

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. James Harris. Pastor

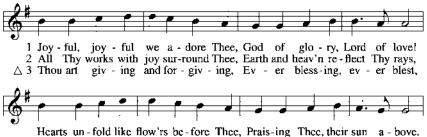
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. July 13, 2025 DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE: Page 184

Thoughts as we gather Jesus Is Our Good Samaritan

The Law commands that "you shall love the Lord your God" with all your heart, soul, mind and strength (Luke 10:27), and that you shall "love your neighbor as yourself" (Lev. 19:18). Love fulfills the Law because love does no harm to the neighbor. Christ Jesus is the Good Samaritan, who with divine compassion saves you from all evil. He takes your sin and death upon Himself and bears these in His body to the cross. He binds up your wounds with the healing balm of His Gospel, and He brings you into His Church, where He takes care of you at His own expense (Luke 10:34–35). By such mercy, He proves "to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers" (Luke 10:36). Therefore, "you go, and do likewise" (Luke 10:37). By "your faith in Christ Jesus" and "because of the hope laid up for you in heaven" (Col. 1:4–5), you have the same love for others as the Lord Jesus has for you.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



Hearts un-fold like flow'rs be-fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a-bove. Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise. Well-spring of the joy of liv-ing, O-cean-depth of hap-py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a-way. Field and for - est, vale and mountain, Flow-'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir - it, Foun-tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day. Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy - ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt. Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 136:23-26; antiphon: v. 1

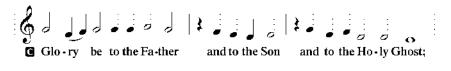
Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.

It is He who remembered us in our low estate, for His steadfast love endures forever; and rescued us from our foes, for His steadfast love endures forever; He who gives food to all flesh, for His steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven, for His steadfast love endures forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

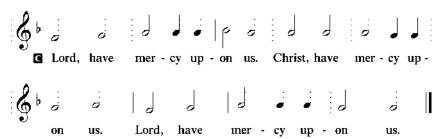
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.





as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

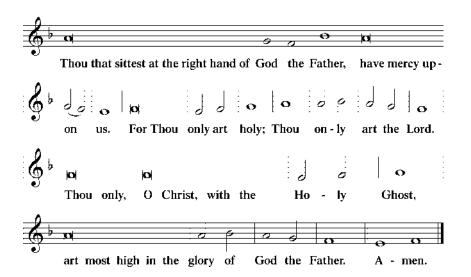
KYRIE LSB 186



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 187





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



Lord Jesus Christ, in Your deep compassion You rescue us from whatever may hurt us. Teach us to love You above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

¹ The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, I am the LORD your God. ³You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes. ⁴You shall follow My rules and keep My statutes and walk in them. I am the LORD your God. ⁵You shall therefore keep My statutes and My rules; if a person does them, he shall live by them: I am the LORD. . . .

⁹"When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. ¹⁰And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God.

¹¹"You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. ¹²You shall not swear by My name falsely, and so profane the name of

your God: I am the LORD.

¹³"You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. ¹⁴You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

¹⁵"You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

¹⁷"You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 41; antiphon: v. 1

¹Blessèd is the one who considers the poor!
In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;

²the LORD protects him and keeps him alive;
he is called blessèd in the land;
you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.

³The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.

⁴As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You!"

⁵My enemies say of me in malice,

"When will he die and his name perish?"

⁶And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.

⁷All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.

⁸They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies."

⁹Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.

¹⁰But you, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!

¹¹By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.

¹²But you have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever.

¹³Blessèd be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!
Amen and Amen.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Colossians 1:1–14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

²To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, ⁶which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, ⁷just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf ⁸and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

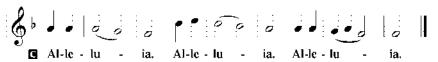
⁹And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the

kingdom of His beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

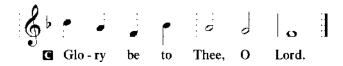
Stand

ALLELUIA LSB 190



HOLY GOSPEL Luke 10:25–37

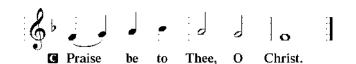
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.



²⁵Behold, a lawyer stood up to put [Jesus] to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" ²⁷And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

²⁹But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

 \mathbf{C} I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

> And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father. by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified.

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

845 Where Charity and Love Prevail



- 5 Let us recall that in our midst Dwells Christ, His only Son; As members of His body joined We are in Him made one.
- 6 For love excludes no race or clan That names the Savior's name; His family embraces all Whose Father is the same.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt. Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842 Text: © 1950 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276

Tune: Public domain

SERMON

- P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY LSB 192



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Merciful Lord, the apostle Paul did not cease to pray for the church in Colossae, that she might be filled with the knowledge of Your will and all spiritual wisdom and understanding. Stir up in us a spirit of intercession for our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world, that we might constantly remember them in prayer, even as they remember us. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- Lord of the harvest, You have sent forth ministers in Your name to proclaim Your saving Gospel and deliver sinners from darkness into Your kingdom. Bless all pastors and church workers in their service to You, that they may be faithful in every responsibility placed upon them for our sake. Give us a willingness to hear the counsel of Your Word to correct our errors and repent of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

- Lord, as You grant the length of days to many in our families and communities, You bless us with their wisdom and grant us the opportunity to live out Your love for them. Help us to rightly treasure them, and as they grow in weakness and need, deepen their trust in Your strength to bear and Your power to save. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Almighty God, as You have granted us to live in a nation where Your people may still gather without fear, bless our leaders with Your wisdom and guard us from the rising ungodliness in our land, that Your Gospel may be preached boldly and continue to bear fruit and grow. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Heavenly Father, because of the love You have for all the saints, we pray to You to heal the sick, relieve the suffering, comfort the grieving and give peace to the dying. Especially do we name before You / ______ and] all those we lift to You in our hearts. Strengthen them all by Your power, help them endure this trial and help them bear the good fruit of faith even in their afflictions. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Lord God, as Your Son has carried us through Baptism into the safety of His Church and provided for our continued care with the gifts of His body and blood, help us to abide in this place of refuge and to rightly rejoice in His gracious care. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Everlasting Lord, You have been faithful to us, who deserved none of Your mercies. Lead us to receive them with grateful hearts and to be faithful unto death, that we may receive the crown of everlasting life. Hear us in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, through whom, with whom and in whom be all honor and glory, both now and forever.
- C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Communion Statement

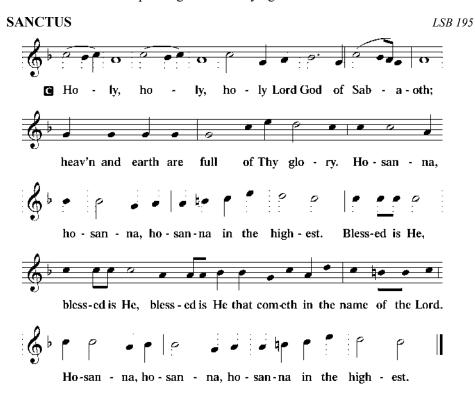
The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder.

PREFACE LSB 194



It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



LORD'S PRAYER LSB 196

P 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.



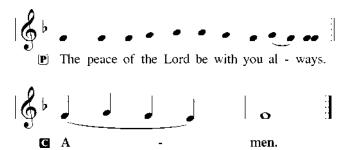
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI LSB 197



AGNUS DEI LSB 198



DISTRIBUTION

620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing



- 5 Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor, Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me, With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.
- 6 Now have I found consolation,
 Comfort in my tribulation,
 Balm to heal the troubled soul.
 God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
 Cleanses me from sin and error,
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808–58; tr. David W. Rogner, 1960 Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758 Text: © David W. Rogner. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276 Tune: Public domain

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior



Lord, may Thy bod-y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high-est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276

Stand

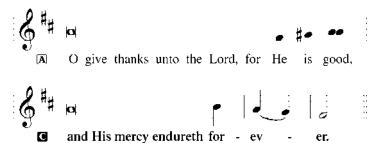
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- C Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS LSB 199

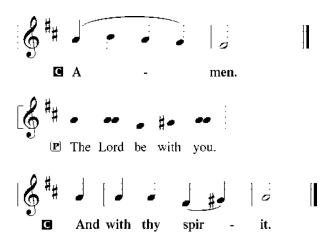


THANKSGIVING LSB 200

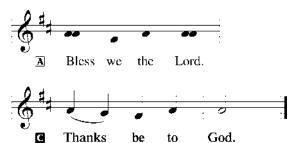


P Let us pray.

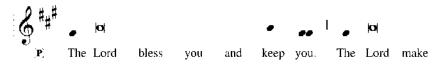
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

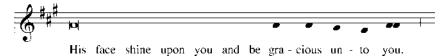


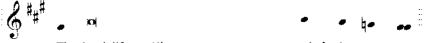
BENEDICAMUS LSB 202



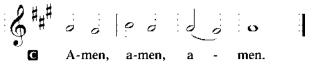
BENEDICTION LSB 202







The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and 'I' give you peace.



Sit

842 Son of God, Eternal Savior



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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SERVING SERVICE TODAY:

ELDER Joe Yancho
HEAD USHER Bruce Benson

SUNDAY READINGS

The readings for Sunday, July 20, 2025 are:

Genesis 18:1-10a (10b-14) Psalm 27:(1-6) 7-14 (antiphon: v. 4) Colossians 1:21-29 Luke 10:38-42

July 13 – Trinity 4

Romans 8:18 – "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." It is very easy to get caught up in the present and lose track of our ultimate destiny in the Kingdom of God. St. Paul encourages us to keep eternity in mind. This certainly has an application to our support for the Gospel. If we keep our focus on "the glory to be revealed," we will see our tithes and offerings in a new light.

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Sun. (07/13)	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Service Bible Study
Mon. (07/14)	10:00 a.m.	Adult Confirmation
Wed. (07/16)	11:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Sat. (07/19)	8:30 a.m.	Men's Club
Sun. (07/20)	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Service Bible Study
ATTENDANCE:		
07/06/2025	9:00 a.m.	60
OFFERING:		

\$ 4,197.00 Needed YTD

Over YTD

\$ 6,554.00 Rec'vd YTD

2,357.00

\$

\$ 113,319.00

\$117,470.95

\$ 4,151.95

Needed weekly:

Over Weekly

Rec'vd. 07/06/2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome you and invite you to join us for coffee in the Fellowship Hall after service. Be sure to check in with Debbie in the Narthex before service. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the Narthex, please include your address and home church. If this is your first time attending Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all who helped to make our 4th of July BBQ a success. All those who supplied the food, those that helped setup and to those who helped with the cleanup. A special thank you to Pastor Harris who grilled and supplied all the meat. Thanks again to all who helped make the BBQ a success.~Kathy Valvo.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adult Confirmation class will be held Monday, July 14 at 10:00 a.m.

MEN'S CLUB

The next meeting of the Men's Club is scheduled for Saturday, July 19 at 8:30 a.m. Donuts will be served. All men are welcome.

RALPHS/FOOD4LESS

We received word from Ralphs/Food4Less that they have deposited \$79.39 to our bank as a result of our congregation shopping with them. Keep shopping! If you don't have one of their Rewards' Cards, please contact Debbie in the office and she will provide you with one.

Prayer and Praises" is your personal invitation to join with the Prayer Ministry of our church in daily prayer. If you would like someone to stay on the prayer list, please call the church office at 760-247-7392, put your request on the prayer cards in the church, or go on-line at www.ascensionav.org. Otherwise, names will be removed after two months.

ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:

Angela Alder Tricia Blake Durfee Family Gaylon Pastella Gwen Strasburg Leeta Amaro Ascension Church Family Marilyn Belka Vivian Bingnam Sue Boers Karrie Burke Marcia Byron Renee Cates David Chavez Della Cowie John Davis Samuel & Sean Detwiler

Christine Dunne

Danielle, Emma, & Tim Eggers Sam Fagan Shaunah Forrest Chrissie Gates Government Roger Hall Pastor Harris Justin Hedden Mike Holtgrefe Avery Jamison Jacob Jones Emma Kraus Anthony Kwesie Jeannette Lawler Erin Liedtky

Mavra Micciche Jav Miner Renee Moore Herbert & Elaine Moran Michelle Nichol

David McDonald

David Parker Tim & Marguerite Pastella

Heidi Perry Marilyn Quade Penny Reese Bill Robertson Carla Rosen Josh Seau Noreen Selle Bea Shelby Shirley Smith Richard Souza Janet Surber Matthew & Tina Thorn

Brandon Vecc Rosa & Paul Wallace Wendy Walsh Stacy Wilson Cynthia Yancho

Randy Tilson

Sue Twarowski

GRIEF & STRENGTH: Andy's Family

Mary Beuerle Devin Coole Jennifer Millgate Mildred Sears Rory Tighe Brendan Anderson Mark Baker Ilona Berecki Bill & Jan Blanton Tiffany Brown Kyle Burton Mari Caroland Lane Ceballos Pearl Coole

Larry Cramins Kathy Davis Rusty DeWitt Kelley Dunne Janice Estrick Lynn Fairgrief Christian Frash Faigie Gawn Raquel Gudino David Hanson Jace Havnes Harry Heike Bill Huff Norma Jenkins

John & Connie Kays Dorothy Krentz Addison Lange Melody LeGray Anthony Lopez Linda Merkle Daniel Midgely Grace Miskimen Cesar Morales Amanda Netzell Lori O'Neil Glenn & Nancy Pastella

Esperanza Perez Kelley Pulone Randi Christian Rhoades Crystal Roblero Beth Rubio Chris Segard Loretta Severson Diane Short Manuel Sousa Vanessa Sowders

Carol Thomas Diana Thornbury Joshua Todd Stan Vacek

Victims of Texas Flooding Melanie Waters Nancy Williams Wilma Wilson

Ray Zayas THANKSGIVING: Penny Reese

Charles Blake Judy Cutler Beverly Moglich Kevin Smith Rob Albert Andrea

Red & MaryAnn Beck Billie & Eric Grayson Blomberg Vanessa Brown Gabrielle Butcher Yezzi Carrillo Carolyne Chaney Robert Coole William Creek Julie DeRose Mary Diaz John & Ann Duran Heidi Evans

George & Vonnie Filkins Don Garcia Grace Glass

Marty Hall Jerry & Emilie Harding Jeanne Hecksel Karlee Henson Dawn Husel Eric Jones Chris Kelly Steve Kuhn Debbie Lange

Leota Lewis

Pete Maaske

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June Spradlin & Family Sarah Thomas Stan Thorne Fran Truslow Blaise & Lisa Vasev Tammy Wall Sharon Waters

Beverly Wilson Judy Winkler

SAFE TRAVELS: Mike & Kathy Benzow

Eunice Harris & Grace Miskimen John Holtgrefe & Family



Scripture: ESV®

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About the Cover: Neither the priest nor the Levite was willing to jeopardize his ritual purity by aiding the man who fell among the robbers. But the Samaritan, whom they already viewed as unclean, compassionately placed the man upon his own animal and cleaned his wounds. Jesus willingly became unclean and went to the cross for us, even though He was without sin. He did so in order to bind up our wounds and make us clean before God.