

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 22, 2022

SERVICE OF WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION AT 8:30 A.M. and 11 A.M.

We are honored that you are joining our worship today. Today's service begins in the narthex (lobby). If participating in the palm processional is physically difficult for you, you are welcome to begin in meditation in the nave (worship space).

Welcome

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

Worship Aids

In this worship bulletin, worshipers are invited to stand at the places marked with an * and bold type denotes the congregation's response. Everything you need to participate in worship is found in this bulletin, except for the hymns which are found in the back third of the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship under your seat. Assisted hearing devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher; the chairs with arms are reserved for people with mobility limitations.

Children in Worship

We welcome all children to worship with us—including full participation in Holy Communion. Whether talking, crying, laughing, or singing, the sounds of children in worship are joyful sounds of praise. God put the wiggle in children, and we rejoice! Our Prayer Pond in the sanctuary and our unstaffed nursery are open for quiet, supervised play. Activity bags are available in the narthex. Children's bulletins are also available.

A Note About Our Livestream Service

Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. Most rearrow seats are out of view of the camera, but we cannot guarantee that any seat is off camera. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

A Few Requests

We ask that you silence your cell phone or electronic devices.
We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service.
Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE All Glory Be to God on High Max Reger

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

→ one God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the chaos of this world. Through the waters of baptism, rescue us, flood us with mercy, and drown our sin forever. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. Claim us again as your holy people. Amen.

P: Beloved of God, you have passed over from death to life. You are a new creation! In the name of the Beginning and the End, the Shepherd and the Lamb, your sin is washed away forever.

C: Amen.

*ENTRANCE HYMN
All Glory Be to God on High

ELW#410

All Glory Be to God on High



Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1485–1550; tr. composite Music: ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH, plainsong; adapt. Nikolaus Decius

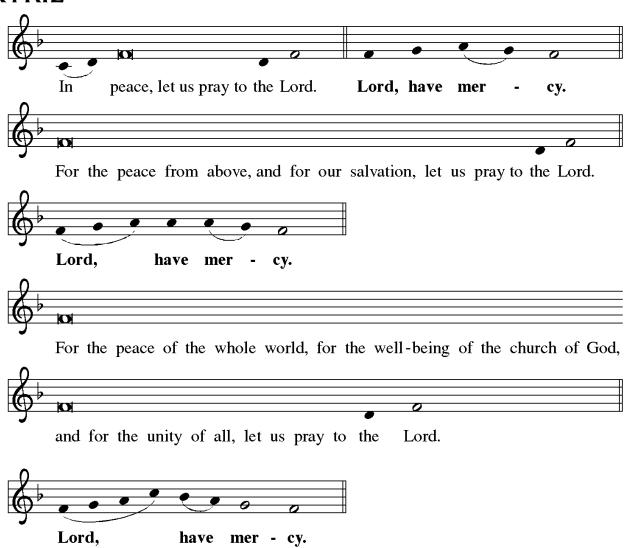
Text st. 1 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress; sts. 2–4 © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*GREETING

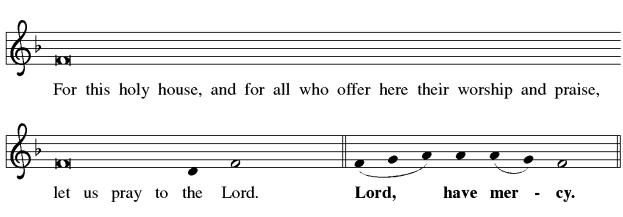
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.





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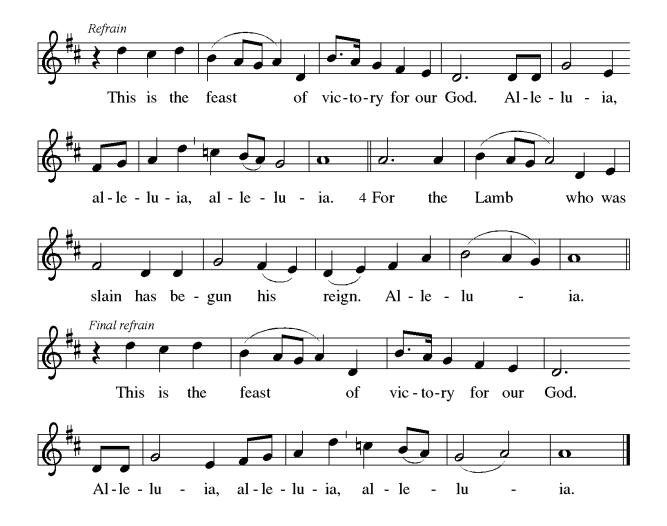
*HYMN OF PRAISE



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*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST READING

Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.

When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67



¹May God be merciful to | us and bless us; may the light of God's face | shine upon us.

²Let your way be known | upon earth, your saving health a- | mong all nations.

³Let the peoples praise | you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you.

⁴Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na-| tions on earth.

⁵Let the peoples praise | you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you.

⁶The earth has brought | forth its increase; God, our own | God, has blessed us.

⁷May God | give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.

SECOND READING Revelation 21:1-10, 22-22:5 And in the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the rulers of the earth will bring their glory into it. 5 lts gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing

its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more.

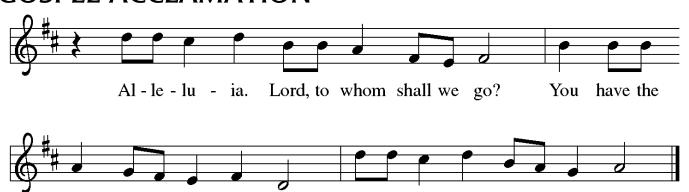
But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and the servants of God will do homage; they will see God's face, and on their foreheads shall be God's name. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

words of e - ter - nal



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

life.

John 5: 1-9, NRSV, emended

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

(After healing the son of a royal official in Galilee,) Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up. And, while I am trying to get there, someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath.

P: The Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pr. Lecia Beck

*HYMN OF THE DAY Lift Up Your Heads

ACS#1032



Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: WEST LEESTAD, Zebulon M. Highben, b. 1979 Text © 2013 Susan R. Briehl, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music © 2013 Zebulon M. Highben, admin. Augsburg Fortress

LITANY FOR BREAD FOR THE WORLD SUNDAY

P: Lord Jesus, you became human to inspire us to walk in your light. Lead us on the path to your justice and righteousness, as we advocate for better nutrition for a better tomorrow.

C: Christ Jesus, you remained divine to save the world from sin and liberate the oppressed. Forgive us for the unjust policies that prevent people from living into your calling on their lives.

P: Lord Jesus, you are the bread of life. Empower us, through fellowship at this table and by your grace, to be bread for the world as we participate in the urgency of your mission to end hunger and malnutrition.

C: Christ Jesus, you call us beyond ourselves to love others as our neighbor. Unite people of faith, people of good will, and all elected officials as one body committed to the common cause of global nutrition so that all your beloved children have the chance to not only survive, but also thrive.

P: Gracious God, you have called us, through your prophets and your Son, Jesus Christ, to live out your vision of a world without hunger. Trusting in your love and mercy, we lift our voices and pray alongside all those who suffer from malnutrition and its devastating impacts. We share your deep love and concern for all who experience hunger and poverty, and we desire that all may prosper and be in good health. Bless these letters and tools for writing letters that our words may touch the hearts and minds of our elected leaders and embolden them to increase our nation's commitment and investment in global nutrition programs. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the source of all our hope. C: Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

Each petition ends:

A: God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.

OFFERING

Please sign and pass the **Together In Community** pads. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service. These pads and pencils are sanitized at the end of each service.

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate by the door or you can also give on our website (stlconline.org). St. Thomas collects gifts to support our mission of sharing, living, and celebrating God's grace with all people. We support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners.

8:30 a.m. ORGAN IMPROVISATION

11 a.m. CHOIR ANTHEM Come Down, O Love Divine arr. David Ashley White

*OFFERTORY HYMN Let the Vineyards

ELW#182

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Offering Song



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

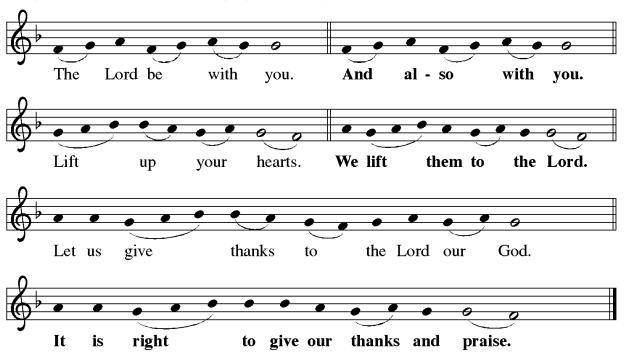
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

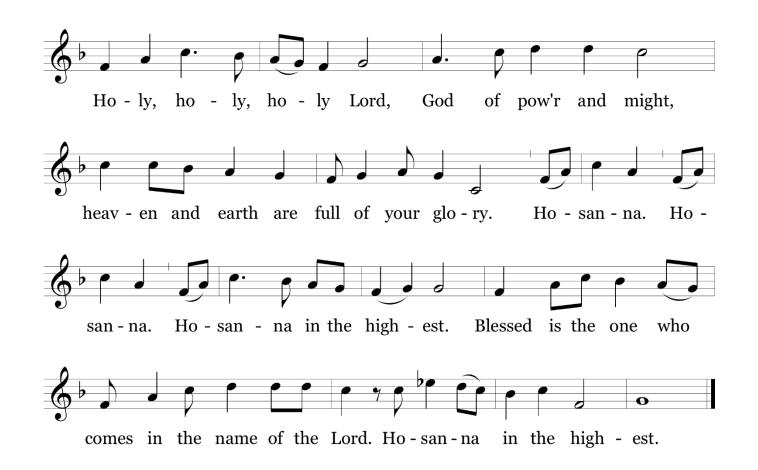
C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The thanksgiving may include this acclamation.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*LORD'S PRAYER

Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete.

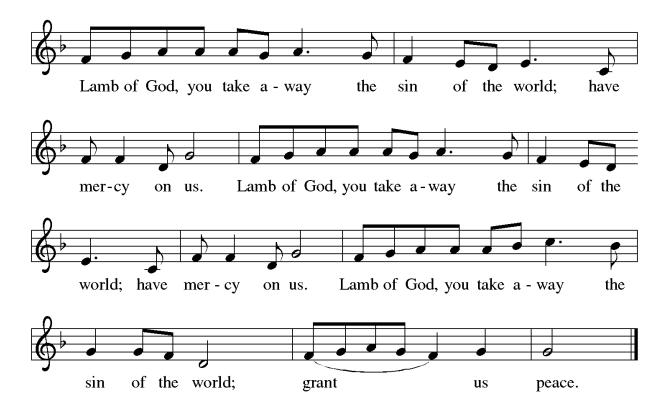
C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on Earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers are offered with pink wine or red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW#815

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



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Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

*EUCHARISTIC BLESSING C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

BLESSING FOR THE LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

P: A reading from Proverbs: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge God, and God will make straight your paths.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, for the ways you speak to us and through us. Increase in us a desire for wisdom and insight that we may use what we have learned for the sake of the common good. We pray in the name of the one who taught disciples and told stories, Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

P: You have learned and taught.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: You have grown and matured.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: You have explored and created.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: You have loved and been loved.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: Now, enter into a season of rest and play.

And all God's people said:

C: Amen!

*BENEDICTION

P: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,

→ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN
Glorious Things of You Are Spoken

ELW#647

Glorious Things of You Are Spoken



*DISMISSAL

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Kenneth Leighton

We depart in peace to continue our worship in lives of witness to Christ's love in work, play, service, and care for creation.

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At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday May 22 Bread for the World Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Faith Formation for All Ages

11 a.m. Worship

Thursday May 26

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Sunday May 29

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

10:15 a.m. Worship

Monday May 30

Office Closed

Announcements

Summer Service Times Start Next Week

Today, Sunday May 22, is the last day of Sunday School. Starting Sunday, May 29 (Memorial Day weekend) the second service will begin at 10:15 a.m.

Bread for the World Offering of Letters

Join your voices with concerned Christians throughout the country in writing to support Food Stamps, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children), School Nutrition Programs, and the Global Malnutrition and Treatment Act of 2021 as part of Bread of the World's offering of letters. At the table in the narthex are partially started letters to Todd Young, Mike Braun, and Trey Hollingsworth. Please just add a sentence about why helping hungry people is important to you and add your name and address. We will address the envelopes and stamp them.

Directory Updates in Process

Starting today, please visit the table in the narthex to confirm or update your listing in the church directory. We want to confirm your name, address, phone number, email, and birthday before we print and distribute new directories. You can also reach us at parishadmin@stlconline.org to confirm or change your directory information, especially if you are attending the livestreaming worship.

Next Steps for Faith Formation

If you have been worshipping with St. Thomas for a while or are a member, you may be looking for a next step--a new way to be involved in the life of our community--or you might want to confirm your role. This month, we are asking our community to consider how you participate in our faith formation ministries (such as Sunday School, Bible Study, or small groups) and the gifts you bring, and then to sign up to participate or commit to leadership roles. Next Step forms are available today and online. When you fill out your form--one per person, please--be sure to include leadership roles you wish to continue and new roles you'd to embrace. Online

form: https://bit.ly/3L2Fwkl

A Call-Out for Outreach: Monday, May 23, 7 p.m.

Not currently involved in a committee at St. Thomas? Please consider joining the Outreach Committee! St. Thomas is working to revitalize our Outreach Committee. The committee is tasked with many things, including helping new members become integrated into the life of the congregation; generating ideas to invite people to our church; and expanding our commitment to Lutheran Campus Ministry and Reconciling in Christ. Please join us for our first meeting, in person in the conference room. Contact Dawn Bakken at debakken@msn.com with any questions.

Vacation Bible School This June

Gather around the Tree of Healing! Join us for VBS as we consider what health means and how God invites us to share in the building of a just world where all can enjoy the gifts of God's creation. We will gather on Sundays, June 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 12 -2 p.m. Come for all the weeks or just one when we will explore a Bible story and learn about God's promise and God's will for all the nations to experience healing. Please register your child or children online: https://bit.ly/3FHdKcv Volunteers are needed to help in many areas. If you are interested in helping make this program happen, please email Kris Stewart at nonniekris@gmail.com or Pastor Lecia pastorleciabeck@gmail.com.

Graduates

We want to celebrate with you! Please email the church office at parishadmin@stlconline.org with information about any upcoming graduations. We will bless high school graduates in worship in June.

Young Worship Leaders

Students in second grade and up who have been trained as acolytes are able to sign up to serve. Students who are fluent readers are welcome to sign up as lectors. Sign up here: https://bit.ly/36ECuVc.

Pizza with the Pastor

You've been worshiping with us for a while. You've even taken a next step to get more involved. Are you ready to become a member? Becoming a member is to be committed to the future of St. Thomas Lutheran Church and the community that dwells here. Before you dive into membership, we want to be sure you have ample opportunity to ask about what we believe, what we do, and where we believe God is calling our congregation. Join Pr. Adrianne for Pizza with the Pastor after the second worship on Sunday, June 12. Afterwards, if you wish to join St. Thomas as a member, we will receive you on **Sunday**, **June 19** at the worship service of your choosing (if you're ready to make this step now, attendance at Pizza with the Pastor is not required). RSVP to Pr. Adrianne at pastoradrianne@gmail.com.

Mission Committee Book Club

On **June 21 and June 28 at 7 p.m.** the Mission Committee will be hosting a discussion of the book, *The Ungrateful Refugee: What Immigrants Never Tell you*, written by Dina Nayeri, who was herself a refugee. "Nayeri weaves together her own vivid story with the stories of other refugees and asylum seekers in recent years, bringing us inside their daily lives and taking us through the different stages of their journeys, from escape to asylum to resettlement," according to the book's summary. The discussion will be in-person in our conference room, masks required. Copies of the book are available in the church office to borrow.

Poetry to Support Solar Array

In support of our new solar array, Betty and Jerry Smith offer a few copies of *Through Our Eyes*, a book of Jerry's poems and his niece Patty Alheim's photographs. You are welcome to a copy of this book, or Jerry's second book of poetry, *Errant Thoughts*, for a donation to our solar project. Copies are available in the St. Thomas library.

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Care: Mary Sasse, Haley Hatton, Jennifer Garl

Bread/Wine: Gloria Hitchcock

8:30 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Ashley Ahlbrand

Lector: Sara Katuzienski

Ushers: Lynn & Ute Coyne

Greeters: Kari Esarey

Council Coordinator: Kari Esarey

11 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Lyman Hitchcock

Lector: Marilyn Saum

Ushers: Phil & Lissa May

Greeters: Randy & Nancy Nye

Council Coordinator: Dawn Bakken

The altar flowers this week are given by Gretchen Moehlmann in honor of Ila Risner's 11th birthday

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns Elif Ogan, Jan Ellis, Caretta Van Ruler, Anne Smith, Carole Kirsch, Tim Kirsch, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Audrey Alpers, Deborah O'Brien, Casey-Marie, Mike Ost, Seth Lahn, Erin Wyatt, Bob Osborn, Gwen Powell, Andrew Halvorson, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Jan Coulter, and Jeff Theis.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at skcolston@aol.com to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street Bloomington, Indiana 47401 Office Hours 9 a.m.- 4:30p.m. Phone: (812) 332-5252

stlconline.org Rev. Adrianne Meier,

Pastor

Partners in ministry with pastor@stlconline.org

Lutheran Church of the Living Waters

Cherokee, North Carolina

Rev. Lecia Beck, Minister of Youth and Christian Nurture christiannurture@stlconline.org

Linked with

Sister Parish

Igelsia Santo Domingo de Guzman, Chichipate Parish of San Pedro, El Estor, Izabal. Guatemala

Erica Whichello, Parish Administrator parishadmin@stlconline.org

In covenant with

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian, Campus Pastor <u>lutheran@indiana.edu</u>

Phone: (812) 333-2474

Icmiu.org

Mike Powell, Director of Music and Organist

> Dr. Dale Heidebrecht, Interim Adult Choir Director

> > Melissa de Graaf, Children's Choir Director

St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU are Reconciling in Christ Ministries

We are a Christ-centered community that lives, shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!