



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. James R. Holowach, Pastor Rev. George N. Fields, Pastor Sr. Sara E. Fields, Deaconess 4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 (601) 366-2055 www.christlutheranjacksonms.org

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Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: **10:30 a.m.**Sunday School for all ages: **9:00 a.m.**4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055
www.christlutheranjacksonms.org

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER + May 10, 2020 +

"Lord, Show Us the Father"



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God's richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.
Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.
We are so glad to have you worshiping with us today!

LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.

WELCOME:

"Let us listen, then, to the apostle when he says, 'To him who believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.' This is the work in which we may be doing the works of Christ, for even our very believing in Christ is the work of Christ."

-St. Augustine, Tractates on the Gospel of John

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: May 11 – May 17

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Divine Service – The Sixth Sunday of Easter Friday 6:30 p.m. Divine Service – The Sixth Sunday of Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m. Divine Service – The Sixth Sunday of Easter



YOUR LIFELINE TO THE LUTHERAN WORLDVIEW...You can listen to in-depth teachings on interesting subjects like:

The Third Use of the Law, "Kindness" in the Bible, 4th Century Bishop Athanasius of Alexandria, Speaking the Truth in Love, and more...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org. Simply click on "Listen", choose "On Demand", then select from the vast array of speakers and topics available in the archives.

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The propers for the *coming* Sunday will used on the Wednesday and Friday service, culminating in the Sunday service that will continue to be recorded and streamed online until our full reopening. Each will be a full Divine Service, allowing us all to sing together, hear the Word, and partake of the Lord's Supper.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you have *any* reservations about coming to church, if you are in a risk category, etc., *please do not feel in any way obliged to come*. The Lord will always have His Supper ready for you - He is patient and will wait for your safe return. This reopening plan is not meant to pressure anyone to come to church before they are safe to do so. If you would like, the pastors can visit you with communion at your home. Simply call/text or email Sister Sara, and we will schedule a time!

Thank you all for your resilience in this difficult time and your patience as we await our final reunion as a church family. Soon and very soon, we shall be together once more!

As ever, please let us know if you have any questions. Peace be with you!

Worship Service Groups:

Group 1	6:30 p.m.	Wednesdays	Agent - Goodlett
Group 2	6:30 p.m.	Fridays	Haines - Martin
*Group 3	10:30 a.m.	Sundays	Merry - Weidner

^{*}The Sunday service will be deaf interpreted, so regardless of your alphabetical order, if you are deaf, please come to the Sunday morning service.

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THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal³. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

^{**}NOTE: If you cannot attend at the time of your assigned group, please contact Sister Sara to modify arrangements.

¹Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE II

PRESERVICE MUSIC

OPENING HYMN

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

#458

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of your Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** 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 reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



Reopening Christ Lutheran!

Behold, we bring you good tidings of great joy! The pastors and elders have prepared a plan for the gradual reopening of Christ Lutheran!

Keep in mind the plan explained below is **gradual**, and we continue to proceed with caution out of love for our neighbor and in obedience to the fourth commandment. That said, this plan allows us to begin convening in small numbers for worship services until Mississippi opens more fully - alleluia!

The general contours are these: beginning Wednesday, May 13, Christ Lutheran will hold services on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays. The congregation will be divided into three groups (alphabetically; see below) to attend on each of the three days a week in order to keep our gatherings acceptably small. Pews will be marked for seating (so that we can maintain social distancing), common areas will be sanitized between services, and communion vessels will be (as always!) thoroughly washed. We ask that family groups sit together and that everyone be mindful of each other's health and safety.

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BENEDICTIONNumbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.



CLOSING HYMN

If God Himself Be for Me

#724, St. 6-10

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgments

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Today's Worship Servants:

Celebrant: Rev. George FieldsCantor: Rachel LandrumInterpreter: Denee SmithOrganist: Sr. Sara Fields

Readings for next Sunday, May 17th, the Sixth Sunday of Easter:

Introit Ps. 119:89-93; Psalm 66:8-20; Acts 17:16-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21.

1 Peter 2:9 – "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, out of mercy, out of sheer, divine joy. The Apostle says that God has done this that we may share in His glory and joy, that we may "proclaim the excellencies of Him" who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy in our hearts as well.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT: EXALTABO TE, DOMINE

Psalm 30:1-5; Ant. Psalm 149:1



Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song,* his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have | drawn me up* and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.

O LORD my God, I cried to | you for help,* and you have | healed me.

O LORD, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol;* you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O | you his saints,* and give thanks to his | holy name.

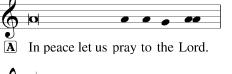
For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.*

Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.

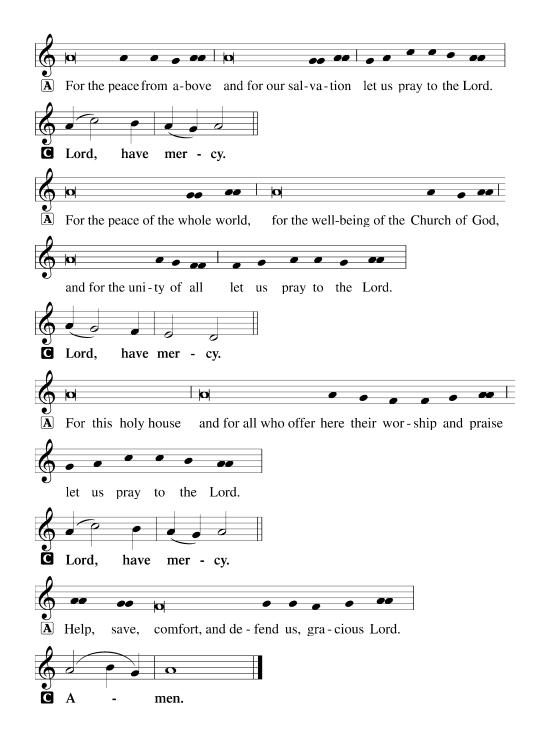
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

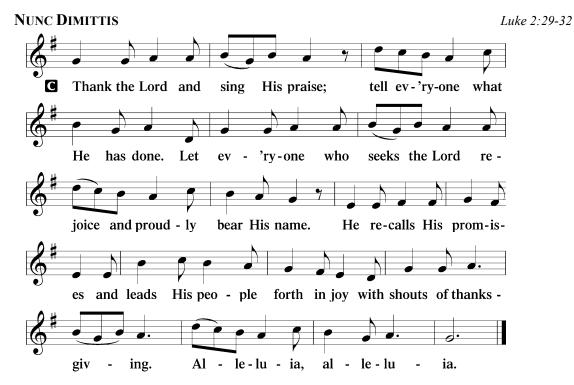
Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song,* his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

KYRIE Mark 10:47







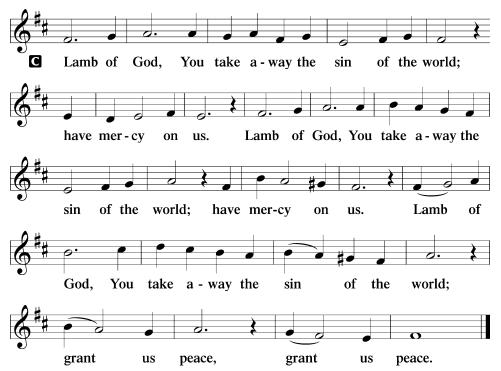


POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



AGNUS DEI John 1:29



Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to one of the pastors are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to a pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS By All Your Saints in Warfare

#517, St. 1, 7, 3

Please stand following distribution of communion

DIGNUS EST This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and hon - or and bless-ing His. and glo - ry are This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-lewith all ia. the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to

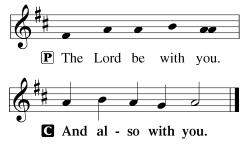
God and the

Lamb

for - ev - er. A - men.



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

P 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

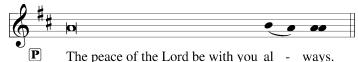
Matthew 26:26-28:

Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI John 20:19





SANCTUS Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 6:1-9; 7:2, 51-60

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen.

And Stephen said:

"Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran,

"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Matt. 28:7; Heb. 2:7, Ps. 8:6



Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor,

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

1 Peter 2:2-10 **EPISTLE**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"

and

"A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



It is right

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

to give Him thanks and praise.

Please be seated

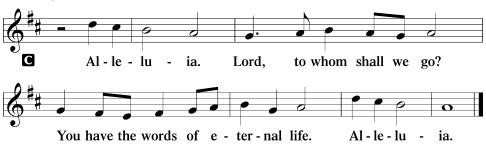
OFFERING

Please be seated

OFFERTORY



ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL John 14:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.



[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN If God Himself Be for Me

#724, St. 1-5

SERMON The Greater Works

Please stand

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)

the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)

maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)

and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16)

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9)

the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)

begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2)

God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)

very God of very God, (Col 2:9) begotten, not made, (Jn 1:2)

being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30)

by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)

who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)

came down from heaven (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35)

and was made man; (Jn 1:14)

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)

He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)

and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9)

and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55)

And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64)

to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)

whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11)

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)

the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (Jn 15:26)

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17) who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5)

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5)

and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18) and the life + of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)

Amen. (Ps 106:48)

Us men means all people.

Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition of the prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord. **People: Lord, have mercy.**

For comfort, health and recovery: June Clement, Steve Kennedy, Lois Niemann;

For those who are ill or distressed: Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Kimberly Airhart, Layne Bagley, Rose Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Richard Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Tina Burke, Wayne Burke, Paula Burkhalter, Amie Caroll, Bobby Carroll, Arthur Collins, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Mike Ellis, Robert (Andy) Evers, Michele Rae Fowler, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Hugh Hunt, Beth Jarratt, Jimmy Jarratt, Elaine Johnson, Joslyn Jones, Arlene Kleinschmidt, Eleanor Koster, John Koster, Sandra Landers, Katelyn Lawing, Peggy Lucky, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Jerry McMahan, Edlia Miller, Mark Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Lindberg Moore, Jerry Mutter, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Janea Parker, Deborah-Annette Ried, Elmira Roever, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Johnnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sally Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, MariLyn Unger, Betty Venator, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;

For college and graduate students: Jake Everly, Sara Fields, Claudia Nelson, Roselynn Nelson, Katie Rudsenske;

For military servants and their families: Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, Christopher Martin, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;

For foreign missionaries: David and Shelee Warner;

This week's prayer family: Brent & Becky Hathcock and their loved ones.