

## ***WELCOME TO WORSHIP***

***Fourth Sunday after Epiphany***  
***Feb 1, 2026***

***Holy Spirit Lutheran Church***  
***And Nursery School***  
***2545 Franklin Ave.***  
***Secane, PA 19018***  
***Office: 610-544-2707***

We thank Meghan Gordon for leading us in service today.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## WELCOME, WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### + GATHERING +

(Please stand as you are able)

#### GATHERING HYMN

ELW 522

#### As We Gather at Your Table



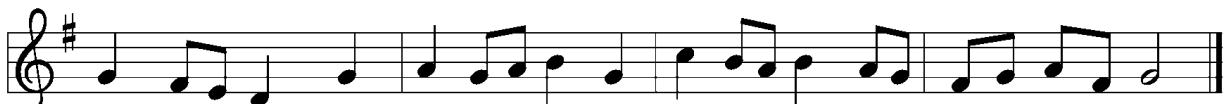
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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## CALL TO WORSHIP AND CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(Please be seated)*

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>☩</sup> one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

**P:** Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:** Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C:** **you call us to life in community,  
but we have served our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.**

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

**P:** The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares:

Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in <sup>☩</sup> Jesus' name.

May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**C: Amen.**

## 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.**

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister

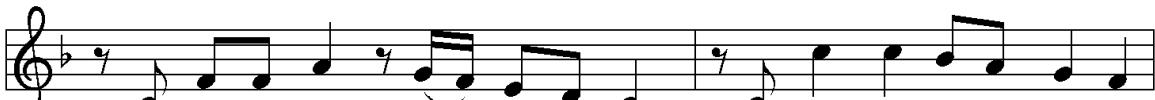


Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

All



Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,



we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.



Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;



you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.



For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,



you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,



in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## + THE WORD +

### FIRST READING: *Micah 6:1-8*

<sup>1</sup> Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has a case against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup> “O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup> O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup> “With what shall I come before the LORD  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 15**

<sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?  
Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup> **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup> they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup> **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those  
who fear the LORD.**

**They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their  
word.**

<sup>5</sup> They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes  
against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

### **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

<sup>18</sup> The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,  
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,  
"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the  
debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the  
world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God  
through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the  
proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews ask for signs and

Greeks desire wisdom,<sup>23</sup> but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles,<sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.<sup>25</sup> For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.<sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;<sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are,<sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God.<sup>30</sup> In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,<sup>31</sup> in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

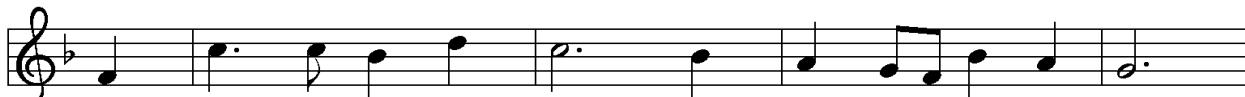
Word of God. Word of Life.

### C: Thanks be to God.

### HYMN

### ELW 651

#### Oh, Praise the Gracious Power



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear  
 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds  
 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,  
 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,  
 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:  
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:  
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:  
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:  
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

*Refrain*



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

(Please stand, as you are able)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

## Matthew 5:1-12

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the fifth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad,

for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

### **A Hunger for Justice**

In today’s first reading, God cries, “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!” (Micah 6:3). The people of God have forgotten God’s deliverance and who God has called them to be. Like a shrewd prosecutor, God has placed them on trial and is examining their actions, recounting the signs of mercy and loving kindness shown to them from generation to generation and searching for a sign that they are living into who God has called them to be. And so, they are reminded that this is how you shall live: do justice, love kindness, walk humbly.

A Latin American prayer asks: “Lord, to those who hunger, give bread. And to those who have bread, give the hunger for justice.” The words of this more modern-day prayer do not sound so different from the ancient words spoken by the prophet Micah to God’s people. “What does the Lord require of you,” asks Micah, “but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8). The hunger of God’s people has already been filled by the mercy of God, and so they are called by God to feed the hunger of others through lives of justice, kindness, and humility.

In the Sunday assembly, God surrounds the gathered people with reminders of who and whose they are: we splash in the waters of baptism, are brought to new life in the word, are fed and forgiven through bread and wine. Around the table, hunger is satisfied, and a hunger for justice is renewed. From the table, God sends the gathered assembly, blessed and broken, to feed the hunger of others as, together, we await the fulfillment of the kingdom.

**Donna Glacken**

(Please stand as you are able)

**HYMN OF THE DAY****ELW 302****As with Gladness Men of Old**

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;  
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
 5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
 all our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.  
 Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH –APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**+ RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD +****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(response after: Merciful God*

**C: receive our prayer.**

**PEACE**

**P: The peace of Christ be with you always.**

**C: And also with you.**

*Let us greet one another from our seats in the name of the Lord, saying, 'Peace be with you'.*

## OFFERING:

**A:** We worship through our tithes and offering. Now let us joyfully respond to God's goodness, through our personal giving.

*It is only through your giving that the ministry and mission of Holy Spirit continues. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their generous giving. Offerings can also be dropped in the mailbox or mailed in.*

## OFFERTORY

### Come by Here



1 Come by here, Lord, come by here; come by here, Lord, come by here;  
 2 Some-one needs you, Lord, come by here; some-one needs you, Lord, come by here;  
 3 Send a bless-ing, Lord, come by here; send a bless-ing, Lord, come by here;



come by here, Lord, come by here.  
 some-one needs you, Lord, come by here. O Lord, come by here.  
 send a bless-ing, Lord, come by here.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

**A:** God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## \*THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

**P:** Holy God, our Maker, our Healer, our Teacher, your magnificent creation springs forth from your Word. All that has life and breath praises your name.

For your Word that sustains the earth, we thank you, O God.  
**We thank you, O God.**

**P:** You sent us Jesus, your Word, to renew the world.  
He healed the sick, fed the hungry,  
preached your mercy, and called us to faith.  
For your Word in our Lord Christ, we praise you, O God.  
**We praise you, O God.**

**P:** Nourish us with the Spirit of your Word,  
that we may grow in grace, bearing the fruits of redemption,  
and sharing your strength and beauty with all the world.  
For your Word in our lives, we entreat you, O God.  
**We entreat you, O God.**

**P:** Accept our thanksgiving and receive our prayer,  
for the sake of your living Word, Jesus our Savior.

**P:** Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

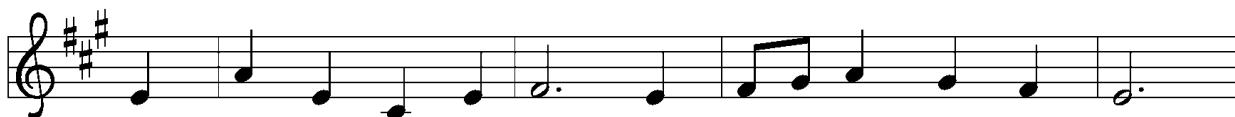
### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## + SENDING +

**BLESSING & BENEDICTION**

**P:** May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise † bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN****ELW 669****Rise Up, O Saints of God!**

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulfs earth's frame;  
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;  
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;  
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se-quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893  
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**DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Jan's Income: \$ 6,239      Average Attendance: 19**

**Jan's Expense: \$ 8,507**

**Note: 2 Sundays no service/no deposits**

**MINISTERS – ALL BAPTIZED PEOPLE OF GOD****Scheduled to serve 2/1***Donna G. – Leader**Gary P. – Usher**Gary P./Volunteer – Counter**Barb S. – Altar***Scheduled to serve 2/8***Greg C. – Assisting Minister**Alan S./Alan D. - Ushers**Greg C. - Counter**Barb S. - Altar***\*\*\*\*\*WEEKLY CALENDAR\*\*\*\*\*****Mon, Feb 2** **6:30pm – G/S (Mtg Rm)****Wed, Feb 4** **7:30pm – AA (Hall)****Thu, Feb 5** **7:00pm – AA (Hall)****7:00pm – DA (Mtg Rm)****Sat, Feb 7** **10:00am – AA (Hall)****11:00am – DA (Mtg Rm)****Sun, Feb 8** **10:15am – Worship****12:30pm – Song of Praise (Sanctuary)****\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS\*\*\*\*\*****Healing:***Annie Berner**Jackie Bernduer White**Eileen Maloney**Jackie Dewitt**Lisa McDonough**Maureen Colahan**Hugh Mullarkey**John Turner**Lois Saunders**Lynn McGrane**Betty Lake**Sue Thomas**Anne Rainsford**Jean Cilurso**Dolores Maurer**Phyllis Horton**Harry Collins**Lou Vallies**Geralyn Gerakaris**Linda Martin**Joan & Harry Chaykun**Bill McVian**Nikki Miller**Suzie Thomas**Cyndi Kline**Tom**(If you would like to add someone to the prayer list for Feb, please call the office)*

**Also please remember in your prayers homebound members:** Ruth Dell'Orefice, Jane Croghan, Diane Kuhn, Hank Kuhn, Janet Kline, Dudley Henriques, Gerilyn Gerakaris, and Bob Kerns.

**Men & women in our armed forces, firefighters, police officers and emergency services personnel.**

## **Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**COUNTERS NEEDED** – We are in need of one or two counters for the first week of the month. If you are able to volunteer for this, please call the office.

**ANNUAL MEETING** – Today **Sunday, February 1st**. Mark your calendars and plan to be there to hear 2025 reports, plans for 2026 and vote on a 2026 budget.

**COUNCIL MEETING** – **Tuesday, Feb 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm** in the meeting room.

**COFFEE HOUR** – **Feb 15** after service sponsored by “TBD”.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** - **Feb 18<sup>th</sup>** There will be a drive thru offering of ashes at White-Luttrell Funeral Home in Ridley Park from **7am – 9am** sponsored by the local ministerium.

**MID-WEEK LENTEN GATHERING** - **Wednesdays, 6:00** during lent is as follows:

**2/25 @ Immanuel Lutheran, Norwood**

**3/4 @ St. Matthew's, Woodlyn**

**3/11 @ St. Timothy's, Aston**

**3/18 @ St. John's, Folcroft**

**3/25 @ Holy Spirit, Secane (Holy Communion)**

**NEW DIRECTORIES** - Will be available by **February 8<sup>th</sup>** . Please look on the back table in the Social Hall for copies. If you would like one emailed to you, let the office know.

### **CHURCH'S 75th ANNIVERSARY!**

As you may have heard, this year is Holy Spirit's 75th Anniversary. We are going to celebrate this achievement on Sunday, April 26, 2026 during a special worship service and a luncheon. There will be invitations coming to you in the next few months.

We would like to display pictures/mementos at the luncheon for everyone to see Holy Spirit through the years. If you have any pictures (or anything related to the church) that you could lend us, please put your name on it and hand them to Nancy Harris, Gary Pysher or Bill/Cyndi Kline. We will make sure you get them back.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** - THANK YOU everyone who signed up to sponsor altar flowers throughout the year. 2026 Flower Chart is now on the bulletin board. Please take a dedication form when you sign up and return to office. **Flowers are now \$20 per vase. There are several openings to sponsor flowers in January.**

**BULLETIN COVERS** –There is a sponsor sign-up sheet to sponsor special bulletin covers for **special occasions**. The cost is \$15.00. Please see sign-up sheet outside the office.

## Outreach Activity for Lent

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” - Matthew 25:40

Lent, the seven weeks before Easter is a time for reflection and prayer, fasting or doing without luxury, and charity or service. These are all classic Lent practices.

I thought we would help out people in our neighborhood by supporting the Life Center in Upper Darby, a homeless shelter that provides many services and a meal every day.

The Life Center of Eastern Delaware County is run by the Community Action Agency of Delaware County (CAADC). Severe budget cuts and increased operating costs have caused a very big financial problem for emergency shelters in Delaware County. The CAADC created the Save Our Shelters (SOS) Campaign. This campaign is a cooperative effort between CAADC, the community, and faith-based groups to raise funds to bridge the shelter gaps. The CAADC shelters include: Family Management Center in Chester that serves families, Life Center of Eastern Delaware County in Upper Darby that serves individuals and provides a daily feeding program, and the Wesley House Shelter in Chester that serves families and women.

You can support this campaign by mailing checks made out to the CAADC to:  
Attention: S.O.S. Campaign, CAADC, 1414 Meetinghouse Rd., Boothwyn, PA 19061

Another way to help the shelters is to donate items to them. I contacted the Life Center and they gave me a list of their most needed items. **There will be a box in the hallway to collect these items during Lent, starting on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. I hope that the congregation will support this project by filling up many boxes of the following items:**

Shampoo	Cleaning Supplies
Conditioner	Clorox wipes
Toothpaste	Towels
Twin size blankets	Washcloths
Twin size sheets	Paper towels
Pillows	Butter/margarine
Laundry Pods	Milk
Dish detergent	
Plastic spoons (we do not need plastic forks at this time)	



## ***OUR STAFF***

***Holy Spirit Lutheran Church***  
*Director of Music – Samuel Stevenson*  
*Office Secretary – Jeanne Warner*

***Holy Spirit Nursery School***  
*Pre-K Teacher – Nancy Harris*  
*Teaching Assistant – Colleen Hall*  
*Pre-School & MMO Teacher – Shelly Avila*  
*Teaching Assistant – Michelle Brackin*

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