



# APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH

**THE REVEREND JAY SERAFIN**

7092 Main Street, Gloucester, VA 23061

(804) 693-9098 | [apostles-elca.org](http://apostles-elca.org) | [facebook.com/ApostlesELCA](https://facebook.com/ApostlesELCA)



## **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026 | 10:00 AM**

Our Mission is to be a Caring Inclusive Christian Community responding to God's grace through Worship, Service, and Sharing the Gospel.



**RECONCILING *in* CHRIST**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

# WELCOME TO APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH!

It is an honor to worship God with you this morning. We pray you experience the Spirit's loving presence as we share our words, our actions, and the Holy Meal.

**If this is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out a card in the pew rack with your contact info.** A restroom can be found by exiting the rear door of the worship space. It is directly in front of you to the right. Additional restrooms can be found in the back corner of the fellowship area, near the Pastor's office.

## RECONCILING *in* CHRIST

We, the people of Apostles Lutheran Church, follow Paul's message to the Galatians (3:28): "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Believing that because we are all one in Christ, and created in God's image, all are welcome as beloved children of God. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. **Rejoicing in God's amazing diversity, we welcome people of all ages, races, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, and physical and mental abilities.** Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to racial equity, breaking down dividing walls and building a community where all are beloved.

## FOR PASTORAL CARE

The Reverend Jay Serafin is our pastor. Pastor Jay's **schedule is noted in the calendar on the back of this bulletin.** Call Pastor Jay at 570-205-7506 or email him at [j80j84@msn.com](mailto:j80j84@msn.com) (preferred) or [pastor.apostles@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.apostles@gmail.com). Messages can also be left on the Apostles answering machine 804-693-9098.

## PRAYGROUND

Welcome to our youngest members! The area in the front of our sanctuary is for families and young children. There are quiet toys, books and drawing materials. **We ask two things: 1) sit in the front pews near your children and 2) please sit with your children in the pews during the sermon.** They may return immediately after. Thank you and welcome!

## NAME TAGS

**Please wear your nametag!** Guests: please fill out and put on a name tag before worship today. Blank nametags are in the baskets located in the pews.

# GATHERING

*Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.*

## PRELUDE AND SILENT PRAYER

*Martin Luther said of music: "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." Please take a moment to **silence all cell phones**.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please rise in body or in spirit. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,

**you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

## "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!", verses 1-4



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

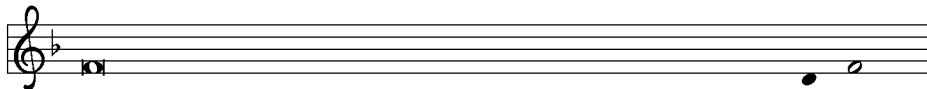
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE



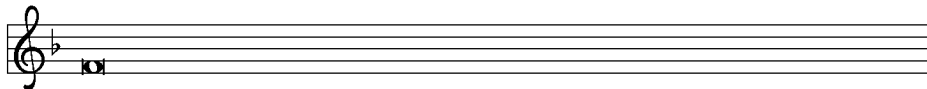
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



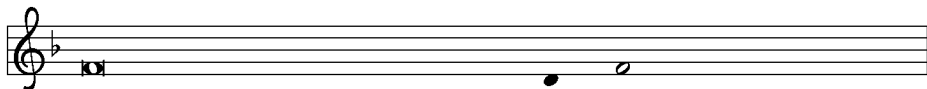
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



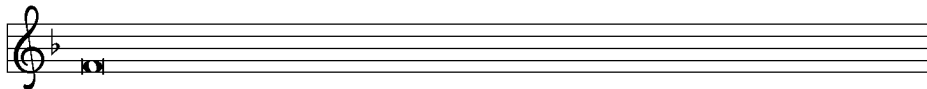
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



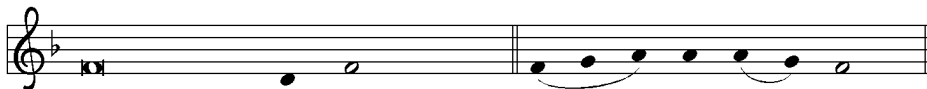
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



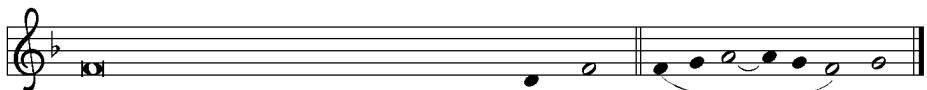
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

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

*Sit*

## FIRST READING

## ISAIAH 49:1-7

*Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.*

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, O coastlands;  
 pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born;  
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

<sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword;  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow;  
in his quiver he hid me away.

<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

<sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain;  
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the LORD  
and my reward with my God."

<sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says,  
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,  
and my God has become my strength—  
<sup>6</sup> he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,  
the slave of rulers,  
"Kings shall see and stand up;  
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the LORD, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

*Response after the First Reading*

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



<sup>1</sup> I waited patiently up- | on the Lord,  
who stooped to me and | heard my cry.

<sup>2</sup> **The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.**

<sup>3</sup> The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;  
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust | in the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> **Happy are they who trust | in the Lord!  
They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies. R**

<sup>5</sup> Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us,  
none can be com- | pared with you!  
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than | I can count.

<sup>6</sup> **Sacrifice and offering you do | not desire;  
you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you  
have | not required. R**

<sup>7</sup> And so I said, "Here I | am; I come.  
In the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:

<sup>8</sup> **'I love to do your will, | O my God;  
your law is | deep within me.'"**

<sup>9</sup> I proclaimed righteousness in the | great assembly;  
I have not restrained my lips, O | Lord, you know.

<sup>10</sup> **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your  
faithfulness and | your deliverance;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the | great assembly.**

<sup>11</sup> You are the Lord; do not withhold your compas- | sion from me;  
may your steadfast love and your truth continually | keep me safe. R

## SECOND READING

## 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

*Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Response after the Second Reading*

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*The gospel is announced.*

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the First Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL**

## **JOHN 1:29-42**

*John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.*

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"<sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

*The gospel concludes:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## **SERMON**

**PASTOR JAY SERAFIN**

*Silence is kept after the reflection.*

*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**ELW #696**

### "Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult"

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final double bar line at the end of the third staff. The lyrics are arranged in five lines, each corresponding to a measure of the melody.

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our  
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the  
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice  
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and  
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -

sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"  
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.  
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895

Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

## **APOSTLES CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the  
power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was  
buried; he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right  
hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*We share a sign of Peace with our neighbors saying **Peace be with you** to which we respond **And also with you**. Please know that it is fine if you do not want to shake hands but would rather just share a sign of peace.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*Sit*

## OFFERING

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

*To give online:*

✚ Visit [apostles-elca.org/contributions](https://apostles-elca.org/contributions)


✚ From your mobile phone, text the word GIVE to 844-215-5453

## ELCA WORLD HUNGER SUNDAY – TODAY!

Please remember your offering for ELCA World Hunger today – UNTIL ALL ARE FED!!

## OFFERTORY HYMN

ELW #186



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*Please rise in body or in spirit*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

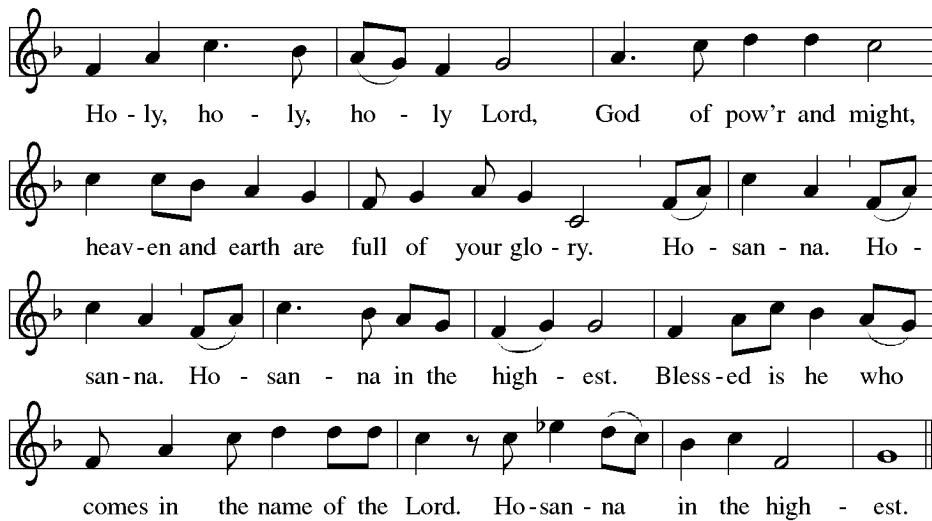
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*The great thanksgiving continues.*

... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The great thanksgiving continues.*

... We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

*The great thanksgiving continues.*

... Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

*The great thanksgiving concludes.*

... All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**



## **THE 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**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

*Sit*

## **COMMUNION**

*All are invited to join us at the Lord's table to receive the presence of Jesus through the bread and wine. Jesus himself invites you and Jesus turns no one away.*

*You will be invited to come forward either to receive the elements or to receive a blessing. For those receiving the elements, after receiving the bread, please take a glass from the tray held by the acolyte. There are pre-filled glasses of grape juice in the tray for those who do not drink wine. Gluten free wafers are also available upon request.*

## LAMB OF GOD

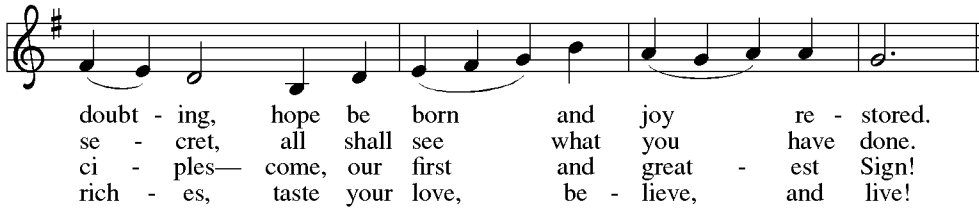
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION

**ELW #312**

**"Jesus, Come! For We Invite You"**

1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,  
2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to  
3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in  
4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing  
friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,  
paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,  
pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,  
to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,  
speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or  
let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in  
chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -  
all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938

Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
 Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin. CPP/Belwin.

*After all have returned to their places, all rise in body or in spirit.*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart.

Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission back into the world.*

## **FAREWELL AND GODSPEED, BEN AND MARGARET GRIMES**

*Safe travels as you move back to Maryland!*

## "We Are Marching in the Light"



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo  
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional

Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

**BLESSING**

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise and unleashed you into the future + bless you now and forever.

Amen.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

	Serving Today	Serving Next Week
Worship Leader/Preacher .....	Pastor Jay Serafin .....	Pastor Jay Serafin
Lay Assisting Minister .....	Doug Dalager .....	Sue Turner
Lector .....	Linda Hodges .....	David Leunig
Acolyte .....	Ray Scholz .....	Chase Ambrose
Accompanist .....	Janet Gomez .....	Janet Gomez
Altar Care .....	Janet Gomez .....	Betsy Liljeberg
Communion Bread .....	Janet Gomez .....	Betsy Liljeberg
Greeter/Usher .....	Jason Lowe .....	Judy Wright
Technology .....	Chris Hawkins .....	Doug Dalager

**SERVANTS FOR THE WEEK**

	Serving This Week	Serving Next Week
Cleaning Team .....	Scholz/Ambrose .....	Liljebergs
Tellers .....	Betsy Liljeberg/Don Garfield .....	Betsy Liljeberg/Don Garfield
Fellowship Set Up .....	Ray Scholz .....	Jennie Hawkins
Fellowship Food .....	Scholz .....	Agape Meal
Fellowship Clean Up .....	Scholz .....	Donna Ambrose/Barbara Runk

## **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The annual congregational meeting will be held next **Sunday, January 25th** after the 10:00 AM worship service. At the meeting the President of the Congregation Council (Chris Hawkins) and the Treasurer (Doug Dalager) will submit their reports; each ministry team and affiliated group will submit their reports and we will elect new Congregation Council members (3), Mission Outreach Fund Committee members (3), members for the Nominating Committee (6), and voting members and alternates of the Virginia Synod Assembly. Please make plans to attend!! We will have the Agape Meal and Worship Service that Sunday—please bring a breakfast dish to share.

## **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

Please make plans to join us for a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity the week of January 19<sup>th</sup> – January 24<sup>th</sup>. This year, there will be opportunities to gather at different churches for worship, scripture reading and prayer in addition to the Christian unity worship service itself which will be held on **Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 PM at Newington Baptist Church**. Details about the week are in the bulletin insert.

## **GUEST VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

Training is required for all volunteers, whether or not you had it last year to man the different shifts throughout the week. If you'll only be providing meals (dinner or breakfast), training is not required, unless you want to join us. There are **2 training sessions** scheduled **at Apostles – this Sunday, January 18th and February 8th from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM**. We will have lunch for you.

## **GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP KICK-OFF – TODAY**

Please join us after the worship service today for the kick-off for our annual medical mission trip to Guatemala – we'll have a presentation and lots of good food!

## **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

**First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4**

*Light shines for those in darkness*

**Psalms 27:1, 4-9**

*The Lord is my light and my salvation*

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

*Appeal for unity in the gospel*

**Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23**

*Revelation of Christ as a prophet*

## **PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**Rich Bitting, Manning Freeman, Don Garfield, Heidi Henderson, Ellen Kendzierski, Doug Leip, Ellen Quirk, Michael Schlemmer, Ben Slider (IV), Keith & Juanita Sturdy, George Thomas, Jewel Thomas, Lena Woodlief, and Nancy Wagner**

## **OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

**Patricia Armentor, Paul Bauer, Karen Bell** (Pam Moore's sister), **Bob & Dixie, Calli Bonfey, Patricia Boyd & Brad Zelmer, Amanda Brown, David Brown, Dennis & Dorothy Brown, Sally Burkholder, Amy Carter, Kate Casper, Laura Clodfelter, Jackie Collier, Ben Davis** (friend of Donna Ambrose), **Tommy & Kathie Davis, Jenny DeSha, Al DeWitt, Linda Edwards, Colton Elliot** (Michael Schlemmer's cousin), **Laura Fleige** (Janet Gomez's sister), **Teresa Floersheim-Miller** (Ingrid Peterson's mother), **Suzanne and Frank Gibson, Steven Godwin** (Juanita Sturdy's grandson), **Jimmy & Fay Gray** (Chris Hawkins' family), **Karen Guire, Mike Hall, Melvin Hawkins** (Chris Hawkins' father), **Chaneice Hayden** (Daniel Hayden), **Rosie Heins, Carl & Kaleb Hess, Aris Hibbs** (friend of Ray Scholz), the family of **Spencer Hodges, Ray Hughes, Wendy Isernia** (Heinz and Irene's daughter), **Suzanne Kinkade** (friend of Ellen Quirk), **Legend, the Little Family, Marion Lucier, Manuel, Lotte Mathias, Wayne Mathews, Wayne McCormick, Michael, Sylvia Midgette** (Krystle McMahan's grandmother), **Debbie Minteins, Keith Morgan, Gary Mowery, Jamie Mullaney, Carol Pascale** (Lynn Jaeger's mother), **Chastity Perkins** (co-worker and friend of Donna Ambrose), **Brad Person** (Lilly Frost's uncle), **Dick Peterson & his brother, the Prusa Family, Joan Ritter, Glen Robertson, Pastor Wendy Roundy, Carol Schlemmer, Daniel Schmidt, James Schollian** (friend of Nancy Wagner), **Michael Scholz** (Ray Scholz's nephew), **Joseph Serafin** (Pastor Jay's father), **Kathy Shackleford, Elana Sierson, Fred Smith, Tammy Smith, Jean Sterling, Dave Wagner** (Nancy's husband), **Williams Walters, Wayne McCormick, Chuck Webb** (Tina Britt's father), **Makenzie Webb** (Tina Britt's niece), **Elizabeth & Steven White, Vicki Williams, Cory Woodlief, Jim Wright** (Judy Wright's husband), **Logan & Shannon Wymer, Greg Yvonovich** (friend of Margaret & Ben Grimes), **Derek Zwiers** (friend of CK Ambrose)

## **OUR SPONSORED CHILDREN IN GUATEMALA**

**Amayra, Hugolino, Manuela, and Pablo**

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

There is a book located at the rear of the worship space for you to write any prayer requests you have for today. Fill out a "Prayer Request" (on the back of each pew) and place it in the offering plate to add a prayer request to the "Prayer List" included in the bulletin and the newsletter. **Please print legibly!**

# **THIS WEEK AT APOSTLES**

## **JANUARY 18, 2026 – JANUARY 25, 2026**

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship Service – World Hunger/ Farewell and Godspeed</b>
	11:00 AM	Guatemala Mission Trip Kickoff
	12:00 AM	GUEST Volunteer Training
<b>MONDAY</b>	7:00 PM	AA
<b>TUESDAY</b>	7:00 PM	Al-Anon/AA
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10:00 AM – 1:00 PM</b>	<b>Pastor Jay in the office</b>
	11:00 AM	Worship Ministry Team Meeting
	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>4:00 PM – 7:00 PM</b>	<b>Pastor Jay in the office</b>
	7:00 PM	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Worship Service
<b>FRIDAY</b>		Girls Scouts
<b>SATURDAY</b>	6:30 PM	Young and Sober
<b>SUNDAY</b>	10:00 AM	Agape Worship Service
	11:00 AM	Annual Congregational Meeting

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY To ...**

**Chris Hawkins** – Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> | **Don Garfield** and **Amanda Kenzierski** – Jan 24<sup>th</sup> |  
**Kayla Hautz** – Jan 25<sup>th</sup>

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY To ...**

**Pam and Billy Moore** – Jan 25<sup>th</sup>

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