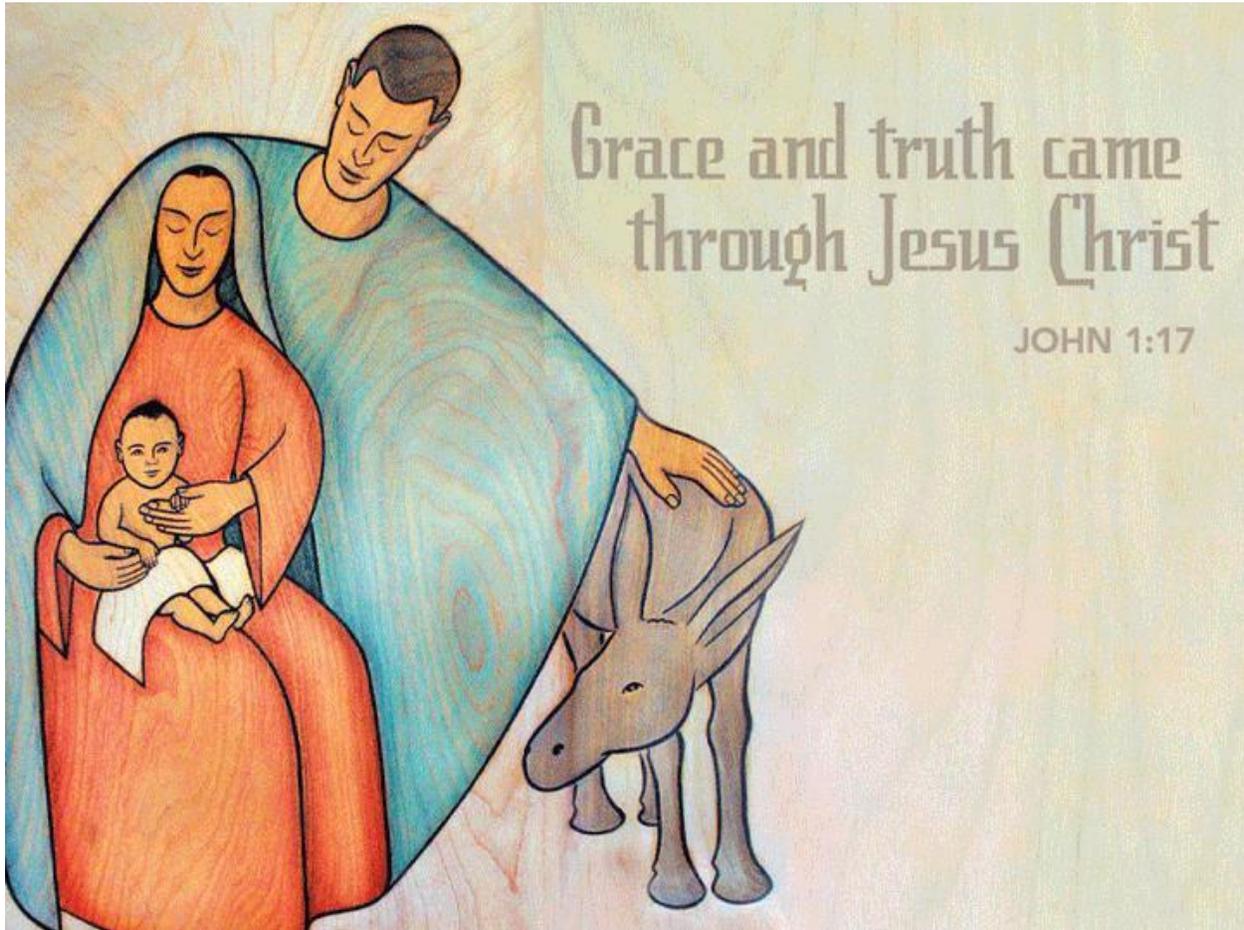


Second Sunday of Christmas
ELW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, January 3, 2021



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.allsaintsilburn.org

Introduction to the day

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

---GATHERING---

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

ZOOM NARTHEX TIME

9:50-10:05 am

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisette Branscomb
Congregational President

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
The Maker of heaven and earth,
The Word made flesh,
The Lord and giver of life.

Amen.

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of peace,

**we confess that we are not at peace--
with others or with ourselves.**

We bring to you all that tears us apart:

Discord in our families,

Violence in our world,

Our own conflicted hearts.

In your mercy, mend us.

Reconnect us to one another and to you.

Let peace reign over all the earth,

Through the Prince of peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

In the Word who has come to dwell with us,

God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins,

Love that can heal every broken heart.

Hear this word of pardon and peace:

in the name of ✚ Jesus Christ our Savior,

You are free from all your sins.

Rise, shine, for your light has come.

Amen.

Light Dawns on a Weary World

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain
 The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
 the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
 We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
 as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
 Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
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GREETING

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.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

---WORD---

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Miriam McCann

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gifts of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

A reading from Jeremiah.

⁷Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20

John Womack

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. (Ps. 147:12)

¹²Worship the LORD, | O Jerusalem;
praise your | God, O Zion,
¹³who has strengthened the bars | of your gates
and has blessed your chil- | dren within you.
¹⁴God has established peace | on your borders
and satisfies you with the | finest wheat.
¹⁵God sends out a command | to the earth,
a word that runs | very swiftly. R
¹⁶God gives | snow like wool,
scattering | frost like ashes.
¹⁷God scatters | hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?
¹⁸The LORD sends forth the | word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the | waters flow.
¹⁹God declares the | word to Jacob,
statutes and judg- | ments to Israel.
²⁰The LORD has not done so to any | other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. | Hallelujah! R

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

Miriam McCann

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

A reading from Ephesians.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his

counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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. All the ends | of the earth* have seen the victory | of our God. *Alleluia.* (Ps. 98:3)

GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

SERMON

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 295

Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have deem - been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more,
ev - er - more and ev - er - more,
ev - er - more and ev - er - more,
ev - er - more and ev - er - more,
ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Miriam McCann

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Redeeming God, you gather together your people from the farthest parts of the earth. Protect your church from stumbling. Let it not be overcome by sorrow, division, or despair. Make us radiant with goodness, that we might live always to the praise of your glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You bring together heaven and earth. All creation testifies to your splendor. Hold the ecosystems of this earth in delicate balance, from coastlands to farmlands, forests to wetlands, deserts to rainforests. Show us new ways to live in harmony with the world around us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You overflow with grace upon grace. Expand the imaginations of those who serve in positions of authority. Open their hearts to the needs of their nations and communities. Protect all those in harm's way and those risking danger for the sake of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You bring consolation to those who weep. Embrace those who feel far-off, excluded, or defeated. Accompany those living with chronic and invisible illness. Sustain the weak and weary. Refresh those who labor under the weight of pain or sickness.

Holy God, we pray especially for:

- Thanksgiving for the protection of Sue and Russ Silver in a car accident this week.
- Bob Johnson; Wayne Meyer; Lisa and Scott Granholm.
- Julie Boyer; the family of Genet Johnson; Joyce Holdrich.
- Buster Lanham; Cindy Murphy; Robert and Betty.
- Sister Roberta; Sandy Staven; Cherie Mason.
- June Hix; Trudy Hanson; Hilton and Patti Austin; Charlie Kuni.
- Sandra Robinson; Steve Robinson; Rick Robinson.
- 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.

You come to us in the beauty of darkness and of light. Bring justice and reconciliation to communities divided by oppressions and misuse of power. Guide us to speak holy words of advocacy and truth. Help us to honor your image in one another. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You turn our mourning into joy. We give thanks for those who have died in faith, especially Brian Isaacson, cousin of Sharon Marion and father of Wyatt. With all the saints, give us our inheritance in Christ. In the fullness of time, gather us all together in your mercy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

PEACE

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.

Good and loving God,

We rejoice in the birth of Jesus,

Who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace.

As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others

With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,

We shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Miriam McCann

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

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)

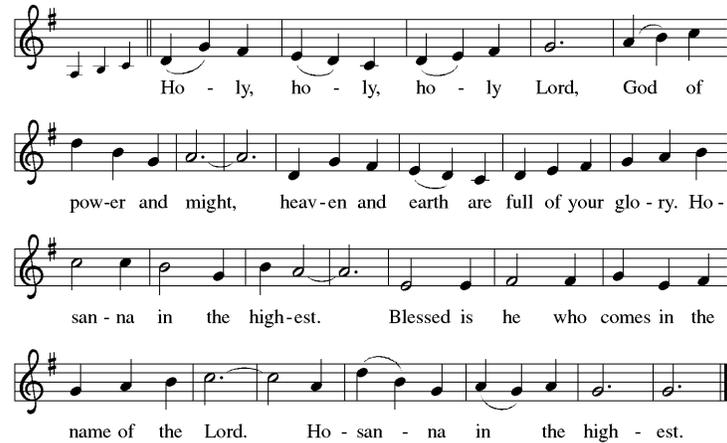
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
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

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Holy God,
Creator of all and Source of life,
at the birth of time
your word brought light into the world.
In the fullness of time,
you sent your Word, born of Mary,
to shine in our darkness
and to make us your daughters and sons.
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 birth and life among us,
his death and resurrection,
we await his coming again
when all things will be restored in him.
By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup,
that, held and nourished by you,
we may live as your children,
shining with the light of your Son.
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

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 mystery hidden for the ages is revealed for us in this meal.
Come, behold and receive your God.

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

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.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

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

Amen.**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION****Miriam McCann***Let us pray.*

We give you thanks, O God, that in this bread and cup of Christ's very life, you give us food for our journey. As you led the magi by a star, as you brought the holy family home again, guide us on the way unfolding before us. Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.**---SENDING---**

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

BLESSING**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day ✝ through the Word made flesh.

Amen.**SENDING SONG****ELW 715***SEE FOLLOWING PAGE***DISMISSAL****Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

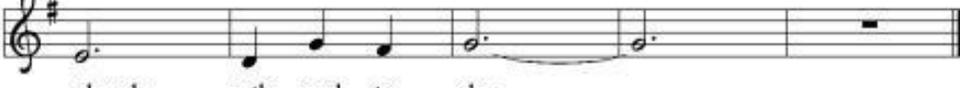
Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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---PRAYER LIST---

- ❖ Sue & Russ Silver, thanksgiving for their safety in a car accident this week. Car was totaled, but they had only bruises from the seatbelts and airbags. Sue requests the following info is used when contacting her: texts to her cell at (770) 598-0191 and email at suecsilver@yahoo.com.
- ❖ Bob Johnson, for successful upcoming surgery related to kidney stone issues.
- ❖ Protection for Wayne Meyer, (80+ year-old uncle of Sharon Marion) who is hospitalized with COVID.
- ❖ Lisa (co-worker of Laura Trittin) and Scott Granholm, for peace and reassurance after losing everything in a house fire in Loganville the weekend before Christmas.
- ❖ Julie Boyer, for strength and reassurance, breast cancer surgery tomorrow; also prayers for her medical team.
- ❖ Protection for the family of Genet Johnson (Blandon's wife), who have been caught up in violence in Ethiopia and have not been heard from for several weeks.
- ❖ Joyce Holdrich, healing from vertigo and high heart rate (Afib) condition.
- ❖ Buster Lanham (brother-in-law of Angela Kates), strength and courage while undergoing chemo and daily radiation for inoperable Stage 2 pharyngeal cancer.
- ❖ Cindy Murphy, recovering from back surgery on December 14; MRIs in early January to determine treatment for kidney issue.
- ❖ Robert (nephew of Betty Bradford), recovery after surgery and other major health concerns; also for his 85 year-old mother Betty (sister-in-law of Betty Bradford), who is his caregiver.
- ❖ Sister Roberta, for renewed strength and energy.
- ❖ Sandy Staven, for relief from hip pain, hip replacement surgery scheduled for January 12.
- ❖ Cherie Mason, for relief from side effects of chemotherapy; thanksgiving for having completed half of her chemo treatments.
- ❖ June Hix, for help with knee pain which causes difficulty in walking.
- ❖ Trudy Hanson, for peace and healing with chemotherapy and radiation for breast cancer.
- ❖ Hilton and Patti Austin, for strength, comfort, and courage for Hilton in hospice care.
- ❖ Charlie Kuni, for healing from a severe cold and determination of a surgery date for carotid artery issues.
- ❖ Sandra Robinson, in her recovery from hospitalization for a severe infection related to MS.
- ❖ Steve Robinson (brother of Rick Robinson) in a new rehab facility for treatment of diabetes.
- ❖ Rick Robinson (Sandra Robinson's husband), thanksgiving for healing.
- ❖ Prayers for children, parents, teachers, and school administrators, for guidance, wisdom, and cooperation in making wise decisions for all.
- ❖ Prayers for All Saints' Call Committee, as they move ahead in the Call Process.
- ❖ Sympathy and peace for the family of Brian Isaacson (cousin of Sharon Marion) who passed away suddenly December 27 from blood clot issues. Prayers especially for his 14 year-old son Wyatt, whose mother also passed away five years ago due to cancer.