Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Veterans' Sunday

November 10, 2024 • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

Today we honor and recognize our veterans and those who are currently serving our country in the armed forces. They have been called by God to defend and protect the people of this nation. Often at great sacrifice, they stand in the way of those who seek to harm, kill, or impose their will over others. There will come a day – the "Last Day" – when God will finally eliminate all evil and Christian servicemen and women will be able to lay down their arms forever. But until that day comes, they serve the Lord by shielding others. We thank God for them, and ask him to protect them, to help them resist temptation, and to bless and prosper their work.

As We Gather: the "Last Day"

The "Last Day" is that moment when God will end the world that we live in right now. God is patient with us, but there will come the time when he will eliminate all evil and suffering, and make a new heaven and a new earth. On that day, Jesus will appear visibly in glory and all those who have died will be raised and will be judged. What a great day that will be for us who trust in Jesus! We will be with God forever in glory, not just in spirit but with bodies that are new and perfect.

The Bible says that no one except God himself knows when the Last Day will come. God is waiting, holding off on the Last Day so that more people may come to faith and be saved. But sooner or later his patience will come to an end. So don't be discouraged by all the evil in the world today! It will all come to an end. And take advantage of the time God is allowing us: put your trust in Jesus and encourage others to trust in him as well.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship The Lord is Coming Soon (Choir – Puerto Rican song)

- 1. The Lord is coming soon! He will raise up his church in glory, The church he died to save, The church that now proclaims his story.
- Jesus is living now. Soon he will gather up his people. That's where I want to be, to hear him say to me: "Well done, my good and faithful servant!" That's where I want to be, to hear him say to me: "Well done, my good and faithful servant!"

Stand

Sharing God's Peace with One Another

Opening Hymn: How Glorious will Be That Great Morning (We Pray in Song 702)

 Oh, how glorious will be that great morning When Christ Jesus returns to be adored. When the nations as sisters and as brothers Join to welcome the coming of the Lord.

Refrain: For the brilliance of the dawn Will outshine the brightest sun. All its heat and light give way To God's never-ending day. No more weeping will remain, No more grief and no mor pain. For at last Jesus Christ the King of heaven, Throned in mercy, forevermore will reign.

- How we wait for that great, glorious morning When the Lord of love descends for us to greet. When the fragrance of Christ will bathe our senses In the rose light of dawn so rich and sweet. (Refrain)
- 3. On that day, every true, faithful Christian, Each a worker who has gladly sacrificed, Like the Bride all adorned to meet her Bridegroom Will rejoice in the loving arms of Christ. (Refrain)

Invocation

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

 \mathbf{P} In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Prayer of Confession

- Brothers and sisters in Christ: God wants us to be holy! But we are all sinners, that is, we have all done wrong and we need God's forgiveness each day. For that reason we come before the Lord now to ask that he wipe away our sins and failures for Jesus' sake.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **G** who made heaven and earth.
- I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **G** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** We pray together:
- Lord God, we know that you do not want anything bad, anything unholy, in your presence, in heaven. However, in reality no one is truly holy and clean except you. Sin is in our hearts and we mess up all too often. We think, say, and do what we should not. You are different. You never sin and never fail in your love. Forgive us, Lord, and make us to be more like you. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

- Jesus Christ is the only true holy one, the only true "saint". But he carried our sins and died and rose again for us. Through Jesus we are forgiven. The Bible says that every believer is a saint, not because we have been perfect, but because we have been pardoned. You who trust in Jesus Christ are forgiven, clean, and "saints", and there is a place in heaven set aside for you! In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

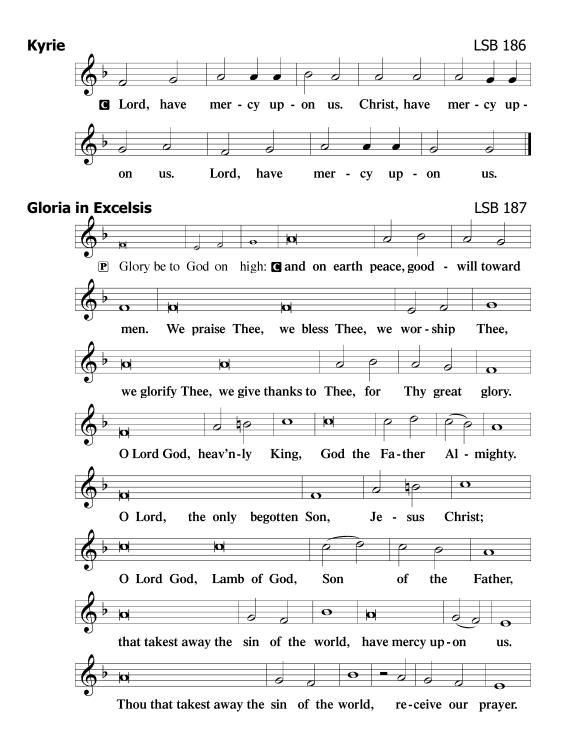
Service of the Word

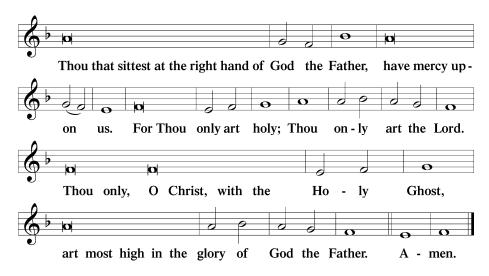
Responsive Reading

Malachi 4:1-2

- **P** The Lord almighty says, "Surely the day is coming.
- **G** It will burn like a furnace.
- P All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble,
- And the day that is coming will set them on fire.
- **P** Not a root nor a branch will be left to them.
- **G** But as for you who revere my name,
- P The sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays,
- And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves."







Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- E Let us pray.
- Heavenly Father, we long for the day when you will put an end to evil and make everything new. As we wait, please help us to trust in Jesus and to encourage others to trust in him also and be saved. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Daniel 12:1–3

(On the Last Day, the dead will be raised and believers will enjoy eternal life.)

"At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

- **R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

Psalm

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb! Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

Epistle

2 Peter 3:1-13

(On the Last Day, Jesus will return in glory and the earth will be destroyed and remade.)

This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation." For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

Mark 13: 1-13

(Before the Last Day there will be great suffering; but those who remain firm in Christ will be saved.)

As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?" And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.

"But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them. And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Song while Children Come to the Front: Heaven is a Wonderful Place

Heaven is a wonderful place, Filled with glory and grace. I want to see my Savior's face! Oh, heaven is a wonderful place! (I want to go there!)

Children's Message

Hymn: One Day (traditional melody)

 One day when heaven was filled with his praises, One day when sin was as black as can be, Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin, Dwelt among men – my example is he!

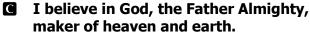
Refrain: Living, he loved me. Dying, he saved me. Buried, he carried my sins far away! Rising, he justified freely forever. One day he's coming! Oh, glorious day!

- One day they led him up Calvary's mountain. One day they nailed him to die on the tree. Suffering anguish, despised and rejected, Bearing our sins – my Redeemer is he! (Refrain)
- One day the grave could conceal him no longer. One day the stone rolled away from the door. Then he arose – over death he had conquered. Now he's ascended, my Lord evermore! (Refrain)
- One day the trumpet will sound for his coming. One day the skies with his glories will shine. Wonderful day, my beloved ones bringing; Glorious Savior – this Jesus is mine! (Refrain)

Sermon The Last Day

Stand

Apostles' Creed



And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Sit

Offering

The Bible says: "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income." (1 Corinthians 16:2a, NIV). In response to God's great love, as part of our worship we set aside a portion of what he has given us, for the mission and ministry at this congregation and throughout the world.

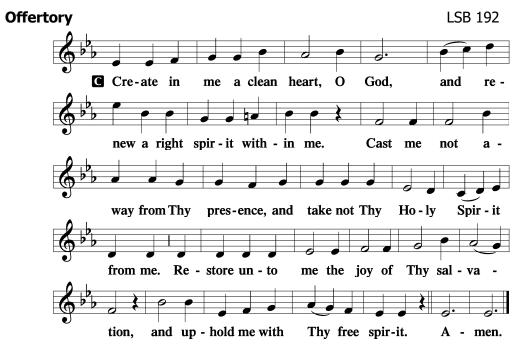
Choir Anthem during the Offering Precious Lord, Take My Hand-Thomas A. Dorsey

- Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand. I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
- When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near, When my life is almost gone. Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
- 3. When the darkness appears and the night draws near, And the day is past and gone, At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Stand

Offering Prayer of Dedication

A Almighty God, thank you for saving us through Jesus Christ. Bless these offerings and use them to proclaim the name of Jesus in every part of the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.



Prayer of the Church

God's Word tells us that he loves us and hears our prayers, and so we put our problems and concerns before him:

- Lord God, thank you for your great love for us! You are with us through thick and thin here on this earth, and you will be by our side forever in glory. Hear us and help us with the challenges we face today. Lord, in your mercy,
- G Hear our prayer!
- Lord, show your power in our lives. Help us to leave behind our old, selfish ways and to live the new life which you have opened for us. Help us to be more and more like you. Lord, in your mercy,
- Hear our prayer!
- Lord Jesus Christ, Rouse your church to action and help us to proclaim your salvation to every human being. Raise up faithful pastors and missionaries and church leaders; strengthen those who are suffering for their faith; and guide all of us Christians to be good witnesses to your love and salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

• Hear our prayer!

Heavenly Father, we bring before you all our needs and problems and worries. For peace and justice in our country, in Israel, in the Ukraine, and around the world, we cry for help to you. Lord, in your mercy,

• Hear our prayer!

Lord God, please help those who are suffering. We pray for those who are sick or lonely or grieving or facing great difficulties, particularly those in our congregation and our friends and family: (See our prayer list at the end of the bulletin.) Lord, in your mercy,

G Hear our prayer!

Heavenly Father, help, protect, and bless our families and especially the children at our church and preschool. Guide and give strength and love to our preschool teachers, our Sunday School teachers, and our youth leaders. Bless the boy scouts who meet here. Lord, in your mercy,

• Hear our prayer!

Dear Jesus, guide and help everyone who serves in your church, especially our brothers and sisters in this congregation who are elders, on the council, Bible study leaders, music ministry leader, church secretary, helping with altar care, running the sound system and internet, cleaning the church and preschool, serving as ushers and acolytes, bringing food, fixing and maintaining everything, or serving in any other way. Encourage them and bless their work! Lord, in your mercy,

• Hear our prayer!

Lord God, bless those who have served or who are now serving in the armed forces to defend the people of this country. Protect them from harm and from temptation, and help them in their calling. Be near them and help them to trust always in you. Lord, in your mercy,

• Hear our prayer!

Merciful God, hear our prayers, not only what we have expressed with our lips, but also the requests we have made silently, in our hearts. We trust in you alone. Because of your great love, Lord,

G Amen.

Today we honor and recognize our veterans and those who are currently serving our country in the armed forces.

Suyapa Velasquez (Army – Active) Justine Allen (Army – Active) Turner Allen (Marine Corps Veteran) Jesse Faugstad (Army – Active) Joseph Karl (Army – Active) Max Balgemann (Air Force Veteran) Andrew Barber (Army Veteran)

Ricardo Bullard (Army Veteran) David DeMartelaere (Army Veteran) Merle DeMartelaere (Navy Veteran) Charles "Russ" DeWitt (Army Veteran) **Bob Gallagher (Army Veteran)** Melanie Gallagher (Army Veteran) Paul Garcia (Army Veteran) Humberto "Tito" Holguin (Marine Corps Veteran) Kent Kaneer (Air Force Veteran) Johnny Kielas (Army Veteran) **Omar Moreno (Army-Veteran)** Richard Neal (Army Veteran) Bryan Perdue (Air Force Veteran) Elizabeth Perdue (Air Force Veteran) Gilbert Provencio (Army Veteran) Jerry Rust (Army Veteran) Jan Ryberg (Air Force Veteran) **Ron Seiders (Army Veteran)** Brian Stickney (Army Veteran) David Tuchenhagen (Army Veteran) Thomas Wade (Air Force Veteran) Elliott Werner (Army Veteran) Don Willadsen (Army Veteran)

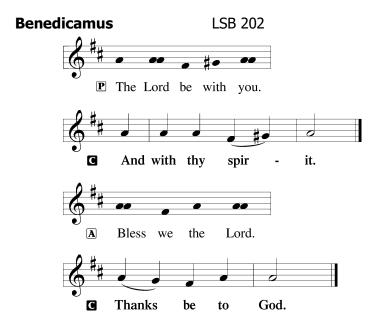
Lord's Prayer

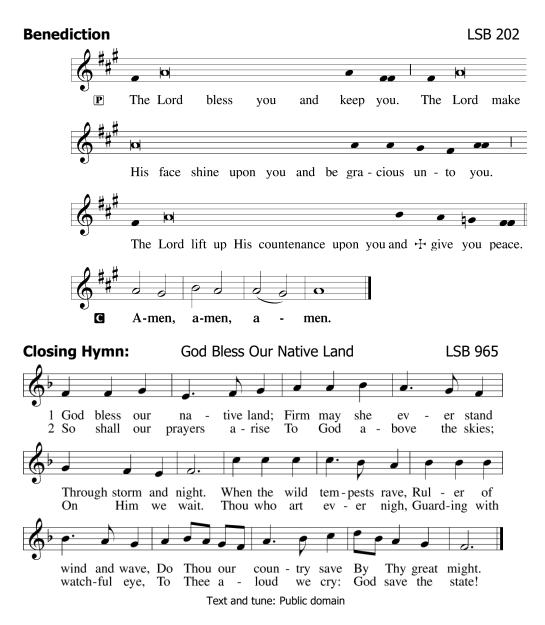
- **P** Lord remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- **C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Thanksgiving LSB 200 Image: Constraint of the state of the

Closing Prayer

- **P** Let us pray.
- Heavenly Father, I give you thanks and praise because you have strengthened my faith and because you have forgiven me through Jesus Christ your Son. Help me now to live a life worthy of you, founded on your Word and full of your love. In Jesus' name. Amen.





Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Worship Leaders

Pastor:Rev. Richard SchlakOrganist:Ruth Ann OstergrenElder:Dave TuchenhagenAcolyte:Aden MoralesReader:Kristal WadeUshers:Team 2

Ascension News & Notes

Ascension,

Thank you for all your love and prayers. My surgery went well, and I will soon be back to dancing.

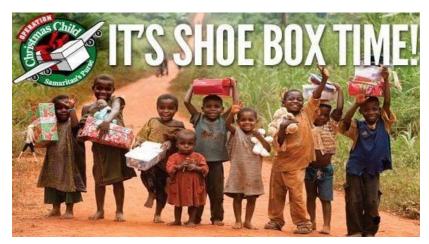
BJ

Ronald McDonald House



Please save the aluminum pull tabs from canned drinks and bring them to the kitchen area or the church office.

They are used by the Ronald McDonald House to provide a home away from home for hundreds of families with seriously ill children.



October 13- November 17, 2024 We are accepting shoeboxes until November 17.





THANKSGIVING-FOOD-DRIVE

A food offering is being collected for **Ysleta·Lutheran·Mission** for Thanksgiving Week. Below is a list of the **items** they have requested:

CORN (Canned) Green Beans (Canned) Mixed Vegetables (Canned) SUGAR (Box or Bags) FLOUR TOP RAMEN NOODLE SOUP BEANS (Dry Bags) RICE (Box or Bags) COOKING|OIL CEREAL PASTA MACARONI & CHEESE (Box)

Please join us as we celebrate God's provision and thankfulness for His blessings.

The Food Drive food items can be brought to church

through Sunday, November 24.

"For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God."...

2-Corinthians-4:15



Zion has a new pastor. Pastor Triplett has accepted the call. The Installation Service for Pastor Triplett will be at Zion on November 24, 2024 at 3:00pm.





IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME!

WE NEED ALL HANDS-ON DECK TO HELP IN DECORATING THE CHURCH ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2024 @9:00 AM



THE ADVENT MIDWEEK SOUP SUPPER IS SET TO BEGIN ON WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4 FROM 6:00 PM-7:00 PM AND THEN WORSHIP AT 7:00 PM. WATCH FOR THE SIGN-UP SHEETS! THE SOUP SUPPER DATES ARE 12/4, 12/11, AND 12/18.





Tuesday, December 31 @ 5:00 PM

New Year's Eve We will resume our regular schedule on Sunday, January 5, 2025.



COME JOIN US AFTER THE NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP SERVICE ON TUESDAY 12-31-24 FOR FELLOWSHIP AND DINNER AS WE USHER IN THE NEW YEAR! ALL ARE WELCOME!

WE HAVE RESERVED SPACE AT THE GREAT AMERICAN STEAKBURGER. ADDRESS: 701 S. MESA HILLS DR., EL PASO, TX 79912 FOR 6:30 PM. PLEASE CALL THE WIEGERTS (915)581 -5566 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO THAT WE CAN GIVE THE RESTAURANT A HEAD COUNT.

This Week @ Ascension Sunday (November 10)

9:00 AMAdult Bible Study10:00 AMFellowship10:30 AMWorship11:45 AMConfirmation

Monday (November 11) No Preschool- Veteran's Day Church Office Closed

Tuesday (November 12)

11:00 AMPreschool board Meeting (FH)6:30 PMLadies Bible Study via Zoom6:30 PMBoy Scouts (FH)7:00 PMMen's Bible Study (L)

Wednesday (November 13)

- 9:00 AM Preschool Chapel
- 11:00 AM Sit & Sew (FH)

3:00 PM December Newsletter due in the office

Thursday (November 14)

9:45 AM Women's Bible Study (FH) 6:00 PM Choir (S)

Friday (November 15)

12:30-2:30 PMPreschool (FH)

Saturday (November 16) 10:00 AM LWML Meeting (FH)



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Prayer Ministry Philippians 4:6-7

Please call the church office @ 915-833-1009 to include a prayer request for the bulletin.

If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, please e-mail Jan Schlak at <u>oveja6925@aol.com</u>.

The passing of **John Bearman**, (pray for peace and comfort for the Walker Family).

The passing of **Peggy Bartel** (pray for peace and comfort for her twin sister, Kathy Najera, and all the family and friends).

The passing of **Ruth Hibbs** (former member of Ascension, pray for peace and comfort for the entire family

Illness and Recovery:

Henri Reulet (great-grandson of Jan Schlak and grandson of Pastor Schlak and Maritza pray for guidance with eating difficulties); Barb Spott (for successful upcoming cataract surgery and recovery); BJ Schwab (recovery from hip surgery); Melissa Reddick (friend of Barbara Lewis diagnosed with inoperable cancer pray for peace and comfort); **Richard Neal** (husband of Martha Neal recovery from stroke and for peace and strength for Richard and Martha); Abigail Kailukatis (friend of Jan Schlak's daughter Elizabeth for correct diagnosis and effective treatment); Lupita Burke (Ascension Preschool Teacher recovery from fracture); Merle DeMartelaere (father of David DeMartelaere correct diagnosis and treatment for for Edema and AFib); Marcy LaFramboise (friend of Connie Swinney recovery from Multiple Myeloma); David Kwiatakowski (friend of Connie Swinney recovery and treatment for brain cancer); Gilbert Provencio (for healing and correct diagnosis); Mary Lou Provencio (pray for peace and guidance); Bob Brock (brother-in-law of Mike Mielke recovery from heart issues); Ruby Lugo (sister of Jessica Acosta and co-worker of Sally Benitez and Kristal Wade for recovery from heart issues); Troy Wade (brother of Kristal Wade who lost his home in the Ruidoso Fire); Maria Sotero (mother of Leticia Behl diagnosed with uterine cancer and blood clots); Jim Werner (brother of Elliott Werner successful treatment of and healing from cancer); Tom Wade (father of Kristal Wade for recovery from surgery and a broken neck); Brian Stickney (recovery from cracked ribs); Rebekah Livesay (For healing and correct diagnosis); Barb Spott (For recovery); Susanne Warren (former member of Ascension recovery from surgery for a broken femur); Joe Karl (recovery from ACL surgery); Dick Seiders (father of Ron Seiders healing from cancer and recovery from hip surgery); Jesus Rivera (friend of Elliiott Werner diagnosed with non-Hodgkins Lymphoma stage 4); Mary Spott (Barb Spott's niece Keighley Spott's mother heart related issues); Jacob



Meraz (pray for Jacob and family); Ann Perdue (relief from Osteoarthritis); Amanda Bowser (friend of the Walker Family recovery from cancer); Donna Welch (sister of Candice Gebler heart issues); Sherri Pfeifer Wilson (niece of Vicki Pfeifer cancer); Patty Jones, (sister of Martha Neal-stage 4 breast cancer); Robert and Karin Gaudet, (restoring relationships); Sean Sweeney, (brain tumor); Eunice Goldsmith, (ongoing medical issues); Laurie Sterling, (colon cancer); Bruce Walker, (being treated for Parkinson's); Coby Clark and family, continued cancer recovery); Elizabeth Hinson, (recovery from brain aneurysm); Ryan Walker, (cancer is in remission), Mariella Kraus, (cancer), Kathy Kiphart, John Weiske, Bob Gallagher, Linda Seiders.

If you have an update to the status of those on our prayer list, please contact Jan Schlak or the church office.