

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, July 26, 2020



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

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

---GATHERING---

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

NARTHEX TIME

9:50-10:05am

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Joyce Holdrich

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisette Branscomb
Congregational President

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sent Forth by God's Blessing



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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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

Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

---WORD---

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

ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN**Lisa Mitchell****FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12****Lisa Mitchell**

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

A reading from 1 Kings.

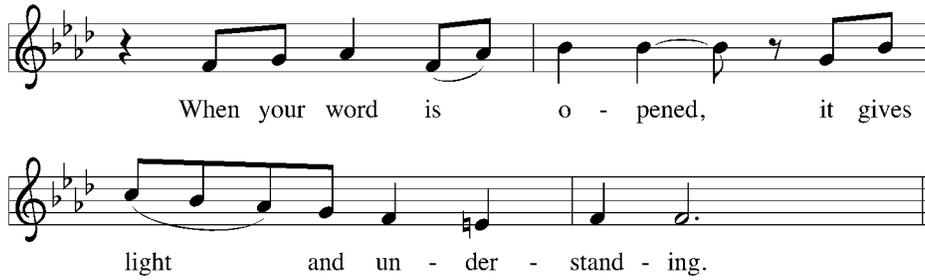
⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130)



Psalm 119:130
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Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- 129 Your de- | crees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.
- 130 When your word is opened | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.
- 131 I open my | mouth and pant
because I long for | your commandments.
- 132 Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,
as you always do to those who | love your name. R
- 133 Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.
- 134 Rescue me from those | who oppress me,
and I will keep | your commandments.
- 135 Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.
- 136 My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your teaching. R

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

Lisa Mitchell

These words celebrate the depth of God’s actions for us. Through Christ’s death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God’s love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

A reading from Romans.

26 The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. 27 And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)

The musical notation consists of three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, and C6. The lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below. The third staff shows a repeat sign and the instruction 'Repeat alleluia'.

Alleluia. Many will come from | east and west* and will eat in the king- | dom of heaven.

Alleluia. (Matt. 8:11)

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 759

See Following Page

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887

Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

John Holdrich

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, your reign is revealed to us in common things: a mustard shrub, a woman baking bread, a fishing net. Help your church witness to the surprising yet common ways you encounter us in daily life. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers. Treasuring the earth, may we live as grateful and healing caretakers of our home. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

As the birds of the air nest in branches of trees, gather the nations of the world into the welcoming shade of your merciful reign. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and walk in the way of peace. (*Here a particular world struggle may be named.*) Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for the saints according to your will. Help us when we do not know how to pray. Give comfort to the dying, refuge to the weary, justice to those who are oppressed, and healing to the sick. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You show steadfast love and direct us to ask of you what we need. Help this congregation ask boldly for what is most needed. Refresh us with new dreams of being your people in this place and time. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we pray especially for:

- Katie and Dan Kish, their new baby son Levi and grandparents Lisette and Jack Branscomb.
- Scott Crain; Charlie Kuni; Darlene Henry.
- Maija Miller; Hannah Rosselle; Sherry Lang; Janie and Gary Toebben.
- John Womack; Leisa Wiggley; Officer Max Brewer; Bronwyn Yale Blanco; Rosie Marks; Marta; Sheila Wagner; Margaret Robinson; Rick Robinson; Sondra Fowler; and Pinky Palm.
- Chris Holdrich, Stephanie, and all healthcare workers.
- Bob, Ingrid, Sonya, Connie, and Phillip.
- Doni Saunders, Joanne Heckman, and Richard Kraus.
- The Szalkowski Family.
- Children, parents, teachers, and school administrators.
- Ray and Regina Klages; and Rob Kates.

In you our lives are never lost. Strengthen us by the inspiring witness of your people in all times and places especially Lee McCurry, Butch Morgan, and Shirley Fareed. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; 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>

OFFERING of Bread and Wine

Preparing your bread and wine

All

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer 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.

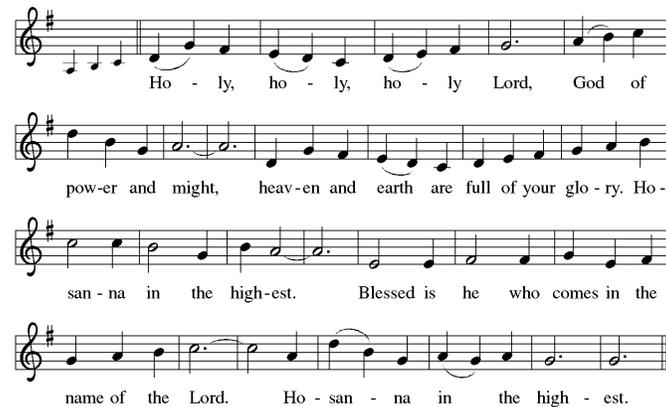
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+PREFACE (ELW p. 108)

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing 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

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

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 acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, 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

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

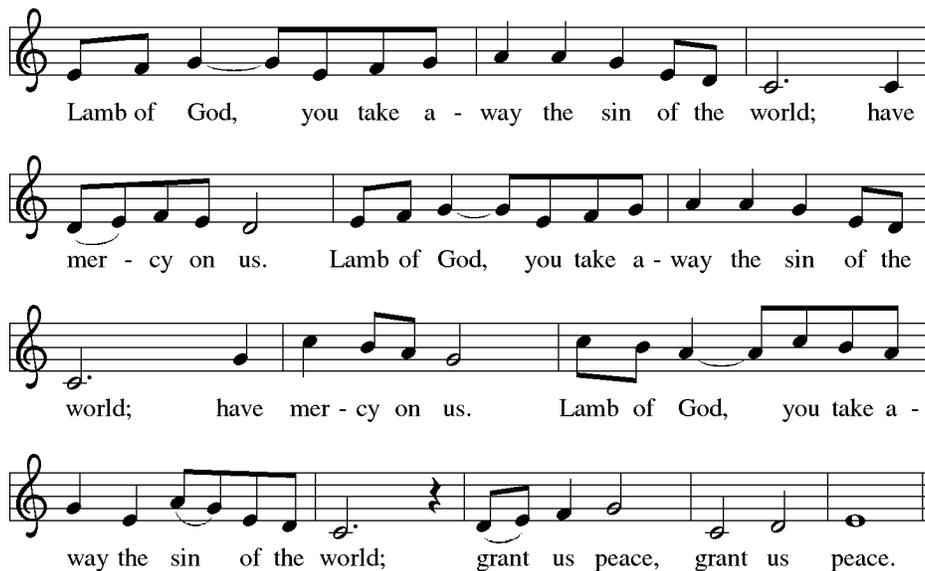
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond: Amen.

COMMUNION SONG

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.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

John Holdrich

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

---SENDING---

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

BLESSING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

ELW 670

See Following Page

DISMISSAL

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Build Us Up, Lord

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
 2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our

us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
 lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our

ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
 doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.

Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
 Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
 bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us

world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
 sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain

Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in
 faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your
 word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952
 Music: BUILD US UP, Mark Glaeser and Donna Hanna
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---PRAYER LIST---

- Katie & Dan Kish (daughter and son-in-law of Lisette & Jack Branscomb) for the blessing of their baby son Levi; for God's providence in being with Lisette as she unexpectedly was called on to deliver her grandson
- Scott Crain (friend of Sheila Wagner), hospitalized for COVID-19 and a stroke
- Charlie Kuni, for a diagnosis of arterial issues
- Darlene Henry (friend of Regina Klages), for healing
- Maija Miller (Sue Martinson's niece), recovering from COVID-19
- Hannah Rosselle, thanksgiving for negative results to COVID-19 test, after exposure
- Sherry Lang (sister of Sheila Wagner), for healing from hip replacement surgery
- Janie & Gary Toebben (relatives of Charlene Adams), healing for Gary with his cancer diagnosis and ongoing recovery for Janie's health issues
- John Womack, thanksgiving for recovery from COVID-19
- Leisa Wiggley (friend of All Saints' quilters), for healing from cancer
- APD Officer Max Brewer, now home, for healing and successful rehab and therapy
- Bronwyn Yale Blanco
- Rosie Marks (Cherie Mason's sister-in-law), recovering from colon cancer surgery
- Marta (long-time friend of Rica Kelly), for healing from health issues
- Sheila Wagner
- Margaret Robinson (mother-in-law of Sandra Robinson), recovering from broken hip and falls
- Rick Robinson (Sandra Robinson's husband), for healing
- Sondra Fowler (friend of Sandra Robinson), for healing
- Pinky Palm (wife of Pastor Randy Palm, Rock of Ages Lutheran), healing from a broken femur
- Chris Holdrich (John & Joyce Holdrich's grandson) and Stephanie (friend of Joann Roselle), for guidance and protection in their work as healthcare workers
- Bob (brother of Cherie Mason), unemployed due to COVID-19
- Ingrid, Sonya, Connie, Phillip – underemployed/unemployed
- Doni Saunders (friend of Cherie Mason); Joanne Heckman; Richard Kraus (father of Bruce Kraus) – for reassurance and safety living in facilities where COVID-19 is present
- Jerry & Jackie Szalkowski – for smooth transition to new living arrangements; health issues; Jerry's retirement
- Children, parents, teachers, and school administrators – guidance, wisdom, and cooperation in making wise decisions for all as schools prepare to re-open
- Ray & Regina Klages, for health concerns and their upcoming relocation.
- Rob Kates, for his relocation to Cuba this week.
- Comfort and peace for the family & friends of Lee McCurry (friend of the Yale family), young man who passed away unexpectedly
- Comfort and peace for the family & friends of Butch Morgan (cousin of Kelly Kraus), upon his death
- Comfort and peace for the family & friends of Shirley Fareed, upon her death, that justice be served