

Fourth Sunday of Easter
ELW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, April 25, 2021



All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA

722 Rockbridge Road SW

Lilburn, GA 30047

Rev. Dr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Interim Pastor

John Womack, Director of Music and Organist

www.allsaintslilburn.org

Introduction to the day

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

---GATHERING---

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ZOOM NARTHEX TIME

9:45-10:00 am

WELCOME

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The congregation stands.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (ELW p. 97)

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Celebration Band

“All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises”

You lived, You died, You said in three days
You would rise
You did, You're alive
You rule, You reign, You said You're
coming back again
I know You will, all the earth will sing Your
praises
All the earth will sing Your praises

You took, You take our sins away, oh God
You give, You gave Your life away for us
You came down, You saved us through the
cross
Our hearts are changed because of Your
great love

You lived, You died, You said in three days
You would rise
You did, You're alive
You rule, You reign, You said You're
coming back again
I know You will, all the earth will sing Your
praises
All the earth will sing Your praises, yeah

You took, You take our sins away, oh God
You give, You gave Your life away for us
You came down, You saved us through the
cross
Our hearts are changed because of Your
great love

You lived, You died, You said in three days
You would rise
You did, You're alive

You rule, You reign, You said You're
coming back again
I know You will, all the earth will sing Your
praises

Live, You lived, You died, You said in three
days You would rise
You did, You're alive, yeah
You rule, You reign, You said You're
coming back again
I know You will and all the earth will sing
Your praises

You lived, You died, You said in three days
You would rise
You did, You're alive, yeah, You rule
You rule, You reign, You said You're
coming back again
I know You will, all the earth will sing Your
praises

Yeah, yes they will
All the earth will sing Your praises
All the earth will sing
All the earth will sing Your praises

Yeah, yes they will
All the earth will sing Your praises
All the earth
All the earth will sing Your praises

Yeah they will
Shout Your praises Lord
Shout Your praises, yes

GREETING (ELW p. 98)

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Let us pray.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

---WORD---

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

John Womack

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

A reading from Acts.

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

John Womack

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me. R**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. R**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24**John Womack**

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

A reading from 1 John.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

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

Alleluia. Jesus says, I am | the good shepherd.* I know my own and my | own know me.

Alleluia. (John 10:14)

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

The holy gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand

runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 778

The congregation stands.

SEE FOLLOWING PAGE

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

John Womack

The congregation sits or kneels.

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need. Help us love one another in truth and action.

Holy God, we pray especially for:

- Sharon Anyan; Dixie and Jerry Wigbels; Frederick Michaels; Pat Ehrich; Jerry Barnes.
- Jim Cooper; Jennifer and Sandy; Rosie; Linda; Gail.
- Gary Knobel; Tim Mercier; Corey and Cassie Holdrich; Diane Hagen.
- John Jones; Al Kates; JoAnn; Scott Beal; Barbara Aiken.
- Sharla Hanson; Margaret Shortreed; Jeff Smith.
- Charlene Adams; Officer Max Brewer; Julie Boyer; Genet (Gun-net) Johnson's family.
- Buster Lanham; Robert and Betty; Sister Roberta; Sandy Staven; Cherie Mason.
- June Hix; Trudy Hanson; Patti Austin; Charlie Kuni.
- Steve Robinson; Rick Robinson.

The Lord's My Shepherd

1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
 4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,

in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
 my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;

He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
 My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650

Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895–1984

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- All healthcare workers.
- The underemployed and unemployed.
- All family members and friends who have COVID.
- Children, parents, teachers, and school administrators.
- All Saints' Call Committee.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. Help our community in our life together and give us vigor as a people of faith. In the midst of challenges and opportunities, especially as we discern our path forward to call a new pastor, fill us anew with you Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal Shepherd, you hold us securely in your loving hands. In the assurance of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you, especially Leisa Wiggley, Arlene Usry and the evangelist Mark. Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 106)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

---MEAL---

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

<https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/AllSaintsLutheranChurch1/general>

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

OFFERING of Bread and Wine

Preparing your bread and wine

All

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of love,

you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.

Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.

Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

John Womack

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

The congregation stands.

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

+DIALOGUE (ELW p. 107)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+PREFACE (ELW p. 108)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
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:

+HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)

John Womack



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

+THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 108)

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Holy, living, and loving God,
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.
We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.
We give you thanks for Jesus
who, living among us,
healed the sick,
fed the hungry,
and with a love stronger than death,
gave his life for others.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, therefore,
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones,
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

+LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 112)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

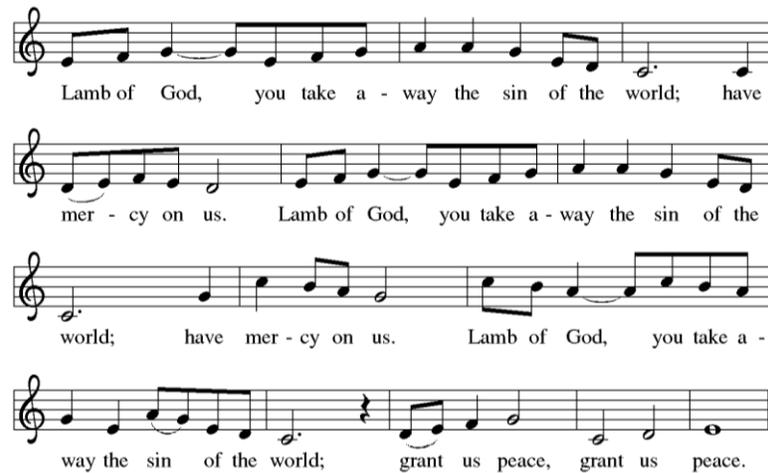
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond: Amen.
The congregation is seated.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 112)

John Womack



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.

The congregation stands.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace unto life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

John Womack

Let us pray.

Wellspring of joy,
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

---SENDING---

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

The congregation is seated.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisette Branscomb
Congregational President

The congregation stands.

DISMISSAL

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

From sundaysandseasons.com.

---PRAYER LIST---

- ❖ Sharon Anyan, healing of her sprained ankle sustained some time ago and relief from the discomfort of it swelling and also of a scrape which got infected.
- ❖ Dixie and Jerry Wigbels, healing for Dixie for a dislocated shoulder sustained in a fall, she left the hospital this week and is now in a rehab facility; diagnosis for Jerry for intestinal issues; for patience and strength in dealing with mold issues in their home. Assistance with meals will be appreciated when Dixie goes home from rehab.
- ❖ Frederick Michaels (friend of Sister Roberta's family), for healing of a heart issue.
- ❖ Pat Ehrich, for healing of three broken ribs sustained in a recent fall. She is doing better but is still hospitalized.
- ❖ Jerry Barnes, on in-home hospice care; prayers for good days for Jerry and prayers of support for his wife Pat.
- ❖ Jim Cooper (Rock of Ages member, friend of Branscombs), for strength and relief from pain in dealing with stomach and esophageal cancer along with uncontrolled diabetes while on dialysis and a feeding tube; courage and support for his wife Carole.
- ❖ Jennifer & Sandy; Rosie; Linda; Gail (relatives and friends of Cherie Mason) - for healing and recovery from various health issues; patience and reassurance in dealing with medical procedures and diagnoses.
- ❖ Gary Knobel (friend of Joanne Heckman), recently diagnosed with cancer.
- ❖ Tim Mercier (friend of Al Kates), in need of a liver transplant.
- ❖ Corey Holdrich (Joyce and John's son) and wife Cassie, recovering from COVID.
- ❖ Diane Hagen (friend of Sue Martinson), for healing from severe injuries sustained in a car accident. She has mobility issues with her broken leg and knee; thanksgiving for family members who are staying with her to help out.
- ❖ John Jones, for patience with neuropathy in his feet and relief from back spasms.
- ❖ Al Kates, for healing and recovery from knee replacement surgery.
- ❖ JoAnn (Martha Wooden's sister-in-law), for healing and recovery from pneumonia and COVID. JoAnn also has Parkinson's Disease. Now in rehab, COVID is not contagious and pneumonia is not affecting her breathing.
- ❖ Scott Beal (brother of a co-worker of Kevin Swanson), for courage and strength in recovering from injuries sustained in a serious auto accident. He has been in ICU for 61 days; he was making good progress, but has "coded" three times in the past two weeks and has relapsed with internal bleeding and another stroke while enduring pneumonia and water in his lungs, so is fully on life support. The ICU staff say he is a fighter; prayers for stamina and reassurance for Scott's family.
- ❖ Barbara Aiken (87 year old friend of Rica Kelly), for healing and relief from pain while recovering from a broken femur as a result of a fall. She has now returned home. Prayers for her family as Barbara is very confused as to what has happened.
- ❖ Sharla Hanson (sister of Sheila Wagner), for healing and recovery at home from recent surgery for internal bleeding.
- ❖ Margaret Shortreed (friend of Laura Trittin's late mother Carol), thanksgiving that a potential living kidney donor has been found (Stage 4 kidney disease).
- ❖ Jeff Smith (cousin of Joann Rosselle), strength and courage in dealing with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer.
- ❖ Charlene Adams, patience in waiting for knee replacement surgery to be scheduled and dealing with loneliness.

- ❖ Officer Max Brewer, thanksgiving for healing of his left leg; for patience and resolve in dealing with further surgery on his right leg - earlier surgeries were not successful.
- ❖ Julie Boyer, prayers for healing during radiation treatments for breast cancer.
- ❖ Protection for the family of Genet (Gun-net) Johnson (Blandon's wife), who have been caught up in violence in Ethiopia. Prayers for peace and comfort for the family of Genet's cousin, a government worker who was shot and killed in front of his wife and children.
- ❖ Buster Lanham (brother-in-law of Angela Kates), strength and patience while undergoing additional chemo for inoperable Stage 2 pharyngeal cancer; he is doing somewhat better.
- ❖ Robert (nephew of Betty Bradford), recovery after surgery and other major health concerns, including the need for a kidney transplant; also for his 85 year-old mother Betty (sister-in-law of Betty Bradford), who is his caregiver.
- ❖ Sister Roberta, for renewed strength, energy, and patience in daily activities.
- ❖ Sandy Staven, thanksgiving for her progress after hip replacement surgery.
- ❖ Cherie Mason, gratitude for how well she is doing and mercy for continued healing with additional chemo treatments.
- ❖ June Hix, for help with knee pain which causes difficulty in walking; for relief from lupus pain; for strength in caring for her brother Carl, who needs open-heart surgery.
- ❖ Trudy Hanson, for healing as she nears the end of radiation treatments for breast cancer.
- ❖ Patti Austin, for comfort, peace, reassurance and trust as she grieves the passing of Hilton.
- ❖ Charlie Kuni, for patience in waiting for further heart and arterial procedures to be scheduled.
- ❖ Steve Robinson (brother of Rick Robinson), for healing and recovery from a recent heart attack and bleeding complications; thanksgiving that he is doing better with dialysis and for the prayers of this congregation.
- ❖ Rick Robinson (Sandra Robinson's husband), for healing and recovery from recent shoulder surgery which was related to an auto accident last year; thanksgiving that surgery was less extensive than expected and that he will be in a sling three weeks rather than six.
- ❖ Prayers for children, parents, teachers, and school administrators, for guidance, wisdom, and cooperation in making wise decisions for all, including end-of-school year activities.
- ❖ Prayers for All Saints' Call Committee, for guidance and discernment as they interview prospective pastoral candidates.
- ❖ For the family of Arlene Usry, who passed away unexpectedly at home this past week, especially for peace and strength for her husband James. Arlene and James are members of Amazing Grace Lutheran Church and enjoyed coming to All Saints' Fish Frys.
- ❖ For the family and friends of Leisa Wiggley, who passed away from pancreatic cancer this week. Leisa was a good friend of many of those at All Saints who quilt and sew, a talented individual who created ways for her friends to spend time together.