

February 25, 2024 Second Sunday in Lent 8:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Worship Service w/ communion

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The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

#### GATHERING

[congregation reads bold]

#### Bell

#### Announcements

**Prelude:** (8:00) Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

-Anne Krentz Organ

(10:30) I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
-English folk tune, setting by Anne Krentz Organ
-Junior Gyros

All who are able are invited to stand

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\oplus$  one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

#### Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

Amen.

# **Gathering Hymn**



Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1690; para. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt. Music: Herbert Howells, 1892–1983

Music © 1968 Novello & Co. Ltd., London

MICHAEL 8787337

### Greeting

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

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, 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.

All may be seated

### First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." *The word of the Lord.* 

Thanks be to God.

### Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31 (read responsively – congregation reads bold)

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's <sup>1</sup> line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- <sup>1</sup> spring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;

but when they cry out, I the LORD hears them.

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the <sup>1</sup> great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who <sup>1</sup> fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn <sup>1</sup> to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow <sup>1</sup> before God.

<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs | to the LORD, who rules o- | ver the nations.

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow <sup>|</sup> down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- <sup>|</sup> fore the LORD.

<sup>30</sup>Their descendants shall | serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people <sup>1</sup> yet unborn, saying to them, "The <sup>1</sup> LORD has acted!"

### Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

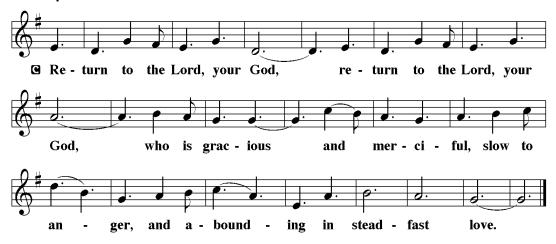
<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he

believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. *The Word of the Lord*.

Thanks be to God.

All who are able are invited to stand

# The Gospel Verse



The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

### The Holy Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

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.

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." *The Gospel of the Lord*.

Praise to you, O Christ.

All may be seated

Children's Sermon

Miss Stephanie

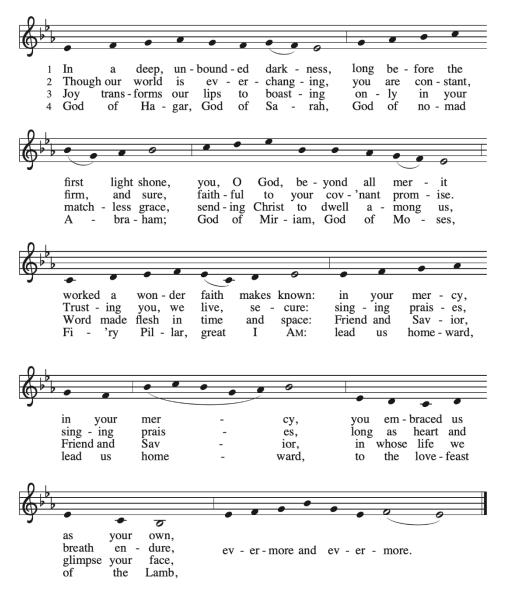
Sermon

Time of Silent Reflection (remain seated)

All who are able are invited to stand

# Hymn of the Day

# In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness



Text: Anonymous, China; tr. Francis P. Jones, 1890–1975; adapt. Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong mode V, 13th cent.
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#### Nicene Creed

In the words of the Creed, let us confess our faith:

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate:

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# **Prayers of Intercession**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender, ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who lived in service to others. Inspire us by their example until you gather us into your kingdom. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved, heal the sick, especially Helen, Susan, Gladys, Dean, Lester, Nat, Lori, Lisa, Kim, Bethany, Jon, Barry, Rumpun, Donna, Nancy, Kathy, Carolyn, Robin, Hope, Jenan, Roger, Kris, Roger, Connie, Remy, Kathy, Ed, Sonny, Sandy, Sally, Phyllis. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

For those celebrating birthdays this week, *Barbara, Karen, Thomas, Claire*. May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in years. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

For those celebrating anniversaries this week, *Jenny & Jeff*. May they be bound together by your love, now and forever. Hear us, O God.

### Your mercy is great.

We pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ in neighboring congregations. May your light shine brightly for all, sharing in your love and your peace that surpasses all understanding. We pray especially for Union Lutheran, Schnecksville, and their pastor Gordon Camp. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

**The Peace** – Please share the peace in any manner comfortable to you.

-The Jordan Chorale

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

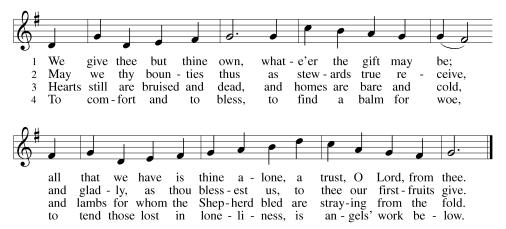
**Offertory:** (8:00) Song of Faith (10:30) Jesus Is Calling

-Charles Sergesson -Aaron David Miller

# (8:00) Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. After the offering is gathered, all who are able are invited to stand.

### We Give Thee but Thine Own



- 5 The captive to release, the lost to God to bring, to teach the way of life and peace it is a Christlike thing.
- 6 And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be: whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.

Music: HEATH, Mason and Webb, Cantica Lauda, 1850

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

# (8:00) Offering Prayer

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# (10:30) Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

After the offering is gathered, all who are able are invited to stand.



# (10:30) Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

[The 8:00 service continues on p. 14 with The Lord's Prayer]

#### THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

# **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

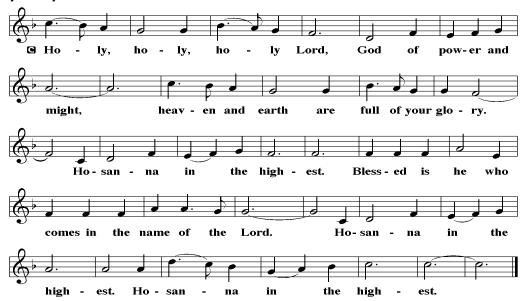
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **Preface**

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**



# Thanksgiving at the Table

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

#### Christ has died.

#### Christ is risen.

### Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

### Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

### Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

#### Amen.

# The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as our Lord 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.

[The 8:00 service continues on p. 18 with The Sending]

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

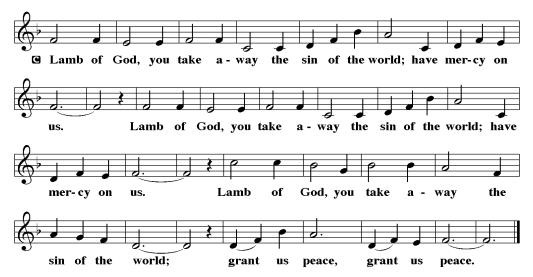
Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

All may be seated

### Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you." "The blood of Christ, shed for you." And each person may respond, "Amen."

### Lamb of God



# The Distribution (Altar Rail Distribution)

#### **Communion Hymns** Around You, O Lord Jesus 1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call; 3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath fill. share the feast you give us with grace our lives to your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all. we will be true and nev - er— in joy, in grief, in deathlov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! You say us so my your draws us to lov - ing heart; it brings to your for you are still a - mong your peo - ple de - part from you, bod y! drink! This is blood!" Take, my bless de ing, which nev - er will part. dwell ing, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite Music: O JESU, ÄN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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# How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord



- How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
- for get ful, we should find your yoke is hard to
- We mar - vel how your saints be - come in 3 hin-dranc-es more sure; In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er



live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re-freshed, re - stored, to world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name, old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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#### After all have returned to their places All who are able are invited to stand

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Amen.

### Song after Communion



# **Prayer after Communion**

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

#### Amen.

#### SENDING

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

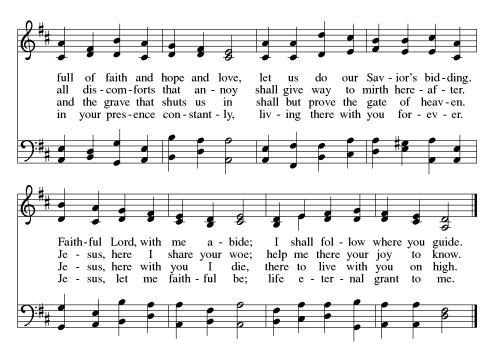
# Blessing

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and  $\oplus$  give you peace. **Amen.** 

# **Sending Hymn**

# Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus





Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, alt. Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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# **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus -Paul Manz

### **EASTER TRIBUTES**

To honor or memorialize a loved one, please fill out this form and return it (along with your check or cash) to the church office or place in the offering plate no later than Palm Sunday. All tributes will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletins. Additional forms are available in the foyer or church office.

plate no later than Pa bulletins. Additional				e Easter Su office.	
			•		Palm Sunday is March 24th
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Please check: F	lowerH F51)	Hunger Fund (F849)			antry 600)



### Mid-Week Lenten Service

(Holden Evening Prayer)
February 21 thru March 20
6:00 p.m. Soup Suppers in the Memory Room
7:00 p.m. Worship Service

# Maundy Thursday

Service with Holy Communion March 28 at 7:00 p.m.

# Good Friday

Tenebrae Service March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

# Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30, at 10:00 a.m. in the Family Center (rain or shine)

# Easter Sunday, March 31

The Resurrection of Our Lord
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service
Outdoors at the cemetery, weather permitting
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Services with Holy Communion

**The Lord's Table** at Jordan Church is an open table. If you are a baptized Christian of any church, believe in the Lord's presence in the sacrament and have received the sacrament before, you are welcome to receive with us. If you are not able to receive, please come forward for a pastoral blessing. To come forward, simply follow the direction of the ushers. **Distribution method** is noted in the order for worship.

**ALTAR RAIL DISTRIBUTION:** As you come forward, please take an empty cup with you to the altar rail. If you choose not to consume wine, grape juice is available. Come to the altar rail without a glass and a communion assistant will offer you the grape juice in a pre-filled glass.

<u>INTINCTION DISTRIBUTION:</u> Come forward and receive a wafer. Then dip it into either the wine (the cup in the center of the bread plate) or the grape juice (in the separate cup held by the second assistant). If you want additional time at the altar, please step to center of the altar rail out of the flow of other worshippers. You are invited to kneel if you wish. **Gluten-free wafers** are available – please indicate your need to the communion assistant.

You are asked to fill out **communion cards** clearly and completely, one card per person. Visitors are asked to fill out the address of their home church (if you identify with one) so we may forward the card there. Take a moment also before leaving to sign our guest book, located in the entrance area.

If it is necessary to **leave the sanctuary** during worship, please refrain, if possible, from doing so during the reading of scripture or the Eucharistic prayers so as not to distract other worshipers.

The use of *electronic devices* during worship is discouraged. Please turn off cell phones or place on vibrate before the start of the service.

**Hearing assistance** is available for members and visitors to Jordan. Please see an usher to arrange to use a receiver. A Koala Bear **baby changing station** is located in the handicapped restroom across from the church offices (in the new section). Children's welcome bags and bulletins are located in the narthex. Please ask ushers for help.

**Restrooms** are located through the left side doors of the chancel; then left through the french doors; restrooms located in the foyer on the right.

**Children in grade 9 and younger** are asked to remain in the Memory Room when consuming refreshments during the fellowship hours.

Please be sensitive to the fact that many people are allergic to or bothered by **strong scents** (perfume, aftershave, etc.), particularly when many people are gathered closely together, as for **worship services**.

**For Parents of young children:** We are grateful that God has blessed Jordan with so many young children. Worshiping with young children is a special privilege and joy for all of us. We enjoy the sounds of children in our worship. However, if you sense the need for a "calming break" feel free to take him/her to the Memory Room or Nursery (located through the doors on the left side of the altar) where you can continue to hear and be involved in the worship.

If you are interested in **becoming a member of Jordan**, please speak with the pastor following the service or call the church office (610-395-5912).

**Announcements** for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office before 10:00 a.m. on Thursday. Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.