

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**  
Sunday, January 28, 2024 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Livestream at 11:00 a.m.



**FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY**  
**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Senior Pastor  
The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Interim Associate Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God.  
We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history.  
Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and grow together as Jesus' disciples at this place.

*Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Joyfully. Serve Christ Faithfully.*

✦ **GATHERING** ✦

**Prelude**

*Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott*  
Troy Lawson, Organ

D. Buxtehude

*Please rise, as you are able.*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

**P** *Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** *God our rock and refuge,*

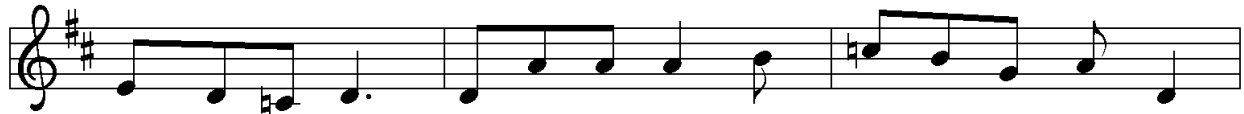
**C** **we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

**P** *The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.*

**C** **Amen.**



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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

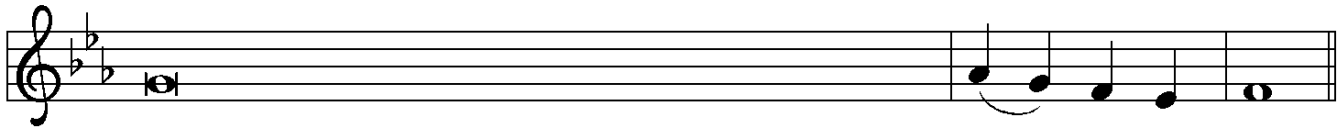
**C** **And also with you.**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



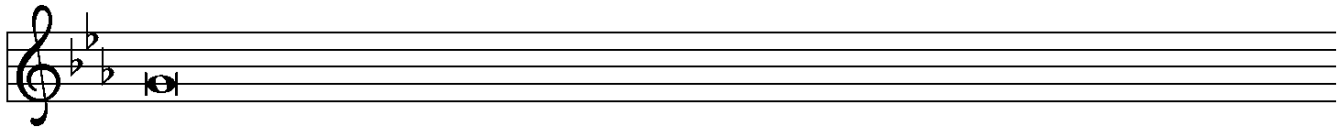
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



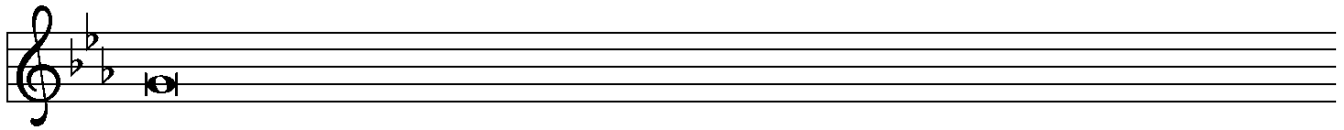
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## Hymn of Praise



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

**P** *Let us pray. Compassionate God,*  
**C** **you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## ✦ THE WORD ✦

### First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

**A** *A reading from Deuteronomy. [Moses said:] <sup>15</sup>The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” <sup>17</sup>Then the Lord replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”*

**A** *The word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

Psalm 111

**A** <sup>1</sup>*Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.*

**C** <sup>2</sup>**Great are your works, O Lord,  
pondered by all who delight in them.**

**A** <sup>3</sup>*Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness endures forever.*

**C** <sup>4</sup>**You cause your wonders to be remembered;  
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

**A** <sup>5</sup>*You give food to those who fear you,  
remembering forever your covenant.*

**C** <sup>6</sup>**You have shown your people the power of your works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

**A** <sup>7</sup>*The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;  
all of your precepts are sure.*

**C** <sup>8</sup>**They stand fast forever and ever,  
because they are done in truth and equity.**

**A** <sup>9</sup>*You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant  
forever;  
holy and awesome is your name.*

**C** <sup>10</sup>**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who practice this have a good understanding.  
God’s praise endures forever.**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

**A** *A reading from first Corinthians. <sup>1</sup>Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.*

*<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.*



<sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

**A** *The word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise, as you are able.*

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.

**Gospel**

Mark 1:21-28

**P** *The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.*

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

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.<sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

**P** *The Gospel of the Lord.*  
**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

The Rev. Alejandro Mejía

*Please rise, as you are able.*



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

**A** *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.*

**C** **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 into hell. 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.**

**A** *As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.*

*A brief silence.*

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**A** *God of grace,*

**C** **receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** *Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

**C** **And also with you.**

*After sharing the peace, please be seated.*


## **Offering and Offertory**

*Cantate Domino*      G.O. Pitoni  
Chancel Choir

*As the gifts are presented, please rise as you are able.*



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.



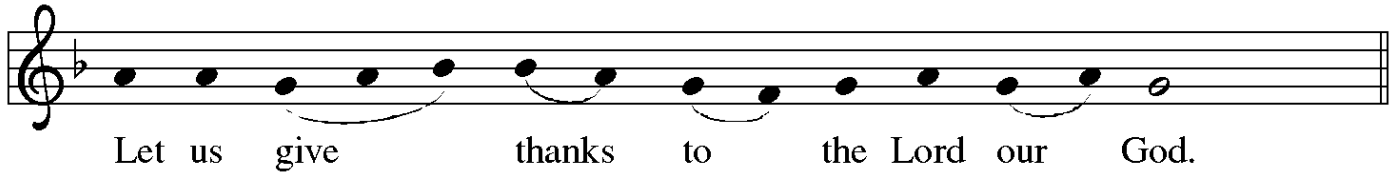
You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:



and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

**A** *Let us pray. Blessed are you, Holy One,*  
**C** **for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## ✦ THE EUCHARIST ✦



*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season; the congregation responds:*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer  
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,  
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!  
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,  
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.  
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

**P** *Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying:  
Your mercy endures forever.*

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

**P** *By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,  
granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of  
your bow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness.  
Your mercy endures forever.*

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

**P** *By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing  
them with family outnumbering the stars and calling them to be a  
blessing to others, showing them steadfast love in every generation  
and calling them to be a light to the nations. Your mercy endures  
forever.*

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

**P** *By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us  
into your living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-  
giving love.*

*In the night in which he was betrayed, ...*

*Again, after supper, ...*

**P** *With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

**C** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**



**P** *Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless us to be a blessing. Make us a sign of your faithfulness. Send us to tend and cherish the earth and to serve the world with mercy and love.*

*With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

**C** **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.**

**P** *At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

*We welcome to the table all who proclaim with us that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine. (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.)*

*During the distribution, the following is sung:*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

# Communion Music

*Prelude No. 3 in E Minor* J. L. Krebs

## *Abide with Me* No. 629



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.  
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.  
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!  
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

*After all have communed, please rise, as you are able.*

**P** *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

**C** **Amen.**

**A** *Let us pray. Giver of every gift,*  
**C** **Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

✦ **SENDING** ✦

**P** *May the outrageous welcome of our Creator ☩ accept and love us for who we are; may the incarnation of the Word touch and hold us close; may the dancing flicker of the rainbow Spirit help us risk ourselves for love; and may the blessing of God Parent, Son (+), and Holy Spirit be upon you now and forever.*  
**C** **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

*Lord, You Give the Great Commission* No. 579



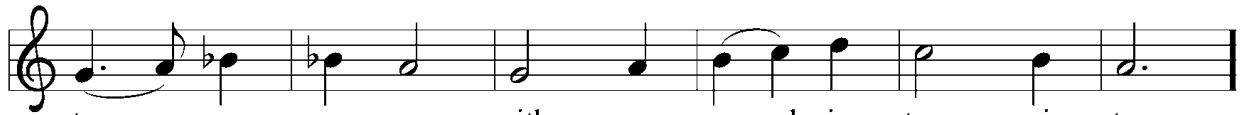
1 Lord, you give the great com - mis-sion: "Heal the sick and  
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser-vice: "In my name bap -  
 3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,  
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa - ther, what they  
 5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,  
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom-ise,  
 this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,  
 do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure  
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness  
 life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new  
 dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the  
 all that you so free - ly give. May your care and  
 may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:  
 fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:  
 world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:  
 mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:  
 cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:

*Refrain*



With the Spir-it's gifts em-pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

- A** *Go now in peace as people of the resurrection to love and work for the justice of God.*
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*Prelude and Fugue in g minor*

J.S. Bach

*We welcome and thank Troy Lawson for providing  
music and choir direction today!*

*On this day, we join the spirit of celebration and acknowledgement to the  
work and witness of love, justice and inclusion from all our sister church  
that are part of the Reconciling in Christ network. This is also a reminder  
of our commitment as God's people represented at The Lutheran Church  
of the Good Shepherd, to be a welcoming and  
safe space for all God's children.*

**The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God by**

*Judy Schmoll in honor of her sister, Lesley Felts  
&*

*Dave and Shari Grim in honor of their 52<sup>nd</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

**Pray for Those That Need God's Healing**

*Ray, Paul, Darius, Ken, Lynn, Donald, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed,  
Marion, Betty, Karen, Theresa, Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Marge,  
Nicholas, Lois, Barbara & Bruce*

**Prayers of Comfort**

*For Troy Lawson and family on the unexpected passing of his grandfather,  
Howard Schriefer. May the blessed hope of the resurrection of our Lord  
Jesus Christ comfort the Lawson and Schriefer families.*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Pastor	pr.mejia@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8081
Sherman Canapp, OSSD, Deacon	canappsherman501@gmail.com	(M) 443-904-7013
Gina Miller, Office Manager	officemanager@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8081
Dawn Love, Church Secretary	officesecretary@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8081
Council President, Steve Starbuck	council_president@lcgsselca.org	
Treasurer, Linda Ruese	treasurer@lcgsselca.org	
Communications/Web/E-News	communications@lcgsselca.org	
Lois Dobart, Preschool Director	school@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8457
Web address	www.lcgsselca.org	
WiFi access	SSID: LCGS_Public	Passphrase: public@LCGS

Text and music contained in this bulletin owned by their respective copyright holder(s). Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-710797. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted with permission under Augsburg Fortress License # SAS01 Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-710797 and Augsburg Fortress License # SAS012

## SERVING TODAY

Greeters

**8:30 a.m.**

**11:00 a.m.**

Assisting Minister

Sherman Canapp, OSSD

Tina Zimmerman

Communion Assistants

Janet DeVinney  
Sue Quinn

Deb Smeton  
Gina Miller

Ushers

Doyle McCracken

Monica Thayer

Acolytes

Livestream

Joel Raedeke