

Christ Lutheran Church
1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, MD. 21502-7519
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Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025

THE WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:00 AM In-Person & Zoom

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

WELCOME

Announcements & Prelude

*** A Call to Worship**

P: Ever-present God, forever seeking and always teaching:

C: Open our minds to the truth of your care;

P: Open our hearts to the gentle caress of your love;

C: Open our lips to share stories of faith;

P: Open our hands to create beauty, do justice and show kindness;

C: Open our souls to the breath of your Spirit;

P: Open our mouths to sing boldly and loudly your praises.

*** Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others,

but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,

but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,

but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.

Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus

and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of ✠ Christ,

and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C; Amen.

* **Gathering Hymn 526****“God Is Here!”*** 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.

* **Kyrie**

(Setting 7 – Page 175)

S 175



Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Lord, have . . .

so - tros.
mer - cy. Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on

dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
us; O . . . Lord, have . . mer - cy.

Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Christ, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Christ, have . .

so - tros.
mer - cy. Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie -
Christ, . . have mer - cy on

dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
us; O . . . Christ, have . . mer - cy.

Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Lord, have . . .

so - tros, mer - cy. Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - Lord, . . have mer - cy on

dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
us; O . . . Lord, have . . mer - cy.

* Gloria

(Setting 7 – Page 176)

S 176

¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!

¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!

Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra-a-que-llos que a-ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra-a-que-llos que a-ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

* Prayer of the Day

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Lesson: *Jeremiah 2:4-13*

⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵ Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me
and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves?

⁶ They did not say, “Where is the LORD,
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?”

⁷ I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.
But when you entered you defiled my land
and made my heritage an abomination.

⁸ The priests did not say, “Where is the LORD?”
Those who handle the law did not know me;
the rulers transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal
and went after things that do not profit.

⁹ Therefore once more I accuse you,
says the LORD,
and I accuse your children’s children.

¹⁰ Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look;
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.

¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.

¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this;
be shocked; be utterly desolate,

says the LORD,

¹³ for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,

the fountain of living water,

and dug out cisterns for themselves,

cracked cisterns

that can hold no water.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalms 112*

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD
and have great delight in | God's commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;**
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.

⁵ It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will nev- | er be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**

⁷ They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.

⁸ **Their heart is established and | will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.**

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast
forever; they will hold up their | head with honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth
and | pine away; the desires of the wick- | ed will perish.**

Second Lesson: *Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16*

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then,

let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 7 – Page 179)

S 179a

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: *Luke 14:1, 7-14*

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told

them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Swanson

Hymn 490

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

* 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.**

The Prayer of the Church

* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord
Anthem

Organ Voluntary

* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

* The Offertory

Hymn

“Bring a Gift of Love”--Mary Kay Bottens

**Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.
Bring an offering to our Lord and King, tell the world he is the Way!
Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.
In this quiet hour of worship, bring a gift of love.**

* Offertory Prayer

L: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

* The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed rightand join their unending hymn:

(Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 7 – Page 181)

S 181

San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor,
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor,
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on

tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the

nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.

di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor,
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

* The Words of Institution

* The 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.

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

The Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*)

(Setting 7 – Page 182)

S 182

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no-so-tros, have . . mer-cy up-on us, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up-on us.

Cor-de-ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no-so-tros, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros.
have . . mer-cy up-on us, have . . mer-cy up-on us.

Cor-de-ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da-nos tu paz, da-nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Distribution of the Sacrament

* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

* The Prayer after Communion

L: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: Amen

* Blessing

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

* **Sending Hymn 636**

“How Small Our Span of Life”

* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

* **Postlude**

In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.

Lectors for our Services

This Sunday, August 31 – Sally Buser

Wednesday, Sept 3 – Lydia Martin

Next Sunday, Sept 7 – Devon Swanson

Next Wednesday, Sept 10 – Rae Ann Smith

August Ushers – Ed & Lita Havens

Organist – Rae Ann Smith

A/V – Kathy Dave, Joyce

Sept Ushers – Jeff Smith, Barb Simmons

The August Newsletter has been given to the glory of God by Sharon Diehl.

We have a hearing assistance system in the sanctuary. If you are having problems hearing our service, please ask the usher for a receiver.

Hope that you have picked up your name tags from the board in the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please return to the board when leaving. Thanks

Garden News!

Wow! What a difference hot weather makes in the garden!

We are now harvesting herbs, cucumbers, beans, squashes, black raspberries, peppers and tomatoes. The cucumbers are growing so fast that we can't keep up! We have replanted beans, squash, kale, cucumbers, lettuces and peas for a fall harvest. All produce goes to the food pantry. We would love to have you join us! **Don't forget!** Garden classes continue the first Saturday September at 11:00am - Seed Saving.



Christ Lutheran Church, with the help of community members, is building a memorial garden for use by our community for remembering loved ones, or just quiet contemplation and connection with nature. It will consist of a bench for resting, a memorial stone for experiencing artistic beauty, a tree (weeping redbud) for experiencing natural beauty, and a labyrinth for centering thoughts. It joins with our meadow meander - already developed - for (guess what!) connecting with the beauty of nature through all five senses, and our community pantry garden and orchard that provides fresh produce along with companionship for neighbors who need it. **If you're into rocks, or puzzling, join us to build Tuesday mornings 7-9am. Or come to visit anytime.** Easy access is from Martz Lane behind the church - just park on the grass.

Thanks to everyone who has kept the donations coming for the LaVale Food Pantry! For the month of September, we'd like to encourage you to donate canned tuna. We also welcome any other unopened and unexpired non-perishable food items.

This week –

This Sunday –Worship - 10:00am followed by Adult Sunday School

Monday – Labor Day – church offices closed

Tuesday – Executive – 6:30pm

Wednesday – Worship Service – 6:30pm

Friday – Diane's Music classes, Lady Birds – 11:00am, monthly crafts – 10:00am

Saturday – Garden – 11:00am – Seed saving how to

Next Sunday, Worship – 10:00am followed by Adult Sunday School in the fellowship hall

Mission and Generosity has put their Listening Circle box on the table in the main narthex. There is pencils and paper by the box. Please make any suggestions for the topics that you would like to discuss. Thanks

CLC Archival Items & Artifacts - To help us preserve and manage our collection with care, please follow these guidelines when interacting with the CLC Archives Room:

- Donating or Borrowing: Kindly sign the designated log sheet when donating or borrowing any items or artifacts.
- Dropping Off or Returning: Please place all items on this table so our archives team can properly process and store them.

Your cooperation ensures the integrity and organization of our archives—thank you for being part of it! The CLC Archives Team

Church Yard Sale – Fundraising is planning a smaller Christmas sale in October. If you have Christmas decorations that you were not able to bring before, this may be the time. Thanks again! Shirley

Looking for Lady Singers (Barber Shop Style) They meet every Friday at 11:00am here at Christ Lutheran Church. If interested, call 814-324-4304 for more information.

Stock the Shelves for Mission and Ministry - In times past we have collected basic supplies needed to run the church. Our Church Council at our June meeting decided to do this again to help our 2025 budget.

As we are now going towards September and maybe you are buying back-to-school items for your college student or yourself, would you consider donating a supply for our church again?

Some of the items needed are:

- **AA, AAA and 9V size batteries**
- **dishwashing liquid and paper towels**
- **cleaning supplies, bleach, toilet bowl cleaners etc.**
- **white copier paper: (reg., legal or ledger), colored paper and postage stamps**
- **napkins, paper plates, bowls and cups**
- **Baggies (large and small), aluminum foil and clear wrap**
- **toilet paper, disinfectant wipes & sprays, window cleaners, hand sanitizers**

We thank you for your help in any small way. **We will be collecting items starting today through the month of September.** Devotions may be placed on the table in the main narthex. Thanks

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – August 24, 2025

Attendance In-Person 10:00am =	59	Adult SCS =	6
Zoom 10:00am =	16		
Wed. Aug 20 In-Person 6:30pm =	7		
Zoom 6:30pm =	2		

BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2025

Received	=	\$2,075.00
Needed weekly =		<u>4,044.04</u>
		(1,969.04)

BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-JULY 2025

Actual Income =	\$119,047.03
Actual Expenses =	(<u>126,772.26</u>)
	(\$ 7,725.23)

PRAYER LIST FOR AUGUST 31, 2025

PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

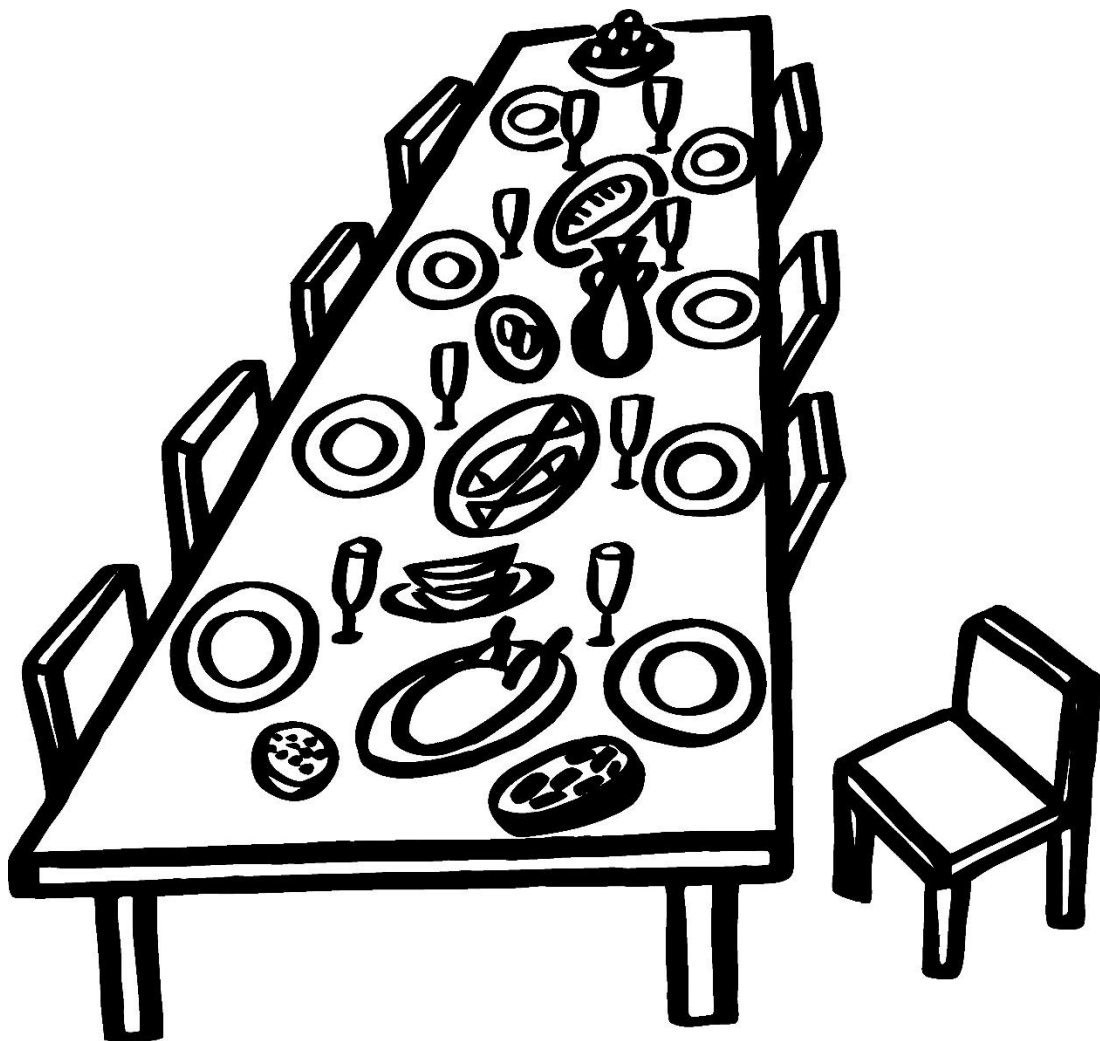
Jack Zealand
Bill & MarySue Crawford
Gail Dawson
Jane Miller
Gary Llewellyn
Mitzie & Jerry Robinette
Barbara Martin
Patty Wilson
Ed Havens
Dianne Short
Clem Dawson
Dave & Lisa Ahern
Kim Shoemaker
Fay Crawford
David LaBuda
Rosey & Becky McIntyre
Jonathan and Danielle Ahern
Tammy Faulkner
Pam & Dave Judy
David Tibbetts
Joyce DeMonbrun
Kathy Powell
Sharon McKenzie
Mary Lou Rowles
Donna Yaider
Laura Murray
Anna Bruck

PRAYER RECIPIENT

Christina Puffinburger	<i>Requested by</i> Elwood & Janet Glass
Raymond Garthwait, Stephen Overtoom	Gail Dawson
Charles Johnson, Barbara Williams	Sharon M
Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill	Mitzie & Jerry
Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker	Mitzie & Jerry
Nathan Winters	Dianne Short
Arlene Simmons. Amy, Ed Troutman, Jacie Fairall	Barb Simmons
Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert	Paul & Ruth C
Elise & Henry Jack Balber	Jack Zealand
Trina, Trinity, Asia, Faith	Debbie & Pam
Cheryl Trusler	Joyce D
Cheri Bielen	Jane Miller
Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta, Carolyn Farr, Kendra Morriss, Paula Rose	Diane
Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford	Diane K
Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith	Anne DeVaughn
Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn	Antoinette Royster
Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson	Antoinette Royster
Bob Aman, Mary Jane Robertson	Shirley & Jim Smith
Gretchen Burke	Val & Gary Llewellyn
Sally, Roger, James Tibbets	Dave Tibbetts
Andy Cocco	John Cocco
Marie Turnbull, Steven Suzindlak, Taylor Neumann	Lita Havens
Dan Carr, Matt Doman	Steven Hansrote
Lois Shunk	Sherry T
Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane	Kristan Fazenbaker
Mary Lou Dorsey	Trina Firey
Vic Werner	Barbara Martin
Belinda Keller	Linda McCagh
Madeline Lopes	Al James
Barbara Blough	Janice & Dave LaBuda
Galen Dean Krepps	Lisa Ahern
Jared McGensie, Stefan Twigg, Chris Twigg	Patty Wilson and Rosey

Please keep us updated

- a prayer for our students' and teachers' safety, success, and guidance as they return for the new academic year
- all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- all elected officials
- those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025