THE DIVINE SERVICE

OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT + 15 DECEMBER, 2019



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod 902 S. Maple Inglewood, CA 90301-3824 tgslcms.org



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

"A Church where God gives and we receive"

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 - Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director

Welcome to our Divine Service! We are pleased that you are with us.

The entire service, including the *rubrics* of when to sit and when to stand and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.

Worship Notes

Thoughts to Ponder Before the Divine Service

Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church! We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our beliefs and practice, please see the pastor. He will be happy to visit with you at your convenience. *Please see our statement on Holy Communion on p. 14.*



Synod Sentences for Second Sunday in Advent (Gaudete)

John the Baptizer Prepares the Way for the Lord

The voice of the Baptizer cried out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord . . ." (Isa. 40:1). John called the people to be made ready for the Messiah's coming through repentance, for "all flesh is grass" (Isa. 40:6). Now

He asks from prison, "Are you the one who is to come . . .?" (Matt. 11:2). Jesus' works bear witness that He is. The sick are made well; the dead are raised, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. Their iniquity is pardoned; they have received from the Lord's hand double forgiveness for all their sins. The "stewards of the mysteries of God" (1 Cor. 4:1) still deliver Christ's overflowing forgiveness to the poor in spirit, comforting God's people with the word of the Gospel which stands forever. This Gospel produces rejoicing among all those who believe.

Rose-Colored Rejoicing! The Third Sunday of Advent has historically been called "Gaudete." It gets that name from the first word of the Introit we sing this morning: "Rejoice." Rejoice because of God's righteous acts! Rejoice because of His mighty deeds! And, now, this morning, rejoice because we draw one Sunday nearer to

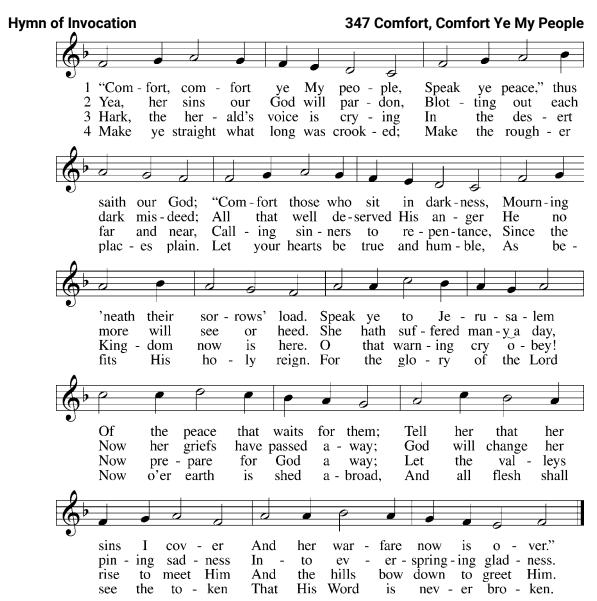
The Surface Adult

Bethlehem, to the manger, and to this Child, born of Mary. That call to rejoice is also why the candle turns a rosy color today. It's what you get when you take the traditional violet color of repentance for Advent, and mix it with the brilliant white of Christmas: Rose-colored rejoicing.

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Georg Boehm (1671-1733)

Confession and Absolution



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

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

Exhortation LSB 184

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession of Sins

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution LSB 185

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

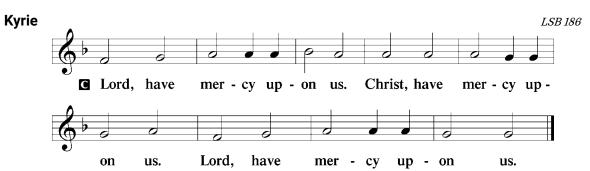
Introit

Psalm 85:1-2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4-5

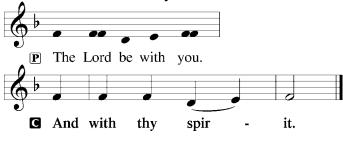
Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again | will | say, Rejoice.
Let your reasonableness be known to |
everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.
LORD, you were favorable | to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of your | people;*
you covered | all their sin.
Will you not revive | us again,*
that your people may re- | joice in you?
Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*
for he will speak peace to his people, to his
saints; but let them not turn back to | folly.







Salutation and Collect of the Day





Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11



¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand

double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry!"
 And I said, "What shall I cry?"

 All flesh is grass,
 and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

 The grass withers, the flower fades
 when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
 surely the people are grass.

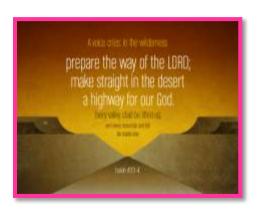
 The grass withers, the flower fades,
 but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,

 O Zion, herald of good news;
 lift up your voice with strength,
 O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
 lift it up, fear not;
 say to the cities of Judah,

 "Behold your God!"

 ¹⁰Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him;
 behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.
 ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.



- P The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm 80:1–2

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.*
Stir up your might and come to | save us!
Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*
you who lead Joseph | like a flock!

Epistle 1 Corinthians 4:1–5

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.



- **P** The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand



Holy Gospel Matthew 11:2–11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John:

"What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? "What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. "What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet."

10 This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."







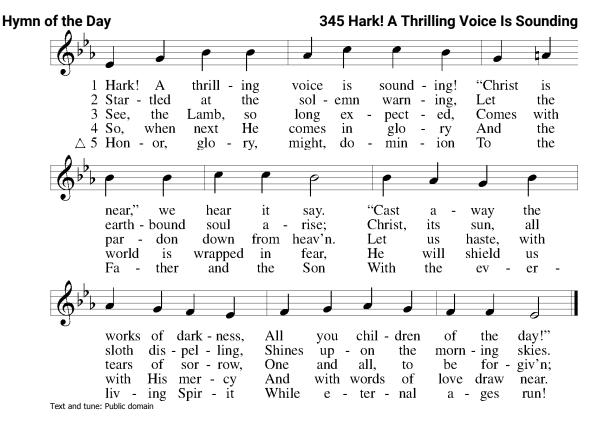
Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father. by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven. and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life

of the world to come. Amen.



Sermon Pr. von Hindenburg

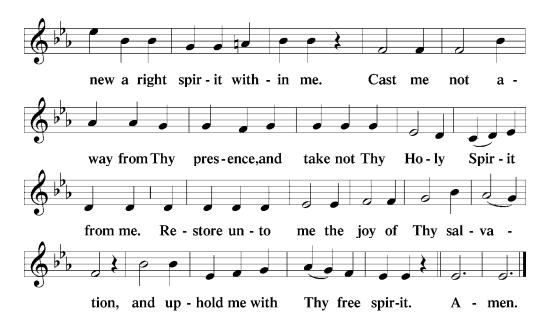
Votum

- P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- Amen.

Offering

Stand





Prayer of the Church

Response to petitions is, "hear our prayer".

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

- For the Church, that she would rejoice in the glad tidings of her coming Savior and be comforted by the Good News of His perfect life and sacrificial death for her salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
- For our pastors, that they would regard themselves as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God, and that they may be found trustworthy as they carry out their duties, let us pray to the Lord:
- For our congregation, that we would forgive as we have been forgiven, give as we have been given to, and love as we have been loved, let us pray to the Lord:
- P For our president and all those in high positions of authority among us, that they may be guarded from every evil and kept from using their power for selfish gain, serving always with the common welfare of all in mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- P For the homeless and the hungry and those who suffer want through unemployment and underemployment, including *Abai, Charlotte, James, Lucy, Martin, Rodgers, and Susan* that they may receive the help that they

- need, and that we, as God's blessed children, would always stand ready to assist those in need, let us pray to the Lord:
- For the sick and suffering, and especially for Alice, Bonnie, Charles, Clinton, Cynthia, Dalton, David, Debra, Deneice, Ed, Irmgard, Janice, Jod, Johnathan, Katheryn, Ken, Lynette, Marc, Marie, Marilyn, Marion and her family, Marjorie, Michele, Moira, Olivier, Richard, Royce, Stephen, Stephen, Tuomo and Wayne, that the One who gives sight to the blind, heals the lame, cleanses the lepers, gives hearing to the deaf, raises the dead and preaches good news to the poor may sustain them in their trials with His compassion and grant them healing in accord with His perfect will, let us pray to

the Lord:

- **P** For those who come to Zion's feast today, that they would rejoice in the gracious visitation of their Savior at the holy altar, receiving His very body and blood for the forgiveness of their sins and strengthening of their faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- For the prophets and all faithful saints who spoke in the name of the Lord before us, let us give thanks and praise to God; and for steadfastness in faith, that we might look with hope for the revealing of Jesus Christ, our great God and Savior, on the Last Day, let us pray to the Lord:



- Into Your hands, dear Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.

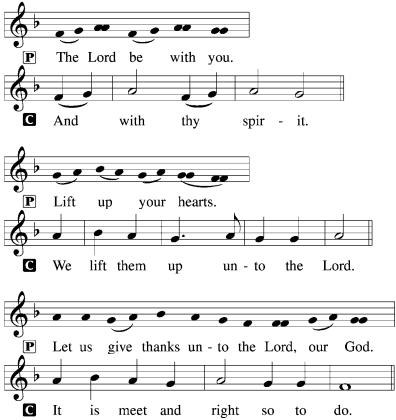
Service of the Sacrament

PASTORAL CARE AND HOLY COMMUNION: At The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, we celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Altar every Lord's Day. In this Sacrament, we joyfully receive Christ's true Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins.

As we celebrate the Sacrament, we also give public confession of our unity in the Christian faith (1 Cor. 10). Members in good standing of congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and congregations in which the LCMS is in Altar/Pulpit fellowship are asked to announce themselves to the pastor prior to the service. All others are invited to speak with the pastor regarding preparation for communion fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Those who are baptized but not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, kneeling with arms crossed at your

Please be assured that we do so not out of spiritual arrogance, but rather in a sincere desire to be faithful to our Lord's command and the apostles' teaching. For more information, please take one of the trifold brochures in the Narthex entitled, "Why?" Sacraments and Closed Communion. For scriptural reference regarding our Communion practice, please see the laminated cards located in the hymnal/Bible holder on the back of the pew.

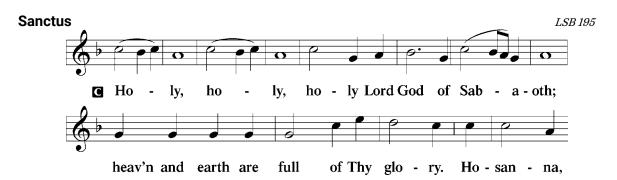
Preface LSB 194



Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 194

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:











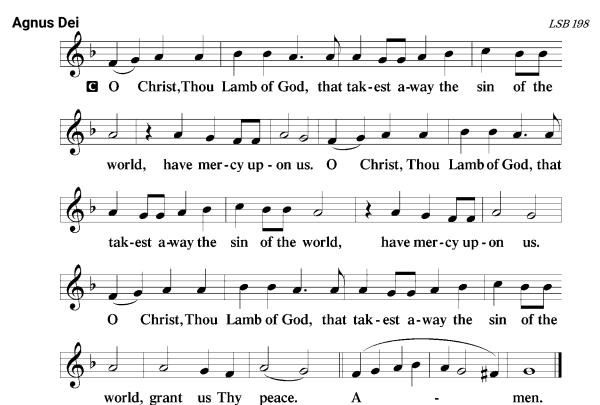


This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.





Sit

Distribution

Responses when receiving the true body and very blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and when your table is dismissed are:

LSB 199

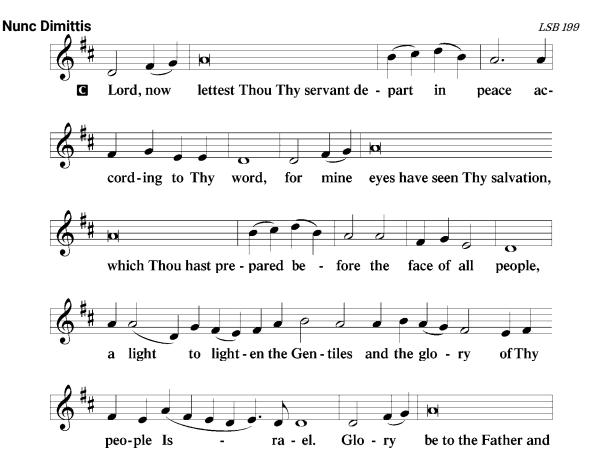
Amen, Amen and Amen.

When all have communed, you will be invited to stand, and the following is said:

The Dismissal

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

 → in peace.
- C Amen.





is now, and ev-er shall be, world without end. A-men.

Thanksgiving

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

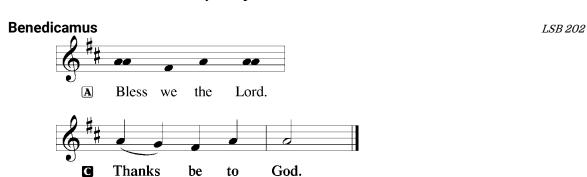
P Let us pray.

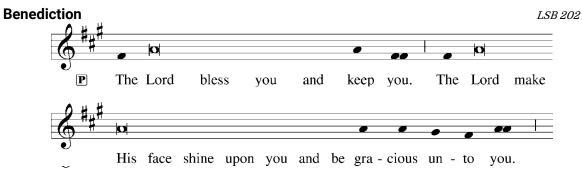
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You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





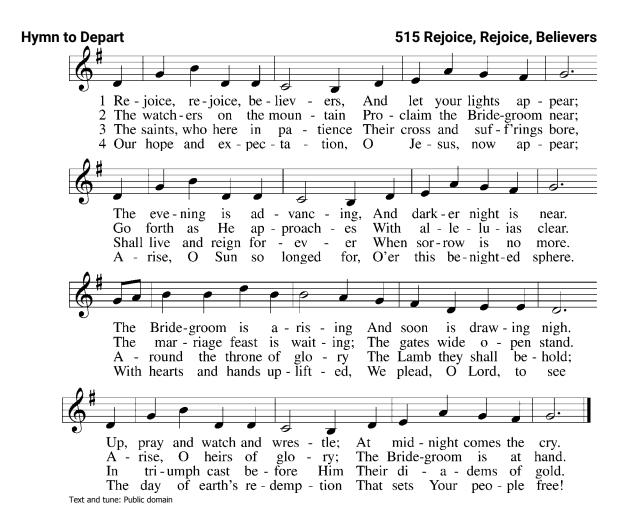






The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.





As the postlude is played, all are invited to follow Pastor down the center aisle to the narthex as we greet one another there.

Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding

Malcolm Archer (b. 1952-)

Service Acknowledgments

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Advent Midweek Services continue this Wednesday, Dec 18, at 7 pm. Plan to attend this Vespers service for a midweek spiritual refreshment!

Parish Announcements

+ Christian Education +

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD—"Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Blessed are You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes." (Psalm 119:11-12.) Each week the faithful gather to receive the Word of their Lord.

In addition to our **Divine Service** on Sunday at 10 am, and **Matins** on Tuesday at 11 am, we have opportunities to gather and study God's Holy Word:

Adult Bible Classes: Sunday at 8:30 and Tuesday at 11:30
Sunday School (ages 3+): Sunday at 8:30
Confirmation and Membership Classes: As requested
Matins will resume after the Feast of the Epiphany

STEWARDSHIP

Offerings for December 08: \$1310

Attendance: 21 Adult Bible Class/SS Attendance: 6

Offerings for Dec 4: Attendance: 16

Today Altar Guild: Karina Greeting: Norm&Royce

Next Week, Dec 22 Altar Guild: Gayle



We will decorate the Church for Christmas after Divine Service **next week**, on Dec 22. Plan to stay after and help a little or a lot: many hands make light work, and there will be refreshments!



Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols will be at **4 pm**.

Wednesday, December 25: The Christ-Mass Service will be at 10 am.



Thanks for all the food and supplies donated during November for Lutheran Social Services Long Beach. Leon and Gayle took it all down to them last week!



Upcoming Birthdays:

Dec 21: Erika; Claudio Dec 22: Karina Dec 23: Johnathan

We Pray For...

Abai - peace of mind, clarity, direction (K)

Alice – recovering from surgery

Bonnie:Pr's cousin - liver cancer **Charles**:Pr's brother – heart issues

Charlotte: Jamesetta's mother, wife of Pr.

Kollie - financial, strength (L)

Clinton – recovering from surgery; grieving

The Conrad Family – our missionaries in

Mexico

Cynthia - our TGSLC shut-in

Dalton - chronic sciatica

David - DD shut-in

Debra: Jod's cousin - recovering from

cancer

The DeGroot Family and St. Andrew's Lutheran Church – our missionaries in

Albuaueraue

Deneice – breast cancer recovery

Hope Evangelical-Lutheran Church,

Fremont, CA – as it goes through the process of calling a new pastor

Irmgard – 89 y.o. with heart, lung, and vision issues

Rev. James Kollie:Jamesetta's father and our Missionary in Liberia; wisdom and strength (L)

Janice – breast cancer recovery

Jod – peace of mind, attacks from the

Enemy, recovery from auto/bike accident

Johnathan – strengthening of faith

Katheryn:Karina's mother - various health issues

Ken - wisdom

Kevin – at university

Lucy – peace of mind, strength,

resettlement process (K)

Lynette - strengthening of faith

Marc – complications with diabetes

Marie – recovering from surgery

Marilyn:Stephen's mother - various health issues

Marion and her family – various health

issues around the country

Marjorie - bladder cancer

Martin - financial, various health (K)

Michele – strength

Moira – hospitalized in her third trimester of pregnancy

Naomi:seminary student – chronic heart issues (K)

Olivier:seminary student – chronic headaches, exams

Rodgers - employment (K)

Royce - health issues

Stephen – COPD, other health issues

Stephen K - prostate cancer

Susan – financial, good health (K)

Family of Thomas: Clinton's brother -

grieving their loss

Tuomo – severe attacks from the Enemy as he shares the Word in East Africa (K)

Wayne: Norm&Royce's son – blood clots on lungs

(K) – person living in Kenya

(L) - person living in Liberia

It is our joy to pray for you!

If you'd like a request to be added or one of yours deleted, just let Karina know.

<u>Sermon Notes</u>	Message Overview
Scripture Text	
Key Points on Law/Sin/Repentance	
Key Points on Gospel/Grace/Love	
	Things to Study Further