



**The Spirit of the Lord**  
is upon me, because  
he has anointed me to  
bring good news  
to the poor

LUKE 4:18

**Called by the Spirit, we serve Christ, sharing God's love with all.**

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**WEBSITE: [firstlutherantopeka.org](http://firstlutherantopeka.org)**

**1234 Fairlawn Road, Topeka, KS 66604**

**Church office: (785) 272-5302 CDO office: (785) 272-5999**

*Ministers*  
*Senior Pastor*  
*Coordinator of Stewardship and Outreach*  
*Children's Day Out (CDO) Director*  
*Caring for Kids 1<sup>st</sup> Director*  
*Organist*  
*Director of Music*  
*Director of Handbell Choirs*  
*Secretary*  
*Assistant Secretary*  
*Bookkeeper*  
*Missionaries in Russia*  
*Missionaries for Ripe For Harvest World Outreach*

*All Members of First*  
*Pastor Jenny Jackson*  
*Pastor Bob Dealey*  
*Julie Lamott*  
*Julie Bradley*  
*Jerry Anderson*  
*Mark Fuller*  
*Linda Anderson*  
*LaDonna J. Little*  
*Jill Loomans*  
*Cindy Crawford*  
*Rev. Bradn & Natasha Buerkle*  
*Jim & Dawn Anderson*

**A BRIEF WORD ABOUT WORSHIP PRECAUTIONS.**

**MASKS:** A mask must be worn during the entire time in church, covering the mouth and nose. This is done to provide protection for others and for your own safety.

**MAINTAINING SOCIAL DISTANCING IS A HIGH PRIORITY AT ALL TIMES DURING IN-PERSON WORSHIP:** All members are to maintain a 6-foot distance from other people/households at all times. This includes gathering in the parking lot, arriving or exiting through church doors, or standing in the fellowship areas. Ushers and greeters will be present to help with arrival, seating, communion, and departing church.



# THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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5:00 P.M. & 10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 22 & 23, 2022

*Before worship, talk to God. During worship, let God talk to you. After worship, talk to your fellow worshipper.*

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

PRELUDE “Trumpet Tune”

(D. N. Johnson)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

CHIMES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

C: Amen.

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

P: Rejoice in this good news: In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

C: Amen.

*Congregation shall sit.*

**886** GATHERING SONG “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

## TEMPLE TALK – The Art of Radical Hospitality

John Hanna

# WORD

*God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.*

### FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

*The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that "the joy of the LORD is your strength."*

<sup>1</sup>All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup>Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup>Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup>So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 19 *(Spoken Responsively with Lector)*

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

**<sup>2</sup>One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

**<sup>4</sup>their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**<sup>6</sup>It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**<sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

<sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**<sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

**<sup>12</sup>Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

**<sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

### **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

*The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.*

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31a</sup>But strive for the greater gifts.

**L:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: Alleluia.

**C: Alleluia! Lord and Savior: Open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia, Lord, we sing, for the good news that you bring.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.     **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21

*Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.*

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Congregation shall sit.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON

**Rabbi Moti Rieber**

## 709 HYMN OF THE DAY "When Our Song Says Peace"

### LITANY FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

**See Bulletin Page 15**

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

A: You reveal yourself to us in the reading of scripture. Fulfill your word through the faithful witness of your church. Send us out to bring your liberating good news to all people. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: All creation proclaims your handiwork. Teach us to love the intricate and beautiful bodies that you have created. Bless tiny insects, enormous whales, and every creature in between. Sustain species at risk of extinction. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You desire that there be no dissension among us. Where we are divided in our society, nation, or world, come quickly to reunite us into one body. Ease conflict, dispel violence, and bring an end to war. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Anoint with your Spirit all who seek your favor. Grant provision and justice for people living in poverty, people living with disability, those living with pain, or those living under oppression especially Sara, Joyce, David, Kevin, Laura, Lois and Phil, as well as our homebound members, all unable to worship this weekend, and all family, friends and even enemies we name now, either out loud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). Surround them with your unwavering presence. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Build up the body of Christ in this place. Bless the variety of ministries in this congregation. Empower us to freely welcome and deeply value each person who enters into worship and ministry among us. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: In thanksgiving we lift before you the saints for whom the promise of salvation has now been fulfilled. Tend to those who mourn. Bring us together in your everlasting glory. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Peace be with you. **R:** Peace be with you.

**Brief word about peace:** *As we practice Social Distancing, the sharing of the peace will take place as we remain in our pews: waving, bowing, blessing, or sharing the peace sign with our fellow worshipers.*

*Congregation shall sit.*

**OFFERING VOLUNTARY** *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

*(arr. P. Manz)*

**Brief word about offering:** *Offering plates are available at the back of the worship space, on the bulletin table. To give online, please go to [FirstLutheranTopeka.org](http://FirstLutheranTopeka.org) and click on 'contribute'.*  
***Please place attendance form in the offering plate.***

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe.

**C: You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

P: Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

*Congregation shall sit.*



## COMMUNION PRAYER “Lamb of God”

**C: O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; eternal peace with God you made:  
Give us your peace, we pray.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

**Brief word about communion:** *The process for receiving communion will be explained by the Pastor. For these services, wine or grape juice will not be distributed. Pastor will bring you communion in your pew. Hand sanitizer is available in the pews to use before receiving communion.*

## COMMUNION VOLUNTARY “Air”

(G.F. Handel)

*Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

**Congregation: Amen**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## BLESSING

P: God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, † bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## 551 SENDING SONG “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

**Brief word about dismissal:** *During the postlude, wait in your pew for an usher to guide you from the worship space and back to the parking lot. Since our fellowship space is small and social distancing nearly impossible in it, we encourage you to enjoy conversation in the parking lot while maintaining social distancing. May God go with you, sustain you, and renew your spirit.*

## DISMISSAL

A: Called by the spirit,

**C: We serve Christ, sharing God’s love with all.**

A: Go in peace. Let your light shine.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE “Psalm 19”

(B. Marcello)

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**WE WELCOME *Rabbi Moti Rieber***, the Executive Director of Kansas Interfaith Action (KIFA) as our preacher on Sunday. He has served as Executive Director of KIFA and its predecessor organization, Kansas Interfaith Power & Light, since March of 2011. He is a graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote, Pennsylvania and a life-long activist on peace, social justice, and environmental issues.

Visit [kansasinterfaithaction.org](http://kansasinterfaithaction.org) for more information about the work of KIFA and to learn how you can get involved.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** *are given by Bill & Shirley Perry in honor of their 51<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary.*

**ETERNAL CANDLE FOR JANUARY** *is given by Sue Wild in memory of her great aunt, Helen Radtke.*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:**

Sara Welch (home), Joyce Koenig (home), David Schmidt (home), Kevin Eaton (home), Martha Donohoe (home), Laura Martin (home), Lois Lykins (home), Phil Engelhardt (home), Verla Buch (home), Blake Hopper (home), Marilyn Tretcher (friend of Barb Collins), Linda Naugle (friend of Barb Collins), Linda Meyer (Verla Buch's sister-in-law), Shad Horchem (Shirley Perry's brother-in-law), Manny Ramos (Shirley Perry's nephew-in-law), Evelyn Ijams (CDO Student), Michael Kuner (friend of Mark Fuller), Heidi Mark (Bill & Joyce's daughter), Richard Holliday (Marian Orton's son), Amanda Gill (friend of Trudi Myers), Drew Hartz (Steve & Kathy Couch's son-in-law), Sheila Mitchell (Shirley Brower's niece), Deloris Patton (Nancy & Charlie Vaughn's sister-in-law), Don Kaphingst (Margaret Stewart's brother), Newt Newstrom (Dawn Graham's father), William Durham (Trudi Myers' son-in-law), Tavia Shaker (friend of Lindsay Blank), Pat Grant (friend of Ron Bessler), Dan Fraleigh (Sherrie Petersen's brother-in-law), Velda Jacobs (Eileen Caspers' aunt), Lewis Sanders (Rachelle Witherspoon's father), Syndee Haake (daughter of friend of Nancy Vaughn), Blanche Stephansen (Ron Bessler's sister), Nicole Klein (Patti's God-daughter), Georgi Peterson (Rhonda Dealey's mother), Lawrence & Lenette Kottas (Eileen Caspers' parents), John Browne (Penny & Marvin Boleski's brother-in-law), Camille Baehni Engler (former member), Brennan Soukup (Julie Bender's cousin), C.A. & Mary Lou Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders' parents), Heather Roesch (Tracy's sister-in-law), Katelynn Herring (Jeanie Schuler's great niece), Linda Myers (Trudi's daughter-in-law), David Metzenthin (Bud's son).

<b>LAY MINISTERS 1/23</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	John Hanna
<b>Lector</b>	Randy Debenham
<b>Acolyte</b>	Lizzy Keehn
<b>Greeter / Ushers</b>	Diane Dukat / Richard Price, Bryan Price
<b>Council Member</b>	Bill Barker
<b>Bus Driver &amp; Host/Hostess</b>	Randy Debenham, Barb Collins
<b>Saturday Lector</b>	Joyce Mark
<b>Altar Guild Setup/Clean up</b>	Mo Krumins, Jeanie Schuler, Barb Collins, Nancy Besta, Karon Gambrill
<b>Tech Team</b>	Jenn Betz, Austin Jackson, Stephen Blank

## LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

<b>LAY MINISTERS 1/30</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Stephen Couch
<b>Lector</b>	Abram Crawford
<b>Acolyte</b>	Allison Montague
<b>Greeter / Ushers</b>	Bill & Phyllis Buch / Bryan Harold, John Harold
<b>Council Member</b>	Bob Wollin
<b>Bus Driver &amp; Host/Hostess</b>	Randy Debenham, Barb Collins
<b>Saturday Lector</b>	Schultz Family
<b>Altar Guild Setup/Clean up</b>	Nancy Vaughn, Mo Krumins, Barb Collins, Nancy Besta, Karon Gambrill
<b>Tech Team</b>	John Hanna, Jenn Betz, Stephen Blank

## ✠ IN THE FIRST PLACE THIS WEEK ✠

**CDO (Children's Day Out) Preschool 9 a-3 p - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9-11:30 a – Thursday Sunday, January 23**

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

**Monday, January 24**

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

**Tuesday, January 25**

CDO Chapel

7:00 p.m. – Topeka Lutheran Home Association

**Wednesday, January 26**

CDO Chapel

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

**Thursday, January 27**

Pastor Jenny's Day of Reflection

**Friday, January 28**

Pastor Jenny's Day Off

**Saturday, January 29**

5:00 p.m. – Worship

**Sunday, January 30**

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

**12:00 p.m.**

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**via Zoom**

### *LESSONS JANUARY 29 & 30*

Jeremiah 1:4-10   Psalm 71:1-6   1 Corinthians 13:1-13   Luke 4:21-30

# PARISH NOTICES

## ANNUAL MEETING



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**~~VERY IMPORTANT~~**  
**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
***JANUARY 30, 2022***

The **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will take place on **January 30<sup>th</sup>**. This meeting takes place each year and the primary topic is to vote on an annual budget. The budget is an expression of the ministry and mission of First Lutheran and it reflects where our church's heart is.

**This year's meeting will be held VIRTUALLY, just like it was last year.** You can join by calling from your home phone or by logging into a video call. Below you will find a phone number as well as a website link to join the meeting.

The **MEETING ITSELF WILL BEGIN AT NOON**, but **technology assistance** will be available beginning at **11:30 a.m.**

We want to ensure everyone has the option and capability to join this meeting so please contact the church should you have any questions.

**PHONE:** Dial the phone number and listen for the prompts to enter the Meeting ID and passcode.

+1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 874 2827 6236      Passcode: 730554

**VIDEO:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87428276236?pwd=eXhFV0RFZXFpUVFyaTczYS9yMXI4UT09>

Meeting ID: 874 2827 6236      Passcode: 730554

## NEW MEMBER CLASSES BEGINNING SOON!

If you are interested in joining our church community through membership, wonderful and Praise God! **A 3-session class will begin at Noon on February 6<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.** We will welcome new members during worship on February 27<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to learn more, please contact Pastor Jenny, 785-633-3985 or by email.

We will be hosting a four-week series of classes entitled **“THE ART OF RADICAL HOSPITALITY”**, beginning **Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**. In-person classes will be offered in the church **sanctuary**, beginning at **11:15 a.m.** and **ZOOM** classes will be offered on Sundays, beginning at **1:30 p.m.** Each class will last approximately 45 minutes. Please call the church office at **(785) 272-5302 TO REGISTER** for the class and so that a book may be ordered for you. Pastor Bob Dealey will be teaching both in-person and ZOOM classes.

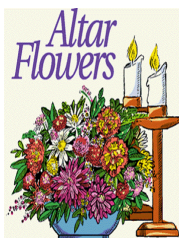
## HOPE YOU’RE READY FOR A NEW BOOK TO STUDY!

We will be reading and discussing **N.T. Wright’s book “Surprised by Hope”**. The study will begin the second week of February, and we will meet every other week by Zoom. We will have two discussion sessions as last year. One meeting on **Monday at 1:00 p.m. and the other on Friday at 7:00 p.m.** **The first sessions will start February 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.**

Since this book is on the resurrection of our Lord, our sessions are timed out to finish the week before Holy Week. This leads us right up to our celebration of Christ’s resurrection! Contact the church office if you would like more information or to join in.



**ETERNAL CANDLES** can be found in both the main Worship Center and our beautiful Chapel. In **2022** you may **DONATE** both candles in remembrance or in honor of someone for the entire month. Please contact LaDonna, in the church office, (785) 272-5302 or email her at [1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net) to sign-up for a month and give information that will be included in the bulletin. **The cost will be \$20 for the month. Available months are: February and October.**



**PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US HAVE FRESH FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR IN 2022.**

**OPEN 2022 DATES FOR BOTH VASES (unless indicated otherwise) ARE:**

4/24 (one vase); 5/1 (one vase), 5/15, 5/29; 6/5; 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/31;

8/7, 8/28; 11/20 (one vase); 12/11 (one vase).

**Please call the church office at (785) 272-5302 or Jeanie Schuler at 785-845-7964 if you have questions.**



# DOORSTEP

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

**Monday – Friday from 9am – 2pm  
1119 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South Door  
785-357-5341**



## **DOORSTEP'S "SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY" FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>**



**Bring soup and crackers to help stock Doorstep's pantry!**

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>!** Doorstep is asking for donations for SouperBowl Sunday! **Please bring SOUP AND CRACKERS to restock Doorstep's pantry.** A can of soup can be a meal, and in the past, with a successful collection, Doorstep has had soup and crackers to last them into the summer months! Please remember Doorstep when you go grocery shopping, and pick up a few items for your neighbors in need.

**Currently need the following items for our neighbors in need SEEKING CLOTHING:**

- Men's Coats – ALL Sizes
- Sneakers – Men's & Women's, ALL Sizes
- Adult Sweatpants & Sweatshirts – Men's & Women's, ALL Sizes
- Men's Jeans – Waist sizes 32 & 34
- Women's Jeans – Sizes 16 & 18
- Girls Jeans – Sizes 4 – 14
- Boys Jeans – Sizes 4 – 8
- Queen & King Comforters

## **A LITANY FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE**

P: Show us, O Lord, the light of your Justice and Peace.

*A brief silence.*

P: That we may never allow injustice by indifference or cowardice,

**C: hear us, Lord.**

P: That we may seek peace and justice rather than power and affluence,

**C: hear us, Lord.**

P: That we may know all people as made in the image of God and treat them accordingly,

**C: hear us, Lord.**

P: For the injustices we have committed by our words, actions, and ideologies,

**C: forgive us.**

P: For the withdrawal of the faithful from society because of our fear, arrogance, lukewarmness, and narrow-mindedness,

**C: forgive us.**

P: Let us pray,

Almighty God, you have created us in your own image; grant us grace to fearlessly contend against evil, and to make no peace with oppression. May we reverently use our freedom. Teach us to employ it in the maintenance of justice among peoples and nations, to the glory of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**



## A New Kind of Justice

All sorts of social cues tell us that “justice” requires vengeance, punishment, pain for pain, or even death, in the case of violent crime. This is what we call “retributive justice.” In our reading today Jesus claims fulfillment of God’s promise as proclaimed by Isaiah; Jesus has come “to bring good news to the poor” and “to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free” (Luke 4:18). This is not a kind of justice that promises peace at the expense of others. Rather, the justice to which Jesus alludes is restorative.

Our culture encourages a retributive mindset. We want offenders to suffer, thinking that it will deter them and others from such actions. It seldom does. The thinking is that retributive violence is required in response to wrongdoing. But this dynamic only reinforces the spiral of violence. Restorative justice, in contrast, is the turning around offered by Jesus when he states that Isaiah’s prophecy has been fulfilled.

Restorative justice is the foundation of salvation. By his coming into the world, Jesus brings with him the salvation that will proclaim liberty to all of us who are captive to something, whether we deserve that liberty in the eyes of society or not. Restorative justice reminds us that love is not about deserving, and that God’s will for you and for me is to be so filled with God’s grace that we are once again made complete, made whole, and restored. Jesus is sending a signal that his coming into the world is an invitation to look at everything we think we know from a different perspective. Everything that Jesus says has been fulfilled is something that restores righteousness to the universe and heals and builds relationship.

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