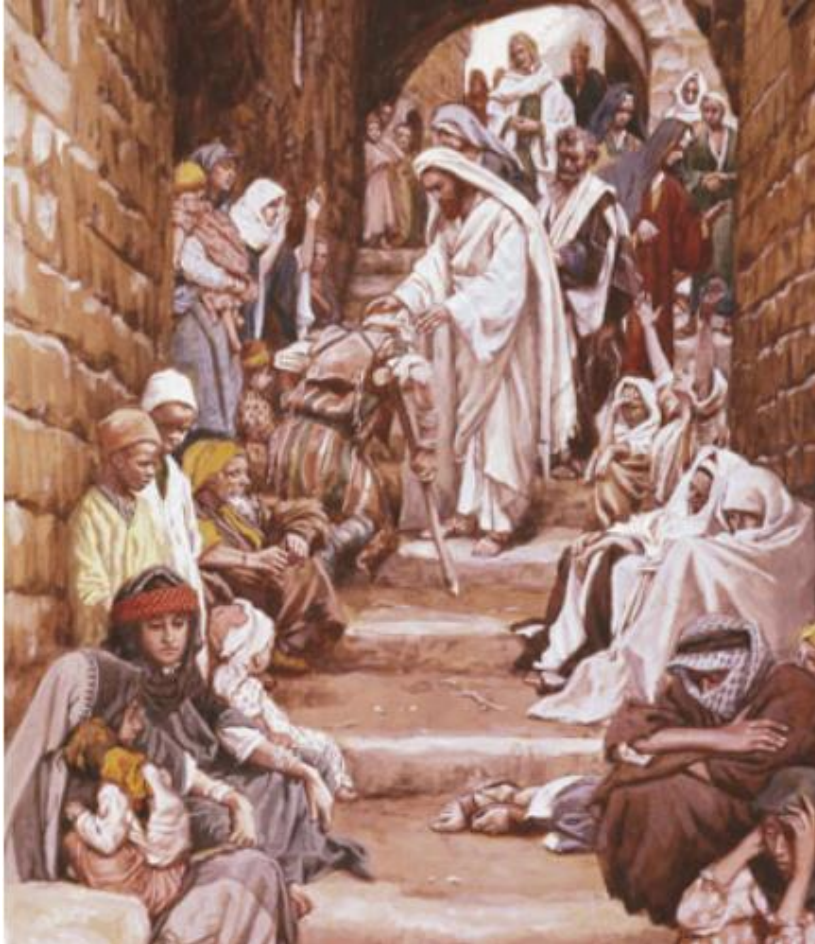


Living Word Lutheran Church

The 5th Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2018



The Rev. Eric Hullstrom

Sunday Morning Worship Service at 9 am at the Meridian Habitat & Community Center

(Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Study available during the school year)

14422 Meridian East Puyallup, WA 98374

LWLC Office: 11707 101st Ave E, Bldg B 253-445-4292 Hours: 9:00am-3:00pm, M-F

Mailing address: PO Box 732005 Puyallup, WA 98373

www.LivingWordLutheranChurch.com

Mission Statement: "We, God's people of Living Word Lutheran Church, grounded in Holy Scripture, are called to follow and share the inspired Word of God in Christ, to live as faithful and obedient servants, reaching out to all people with the love of Jesus Christ."

Motto: "Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Word Alone."

Affiliated with LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

ANNOUNCEMENTS/February 4-10, 2018

This week's activities:

Sunday	9:00 am 10:15 am 10:30 am	Worship Service Coffee Hour Adult Sunday School Children's Sunday School
Tuesday	10:00 am	Worship & Music meeting at the LWLC Office
Wednesday	8:00 am 9:30 am 6:45 pm	LWLC Prayer for Guidance meet at the LWLC Office Living Way Bible Study at the Krumwiede's Home Adult Bible Study at the LWLC Office
Thursday	10:30 am 7:30 pm	Midweek Bible Study at the LWLC Office Choir Practice at the LWLC Office
Friday	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Finance Committee at the LWLC Office Busy Women's Bible Study at Sharlene Parker's House

**The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God by Tom & Denise Alvord
in celebration of their 42nd wedding anniversary!**

Today's Worship Assistants-

Set up/Tear Down (Team 1)-Bill Zavadil, Andy Anderson, Skip Whelan, Dennis Krumwiede, Rick Fields, Larry Vollmer, Alex Burdick, Gary Heintz, Wayne Flood; **Ushers** -Kaye Sims, Don Brennan; **Acolyte**-Kailan Burdick; **Lector**-Pastor Gary Jepsen; **Sound System**-Ron Heilman; **Tellers**-Don Brennan, Al Auge; **Altar Setup/Take Down**-Carol Brennan, Sue Fields; **Communion Setup/Clean up**- Cindy Flood, Sharlene Parker; **Communion Assistants**-Sharlene Parker, Bill & Debbi Zavadil; **Communion Bread**-Gayla Fenimore; **Coffee Hour**-Laura & Kailan Burdick, Rosie Heintz; **Parking Lot**-Gary Gjerstad

Next week's Scriptures:

2Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6
2Corinthians 4:1-6 Mark 9:2-112

Quote of the Day. "On earth we have nothing to do with success or results, but only with being true to God, and for God. Defeat in doing right is nevertheless victory." *Frederick W. Robertson*

Special Congregation Meeting after Worship Service today.

The congregation will vote on hiring Dan Owen to fill the choir director position.

LWLC Lenten Soup supper and Service

Beginning **Tuesday, February 20 at 6:15**, soup will be served by scheduled committees/ministry below. It is suggested that those committees/ministries pairing up, coordinate with each other. Soup supper will be in the small fellowship hall at Sunrise Baptist Church. The Lenten service will start at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. The **office will provide:** bowls, cups, napkins, spoons and pitchers for water. **Committees will provide:** soup, bread and crackers. All will help in the clean up before and after service. Last year was such a success that we found that four crock pots were not enough. A suggestion of six crock pots should do the trick!!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ministry/Committees</u>
February 20	Worship & Music and Choir
February 27	Finance and Christian Education Committee
March 6	LWLC Board
March 13	Men's Ministry
March 20	Women's Ministry

Please silence all electronic devices, including cell phones, upon entering the sanctuary.

Living Word Lutheran Church
Order for Worship

When you hear the bell, please be seated for the announcements.

Announcements

Please sign the attendance register and pass it down the row.

***Our worship begins with the prelude as we enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
Let us give thanks to him and bless his holy name!***

Prelude

Opening Hymn

“O Word of God Incarnate”

LBW #231

We Worship with Confession

Pastor: Remembering the covenant God has established with us through our baptism into Christ Jesus, we gather as we are to live, in the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Congregation: Amen.**

P: 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 more fully love You and more worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our LORD. **Congregation: Amen.**

P: (invites worshippers to confess their sins): The First letter of John (1:8) reminds us that, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But, if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for personal reflection and self-examination

P: (facing altar which symbolizes God’s presence): *Most Merciful God...*

C: we confess that we are in bondage 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.

P: (facing the congregation, declares God’s forgiveness): In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for Jesus’ sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by Jesus’ authority I declare to you, *being penitent*, the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

We are called to make disciples of all nations; we begin by sharing the peace of God with one another.

P: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Cantors: *In peace, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

Cantors: *For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

Cantors: *For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

Cantors: *For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

Cantors: *Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.*

C: Amen.

This Is the Feast of Victory for Our God!

Cantors: *This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!*

1. ***Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing, and glory are His.***

Refrain: *This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!*

2. Women: *Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:*
Men: *Blessing and honor and glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

3. ***This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. Alleluia!***

P: *The LORD be with you.*

C: *And also with you.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY (All pray): **Everlasting God, you give strength to the powerless and power to the faint; you raise up the sick and cast out demons. Make us agents of healing and wholeness, that your Good News may be made known to the ends of your creation. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

We Worship by Reading God's Word

This lesson is from the Prophet Isaiah, the 40th chapter(ESV)

²¹ Do you not know? Do you not hear?
 Has it not been told you from the beginning?
 Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
 and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
 who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
 and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;

²³ who brings princes to nothing,
 and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
 scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
 when he blows on them, and they wither,
 and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
 that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
 who created these?

He who brings out their host by number,
 calling them all by name;
 by the greatness of his might

and because he is strong in power,
 not one is missing.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
 and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,
 and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
 the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
 his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
 and to him who has no might he increases strength.

³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
 and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
 they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
 they shall run and not be weary;
 they shall walk and not faint.

(Here ends this reading)

This reading is from the Book of Psalms, the 147th Psalm. (ESV)

(to be read responsively)

Reader: Praise the LORD!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;

Congregation: for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

R: ² The LORD builds up Jerusalem;

C: he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

R: ³ He heals the brokenhearted
C: and binds up their wounds.

R: ⁴ He determines the number of the stars;
C: he gives to all of them their names.

R: ⁵ Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
C: his understanding is beyond measure.

R: ⁶ The LORD lifts up the humble;
C: he casts the wicked to the ground.

R: ⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
C: make melody to our God on the lyre!

R: ⁸ He covers the heavens with clouds;
 he prepares rain for the earth;
C: he makes grass grow on the hills.

This reading is from Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians, the 9th chapter (ESV)

¹⁶ For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the

law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

(Here ends this reading)

The congregation stands and sings: (LBW p.83)

***Alleluia. LORD to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!*** (John 6:68)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter. (ESV) C: Glory to You, O LORD.

²⁹ And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹ And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴ And he healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." ³⁸ And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

(The Gospel of the LORD.)

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

We Worship by Confessing Our Faith in the Words of the Nicene Creed

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made 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. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one Holy Christian 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

Hymn of the Day

"I Love to Tell the Story"

LBW #390

Sermon

Eric D. Hullstrom, Pastor

We Worship In Thanksgiving By Offering Our Gifts

Offertory

The offering is received.

As the congregation stands, the ushers bring the offering forward:

***Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit.***

Let us pray together the offering prayer:

Blessed are You, O LORD our God, King of the universe. 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.

The Prayers of the Church

(Each petition concludes with "LORD, in your mercy", to which the congregation responds: "hear our prayer".)

We Worship by Receiving Our LORD in His Holy Meal

The Great Thanksgiving (Spoken):

P: *The LORD be with you.*

C: *And also with you.*

P: *Lift up your hearts.*

C: *We lift them to the LORD.*

P: *Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.*

C: *It is right to give Him thanks and praise.*

P: *It is indeed right and salutary . . . (Here the minister continues with the preface :)*

**C: *Holy, holy, holy LORD, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD. Hosanna in the highest.***

The Words of Institution and The LORD'S Prayer

**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. Amen.**

Holy Communion: Lutherans believe the LORD's Supper is a holy sacrament in which Christ comes to us with His grace, love, compassion, and forgiveness. The crucified and risen Christ is present in, with, and under the bread and wine – He promises: "This is my body... This is my blood". Therefore, the Apostle Paul says we should examine ourselves lest we eat or drink in an unworthy manner (1 Cor. 11:27ff.). Martin Luther wrote, "Anyone who does not believe these words ('this is My body given for you this is My blood shed for you. '), is neither prepared nor worthy; for the words, 'FOR YOU' requires simply a believing heart." Therefore, all (including children who have received instruction) who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and LORD and who see His presence in the sacrament are welcome to commune with us.

As you come forward for communion, you are invited to dip your fingers in the water of the baptismal font and then make the sign of the cross on your forehead as a reminder of Christ's claim upon you through your baptism.
(For those with gluten allergies, we now have gluten-free wafers available for Communion on the Baptismal Font.)

The congregation sings: **"Lamb of God"**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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Communion Hymns:

"Break Now the Bread of Life"	LBW #235
"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"	LBW #305
"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"	LBW #104

Post-Communion Prayer and Canticle

**Thank the LORD and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let everyone who seeks the LORD rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

The Benediction (Pastor)

The congregation sings 3-fold **"Amen"**

LWLC CHOIR

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

Peter C. Lutkin, arr. William Livingston

On Our Way Rejoicing!

Closing Hymn:

"How Great Thou Art"

LBW #532

We Worship By How We Live During the Week

P: Go in Peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Musician: Mary Kaye Owen

Choir Director: Dan Owen

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!

If you are a visitor, please sign the Guest Book. We encourage you to pick up a 'Welcome' packet at the Ushers table to introduce you to our church. Coffee hour will follow the worship service. Please join us.

NEXT WEEK'S (February 11) Worship Assistants

Set up/Tear Down (Team 2)- Al Auge, Ron Heilman, Gary Gjerstad, Joe Burdick, Jim Gronhovd, Daryl Olson, Ron Johnson, Joey Ramos; **Ushers** – Dick Schmidt, Bonnie Socey; **Acolyte**-Carmen Ramos; **Lector**-Cheryl Hedlund; **Communion Setup/Takedown**- Nancy Martin, Valerie Claiborne; **Communion Assistants**-Bob & Nancy Martin, Carole Williams-Wood; **Communion Bread**-Gayla Fenimore; **Sound System**-Ron Johnson; **Tellers**- Linda Deas, Judy Krumwiede; **Altar Setup/Take Down**-Kitty Jepsen, Sharlene Parker; **Coffee Hour**-Gaye Anderson, Kaye Sims; **Flowers**-Dennis & Judy Krumwiede; **Children's Time**-Lydia Auge; **Parking Lot**-Tony Deas



Prayers for those who are serving our country (military, firefighters & police) and their families and keep them safe: Josh Jepsen, Chase, Seth Heard, Powell, Evan Gregory Blodgett, Ken Solbrack, Michael Elliott, Chris Berentson, Cole Lufkin (Gjerstad's grandson), Brady Woodman (Relma Burmeister's grandson), Devlin Durkin, Damien Benigno (Lydia Auge's brother); Curtis & Riley McKenzie, Brandon Bules (Carole Williams cousin), Jacob Ramsey (Fenimore's grandson), pray for safety and draw close to God.
 Our prayers for all those in harm's way are urgently needed during this time of turmoil and strife in this country.
Prayers for those who have recently lost a loved one: Prayers for the family and friends of **Tyler Filinski** as

they grieve his death.

Prayers for those with cancer or long-term illness. Dixie (Sharlene Parker's sister). Judy Ostendorf. **Jeff** (Don & Carol Brennan's son), Continued prayers for friend, **Dana Yeaman** (Debbi Zavadil), **Don Minnick** (Harold & Clarice Liemohn) diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. **Pastor Dave Steffenson** (Dave Ostendorf) diagnosed with prostate cancer. **Alice** (Ardene Bartness' sister), comfort and peace in her last months of life. **Hank Anderson** (friend of Kaye Sims) who is terminally ill with cancer. **Chrissy** (Gary & Rosie Heintz's daughter-in-law) who had cancer returned. **Bob Lungberg** (Bob & Nancy Martin) recently diagnosed with bladder cancer. **Aunt Glenda** (Lorraine Stargel) diagnosed with pancreatic concern. Prayers for her comfort from her pains and discernment of the medical staff with upcoming treatments. **Cousin Sandy** (Lorraine Stargel) for decisions on treatment for reoccurrence of cancer. **Virginia Held** who has been experiencing debilitating pancreatitis, pray for doctor's discernment and healing and recovery. Prayers for daughter **Elaina** (Ron & Gaye Anderson) during her chemo treatment, pray for strong resistance to the flu.



Prayers for healing and strength for those with health concerns and those facing or recovering from surgery. Pray for permanent healing for **Phil Steves'** knee that continues to be painful because of the accident in February. **Phil**, son-in-law of Paul and Esther Braafladt for complete recovery after a fall from a ladder in January, many complications, pray for doctor's discernment and proper treatment. Nephew **Jeff Bertram** (Carole Williams-Wood), prayers for doctor's discernment in controlling his heart arrhythmia. Peace and comfort for **Carolyn Martin** and that the blood clots will dissolve. **Cousin Megan Hitt** (Jeff & Sarah DeBord), pray for continued healing and quick recovery. Prayers for the men in Mary Kaye Owen's sister's family: **Scott, Terry, Ian, Ivan, Owen**. Prayers for healing for **Connor** (Daryl & Deena Olson) that the lung abnormality improves and for doctor's wisdom as they prepare for his delivery, prayers for peace of his parents **Brad and Kirstie**. **Bob**, our friend (Harold & Clarice Liemohn) who had surgery and his wife **Ardys** who will be having hip replacement surgery, pray for strength, quick recovery and help during this stressful time. **Don**, (Carole Williams-Wood friend) pray for guidance on how to proceed after surgery did not fix problem and pray for doctor's discernment for treatment. **Dana Yeaman** (Debbi Zavadil) pray for continued healing on her foot. Prayers for **Claudia Harrell** (Gary & Carol Richey) after she fell and broke her leg. **Jon Paul Webber** (Heidi Sturdivant) recovering from cancer surgery. **Lee Brown** as he prepares to meet his Maker. Prayers for quick recovery and healing for **Mike O'Brien** (Gary & Rosie Heintz) recovering from by-pass surgery. Prayers for **Snookie Pankrantz** for good diagnosis and doctor's discernment on various medical problems. Prayers for **Al Auge** for good diagnosis, treatment and doctor's discernment on his heart problem. **Michelle** (Judy Ostendorf's niece) recovering from back surgery, pray for quick healing and recovering. **Myron** (Cynthia Faul's brother) hospitalized with influenza, also pray for **Gary, Cheryl and Zoe** who have also been hit with the flu this winter. **Dr. Rodney Swenson** (Dwight & Barbara Griswold) pray for complete and timely recovery after brain surgery, peace, strength & comfort for Rodney and his family. Prayers for sister **Londa** (Carolyn Martin) admitted to the hospital for undiagnosed medical problems. Pray for wisdom for the doctors and correct diagnosis and treatment. Prayers for quick healing and recovery for grandmom **Dina Vashchenko** (Hannah & Viviana Vashchenko) after surgery. **Lori Wales** (Carole Williams-Wood daughter) pray for Doctor's wisdom as she is fighting a serious and very painful kidney infection.

Prayers for faith, strength and guidance. God's continued guidance and blessings in our search for a new church home. God's guidance and peace between nations of the earth especially between the U.S. and North Korea. God's love to overcome hate and fear in hearts around the world. Prayers for **daughter-in-law Crissy and son Casey** (Gary & Rosie Heintz) in Houston, TX receiving cancer treatments.

Thank you

Thank you to our wonderful congregation family and friends for your well wishes, kindness and prayers. Al Auge and Jim Gronhovd are home and working towards quick recovery and full health. Prayers do work! Lydia Auge and Sue Gronhovd

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 14	 Ash Wednesday Service, 7 pm at the Meridian Habitat
Feb 17	Padre Francis (Jeff) Jeffery Memorial Service, 2 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, 12115 Park Ave. S., Tacoma, WA 98444 (across PLU). Reception following.
Feb 20	Tues, Lenten Soup Supper-6:15 pm in the Sunrise Baptist small fellowship hall followed by a 7:00 pm service in the Sunrise sanctuary. Hosting ministry: Worship & Music/Choir 

The Cracked Pot

"A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water in his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.



After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you. "Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?" "I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion, he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path." Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it somewhat. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

Moral: Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots. In this world, nothing goes to waste. You may think like the cracked pot that you are inefficient or useless in certain areas of your life, but somehow these flaws can turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

2018 Flower Chart.

Flowers for worship is a prime opportunity to **honor or remember loved ones or celebrate a special day with a gift that glorifies God.** Members and friends are encouraged to sign up to bring flowers for that special day.

<u>April</u>			<u>May</u>			<u>June</u>		
1	Easter Lilies	6	_____	3	Reuben & Heidi Sturdivant			
8	_____	13	_____	10	Tony & Linda Deas			
15	_____	20	Bill & Debbi Zavadil	17	Ardene Bartness			
22	_____	27	_____	24	_____			
29	_____							
<u>July</u>			<u>August</u>			<u>September</u>		
1	Jeff & Sara DeBord	5	Dan & Mary Kaye Owen	2	Dave & Judy Ostendorf			
8	Ardis Kilber	12	_____	9	Richard & Bonnie Socey			
15	_____	19	Dennis & Judy Krumwiede	16	_____			
22	Larry & Linda Schmidt	26	Al & Lydia Auge	23	_____			
				30	Jeffery's, Padre's birthday			
<u>October</u>			<u>November</u>			<u>December</u>		
7	Andy & Ruth Anderson	4	Dan & Mary Kaye Owen	2	_____			
14	Gary & Barbara Gjerstad	11	Bob & Nancy Martin	9	_____			
21	Dennis & Judy Krumwiede	18	Duane & Valerie Claiborne	16	Irene Feller			
28	Larry & Mary Vollmer	25	_____	23	Don & Carol Brennan			
				24	Christmas Eve-Poinsettas			
				30	_____			

Prayer for Strength and Faith

In the name of Jesus Christ, I pray, Dear Lord,
see me through these hard times. In these
troubling times, I am filled with unspeakable fears.

I reach out my hand to you now, And ask you
to walk besides me. I cannot carry all my burdens,
But I know you can. Please walk beside
me. Please guide me. Please help me hold on strong,
through the trials and storms. Help me hold on to
my faith, In even the darkest hour.

Stay with me Lord, And show me Your way.

In your love and Holy Spirit I pray. Amen.

**VOTE ON
HIRING DAN OWEN
TO FILL THE CHOIR DIRECTOR POSITION**

YES_____

NO_____



**VOTE ON
HIRING DAN OWEN
TO FILL THE CHOIR DIRECTOR POSITION**

YES_____

NO_____