

**St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS)**  
**8948 N 1900 Ave Geneseo, IL 61254**  
**309-949-2516**

**November 8, 2020      Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**

*The order of worship is based upon the Office of Matins, Lutheran Service Book p. 219.*

*Stand*

- L** O Lord, open my lips,  
**C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.  
**L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.  
**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.  
Amen.  
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.

**Psalmody**

- L** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**C** O come, let us worship Him.

**Psalm 70**

- <sup>1</sup>Make haste, O God, to deliver me!  
O LORD, make haste to help me!  
<sup>2</sup>Let them be put to shame and confusion  
who seek my life!  
Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor  
who desire my hurt!  
<sup>3</sup>Let them turn back because of their shame  
who say, "Aha, Aha!"  
<sup>4</sup>May all who seek you  
rejoice and be glad in you!  
May those who love your salvation  
say evermore, "God is great!"  
<sup>5</sup>But I am poor and needy;  
hasten to me, O God!  
You are my help and my deliverer;  
O LORD, do not delay!  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
**L** The Lord will come again in glory.  
**C** O come, let us worship Him.

**Hymn of the Day: 516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying**



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch-men on the  
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, And all her heart with  
3 Now let all the heav'n's a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels

heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"  
joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym-bals' clear - est tone.

Mid - night hears the wel-come voic - es And at the thrill-ing  
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in  
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join-ing with the

cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?  
truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.  
choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.

The Bride - groom comes, a-wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!  
Now come, Thou Bless-ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,  
No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might

Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your-selves pre - pare  
Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall  
Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly

To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."  
To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.  
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

**Readings**

**Old Testament Reading**

*Amos 5:18-24, on back of bulletin*

- P** O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## *Epistle*

*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, on back of bulletin*

- P** O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## *Stand*

### *Holy Gospel*

*Matthew 25:1-13, on back of bulletin*

- P** O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

### *Responsory*

- P** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.  
**P** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.  
**P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

### *Sermon*

### **Prayer**

### *Kyrie*

- C** Lord, have mercy;  
 Christ, have mercy;  
 Lord, have mercy.

### *Lord's Prayer*

- C** 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.**

### *Collects*

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with your spirit.

### *Collect of the Day*

- P** Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead

home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

### *Prayer of the Church*

- P** For the faithful proclamation of God's Word, that His people may be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom extended, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, giving us strength to resist, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For this congregation, its mission and its people; for the ability to meet the needs that arise as we do the work God has given us to do; and for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For the educational institutions of our synod: for our preschools, our day schools and high schools, our colleges and universities, and for our seminaries, that those who teach and those who learn in them would be transformed by the wisdom of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For those who have wandered from the faith, that the Holy Spirit would use us to call them home to the Father, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they may use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of the people and that we, we may use wisely and for the Lord's glory His gift of liberty and the abundant blessings He has poured out on our land, recognizing that we are accountable to Him for every aspect of our lives, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For all who serve in worthy occupations, professions, arts, and sciences, that God would grant them skill and integrity in the performance of their responsibilities and valued service through their vocations, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God's great mercy and love would preserve and relieve them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For all the faithful, that the Spirit would lead them to cheerful, generous giving from the bounty the Lord provides, to support the Church and to help those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who are sick, especially Claris, Joseph, Pam, Paula, Jim and Shirley, Don, John, Bob, Betty, Dick, Donald, Delores, Arlyn, Derek, Harley, Lillian, Lynne, Clinton's Family, Crystal, Fred, Jodi, Glenn, Mike, Virginia, Jim, John, Marilyn, Casey, Jim, Brian, Drew, Kathleen, Kelly, Carolyn, Carolyn, and Karen, that God would grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and grace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who mourn, that in their time of sorrow they would not lose hope but rely on God's promise that He will never leave them or forsake them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, that they may always remember the Giver of every gift and give Him heartfelt thanks, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together 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, for to You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Collect for Grace*

**P** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your govern-

ance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Benedicamus*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Benediction*

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

**C** Amen.

*Closing Hymn: 514 The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us*



1 The Bride-groom soon will call us, "Come to the wed-ding feast."  
2 There shall we see in glo-ry Our dear Re-deem-er's face;  
3 There God shall from all e-vil For-ev-er make us free,  
4 In that fair home shall nev-er Be si-lent mu-sic's voice;

May slum-ber not be-fall us Nor watch-ful-ness de-crease.  
The long-a-wait-ed sto-ry Of heav'n-ly joy takes place:  
From sin and from the dev-il, From all ad-ver-si-ty,  
With hearts and lips for-ev-er We shall in God re-joice,

May all our lamps be burn-ing With oil e-nough and more  
The pa-triarchs shall meet us, The proph-ets' ho-ly band;  
From sick-ness, pain, and sad-ness, From trou-bles, cares, and fears,  
While an-gele hosts are rais-ing With saints from great to least

That we, with Him re-turn-ing, May find an o-pen door!  
A-pos-tles, mar-tys greet us In that ce-les-tial land.  
And grant us heav'n-ly glad-ness And wipe a-way our tears.  
A might-y hymn for prais-ing The Giv-er of the feast.

*Acknowledgements*

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Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost  
November 12, 2017  
Matthew 25:1-13 (Gospel Reading)

### **“Foolish or Wise?”**

Dear saints of God, the heavenly Father’s grace, mercy, and peace fill you and flow forth from you through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, especially as the great Day of Judgment approaches.

Friends in Christ we are again nearing the end of another year according to the church calendar. Consequently, the appointed readings lead our mind to focus on the visible glorious return of the Lord and His ushering in the fullness of eternity for all people, whether that be salvation or damnation being determined by the righteous and holy Judge. As we know neither the day nor hour of His return, which Christ states clearly, nor the time of our own death, let us hear His gracious teaching so that we are not caught unawares as the five foolish virgins were.

As we consider our precious Lord’s Parable of the Ten Virgins, it becomes important to determine what the symbolism that is present means. Clearly the bridegroom is Jesus and the wedding feast is the taking of the Bride, the Church, into heaven, “the marriage supper of the Lamb” as it is called in Revelation.<sup>i</sup> Of these there is no question, but what of the virgins and their lamps with oil and flame?

Let us first consider the symbolism of the ten virgins. The number ten denotes completeness, thus these ten are a picture for all who are represented by the symbol of a virgin. But what is to be made of that symbol? St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, “I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.”<sup>ii</sup> So the ten virgins are symbolic of all those who are followers of Christ, members of the visible Church here on earth throughout time.

Yet Jesus says five are wise and five are foolish, and that the wise are welcomed into the marriage feast while the foolish are locked out and despite their pleas the Bridegroom declares that He doesn’t know them at all! How can this be? The difference between the wise and foolish virgins is not that some were virgins and some merely claimed to be, that is, they were hypocrites. No, all are virgins. All had a lamp with oil and all their lamps were initially lit. The issue is that the Bridegroom delayed and they fell asleep, and when the call came that He has finally come, the foolish had run out of oil, so their lamps once lit were now dead.

First of all, we need to see that their falling to sleep was not some sort of a spiritual or moral shortcoming. After all, not only the foolish, but the wise virgins as well fell asleep. As death is at times pictured as sleep in Scripture, some have found this to mean that they died and were then awoken on the Last Day. This is not wrong, as it is true that the majority of Christians will die before Christ’s return as only a small percentage will be alive on the Day of the Lord. Such an interpretation also rightly indicates that the state of the person’s lamp, whether there was oil and flame or not, when they die is the state by which they will be judged at the resurrection.

However, Jesus’ main point of their falling asleep is that not only will there be a delay between His ascension and His second coming, but more importantly there is for most Christians a delay

*between their being brought to faith and the day they die.* And so our Lord challenges us to self-reflect, “Will I persevere in faith like a wise virgin and so enter heaven? Or will I, like a foolish virgin, lose faith along the way, my flame dead because the oil dried up?”

To be able to answer this question rightly, we must first ask, “What is the oil?” Various faithful Christians have interpreted it to mean different things: the Holy Spirit, faith, or a life of good works coming from Christian love. The fact that all of these have been well defended leads us to see that perhaps it is a mistake to hold to just one to the exclusion of the others. But as oil is the source of the flame, it is legitimate to ask, “Which of these is the source of the others?”

We know that good works are indeed necessary as any “faith” that is not active in battling sin and growing in holiness is dead and cannot save, as it is nothing more than some head knowledge that is not believed with the heart as proven by the lack of impact it makes on one’s life.<sup>iii</sup> Yet, faith is the source of love, and not the other way around, as Paul indicates when he writes to the Galatians that what is important is “faith working through love,”<sup>iv</sup> that is, true saving faith which gives evidence of its presence by being active in love towards God and others. Yet, while faith is the source of love, what is the source of faith? As no one can say Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit, we see that it is the Spirit who is the source of faith.<sup>v</sup> So does the Bible ever give any connection between the Holy Spirit and oil? Yes, it does!

In the Old Testament priests and kings, and some prophets, were anointed with oil. Psalm 45 prophesied that the Messiah, *the* prophet, priest and king, would be anointed with the oil of joy above his companions.<sup>vi</sup> But what was this anointing since Jesus never was anointed with oil into His threefold office. Peter tells us saying, “God anointed Jesus of Nazareth *with the Holy Spirit* and power.”<sup>vii</sup> So oil is a biblical symbol for the Holy Spirit.

Consequently, each Christian must ask themselves, “Am I wise or foolish?” Will I have oil in my lamp and so my light is burning when I am summoned before the throne of judgment? Will my *conversion to faith* in Christ be united with *perseverance in faith* unto my last breath? For while there is such a thing as an eleventh-hour conversion, there is not a twelfth hour one. That is, once our call comes it will then be too late to recognize our flame is dead and we need more oil. We need to recognize it right now and every day, lest the flame die.

The mixing of the wise and foolish virgins shows us that the visible Church is a mixture of those whose faith endures to the end, and those whose faith, sadly, does not. So are we foolish or wise?

The wise know that they need a constant inflow of oil, so they will be in public worship, hearing the Word, receiving the Lord’s Supper, studying the Word in devotion regularly. They will also recognize that the Word they are hearing is nothing less than God’s voice sounding from heaven, even though it comes through a mortal man’s voice, through words on a page. The foolish will not be present, nor hear the Word in such a way.

The wise will recognize that their flame is in constant danger of being put out, so they will guard it, protecting it from the blowing winds of Satan’s temptations. Instead of heeding the temptation, they will resist in fervent prayer, thus the temptation actually fanning the flame instead of putting it out. The foolish will do the opposite.

The wise will recognize that love is directed outwards, towards the holy God, to our neighbor, not inward towards the self. For that is how others will see the light of our flame, by being on the receiving end of our love. The wise virgin's lamps will be a lit and put on a stand to give light to the house, a light of good works of love that shine forth so that others see them and glorify the heavenly Father.<sup>viii</sup> The foolish will focus on themselves, whether in more obvious selfishness, or simply as they are more worried about how their works look than they are about the ones to whom their works are directed.

The wise will recognize that suffering is not so much a sign of God's anger, but His love, for He disciplines the ones He loves.<sup>ix</sup> So they will bear the cross He places on them, even rejoicing in the midst of the trial, confident that God will keep His promise to deliver and, even more, to bring good out of evil. The foolish will give up.

The wise will recognize that this life is a gift from God, and that we are free to receive His blessings and enjoy them in godly moderation. Yet, they also remember that such can be thorns which choke out faith when the gift becomes greater than the Giver. The foolish are immoderate, abusing instead of using, finding their joy in the things of this life which are as temporary as this life itself is. Or they reject the blessings, claiming a greater holiness by such.

The wise have one eye always on eternity, longing for the Bridegroom's return, watching for Him. Their greatest hope is not things getting better in this life, but in the glories yet to come. They will bear witness to others of their hope in the way they face life, suffering, and death. The foolish keep two eyes locked on this earth, their hope here, heaven seemingly little more to them than a fairy tale, as proven by the witness they offer, by the fact that they are truly people of this world in their outlook and not citizens of heaven.

The wise will remember the reality of the Day of Judgment, which all must face. They will remember that Christ is perfectly righteous and will judge accordingly. Therefore, they will not let sin have dominion over them. They will grow in good works and the fruit of the Spirit. They will remember their vows to be faithful even if such requires dying for their Lord. Yet, they will stand before the Judge holding up neither their successful battles against sin, their good works, nor even the keeping of their promise to remain faithful, for they will also know their sins, their failures, confessing such readily.

That is why they will simply praise the Judge who is also their Savior, who washed their sins away by His blood shed on the cross, who covered them with His perfect holiness, who will now bring them into the marriage feast by grace alone through faith in Jesus' saving work and not their own works. The foolish will focus instead upon themselves, their improvements, their faithfulness, and they will suddenly find it lacking, their flame actually dead, their reservoir of the Spirit empty, like the Pharisees. But it will then be too late, and they shall not enter the feast. Ever. So take heed. Our dear Lord in love says to us, "Watch," and the wise will so do such.

God grant us to be wise, to watch, to rightly examine ourselves<sup>x</sup> and so be welcomed into the eternal, heavenly wedding feast. Amen!

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<sup>i</sup> Revelation 19:9. All quotes are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version* (ESV) unless otherwise noted.

<sup>ii</sup> 2 Corinthians 11:2.

<sup>iii</sup> James 2:17.

<sup>iv</sup> Galatians 5:6.

<sup>v</sup> 1 Corinthians 12:3.

<sup>vi</sup> Psalm 45:7. Cf. John 3:34.

<sup>vii</sup> Acts 10:38 (emphasis mine).

<sup>viii</sup> Matthew 5:15-16.

<sup>ix</sup> Hebrews 12:5-6.

<sup>x</sup> Cf. 2 Corinthians 13:5.

**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS**

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<https://www.facebook.com/St.Johns.Geneseo><https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnGLY>**HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE****Rev. Timothy Nerud**

309-949-2516 (Office)

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**Pastor****+In God's Grace—In God's Service+**

Elder: Larry Hock

Videographer: Joel Werling

Ushers: Aaron Raschke      Dave Schmedt

Organist: Carmen Pamperin

Today's Readings: Old Testament Reading: Amos 5:18-24

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

**WE PRAY:** Lord Jesus, Bridegroom of the church, know that we are waiting and watchful for Your coming, for we would be guests at the eternal wedding feast; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever. Amen

**WELCOME TO ALL!**

We are anxious to share with you the Christ-centered ministry at St. John's. Our Liturgy follows closely the pattern of Word and Lord's Supper handed down from the ancient Church. It is our hope that you will make the Church's life of prayer your own. If you have difficulty following our order of service, please ask someone sitting near you for assistance. We pray that you will receive rich spiritual blessings from your presence here. May the peace and power of our risen Christ be yours always.

**IF YOU DESIRE** a visit or call from Pastor Nerud, please contact the church office (309-949-2516).

**OFFICE HOURS**

|                |                            |                        |
|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Terri's hours  | (Monday—Friday)            | 8 am—12 pm             |
| Pastor's hours | (Monday, Pastor's day off) |                        |
|                | (Tuesday)                  | 9 am—12 pm             |
|                | (Thursday)                 | 9 am—12 pm & 1 pm—4 pm |
|                | (Wednesday & Friday)       | please call ahead.     |

**ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY**

Sunday school—20    Adult Bible Class—12    Worship—48

**LIVE STREAMED SERVICES** are available on St. John's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/St.Johns.Geneseo/> and posted on Monday on the church website: [www.stjohnsgeneseo.org](http://www.stjohnsgeneseo.org) found under the 'Sermon' tab and

**WEEKLY OFFERING**

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Offering                             | \$5,070.00 |
| Weekly income needed per 2020 Budget | \$4,011.98 |

**THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S**

|             |          |                              |
|-------------|----------|------------------------------|
| Today       | 8:45 am  | SS/Adult w/Youth Bible Study |
|             | 10:00 am | Divine Worship               |
| Tuesday     | 1:00 pm  | LWML                         |
|             | 6:30 pm  | Council meeting              |
| Wednesday   | 5:00 pm  | Confirmation                 |
| Next Sunday | 8:45 am  | SS/Adult w/Youth Bible Study |
|             | 10:00 am | Divine Worship/Communion     |

*One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and seek him in his temple.*  
Psalm 27:4

**MATTHEW 25:4 – “... but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.”**

Why did they take flasks of oil with them? Because they listened to the bridegroom's words and believed what He told them. Our actions always start with and flow from our beliefs. What do your actions in the realm of financial stewardship say about what you believe?

**LWML MEETING** is this Tuesday beginning at 1 pm. All ladies are welcome to join us. We are following guidelines to help keep everyone healthy. Thank you to all who continue to support the gathering of Mites. Your gifts are reaching the world with the Good news of Jesus as Lord and Savior.

**THANK YOU** to each of the ladies helping out with our worship services; Carmen Pamperin, Sally Brockway, and Christine Boudro. God surely supplies all our needs and even more.

**KEEPING CHRIST ON CAMPUS**—The Central Illinois District of LCMS has important campus ministries at U of I Urbana-Champaign, ISU Normal, EIU Charleston, and WIU Macomb. Each year fewer dollars are received for this ministry. Your help is vital in keeping contact with students at our universities. Our Thanksgiving offering has been designated for this work. Your generous gifts will help keep this work going. All gifts given by July 1, 2021 will be matched up to \$10,000. Place your "Thanksgiving" offering in the plate found in the Narthex or on Thanksgiving Eve.

**ADVENT FESTIVAL**—Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 28th at 9 am. We will gather to decorate the church building, and prepare for the Advent/Christmas season. A box lunch will be served. Please fill out the lunch form and place in the basket by Nov. 22. We will work in a safe manner to help keep everyone healthy.

**FREE NIV STUDY BIBLE**— We have 3 used NIV Study Bibles to give away to the first who ask. If interested, please see Terri Hock.

### PRAYER MINISTRY

#### *Give thanks as you pray:*

**MISSION**—*Thank God for forgiveness.* Repent. Rejoice that your sins are forgiven by Christ. Pray for the strength to forgive those who have sinned against you.

**ST. JOHN'S—Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Rahn**—We offer before You our common request for the well-being of Your church throughout the world that it may be so guided and governed by Your good Spirit that all who profess themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Specifically, we pray for Kevin, Stacie, Kyle, Kaleb, and Kenneth and ask your blessing on them.

**ST. JOHN'S FAMILY**—O Lord, You are the great Physician of soul and body. We pray that You would show mercy to Your servants:

|  |               |                    |
|--|---------------|--------------------|
| Drew Schillinger   | Jim Rahn      | Carolyn Wildermuth |
| Arlyn Helke  | Bob Esterlein | Lynne Johnson      |
| Derek Helke  | Lillian Hock  | Jim/Shirley Dahl   |
| Carolyn Werner   | Betty Firch   | John Erdman        |
| Paula Chapa  | John Neumann  | Fred Magerkurth    |
| Andrew Hill, Sarah, John, Daniel (2019/2020 Seminary Student)        |               |                    |
| Don Eggers (son of a friend of Marilyn Woods)                        |               |                    |
| Mike Miller (friend of Bob & Sherry Wechsler)                        |               |                    |
| Jodi Martins (daughter of Gary & Darla Johns)                        |               |                    |
| Jon & Anita Clausing (missionaries in Kenya)                         |               |                    |
| Marilyn Potts (wife of Cal Potts, former St John Laborer For Christ) |               |                    |
| Pam Bennett (friend of Dan/Roselyn Maeltzer)                         |               |                    |
| Karen Wright (wife of Pastor Gary Wright)                            |               |                    |
| Virginia Miller (mother of Jamie Werling)                            |               |                    |
| Casey Powers (husband of Lisa (Bear) Powers)                         |               |                    |
| Kelly Wechsler (cousin of Bob Wechsler)                              |               |                    |
| Kathleen VanDeRostyne (friend of Bob & Sherry Wechsler)              |               |                    |
| Joseph Baamonde (Friend of Paula Mooney)                             |               |                    |
| Clinton Kane Family (son of Sandy Kane)                              |               |                    |
| Jim Neumann (father-in-law of Brad Gehn's son)                       |               |                    |
| Harley Hepner (cousin of Sarah Hock)                                 |               |                    |
| Claris Anderson (mother of Sarah Hock)                               |               |                    |
| Dick Fornasiere (brother-in-law of Sherry Wechsler)                  |               |                    |
| Delores Gonion (mother of Michele Barry)                             |               |                    |
| Glenn McAdam (friend of Bob & Sherry Wechsler)                       |               |                    |

**Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders** (President of Iowa East District)  
**Donald Gilbert** (uncle of Pastor Nerud)

**MILITARY**—We pray for those serving in our military and their families:  
**Mandy & Richard Davila** (daughter & son-in-law of Dale & Linda Aper)  
**Luke & Nicole Thompson** (son & daughter-in-law of John & Kindra Thompson)  
**Ken Willeford** (husband of Alicia Willeford)  
**Tyler Hynes** (nephew of Mark Ague)  
**Karl Flynn** (son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Flynn)  
**Zachary & Tiffany Gardner** (nephew & wife of Bob & Lois Esterlein)

### LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

“Maybe you enjoy showing hospitality to others, whether at home or as part of a joint effort at church. Perhaps you invite people who are lonely or people who are hungry or homeless or far away from home. Perhaps you are reaching out to refugees or to international students. Perhaps you take a casserole to a family with a new baby or buy toothpaste and toilet paper for the local homeless shelter. If so, you are showing hospitality to Jesus. What an honor to be able to do so!” *Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*