

**Sunday, February 4, 2024  
The Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**



**"Let us go on to the  
neighboring towns,  
so that I may proclaim the  
message there also;  
for that is what I came  
out to do."**

**Mark 1:38, NRSV**

**Holy Communion Lutheran Church  
2000 West Sixth Street  
Racine, Wisconsin**

**We Are Called**  
**A Contemporary Worship Service**  
**January 14, 2024**  
**Second Sunday of Epiphany**

*Special thanks to greeter Jo Nissen, assisting minister Carson Krenzke, lector Linda Godson, communion assistants Joan Fergus and Jean Veltman, audio-visual technician Kylee Albright, ushers Tim Krikau and Jim Buhler, altar guild Karen Johnson, Cindy Myhre, and Lynn Riekkoff, coffee fellowship Laura Jansen, councilperson in charge Andy Larson, the Senior Choir, and musicians Kate Potter Barrow, Gregg Albright and Gregory Berg for sharing their time and talent with us today.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**ALL: To do justice**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**All: To love kindness**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**All: To walk humbly with our God**

A.M.: We come to learn, to praise, to pray;

**All: We come to worship our God.**

# All Are Welcome

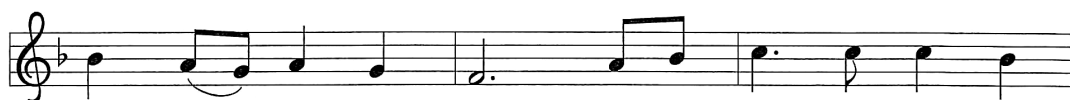
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1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 Music: Marty Haugen  
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TWO OAKS  
 96 86 87 10 and refrain

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## CONFESSION OF SINS:

P. In the presence of God, who knows our hearts and minds, let us confess our sin:

O Holy and loving God,

**We acknowledge to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we're not what you have called us to be. We have not always stood by our faith, shared our hope, or reached out with love. We have done unkind and shameful deeds, and we have left undone, deeds which could have made a difference in the lives of those around us. Too often, we have failed to speak and act for peace, justice, and kindness in our world.**

**Have mercy upon our repentance, forgive our sin, and change our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and loved by God. Go into the world with changed hearts and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ! **Amen.**

## GREETING:

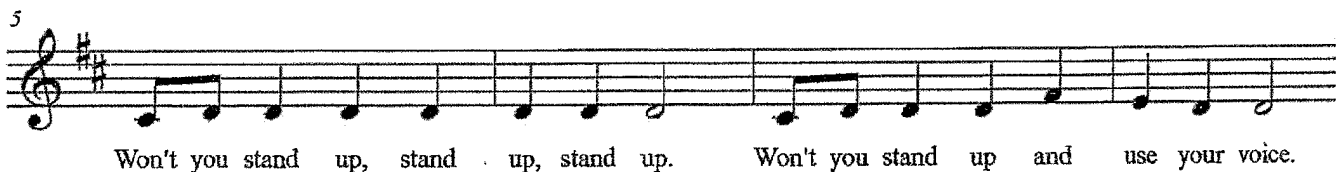
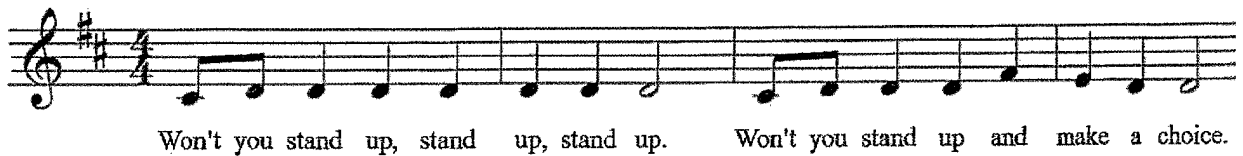
P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

## \*\*SONG: Won't You Stand Up

Solo: All the lonely people crying, it could change if we just get started.  
Lift the darkness, light a fire for the silent and the brokenhearted.

### Refrain:



Solo: With the comfort, there's a healing, high above the pain and sorrow.  
Change is coming, can you feel it? Calling us into a new tomorrow! **Refrain:**

Solo: When the walls fall all around you, when your hope has turned to dust.  
Let the sound of love surround you, beat like God's heart in each of us! **Refrain:**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A.M.: Oh God who breaks barriers down and welcomes all:

**All: You invite us to walk humbly by your side. You call us to act with justice.**

**By your works, you inspire us to serve one another.**

**We pray that you will give us the courage to make a difference in this world  
by treating people with respect and dignity, bringing healing to the broken,  
and living in your light so that those whose spirits are darkened by hopelessness and despair  
feel your shining presence and tender love.**

A.M. And all God's children say:

**All: Help us to walk humbly with you, O God! Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC    “*They Who Wait Upon the Lord*” (GB)    Senior Choir**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAY GO TO CHOIR**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31**

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

<sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;  
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

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

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

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

<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created these?  
He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;  
because he is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,  
“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.  
<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;  
<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: Psalm 147:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!  
**How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!**  
<sup>2</sup>The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem,  
**and gathers the exiles of Israel.**  
<sup>3</sup>The Lord heals the brokenhearted  
**and binds up their wounds.**  
<sup>4</sup>The Lord counts the number of the stars  
**and calls them all by their names.**  
<sup>5</sup>Great is our Lord and mighty in power;  
**there is no limit to God's wisdom.**  
<sup>6</sup>The Lord lifts up the lowly,  
**but casts the wicked to the ground.**  
<sup>7</sup>Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;  
**make music upon the harp to our God,**  
<sup>8</sup>who covers the heavens with clouds  
**and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**  
<sup>9</sup>God provides food for the cattle  
**and for the young ravens when they cry.**  
<sup>10</sup>God is not impressed by the might of a horse,  
**and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**  
<sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord,  
**in those who await God's steadfast love.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Cantor: We hear the ancient words of God, whose son once on this earth did trod. So we today could sing out, Hallelujah. With open mind and joyful heart, we listen, then we'll do our part—to help our broken world shout Hallelujah.

### REFRAIN

**All:**



## GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

The holy gospel according Mark, the first chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once.

<sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

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

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## REFRAIN

All:



**SERMON Pastor Mark Doidge**

**CHILDREN RETURN TO WORSHIP**

## We Are Called

720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to  
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so  
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.  
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



*Refrain*  
 We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957  
 Music: David Haas  
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WE ARE CALLED  
 Irregular

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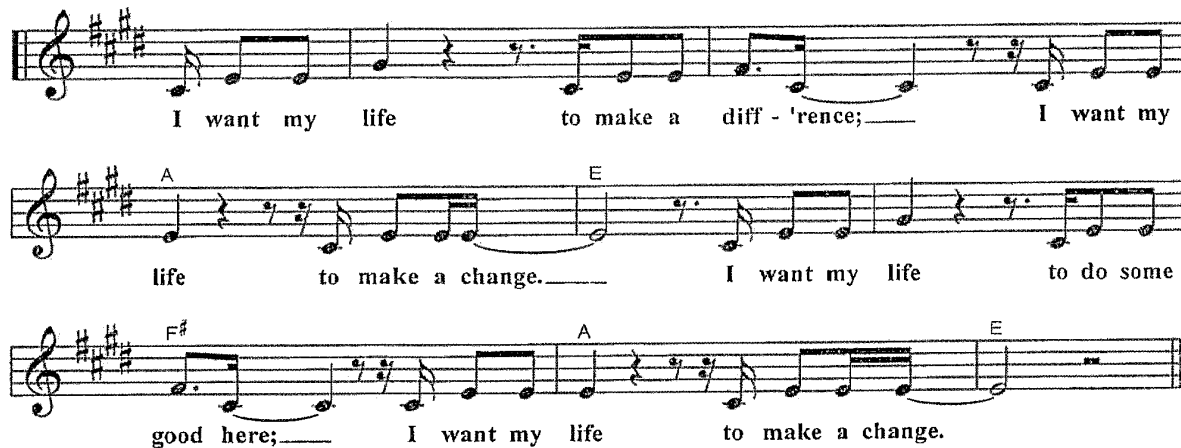


## MEAL

### INVITATION SONG: Make A Difference - Rachel Kurtz

Pastor: You gave your life to make a difference. You gave your life to make a change.  
You welcomed all to your table. You're calling us to do the same.

#### Refrain:



Solo: Working side by side, no out or inside,  
Together we can make that change.  
With a few or many, with a lot or not any,  
Together we can make that change! **Refrain:**

Solo: Crossing the great divide, Joy and peace will abide,  
Together we can make that change.  
Jesus is our peace, all fighting will cease  
Together we can make that change! **Refrain:**

#### Words of Institution:

Solo: We're the citizens with the saints, We're the sunshine with the rain.  
We're the joy with the pain. We're the change!  
You healed the sick and fed the poor. You loved the prophet and ended war.  
Through us you will do more, You're the change! **Refrain:**

Pastor: You gave your life to make a difference.  
You gave your life to make a change.  
You welcomed all to your table.  
You're calling us to do the same.

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**now and forever. Amen.**

**LAMB OF GOD:** *This song begins with a solo. Please watch the song leader who will invite you to sing when all instruments join after the interlude.*

D A . bm A G

Lamb of God you take a-way the sin of the world - have mer-cy

A D D A bm

6 on - us. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world

A G A D

12 have mer - cy on us.

D A bm G

Take a-way the ha-tred. Take a-way the chains - Take a way the

A G Asus D

6 hung-er take a-way - the pain Grant us peace.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING:

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## PROCESSION OF OFFERINGS AND PLEDGES

### OFFERTORY “Christ Be Our Light”

em bm em em C

1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for truth, -  
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the hearts that

7 D em am D em C A

we turn to you. Make us your own, — your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to  
yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er, signs of your kind - dom

15 Dsus4 D G C G em G C D

see. ——— Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
come.

23 Dsus4 D G C G em am D C C G

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

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## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Loving God, you are the creator of all that is, to the ends of the earth. Open our eyes to truly see the wonders of this planet, and help us to be steadfast in our determination to care for it wisely and to repair and restore it as best we can. Hear us, Loving God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You are mighty in power and have humbled even the most powerful rulers. Lift up leaders who will govern with wisdom, humility and selflessness - and help us as citizens to be wise and discerning in the choices we make, that together we might build a nation and a world that reflects your love and grace. Hear us, Loving God.

**Your mercy is great**

You strengthen the powerless. Soften our hearts and strengthen our resolve to live more compassionately. Open our eyes to injustice - and make us more aware of those in our community who have been shunted off to the side or treated unfairly. Help us to be more loving in both our words and our deeds and more attentive in our concern of all people. Hear us, Loving God.

**Your mercy is great**

You give help to the faint. Uplift all who are contending with illness, injury, exhaustion, anxiety, or discouragement. Today we especially remember..... Give them strength, and give wisdom and sensitivity to those who are caring for them. Hear us, Loving God.

**Your mercy is great**

You promise that we shall run and not grow weary when we call upon you for help. Bless all who feel weighed down or overwhelmed by responsibilities of work or family. Give us clarity and focus for life's most important tasks. And help us to cherish the gift of fun and to derive full pleasure and benefit from our athletic or artistic endeavors, that we may use our gifts and talents for your honor and glory. Hear us, Loving God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You help us to mount up with wings like eagles. In the midst of life's sorrows, losses and disappointments, grant us the gifts of patience, hope, and grace - and help us to put our ultimate trust not in ourselves but in your abundant and unfailing grace. Hear us, Loving God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Hear these spoken prayers and the unspoken prayers of our hearts, that we might receive the abundance and grace made perfect in Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

*Congregation, please join in singing the choruses of Amens.*

## DISMISSAL

A.M.: Go in peace, walk humbly with God, and serve all people with joyful hearts!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

*Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the lounge.*

## Announcements



### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar this morning were given by Jan Behrens in honor of the Holy Communion staff.

### **Welcome Visitors!**

A special welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please fill out one of the yellow cards in the pew rack in front of you so we can acknowledge your visit with us. You can put your completed card into the offering plate or give it to an usher or a pastor before you leave. Please join us in the lounge after worship for a treat and a time of fellowship.

### **Communion By Intinction**

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping of the wafer into the chalice of wine). There are also gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the center. We understand that not everyone will be comfortable with this practice yet, so the individual wafer/juice cups are still available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary if you feel more comfortable taking communion in your pew.

### **Annual Congregational Meeting Next Sunday After Worship**

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be after the 9:30 worship service next Sunday. The meeting will be live-streamed for those worshipping from home, but does not remain available to watch later. Please try to be here for this important meeting as we look back on 2023, vote on the proposed 2024 budget, and elect council members. Annual reports can be picked up in the back of the sanctuary and Welcome Center.

### **Youth Ministry Zone News**

2nd - 5th Grade Youth

The 2nd - 5th grade youth are invited to join the pastors in the Youth Room today from 11:00 - 12:00 for popcorn and playtime!

6th - 8th Grade Youth

Our 6th - 8th grade youth are invited to join Pastor Laura and Pastor Mark from 11:00 - 12:00 on Sunday, February 18th for an awesome and amazing time of fun, fellowship, and learning. Snacks will be provided.

### **New Member Class**

A new member class and luncheon will be held on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 11:00AM – 12:30. We welcome and invite all who are interested in becoming part of our church family here at Holy Communion Lutheran Church ☺. Lunch will be served, stories will be shared, and hopefully it will be a time of blessing for all. Please call Heidi in the church office (262-632-8802) or let Pastor Laura or Pastor Mark know you'll be joining us so that we can plan accordingly.



### **Monday Morning Bible Study Starts Tomorrow**

Following winter break, our study begins once again on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00AM. We meet together in the lounge and begin with a time of prayer. This spring, our study will continue to focus on the upcoming gospel reading for each Sunday. Hope you're able to join us and if you have any questions, please contact Pastor Laura ([pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com))

### **Ushers Needed!**

The February usher team needs help! We are looking for a couple people to help hand out bulletins, collect offering and guide people to communion. Can you help at least one of the Sundays in February? Please talk to ushers Tim Krikau or Jim Buhler, Barb Salvo, or the pastors if you are able to help.

### **February Birthday Club This Thursday**

Everyone with a February birthday is invited to the lounge this Thursday at 10:00 for a cup of coffee and a birthday donut! Hope to see all of you with February birthdays there!

### **Men's Group Meets February 9th**

The Men's Group will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the lounge on Friday, February 9th. All men are invited to join them for fellowship and discussion.

### **Food Pantry**

For January we are asking for donations of these items: canned peas, cereal, tomato soup, saltines, chicken noodle soup and bar soap. We can always use brown paper grocery bags and clean, lightly used plastic shopping bags. We are so grateful to everyone who helps the pantry through gifts of their time, food items, or monetary donations. It would not be possible to continue this ministry without you!

There is a continuing need for help with groceries in our community and our pantry is serving large numbers. In just 2 1/2 hours on January 26th we served 55 families (212 people) and on January 29th we served 56 families (140 people). On January 29th, 21 of those families were new clients to our pantry. We are extremely grateful to all of you who pick up an extra item or two when you shop, make monetary donations, or volunteer to come in and work with our clients or pack groceries. Your efforts are what make this ministry possible!

### **Cooking Class With Staci Joers**

Join us for another of Staci Joers fabulous cooking classes at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20. Staci will prepare a menu of delicious classics featuring Arancini (fried risotto stuffed with mozzarella) served with five-minute Marinara, Beef Bourguignon, Rice Pilaf, and Cannoli Pudding. The cost of the class is \$23. As of Feb. 2 there are only 2 spots left, so hurry and get your reservation in today!

### **Altar Flowers**

We still have many openings for altar flowers. Each vase costs \$25.00 and you may take the flowers home after worship or we can take them to a shut in. Currently we have no altar flowers February 18, April 30, May 26, June 23, and 30, July 7, 14, and 21, September 29, October 27, November 3, and December 8, 15, and 22. Many more dates are available for a second vase. Call the office if there is a specific date you would like to have flowers. Altar flower forms are available at the scrip table, in the office and the welcome center, and on the table in the back of the church.

### **Woof Gang Rescue Needs Puppy Food**

Can you help spread the love to some hungry rescue puppies this valentine season? Woof Gang Rescue needs puppy kibble - any brand, any size bag. HCLC financial administrator Keri volunteers at Woof Gang and she will be happy to deliver any donations you bring in. Thank you!

**Attendance last Sunday, January 28, 2024 - 130**

### **Warm Clothing and Blankets for the Hospitality Center**

If you have extra blankets, sheets, pillows or warm clothing, the Hospitality Center could use them! They give these items away throughout the cold weather season so you can bring them in until spring. You can put them in the back of the church on Sunday morning or bring them to the office during the week.

### **Adult Education in March**

After a short break Adult Education will return after worship on the second and third Sundays in March. Watch for more information in the March Chalice and upcoming bulletins.

### **Easter Plant Orders**

An Easter plant order form is on the back of the bulleting and are also available in the Welcome Center and on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Each plant is \$15.00 and you can pick yours up after the last Easter service. You can choose from a lily, tulips, hyacinths, mums, and regal geraniums and you may purchase as many plants as you wish. If you will not pick up your plant and have no preference, you can choose the committee choice option and a plant will be selected to balance the arrangement. Orders must be in the office by Wednesday, February 21st.

### **Family First Communion Preparation Classes**

Family First Communion preparation classes (3) will be held on: February 25<sup>th</sup>, March 10<sup>h</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. The First Communion celebration will take place on May 5<sup>h</sup> at the 9:30 a.m. service. If you believe your child(ren) are ready to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion and your family would like to be a part of this year's class, please contact Lisa Lequia at [sundayschool.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:sundayschool.hclc@gmail.com).

### **Upcoming Worship, Fellowship and Education Opportunities**

Monday, Feb. 5 - 10:00 am. Monday Morning Bible Study

1:00 pm Food Pantry

Thursday, Feb. 8 - 10:00 February Birthday Club

Friday, Feb. 9 - 9:00 Men's Group

1:00 Food Pantry

Sunday, Feb. 11 - 9:30 Worship & Sunday School

11:00 Annual Congregational Meeting

Monday, Feb. 12 - 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study

1:00 Food Pantry

6:30 Worship & Music Team

Tuesday, Feb. 13 - Quilting Group

Wednesday Feb. 14 - 9:30 Ash Wednesday Worship

10:00 Book Club

7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship

Friday, Feb. 16 - 1:00 Food Pantry

Sunday, Feb 18 - 9:30 Worship & Sunday School

### **Finance Update**

December Numbers

Revenue: \$91,279.75

Expense: \$55,876.09

Net Income: \$35,403.66

2023 Year-to-date umbers

Revenue: \$560,936.41

Expense: \$539,848.13

Net Income: \$21,088.28

1. Easter Lily



2. Tulip



3. Hyacinth



4. Mum



5. Regal Geranium



6. Committee  
Choice

# Easter Garden Plant Order

What a beautiful sight it is to see our sanctuary on Easter morning filled with flowering plants. The choice of plants this year include Easter Lilies, Tulips, Hyacinths, Mums, and Regal Geraniums. We are ordering the plants from Milaeger's. The Tulips, Hyacinths, and Mums will be in assorted colors. If there is not a specific plant you want, you can order "committee's choice" and a plant will be chosen to balance the color and variety of our display on Easter morning.

- **Orders MUST be in the office no later than Wednesday, February 21st.**
- Each flowering plant costs \$15.00. You may order as many as you would like.
- Plants may be picked up after the last service on Easter Sunday or the following week.
- Please refer to the numbers above the pictures when choosing your plants.
- Any questions? Call the office, 262-632-8802 or email Heidi at office.hclc@gmail.com

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Env. # \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up my plants \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Plants Ordered \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:	From:	Flower Number Or Name
In Honor or Celebration of:	From:	Flower Number Or Name