

Third Sunday in Lent
ELW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, March 7, 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

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

---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 keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.

Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:

by the saving love of Jesus Christ,

the wisdom and power of God,

your sins are ✠ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.

Journey in the way of Jesus.

Amen.

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing, light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872
 Music: RATHBUN, Ishamar Conkey, 1815-1867

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.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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: Exodus 20:1-17

Tom Wagner

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

A reading from Exodus.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 19

John Womack

The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)

¹The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,
and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.

²One day tells its tale | to another,
 and one night imparts knowledge | to another.

³Although they have no | words or language,
 and their voices | are not heard,

⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world,
 where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;
 it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of | it again;
 nothing is hidden from its | burning heat. R

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
 the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;
 the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;
 the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,
 sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb. R

¹¹By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,
 and in keeping them there is | great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's | own offenses?
 Cleanse me from my | secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;
 then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,
 O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer. R

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Tom Wagner

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
 and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

The holy gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON**Pastor Ruth Hamilton****HYMN OF THE DAY****ELW 342**

SEE FOLLOWING PAGE

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering. Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor.

There in God's Garden

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it,
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man -
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty,
 self - hood feed on its life - blood,
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it,
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

Text: Király János von Pécselyi, c. 1590-c. 1641; n. Erik Routley, 1917-1982.
 Music: K. Lee Scott, n. 1950
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Holy God, we pray especially for:

- John Jones; Al Kates; JoAnn; Scott Beal; Barbara Aiken; Sharla Hanson.
- Manuel Ibarra; Jack Bergeson; Leisa Wiggley; Maddy Faass.
- Jeff Miller; Margaret Shortreed; Pastor Ruth Hamilton; Jeff Smith.
- Jackie Szalkowski; Charlene Adams; Officer Max Brewer; Julie Boyer.
- The family of Genet (Gun-net) Johnson; Buster Lanham; Cindy Murphy.
- Robert and Betty; Sister Roberta; Sandy Staven; Cherie Mason.
- June Hix; Trudy Hanson; Patti Austin; Charlie Kuni.
- Steve Robinson; Rick Robinson.
- Sue and Russ Silver.
- 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 call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross, especially Hilton Austin. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Faithful God,

you walk beside us in desert places,

and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.

Accompany us in this meal,

Tom Wagner

that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

+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)

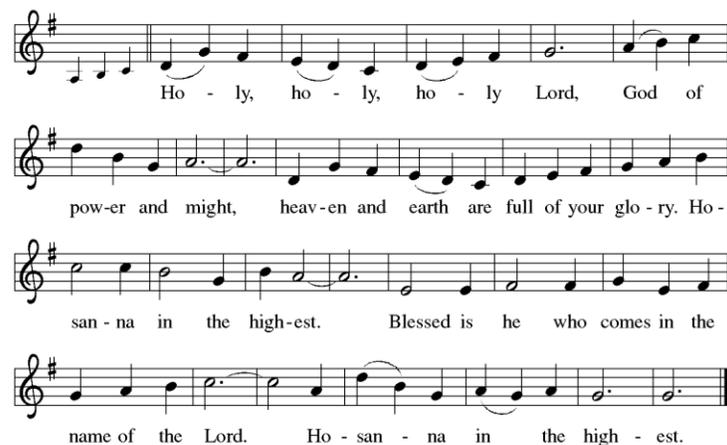
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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,
our living Water and our merciful Guide,
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs
we bless and magnify you.
You led your people Israel through the desert,
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert,
pouring out his life for the world.
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, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.
Pour out your Spirit on this holy food
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin,
that we may be revived for our journey by the love 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

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.**

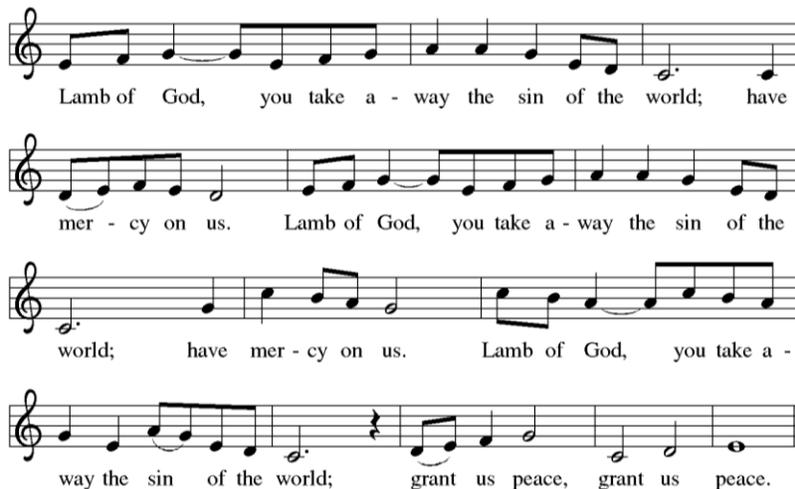
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus draws the whole world to himself.
Come to this meal and be fed.

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 life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Tom Wagner

Let us pray.

God of steadfast love,
at this table you gather your people
into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit,
that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

---SENDING---

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

BLESSING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing,

in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

“God the Sculptor of the Mountains”

ELW 736

God the sculptor of the mountains,
God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens,
God the potter of the land:
you are womb of all creation,
we are formless; shape us now.

God the nuisance to the Pharaoh,
God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar of the darkness,
God the beacon of the free:
you are gate of all deliv'rance,
we are sightless; lead us now.

God the unexpected infant,
God the calm, determined youth,
God the table turning prophet,
God the resurrected Truth:
you are present every moment,
we are searching; meet us now.

God the dresser of the vineyard,
God the planter of the wheat,
God the reaper of the harvest,
God the source of all we eat:
you are host at every table,
we are hungry; feed us now.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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---PRAYER LIST---

- ❖ John Jones, for healing and recovery from cellulitis.
- ❖ Al Kates, for healing and recovery from recent 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 healing from a broken back sustained in a serious auto accident. It has been difficult to stabilize him or do surgery as he is on a ventilator due to his lungs filling with fluid. Still in ICU.
- ❖ 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 and where she is.
- ❖ Sharla Hanson (sister of Sheila Wagner), for healing and recovery from recent surgery for internal bleeding.
- ❖ Manuel Ibarra (Casa de Dios para la Naciones Church), for recovery from COVID and pneumonia.
- ❖ Jack Bergeson (brother-in-law of Sue Martinson), thanksgiving for successful heart valve replacement this week after a recent heart attack, prayers for healing and recovery.
- ❖ Leisa Wiggley, (sewing friend of many at ASLC) for strength and courage in her ongoing battle with pancreatic cancer.
- ❖ Maddy Faass, who has a wonderful internship opportunity which is exactly what she has been looking for. Prayers for a good outcome as the opportunity is very competitive.
- ❖ Jeff Miller (nephew-in-law of Sue Martinson), thanksgiving for successful surgery for recurrence of bladder cancer, prayers for healing and recovery.
- ❖ Margaret Shortreed (friend of Laura Trittin), that a living kidney donor be found as she has stage four kidney disease.
- ❖ Pastor Ruth Hamilton, thanksgiving for progress and healing in her recovery from knee replacement surgery.
- ❖ Jeff Smith (cousin of Joann Rosselle), strength and courage in dealing with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer.
- ❖ Jackie Szalkowski, for healing and recovery after breast cancer surgery. Thanksgiving for good progress and positive post-op report.
- ❖ 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 and recovery from breast cancer surgery.
- ❖ Protection for the family of Genet (Gun-net) Johnson (Blandon's wife), who have been caught up in violence in Ethiopia. Her parents and siblings are still not out of the woods, but have necessary medications now. 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; his condition has worsened.
- ❖ Cindy Murphy, recovering from back surgery; PT is going well; determining treatment for kidney issues.

- ❖ 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 January 12.
- ❖ Cherie Mason, thanksgiving for feeling well after final chemo treatment; for calm and reassurance for PET scan this coming week; thanksgiving for teaching college courses again; discernment in decisions about teaching in the future.
- ❖ June Hix, for healing from recent burns sustained while working on a broken hot water heater; for help with knee pain which causes difficulty in walking; for strength in caring for her brother Carl, who needs open-heart surgery when bleeding ulcers are healed.
- ❖ Trudy Hanson, thanksgiving that she has completed chemo treatments for breast cancer; for progress in healing so radiation treatment can begin.
- ❖ Charlie Kuni, for patience in waiting to see his heart doctor on 3/15 to determine treatment; thanksgiving for receiving both doses of the COVID vaccine.
- ❖ Steve Robinson (brother of Rick Robinson) in a new rehab facility for treatment of diabetes.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Sue and Russ Silver, for God's blessings as they move to Fort Collins, Colorado to be near family. They left for Colorado this past week.
- ❖ 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 to the "matching" category of the Call Process.
- ❖ Prayers of comfort and peace for the family and friends of Hilton Austin, especially his wife Patti. We thank God for the blessing of his presence in our midst and for the many lives he impacted with his faithful witness and advocacy. We ask God to be with Patti in her grief and hold her close.