# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

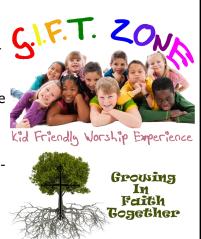
June 17, 2018 - 10:45 AM



The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

# **G.I.F.T. Zone Opportunity For Parents & Young Children**

We introduce our kid-friendly worship experience, located in the left-hand transept area of the main sanctuary. For families who wish to take advantage of the G.I.F.T. Zone, there is child-friendly worship furniture plus adult chairs for parents. Feel free to sit in the special area throughout the service with your child - or come to the area with your child following the Children's Message. During this middle section of the service, Deacon Lexanne Graves will be in the area to guide parents and children through activities to help our youngest worshipers follow the readings, sermon, hymn, creed, and prayers. This is an awesome way to keep children engaged in worship with the whole congregation - and learn the liturgy until they are able to worship in the pews for the entire service. We offer the G.I.F.T. Zone so that parents may share the worship experience with their children in a meaningful, stress-free way. At the 10:45 service, our nursery is also available for ages 0 - 3 (for those yet unable to benefit from the G.I.F.T. Zone activities.)



# **Living Springs Lutheran Church**

4224 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223 www.livingspringscolumbia.org

#### **SUMMER GATHERING SONGS**

Our gathering time through the summer will include a hymn sing with music selected by you! Baptismal Anniversaries: Ethan Wirth (6/18), Zach Colflesh (6/20), Anita Gabbard (6/28) (Individuals meet the Pastor at the font for a special blessing in recognition of their anniversary.)

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** 

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding

in steadfast love.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one

another.

(Silence for reflection - we kneel as able)

Pastor: Eternal God our creator,

People: in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your

children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Pastor: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus

Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners;

and for his sake, God + forgives you all your sins.

People: Amen.

**ENTRANCE HYMN** "How Great Thou Art" ELW #856

**APOSTOLIC GREETING** 

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the

Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.



#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into

yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in

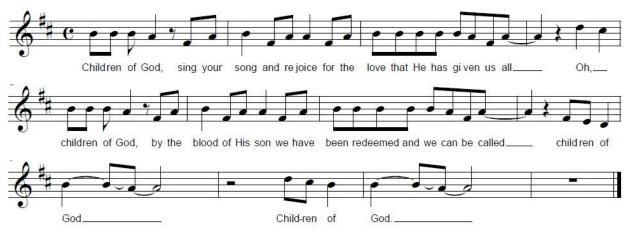
need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - HOPE MOMENT

Rev. Eric Fink

Children, youth, and young at heart are invited to gather on the steps for a special message. Toddlers may be accompanied by parents. All may bring forward coins or dollars for the bucket collection (currently RICH Learning Summer Art & Reading Camp). Following the message, young children and parent(s) are invited to the G.I.F.T. Zone for special activities that help young ones participate in worship through the middle portion of the service. As the children gather, we sing:



Words & Music by David Carr, Mac Powell, Mark D. Lee & Tai Anderson, ⊚ 2010 Songs From the Quarry (Admin by Capitol CMG Publishing; Used By Permission. CCLI License #1142641

#### FIRST READING

Lector: A reading from Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it. (Ezekiel 17:22-24)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.



**PSALM 92:1-4, 12-15** 

Lector: It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,

to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

People: to herald your love in the morning

and your faithfulness at night;

Lector: on the psaltery, and on the lyre,

and to the melody of the harp.

People: For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;

and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

Lector: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,

and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

People: Those who are planted in the house of the LORD

shall flourish in the courts of our God;

Lector: they shall still bear fruit in old age;

they shall be green and succulent;

People: that they may show how upright the LORD is,

my rock, in whom there is no injustice.

#### **SECOND READING**

Lector: A reading from 2 Corinthians.

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

(2 Corinthians 5:6-17)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.



#### **GOSPEL LESSON**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor:

[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples. (Mark 4:26-34)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

We are seated

**SERMON** Rev. Eric Fink

We stand as able

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

People: 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 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.

We stand as able

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Assist: Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the

world that God so loves.

+ A brief silence +

Assist: O Most High, your divine realm is like a noble tree whose boughs and branches

give shade and rest to the peoples of the earth. Make your church a nesting place

for all who need your peace and healing. Hear us, O God.

**People:** Your mercy is great.

Assist: O Most High, all the world is a garden for your creativity. Refresh places of

drought with abundant rains. Strengthen and keep safe those who fight fires in your forests. Help us tend your mountains and plains, oceans and rivers with

loving care. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Assist: O Most High, you speak and your word is accomplished. Speak to the leaders of

the nations so they might end cycles of violence, giving people everywhere

tranquility and peace. Hear us, O God.

**People:** Your mercy is great.

Assist: O Most High, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Bring the abundant

healing blessings of the new creation into the lives of those who suffer illness, grief, or deprivation of any kind. We especially pray for: *Gwen Furcron; Kathryn Padgett; Bob Jorgensen; Mike Loveless; Stephanie Joyner; Shirley Danner; Sean Rease; Molly McMillan; Harriett Gettys; Bonnie Bouknight; and those we name* 

before you now, either silently or aloud.... Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Assist: O Most High, your steadfast love and faithfulness sustain your people. Bless

fathers and all father figures with such love and faithfulness that children flourish and grow in uprightness and joy, especially our living fathers and grandfathers for whom we give you thanks this day... (we speak aloud the names of our living fathers and grandfathers). Bless those who long to be fathers and those for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Assist: O Most High, just as the earth produces of itself and the harvest comes, you

gather up your people from all times and places. Bring us along with those who have died into the lasting harvest of your kingdom, especially our fathers and grandfathers of faith who have passed to life in the Church triumphant...(we speak aloud the names of our deceased fathers and grandfathers)... Hear us, O God.

**People:** Your mercy is great.

Assist: By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and

thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

**PEACE IS SHARED** 

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

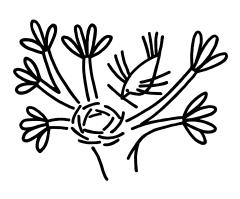
We greet one another, with the words that the risen Jesus spoke to his disciples: "Peace be with you."

We are seated

THANKSGIVING MOMENT

**OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN** 

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION





#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Assist: Let us pray.

People: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

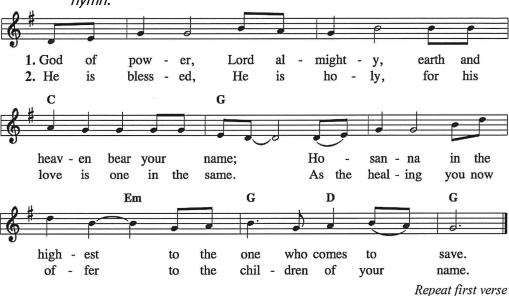
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

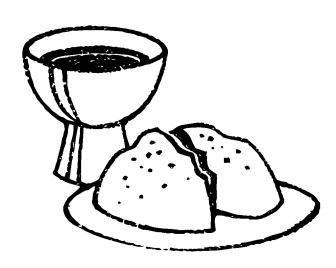
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:





#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Pastor:

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering therefore his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Spirit of love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

People: Amen.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

People:

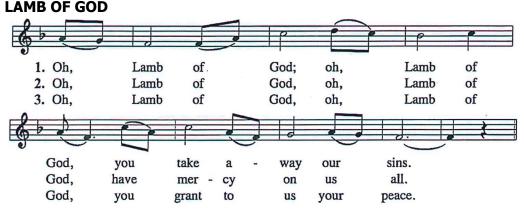
Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

# **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Pastor: Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

# We are seated



#### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

This meal is the Lord's Supper of grace and is open to ALL Christians of any background or denomination. As Lutheran Christians, we believe in **Christ's true presence** in, with, and under the elements. We invite you to have your name tag visible so that the ministers may include **your name** as they offer you the elements. Communion at Living Springs is by **intinction** (bread is dipped into the wine or grape juice). In response to the words, "Body of Christ, given for you. Blood of Christ, shed for you," each worshipper may respond with, "**Amen."** If you require a **gluten free wafer**, please let your worship assistant know so they can accommodate you. Each chalice contains two compartments: wine is located in the larger compartment, while **alcohol-free grape juice** is located in the smaller compartment for those who require it. After receiving the elements, you are welcome to remain kneeling at the rail for meditation and prayer (others may simply fill in the open spaces). **Children** who have not received communion instruction are invited to come forward for a special blessing. Simply fold your hands to indicate you would like to receive the blessing.



- 1: The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
  It's time to sing Your song again.
  Whatever may pass, and whatever comes before me,
  let me be singing when the evening comes (to Chorus)
- 2: You're rich in love and you're slow to anger, Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness I will keep on singing Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find (to Chorus)

And on that day, when my strength is failing, 3: the end draws near, and my time has come; Still my soul will sing Your praise unending; ten thousand years and then forevermore! (Repeat Chorus 2x)

CCLI Song # 6016351 Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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We stand after all have received communion

#### **EUCHARISTIC BLESSING & PRAYER**

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

People: Amen

Assist: Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but

> your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of

peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

People: **Amen** 

BENEDICTION

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty Pastor:

God, Father, 

→ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: Amen.

"Sent Forth By God's Blessing" SENDING HYMN ELW #547

**DISMISSAL** 

Assist: Do Justice! Love Kindness! Walk Humbly with God!

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

Thanks be to God. People:



## **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:**

Behold the Harvest

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground . . .

Teresa among Calcutta's destitute and dying + Clarence Jordan's Cotton Patch Gospel + Sojourner Truth, the slave preacher + Who taught you prayer? + Flannery O'Connor, writing scandalous grace + Florence Nightingale, "Let my work be thine" + Rosa Parks on the bus + Thomas Merton, spiritual guide + Mahatma Gandhi, "Living Christ means a living cross, without it life is a living death" + Who stood with you in your shame? + Dorothy Day's Catholic Workers + Fyodor Dostovevsky, imprisoned novelist of suffering love in Russia + Black Elk of the Oglala Lakota (Sioux), a faith after Wounded Knee + Who taught you love? + The Samaritan woman, shamed evangelist + Peter, betrayer and Rock + John Muir, steward of creation + Mitri Raheb, Bethlehem's visionary pastor of hope + J. S. Bach, musician for the glory of God + Whose song has inspired you? + Jimmy Carter, president and Bible teacher + Who has put scripture in your hands? + C. S. Lewis, literary scholar and defender of faith + Francis of Assisi, "Lord, make us instruments of your peace" + Paul, persecutor and apostle + Sister Alice Domon and Mothers of the Disappeared awakening Argentina's conscience + Henri Nouwen, wounded healer + Martin Luther, reformer + Who has challenged you to change? + Mother Emanuel Church, showing forgiveness to a nation + Shusaku Endo, Japan's Christian novelist + Mahalia Jackson and Thomas Dorsey, "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" + Albert Schweitzer, theologian, musician, doctor, missionary + Christian Peacemaker Teams protecting children in Hebron + Prisca and Aquila, evangelists with Paul + Damien of Molokai, joyful among the lepers + Dietrich Bonhoeffer, living and dying the cost of discipleship + Harriet Tubman, slave "Moses" freeing slaves + Who has shown you courage? + Desmond Tutu, enemy of apartheid + St. Augustine, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in you" + Daniel Egan, "Junkie Priest" in the Bronx + Martin Luther King Jr., "I Have a Dream" + Who has healed you? + Daniel Berrigan, prisoner priest for peace + Mary Magdalene, apostle + Oscar Romero, voice for the voiceless

... and the seed would sprout and grow" (Mark 4:26-27).

















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# THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY!

## **ASSISTING MINISTER**

Jeff Day

## **LECTOR**

Lori Masad

#### **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

Jeanette Bloss Cindy Day

## **USHERS**

Gary Ginn **Preston Ginn** Randy Masad Adam Woodruff

## INSIDE GREETER

Alice Renaud

## **OUTSIDE GREETER**

Adam Woodruff

#### **ACOLYTE**

Walker Flores

#### **CRUCIFER**

Steve Bloss

#### **TORCHBEARERS**

Gail Buchanan Cynthia Edney

# **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pr. Eric Fink

# **NAME TAGS**

Karen Kranz

## **FLOWERS**

Charles & Ruth Pollard

## **MUGGER**

Karen Kranz

## **COFFEE**

Karen Kranz

# **ALTAR GUILD**

Sue Loveless

#### **COUNTERS**

Jan Berger Leslie Bloss Laura Turnmire

# **COUNCIL DISCIPLE**

Wendy McKenzie



# Pentecost Seasonal **Emphasis**

Koly, Koly, Koly is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory! Isaiah 6:3

# LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

4224 Hard Scrabble Rd., Columbia, SC 29223 E-Mail: contact@livinspringscolumbia.org
Office: (803) 736-0661 – Preschool: 736-0776 www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia

# www.livingspringscolumbia.org

Ministers: People of Living Springs

Ministry Staff.

Rev. Eric Fink, Senior Pastor......pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org George Donovan, Jr., Dir. of Music & Worship ......george@livingspringscolumbia.org Deac. Lexanne Graves, Min. of Faith & Life (Children & Families) .......lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org Christopher Girardeau, Min. of Faith & Life (Sr. Youth & Young Adults)..christopher@livingspringscolumbia.org Tammy Mancuso, Preschool Director......tmancuso@lslcps.org Lisa Petty, Administrative Assistant ......lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org Sherry Forsgren, Bookkeeper ......sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org Mark & Laura Cunningham, Food Ministry ......laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org

Prayer Ministry ......prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org

#### **WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP THIS DAY!**

We greet all who worship in the name of the Risen Savior!
May the Spirit speak to your heart the message of God's redeeming love for everyone,
through the grace shown to the world in Jesus.

We gather as a community of disciples. Our center is Jesus Christ, and we are here to know and share the blessing of his forgiving, healing hand. If you have any questions about our congregation, please call 736-0661, drop by our office (M - F 8:30-4:30) or visit our website at www.livingspringscolumbia.org.

**WELCOME GUESTS!** – We are especially blessed by your presence today and look forward to worshipping with you again. Please take time to fill out the blue slip in your bulletin and/or sign the welcome book in the narthex. New members are always welcome into our congregation. To learn more about becoming part of Christ's family of faith here at Living Springs, please contact the office (736-0661) or Pastor Eric (917-2749).

**BULLETIN BLUE SLIPS** - may be completed and placed in the offering plate for prayer requests, guest information, address/phone updates, and a record of communing. Members, please complete at least one blue slip during 2018 to ensure we have a record of your communing.

**SEASONAL NAME TAG** – In order to show hospitality, we ask everyone to stop by the table under the portico and complete a name tag with our seasonal scripture verse. The tags allow everyone to use names as we share the Peace - and allow communion ministers to speak your name (*please make sure your name is visible when you come to the altar rail*).

**RESTROOMS** — are located in the Administration Building on both levels. Greeters/ushers will be happy to show you the way. Main level restrooms are equipped with diaper changing stations. For your child's safety, please accompany them when they leave the Sanctuary to use the restrooms.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS -** are now available, please see an usher or greeter.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE** – The ushers have headsets which will amplify the sound for you. Please return to an usher or leave in the pew at the conclusion of the service.

**GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS & ALCOHOL-FREE GRAPE JUICE—** are available during communion, for those who desire either.

**G.I.F.T. ZONE** - is a special area in our worship space for parents and young children who wish to worship together with more child-friendly furniture and special resources to utilize during worship.

**CHILDREN'S BULLETINS** – are distributed during the children's sermon.

**NURSERY** — is available for infants-3 years old during the 10:45 Worship Service; located downstairs in the preschool in the Education Building. Greeters/Ushers will be happy to assist you.

**CHILD SAFETY** — is very important to us, so we ask at least 1 adult to accompany your child if he/she leaves the Sanctuary during worship. Please do not allow children to play on the playground without parental supervision. During the week, church doors are kept locked to maintain security for our Preschool. Please ring the intercom by the office doors to check in.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME** – is held each week following the 8:15 service and prior to the 10:45 service, inside the education building.

**OUR PRAYER MINISTRY** – As a community of disciples, we pray for one another and others - not just in times of illness, but also for praise, thanksgiving, and forgiveness. If you have a prayer request, simply fill out the bulletin blue sheet and place in the offering plate (or call/email the office). Please indicate if your request is for public or private prayer.