knee replacement
- Carolyn Groves, mother of Mary Kastman, in need of healing

- The family & friends of Gilbert & Eleanor Basnik, father and stepmother of Linda Basnik, who died on 8/5/21 & 8/6/21
- + Amy Kohler, for safety and mental health (2/16/22)
- Joanni Kric, recovering from hospitalization in Aug. 2021
- Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus
- Natalie Domchenko & Hilaire Sainson, sister of Olga Domchenko and sister's husband, in need of healing
- Alan Williams, stepfather of Christi Wise, recovering from surgery
- Karen Brunn, daughter of Dave & Lyn Brunn, recovering from spinal cord injury
- The family & friends of Joyce Rank, grandmother of Luke Rasmussen, who died 8/29/21
- The family and friends of Sylvia Cushing, cousin of Olga Domchenko, died 11/17/21
- The family and friends of Ed Price, friend of Sarah Rink, who died 11/21/21
- + Sarah Rink, for recovery from chronic pain