

Holy Trinity Sunday

Sunday, May 26, 2024 8:30 & 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.



✦ GATHERING ✦

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P *Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.*

C **Amen.**

P *Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

P *God our provider,*

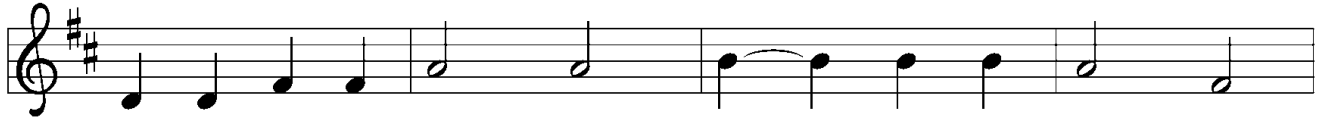
C **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P *Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.*

C **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! No. 413



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

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.**

The splendor of the King
Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice
All the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
And trembles at His voice

And age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End
Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

Chorus

How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God

Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God

Chorus

CCLI SONG #4348399

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray. Almighty Creator and ever-living God:*

C **we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

✦ THE WORD ✦

Psalm 29

Read Responsively

- A ¹*Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.*
- C ²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.**
- A ³*The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.*
- C ⁴**The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**
- A ⁵*The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.*
- C ⁶**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**
- A ⁷*The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.*
- C ⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- A ⁹*The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"*
- C ¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**
- A ¹¹*May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!*

Reading

Romans 8:12-17

A *A reading from Romans. ¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.*

A *The word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise, as you are able.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P *The Holy Gospel according to John the third chapter.*

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

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

17 “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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.

Hymn of the Day

The Love of God is Greater Far

1. The love of God is great - er far Than tongue or pen can ev - er
tell. It goes be - yond the high - est star And reach - es to the low - est
hell. The guilt - y pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to
win; His err - ing child He re - con - ciled And par - doned from his
sin. (C) O love of God, how rich and pure! How mea - sure - less and
strong! It shall for - ev - er - more en - dure— The saints' and an - gels' song.

Chorus

2. When hoary time shall pass away,
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall;
When men who here refuse to pray,
On rocks and hills and mountains call;
God's love, so sure, shall still endure,
All measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race—
The saints' and angels' song.

3. Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made;
Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky.

Blessing of the Graduates (11am)

Graduates and their family are invited to the altar rail.

P *Before you were even formed, God knew you. While in your mother's womb, God named you. At your birth, God's breath filled you with life.*

Today we celebrate what you have become at this moment in time. And so we pray, God of our beginnings, we thank you for the gifts of these graduates; their excitement, their awesome wonder and curiosity, their open speech and encouraging words. Their contributions have blessed and challenged us, and we have become a richer and more diverse community because of them.

As they step forward into the world that awaits, comfort their fears with the full knowledge of your divine presence. Strengthen their resolve to walk in the footsteps of Jesus as modern-day disciples in a world that needs their spirit.

Guide their feet as they move through life, protecting them from the pitfalls of darkness while they help to lead future generations into the warmth and promise of your light.

We ask this blessing upon each of them, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

P *The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.*

C Amen.

A *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.*

C **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

A *We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *Merciful God,*

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P *Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of 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

11:00

Pachelbel's Canon of Peace
Chancel Choir

Arr. P.M. Liebergen

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

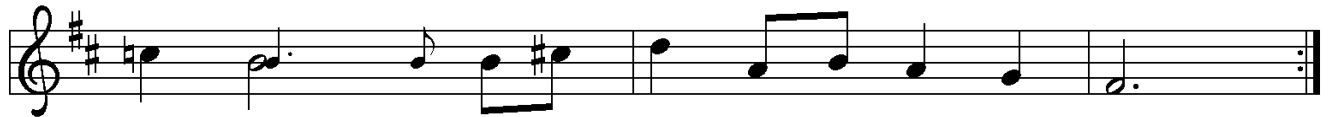
Refrain / Estribillo



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



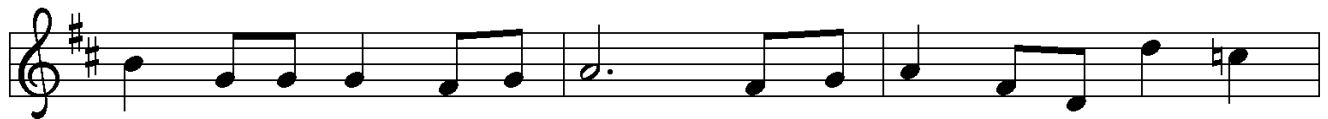
me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



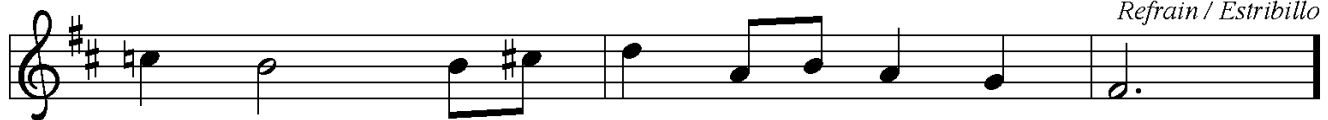
re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -
1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la
mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm

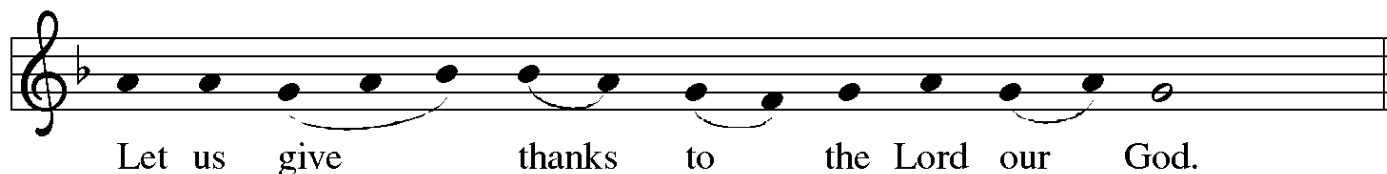
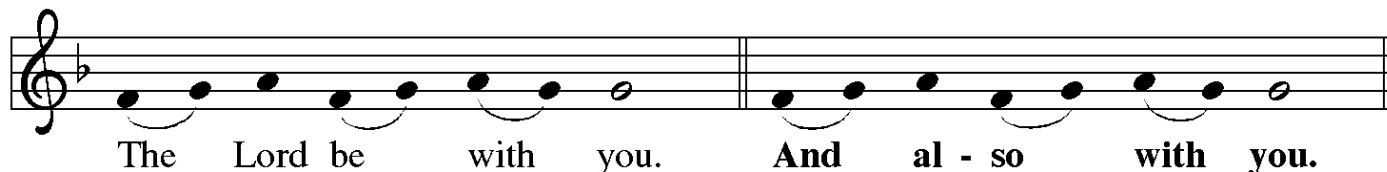


cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.
walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.

Refrain / Estribillo

A *Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life,*
C **and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. 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, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.*

C **We praise you, O God.**

P *Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.*

C **We bless you, O God.**

P *We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.*

C **We thank you, O God.**

P *In the night in which....*

Again, after supper...

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P *We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.*

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 *Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!*
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:



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

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. Jesus, Bread of life,*
C **we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.**
As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love
the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

✦ **SENDING** ✦

P *The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Abide with Me
 Verses 1, 3, & 5

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.

A *Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.*

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

Debbie, Ray, Beth, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed, Marion, Betty, Theresa, Linda, Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Nancy, Lois, Barbara & Bruce

Pray God's Blessings on our Graduates!

Erin Cox graduated from Boston University with a degree in Public Health.

Caitlyn Fetzer is graduating from the John Carroll School. She will be heading to West Chester University this Fall.

Zachary Jackson graduated from York College with his Bachelor's Degree in Music. Zach will be continuing his studies at York to obtain a Master's Degree while releasing music with his band, Minds of Symmetry.

Andrew Jones is graduating from Rising Sun High School and will be attending Salisbury University to study Kinesiology.

Grayson Jones is graduating from Rising Sun High School. Grayson will be a student at Salisbury University studying Business and Dance. She is also a member of SU's Pom Team.

Lis Miller is graduating from Concordia University Irvine with her MA in Mental Health Counseling. She hopes to be serving the people in the Harford County area.

Gwyneth Steel has graduated from Virginia Tech with her Master's Degree in Computer Engineering. Gwyn will be heading to Charleston, South Carolina to work as a computer engineer for the Navy.

Riley Wachter is graduating from Perryville High School. She will be attending Towson University in the Fall studying Forensic Chemistry.

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
Jessie Lim, Music Director	Music@lcgsselca.org	
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

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SERVING TODAY

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Greeter

Gail Fricke

Assisting Minister

Sherman Canapp, OSSD

Teri King

Communion Assistants

Gail Fricke

Ushers

Doyle McCracken

Peggy Thomas
John Helmick

Acolytes

Livestream

Joel Raedeke