

17th Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, September 27, 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

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

---GATHERING---

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

NARTHEX TIME

9:50-10:05 am

WELCOME TO WORSHIP/GREETING

Sue Lystad

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Lisette Branscomb
Congregational President

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM WITH
CANDLE LIGHTING AND WATER (ELW p. 97)**

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

A candle is lit. Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Ra - dianc e of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and

gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroul - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
 God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:

and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
 all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on

es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1664, stc. 1–3; Georgheuch, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
 Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann K. Ahle, 1625–1673

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.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

---WORD---

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

ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN

Kevin Swanson

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Kevin Swanson

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

A reading from Ezekiel

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.

³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9**John Womack**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love. (*Ps. 25:6*)

Psalm 25:6
 Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
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¹To | you, O LORD,

I lift | up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,

nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your | ways, O LORD,

and teach | me your paths. R

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,

for they are from | everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;

remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O

LORD.

⁸You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;

therefore you teach sinners | in your way.

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice

and teach the low- | ly your way. R

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13**Kevin Swanson**

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

A reading from Philippians.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,

but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but
much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is
God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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. My sheep hear my voice, | says the Lord;* I know them and they | follow me.
Alleluia. (John 10:27)

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And

he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

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

SERMON

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 712

See Following Page

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Joanne Swanson

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

In all the world, give your church unity. Inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ. Where the church is powerful and where it struggles, shape us with humility and obedience so that your love may be at work in us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your Son took on all of bodily life in our world, even to death. Preserve and keep your creation, O God. Mend and redeem places that are polluted and damaged, so that all of creation confesses you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Turn the nations toward life. Where our ways are unfair, give us new hearts and new spirits. Where sin permeates our cultures and institutions, change our minds and teach us to trust your authority. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

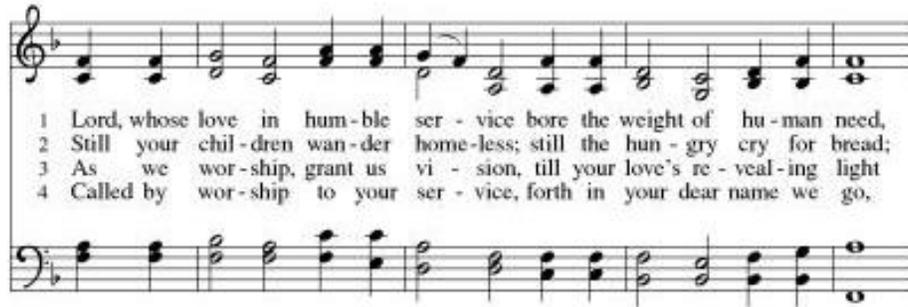
Our lives are yours, O God. Relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Defend the lives and welfare of children who are abused or neglected, hungry or exploited, bullied or lonely. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

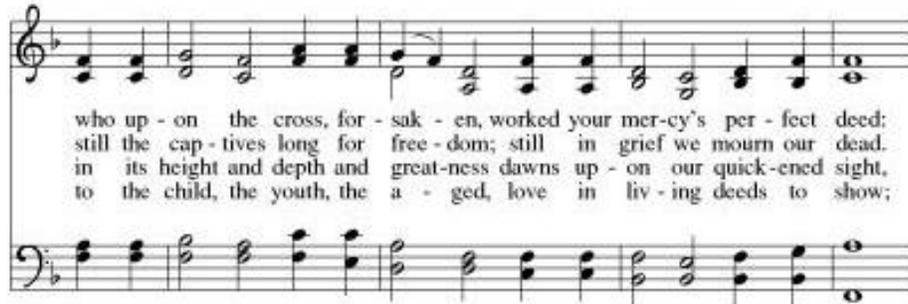
Gracious God, we pray especially for:

- Dixie Wigbels; Doni Saunders; Charlene Adams; Margaret; June Hix; Trudy Hanson.
- Sharon O’Connor; Ann Robinson; Gail Guffey; Hilton Austin; Marjorie O’Brien; Jerry Barnes.
- Sue Silver; Cherrie Scharnberg; Jim Scobee; Charlie Kuni; Ted Haag.
- Leisa Wiggley; Officer Max Brewer; Bronwyn Yale Blanco; Rosie Marks; Marta.
- Margaret Robinson; Rick Robinson; Sondra Fowler; Pinky Palm.
- Chris Holdrich, Stephanie, and all healthcare workers.
- Bob, Ingrid, Sonya, Connie, and Phillip.
- Joanne Heckman and Richard Kraus.

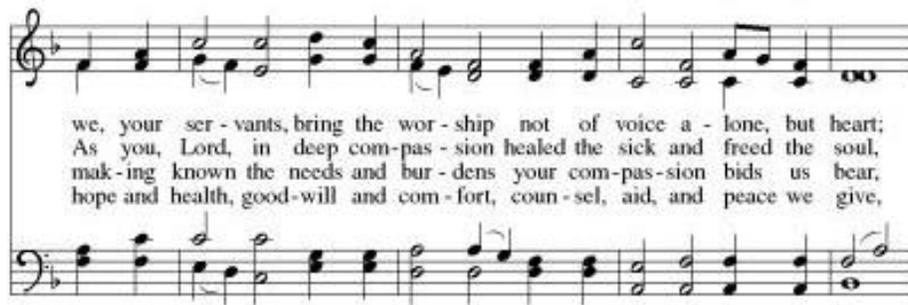
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed;
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

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- Children, parents, teachers, and school administrators.
- All those impacted by or in the path of disasters and disaster response workers.
- The food ministry to the homeless at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church.

Turn this congregation away from our own interests toward the interests of others. Fill us with your compassion and sympathy. Bless ministries of care in our community; make us into signs of your mercy and justice for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Thank you for those who have gone into the kingdom ahead of us, especially Sarah Jackson and Cathy Hunt. By their witness, teach us to confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

---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

Joanne Swanson

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, 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 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:

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+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

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,

and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,

we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,

not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,

so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,

and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,

may be formed to live as your holy people

and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen, amen, 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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

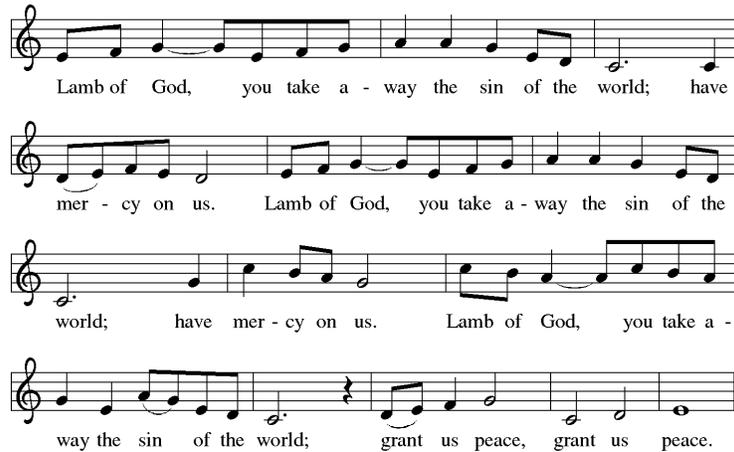
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond: Amen

COMMUNION SONG (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.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Joanne Swanson

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

---SENDING---

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

BLESSING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

DISMISSAL

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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---PRAYER LIST---

- ❖ Dixie Wigbels, for healing in her recovery after a bad fall
- ❖ Doni Saunders (friend of Cherie Mason), possibility of losing his leg, blood clot in one lung and fluid in both lungs
- ❖ Charlene Adams, death of three of her birds during her move to Braselton
- ❖ Margaret (friend of Laura Trittin's mother Carol), stage 4 kidney disease and searching for a living donor
- ❖ June Hix, difficulty walking and sinus issues
- ❖ Trudy Hanson, breast cancer
- ❖ Sharon O'Connor, health issues
- ❖ Ann Robinson, mother-in-law of Karen Robinson (Rica Kelly's daughter), recovering from a fall, undergoing diagnostic tests
- ❖ Gail Guffey, mother-in-law of Sandy (Cherie Mason's daughter), in hospice after suffering a massive stroke, now responsive and being considered for rehab, still in very serious condition
- ❖ Hilton Austin, discernment in making decisions regarding cancer treatment
- ❖ Marjorie O'Brien, health issues
- ❖ Jerry Barnes, recovering after being hospitalized for pneumonia
- ❖ Sue Silver, recovering from laser surgery August 18
- ❖ Cherie Scharnberg (friend of Cherie Mason), healing from brain surgery August 13
- ❖ Jim Scobee, two upcoming heart surgeries, waiting for surgery dates
- ❖ Charlie Kuni, for a diagnosis of arterial issues
- ❖ Ted Haag (friend of Joyce & John Holdrich for 60 yrs), for healing from ongoing lung cancer, undergoing chemo, prognosis is not favorable
- ❖ 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), struggling with recovery from colon cancer surgery
- ❖ Marta (long-time friend of Rica Kelly), for healing from health issues
- ❖ Margaret Robinson (mother-in-law of Sandra Robinson), recovering from broken hip and falls
- ❖ Rick Robinson (Sandra Robinson's husband), for healing
- ❖ Sondra Fowler (cousin of Sandra Robinson), for healing after the death of her husband
- ❖ Pinky Palm (wife of Pastor Randy Palm, Rock of Ages), healing from a broken femur
- ❖ Chris Holdrich (John & Joyce Holdrich's grandson) and Stephanie (friend of Joann Rosselle), 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
- ❖ Joanne Heckman and Richard Kraus (father of Bruce Kraus) for reassurance and safety living in facilities where COVID-19 is present
- ❖ Children, parents, teachers, and school administrators, for guidance, wisdom, and cooperation in making wise decisions for all as schools re-open
- ❖ All those impacted by or in the path of disasters and disaster response workers, especially those on the West Coast and the Gulf Coast
- ❖ The food ministry to the homeless at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, need for volunteers
- ❖ Comfort and peace for the family and friends of Sarah Jackson, especially her four daughters and her brother James. Sarah was a teacher at Duluth Middle School and worked with Family Promise. She died while saving her daughter from drowning.

- ❖ Comfort and peace for the Hunt family and the Carithers family upon the death of Cathy Hunt (friend of Joann Rosselle) who passed away from a lengthy hospitalization for COVID-19, especially for her husband Scotty Hunt.