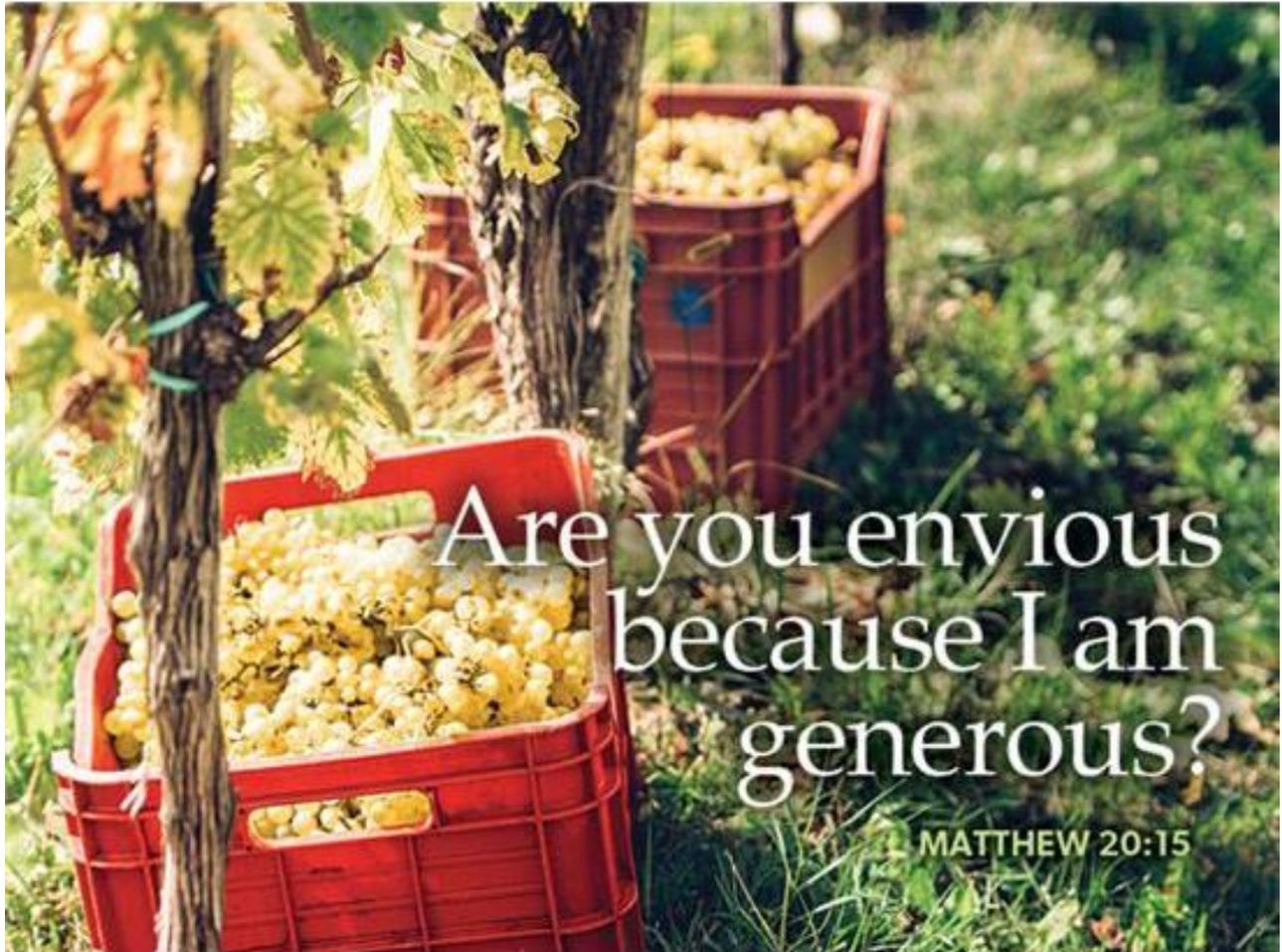


17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am and Livestream



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

1515 Emmorton Road
Bel Air, Maryland 21014
410-838-8081

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

In our Lutheran Tradition, liturgy reminds us that we are one in Christ, hence we do it together! Therefore, words in bold and designated by a "C" are the responses from the community.

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

✦ 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 God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.*

C **Amen.**

P *Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

P *Steadfast and faithful God,*

C **you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, for the way we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P *Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.*

C **Amen.**



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets
4 Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;



join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -



sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur - round the throne.
heav'n - ly King may tell their joys a - broad, may tell their joys a - broad.
heav'n - ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.
man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

Refrain



We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on:



we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

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.**

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God,*

C **you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

✦ **THE WORD** ✦

New Testament Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

A *A Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians. ²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.*

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the

same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A *The word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand 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.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

P *The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twentieth chapter.*

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has

hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage.¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner,¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?’¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia

Please stand as you are able.

Refrain/Estribillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing,
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



Refrain/Estribillo

pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

Please be seated.

P *In baptism our gracious heavenly Parent frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.*

P *Who presents this child to receive the sacrament?*

Monica & Leslie: I present Max Bailey Maniscarco for baptism.

P *Katie and Dominick, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Max Bailey baptized into Christ?*

Katie & Dominick: I do.

P *As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:*

*to live with Max Bailey among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed,
and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that Max may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.*

Do you promise to help Max grow in the Christian faith and life?

Katie & Dominick: I do.

P *Monica and Leslie, do you promise to nurture Max Bailey in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?*

Monica & Leslie: I do.

Please stand, as you are able.

P *People of God, do you promise to support Max Bailey and pray for him in his new life in Christ?*

C **We do.**

P *Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?*

C **I renounce them.**

P *Do you believe in God the Father?*

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P *Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?*

C **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.**

P *Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?*

C **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.**

Please be seated.

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P *Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.*

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P *Max Bailey Maniscarco, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

P *Sustain Max Bailey with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.*

P *Max Baily Maniscarco, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.*

P *Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life.*

Pastor introduces the newly baptized to the congregation.

Please stand, as you are able.

A *Let us welcome Max Bailey as our sibling in Christ through baptism.*

C **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

Prayers of the Church

A *Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *Merciful God,*

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P *Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through 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.

Piano Dedication

P *We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for your abundant gifts. The whole earth reflects your glory; all your creatures praise you. We lift our voices to join the sounds and song of heaven and earth, of things seen and unseen, in praise of your glory.*

P *You alone do great wonders, and by your wisdom you made the heavens and the earth.*

C **You have breathed your breath of mercy into your children, to hear from them a joyful shout with their own song.**

P *In the fullness of time, O God, you sang your new song, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is exalted by poets, musicians, and all your saints. Your Spirit is the breath of our music and song. Send your blessing upon us and upon this piano, which was given by Missy Leppo and Rocky Barrow in loving memory of their mother, Dorothy Kraft, we dedicate it to your praise and glory.*

P *Enrich the lives of your people through it, and grant us faith to hear your gracious purpose in it. By your Holy Spirit, let this piano enliven the proclamation of your word to the building up of your church, to the glory of your name, and to the good of all your people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

Offering and Offertory

Please stand, as you are able.



A *Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty,*
C **all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✦ **THE EUCHARIST** ✦

P *The Lord be with you.*
C **And also with you.**

P *Lift up your hearts.*
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should in all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*



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.



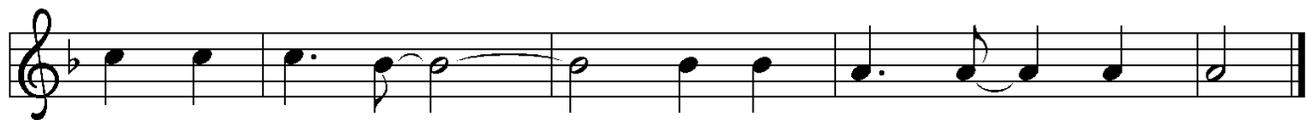
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



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

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 *Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior 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 *Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.*

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. Just let the Pastor or Assistants know.)

*If you require communion to be brought to you in the pew, please alert an usher.
During the distribution of communion, the following is sung:*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

When We Are Living

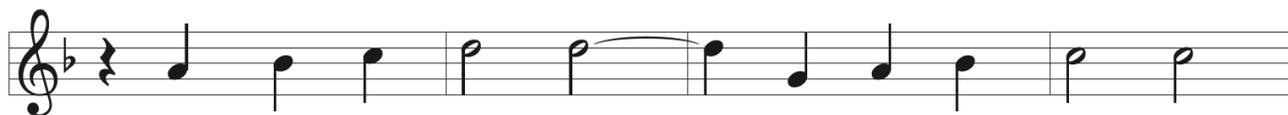
No. 639



	<i>Pues si vi - vi - mos,</i>	<i>pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,</i>
1	When we are liv - ing,	it is in Christ Je - sus,
2	'Mid times of sor - row	and in times of pain,
3	A - cross this wide world,	we shall al - ways find



	<i>y si mo - ri - mos</i>	<i>pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.</i>
	and when we're dy - ing,	it is in the Lord. . . .
	when sens - ing beau - ty	or in love's em - brace, . . .
	those who are cry - ing	with no peace of mind; . . .



	<i>Sea que vi - va - mos</i>	<i>o que mu - ra - mos,</i>
	Both in our liv - ing	and in our dy - ing,
	wheth - er we suf - fer,	or sing re - joic - ing,
	and when we help them,	or when we feed them,



	<i>so - mos del Se - ñor,</i>	<i>so - mos del Se - ñor.</i>
	we be - long to God,	we be - long to God.
	we be - long to God,	we be - long to God.
	we be - long to God,	we be - long to God.

As Saints of Old

No. 695



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

After all have communed, please stand, 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. Blessed be your name, O God,*

C **for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

✦ SENDING ✦

P *May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Parent, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Lord of All Hopefulness

No. 765



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

A *Go in peace. God is at work in you.*

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

Postlude

The New Piano is Given to the Glory of God by

Roxanne Barrow & Missy Leppo in memory of their mom, Dorothy Kraft.

The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God by

*Tim and Gina Miller in Thanksgiving for Sam and Jack
on their 20th and 24th birthdays.*

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

*Ray, Donald, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed, Marion, Daneene, Doris,
Theresa, Charles, Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Nicholas, Lois,
Barbara & Bruce*

Pray for the Newly Baptized

*Max Bailey Maniscarco
child of Dominick and Katie Maniscarco*

Pray for Members of the Military

*Josh, Michael, Nick, Ryan, Matt, Kyle, Christopher,
Andrew, Jason, and Matthew*

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SERVING TODAY

Greeters

8:30 a.m.

Gail Fricke

11:00 a.m.

Brayden Whitmore

Assisting Minister

Sherman Canapp, OSSD

Communion Assistants

Tina Zimmerman

Janet DeVinney
Sharon Powell

Ushers

Doyle McCracken

Acolytes

Livestream

Shawn Nesaw