



He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless

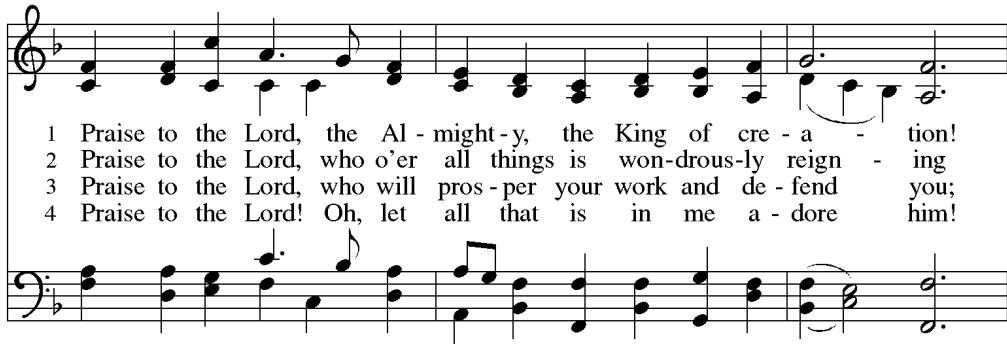
Isaiah 40:29

St. Martin's Lutheran Church
203 S. Defiance Street + Archbold, OH 43502
Deacon Steve Basselman

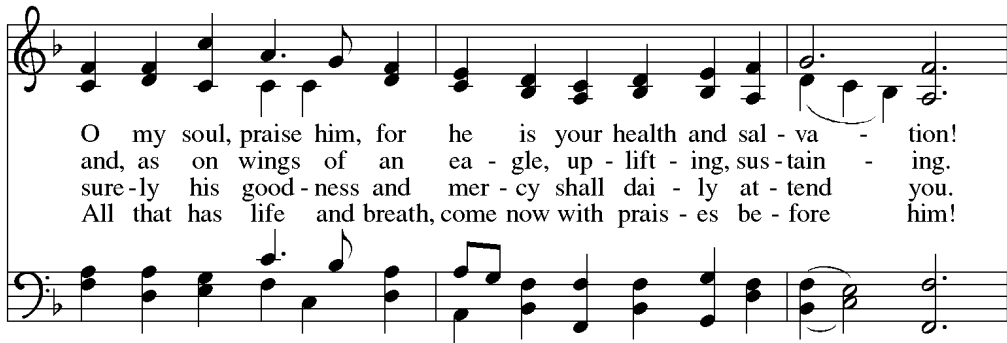
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 4, 2024

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

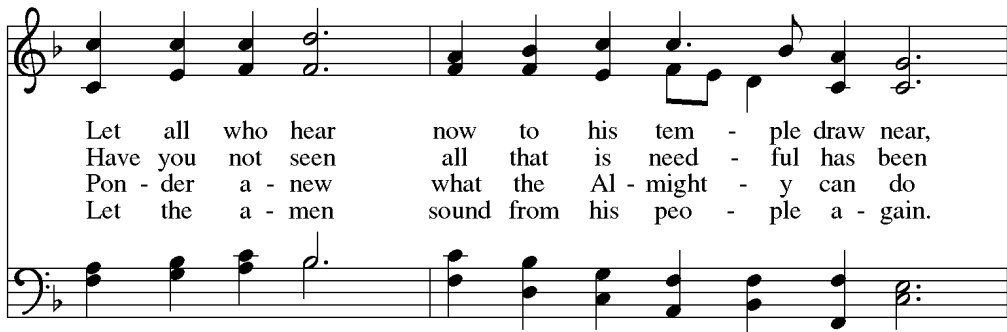
Please sing Verses 1 and 4 in Unison



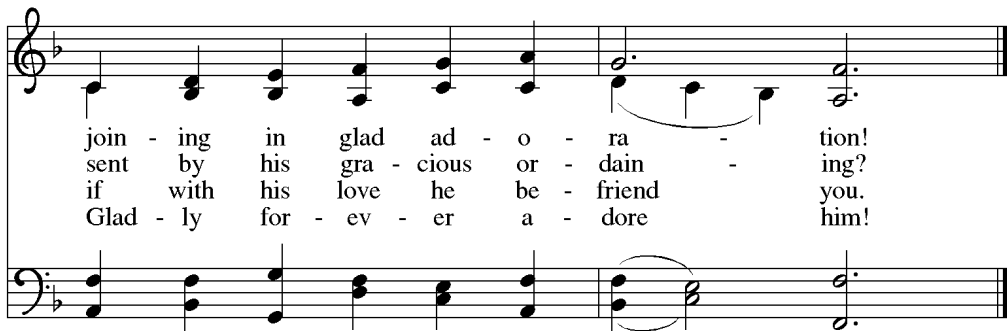
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
if with his love he be - friend you.
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024

In Isaiah it is the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars—it is that God who strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service. Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up to health and service. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader or Pastor

Bold text is spoken by the congregation

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE **TOCCATINA ON “LOBE DEN HERREN”** *ARR. MATTHEW WACHTMAN*

BELL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN** ***“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Our creating God spoke and the world was created; God speaks and calls us to listen and follow; God speaks and sends us to bring light to the dark corners of this world.

With quiet minds to hear God's call again, let us open our hearts and confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy and merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against our sisters and brothers and against you. When we cherish the excess of the world around us we cause others to stumble. We do not listen to your voice when we put our selfish actions ahead of your call. Have mercy on us, O God. Forgive us, renew us, and raise us up on eagles' wings, that we may do your will with courage and joy. Amen.

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. God gives power to the weary, and strengthens the powerless. (*Isaiah 40:28-29*) God makes us right, God puts us together. With God's forgiveness we are free to serve in the name of the Lord.

Amen

***GREETING**

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

And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Everlasting God, there is none like you in the heavens or on the earth, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:21–31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It 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 live in;

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

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

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

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

He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

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

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

²⁸Have 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.

²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 9:16–23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To 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 I myself am not under the law) so

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

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
Hal - le - lu - jah.
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

***GOSPEL READING**

Mark 1:29-39

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured 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.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

"Back into the Game"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"



Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;
1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



dai - ly walk - ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore. *Ref.*



*PROFESSION OF FAITH – *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 Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell. 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 THE CHURCH

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. (*We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you"*)

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Chancel Choir

"How Can I Keep from Singing?"

Aaron Schmidt, soloist —arr. Greg Gilpin

My life flows on in endless song. How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm. How can I keep from singing?

What, though the tempest around me roars, I know the truth it liveth.

What, though the darkness around me close, songs in the night it giveth.

I hear though the far off hymn, that hails a new creation.

It sounds an echo in my soul, above earth's lamentation.

*OFFERTORY

"WHEN WE ARE LIVING"



Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,
1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
2 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
3 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find



y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.
and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord. . . .
when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind;



Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
and when we help them, or when we feed them,



so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God,

receive the gifts we bring, ourselves, our time, and our possessions.

Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE SHARE IN THE MEAL

* 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.

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful Word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this holy food and all the baptized gathered for this feast. Refresh us so that we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

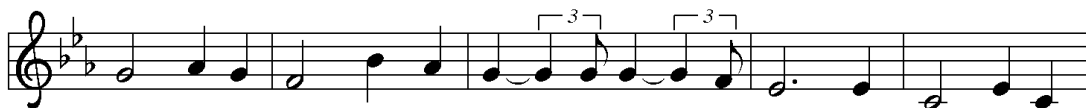
*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION



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, grant us peace.

“On Eagles’ Wings”

WOV 779 (*Blue hymnal*)

*BLESSING

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

Amen

* BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

*CLOSING HYMN

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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Liturgical text for Confession and Forgiveness and post communion adapted from Sundays and Seasons ©2017 Augsburg Fortress, Prayer of the Day and Eucharistic Prayer from Evangelical Lutheran Worship ©2006 Augsburg Fortress
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St. Martin's Lutheran Church

203 S. Defiance Street Archbold OH 43502

Phone Number: 419-445-4656

Web Site: www.the-welcome-place.org

Email: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org

Office Hours:

Deacon Steve Basselman

steveb@the-welcome-place.org

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. morning

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. afternoon

Cell Phone: 419-572-6091

Matthew Wachtman, Music & Worship

mattheww@the-welcome-place.org

Mon. & Tues. All Day

Wed. & Thur. afternoon

Jake Keil, Youth

jakek@the-welcome-place.org

Tue – Thurs. 9-4:00 pm

Worship Services: 9:00 am each Sunday, live broadcast on Facebook
6:00 pm each Wednesday, Informal Service

We welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. – Romans 15:7

***We Welcome All** to St. Martin's Lutheran Church this Sunday as you join us to worship our Savior, Jesus Christ. If you are visiting, we would like to invite you back to worship with us at your earliest convenience. If you are looking for a church home, come join us here at "The Welcome Place" for worship and allow us to introduce ourselves and the Lord whom we serve. Join us for coffee, cookies and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following the Worship Service.*

St. Martin's Worship Servants . . .

Acolyte	-Allison Reyes
Lector	-Deb Schmidt
Organist/Pianist	-Matthew Wachtman
Usher Team Leader	-Mike, Jess, Gwen, Jeff, Ross
Sound System	-Emma Wachtman
Altar Guild	-Gwen Grisier and Joan Meyer
Offering Counters	-Joyce Winzeler and Janet Wyse,

Can you use a scissors or tie your shoes, or both? Monday, February 12th at 6:30, the Friendship Circle is asking you to join us for a service project to help the Orphan Grain Train, locally served from Napoleon Ohio. They were given over 100 fleece blanket kits to cut and tie and we would like your help to complete the project. Light refreshments will be available. Friendship Circle **NEEDS YOU..**

Puerto Rico Mission Trip...The St. Martin Mission Team left for Puerto Rico this morning to repair a roof destroyed from Hurricanes. The roof repair is through “Techos Pa’ Mi Gente” which is “roofs for my People”. February 4-11.

Team members are: Bill & Diane Phelps, Albert & Yanira Reyes, Darren & Jane Sonnenberg, Aaron Short, John Poulson, Jane Trudel, Tim Ziegler, and Jo Ann Liechty.

<https://www.facebook.com/techospamigente.pr/>

<https://www.tpmgcorp.org/>

Wednesday Kids Club meets 6-7:30pm each week. February’s theme is ***Pet Project: See It Through***. For the entire month, we’ll be talking about *Responsibility*.

Sunday Night Youth meets 6-7:30pm each week. February’s theme is *Culture*.

Are you being called to serve?

Volunteers are needed to help support our continued ministry. How is God calling you to serve? Here are some opportunities:

Synod Assembly Voting Members – the Northwestern Ohio Synod will gather for a one-day meeting on Saturday, June 1 from 9am to 5pm at St. Mark’s, Bowling Green. St. Martin’s is allowed 3 voting members in addition to Deacon Steve: one Male, one Female, and one Youth/Young Adult.

Church Van Search Team – interest has been expressed about acquiring a Church Van. If you would be interested in gathering information for Church Council, please contact the Church Office.

Last Week at St. Martin’s. . .

Receipts Week of 1/28/2023, Budget and Year to Date

Operating Contributions	\$4,986.31	Budgeted Weekly Operating Need	\$6,135.00
Benevolence Received	\$98.00	Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Need	\$640.00
Other Designated Income	\$505.00	AS OF 12/31/23	
Total Income	\$5,589.31	YTD Operating Received	\$293,800.62
Worship: Sun/Wed	122/24/146	YTD Operating Expenses	\$(281,769.82)
		Net Income/(Deficit)	\$ 12,030.80

This Week at St. Martin's

Today – February 4

Worship, 9:00 am with Communion
Sunday School, 10:20
Catechism Student/Mentor Bowling, 2pm

Monday – February 5

The Chosen – Zoom Discussion Group, 8:30pm

Tuesday – February 6

Men's Breakfast, 7:00am @ McDonald's
Parkinson's Group, 1pm
Community Meal @ St. John's Christian, 5-6:00pm

Wednesday – February 7

Welcome Meal, 5:15pm
Welcome Place Worship, 6pm
Wednesday Kids Club, 6-7:30pm
Bell Choir, 6:30pm
NO Catechism
Chancel Choir 7:30pm

Thursday – February 8

Women's Breakfast Study, 7:00am @ Home Restaurant
Bulletin Deadline, 9am
Church Council, 7pm

Next Sunday – February 11 – Transfiguration Sunday

Worship, 9:00am with Communion
Sunday School, 10:20am

Online Giving - Mobile Access

Mobile users can now access the giving page to set up recurring donations or make one time donations directly from phones using this QR code.

To change or delete recurring donations you will still need to go to:
<https://givingtools.com> and sign in to your account.



St. Martin's Prayer Line

For our prayers in worship this morning and our daily devotions in the coming week, we remember:

- ❖ The Bethel Parish of Dodoma, Tanzania, and Mission Partner Congregation of Redeemer, Toledo, may they continue to carry out God's ministry in their areas of mission.
- ❖ Those caught in the fighting between Israel and Palestine, and the work of Lutheran Disaster Response.
- ❖ Family and Friends of Kelsy Wyse whose Memorial Service is Feb 10 @ North Clinton

For those who need healing, may they know the healing hand of God:

Tim Anderson, Bjorlin cousin, cancer
Richelle Avers
Jeff Cook, Ann Ott's son
Phyllis Corbin
Jan Delaney
Jerry Geiger
Tom Heckel
Steve & Sue Hurst, health concerns
Amy Johns
Shelly Kammeyer, daughter in law of Sharon Blair, Leukemia
Amanda Karduck, friend of Sara Adams & Jan Delaney
Michael Koch, friend of Melanie & Dick Nagel
Bonnie R. Lauber
Lydia Lehman, niece of Joyce and Jo Ann
Jason Miller, Schmidt family friend
Frankie Molina, Joe Schneider's brother-in-law
Ann Ott
Conrad and Karen Perry, Andi Erbskorn's brother and sister-in-law
Ava Pahl, Pat Basselman's niece, health concerns
Bruce Pearson, Trudel family friend, cancer
Tom Plezia, friend of Karen Stevenson
Peg Roth, back surgery
Keith Sevey
Al Siewert
Joan Smith
Peg Winzeler
Joe Wyse
Homebound – Louise Wyse

For those who need God's protection and the assurance that he is near

- Our College students both close to home and far away
- All members, family & friends who serve in our military: Patrick Cirenza (June Hayes), Bradly & Victoria Nilsson, Kennedy Hartung, Ashtyn Frederick, Brendon Johns, Kasyn Schaffner, Spencer Short

Any prayer requests to add or remove can be sent to the Church Office by Thursday of each week: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org

We include a person's name and details only with their permission.



Take Up Your C.R.O.S.S.

2024 Stewardship Campaign of St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Connect | Relate | Offer | Study | Serve

Relate with other children of God in real and meaningful ways

More than 'good morning'

*More than
'good morning'*

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

Ephesians 4:25

Indispensable

Isn't it amazing the percentage of church-goers that classify themselves as "fine" or "good" (at least on Sunday mornings)? If life was actually going that well for the same percentage of Americans nationwide, there would be a lot of counselors and therapists looking for work.

Helping you up

Now – part of that is due to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ that those church-goers have. When you realize how blessed we actually are, the headaches and catastrophes of life don't affect you as much.

Share the Good News

But there is something else as well. Often times the question "how are you?" isn't really a question – it's a greeting similar to "hello". The typical response is some variation of "good" – regardless of how we are actually doing. While that polite interaction may fill awkward silences while leaving the sanctuary, it doesn't help us to know our neighbors – and oftentimes isn't speaking truthfully. We all have good days and bad days, and by masking those times when we could use a little help we are robbing ourselves of some needed support and our neighbors of a chance to express God's love. Our part in the Body of Christ calls us to go beyond "good morning" – and to relate with other children of God in real and meaningful ways.

*C.R.O.S.S.
Challenge*

Go beyond the exchange of pleasantries and be honest with a fellow believer with how your life is really going.