



Weekly Announcements

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

For the Week of February 20, 2022

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP RETURNS NEXT SUNDAY

The Covid task force has determined that we can resume coffee fellowship! Servers are needed. Contact the office if you'd like to volunteer.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

There will be a new member information class on Sunday, March 13. We will meet in the Fireside Room at 10:30 a.m. Masks are required. If you are interested in joining the community of faith at Mt. Carmel, please contact Nancy Nordeen in the church office at 612-781-2796 or office@mountcarmelmpls.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP TODAY

Sunday school (preschool-5th grade) and youth group will follow worship, running from 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. Masks are required.

TIME AND TALENT

Thank you to everyone who has filled out the 2022 Activities Sign Up sheet. We'd like to hear from more of you! There are extra copies in the Narthex. Check out the updated Congregational Life Directory to learn more about the many ways you can get involved at Mt. Carmel.

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP

If you would like to place flowers on the altar in honor of or in memory of a loved one there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex by the elevator. The cost of one bouquet is \$27. You may pick up the flowers following the service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Feb. 22 – Dorothy Warhol

Milestone alert! On March 1 Virginia Schaal will turn 100 years old!

MT. CARMEL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Calling all those who might be interested in applying for a post-secondary scholarship provided through the Mt. Carmel Foundation. Interested applicants please contact Mary Catherine at 612-226-1722 or email marycat81@gmail.com. All applications must be completed and received no later than Mar. 1, 2022. If you know of someone who might be interested in applying, please pass along this announcement to them. Applicants must be a member of Mt. Carmel.

FOUNDATION MATCHING GIFT

At the annual meeting we discussed our congregation's challenging budget shortfall. The Mt. Carmel Foundation is offering a wonderful opportunity to match our fundraising efforts up to \$25000! Please designate any amount you'd like to give to this special offering and we will track our progress toward a first benchmark of \$5000. We'll report our success to the Foundation and they will match it! You can designate funds with a note on your offering envelope. If you give online, please notify the office so we can direct your gift to the matching fund.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

The mini-bus is revved up and ready to take you to church! Call the church office (612-781-2796) by noon Friday to let us know you want a ride.



612-781-2796



office@mountcarmelmpls.org



www.mtcarmel.net



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THRIVENT MEMBERS – CHOICE DOLLARS

Now is the time of year to direct your Choice Dollars. Please, consider directing some or all of these to Mt. Carmel. These dollars are made by Thrivent and do not take the place of your pledged contributions. Thanks.

THOSE WE ARE PRAYING FOR

- Kim, Bob and Barb Hollister's daughter, who has cancer.
- Peggy, Jodi Wirth's friend, suffering from anxiety
- Carol Kwiecien, hospitalized after a fall
- Marlene Black, recovering from sacral fractures
- John, Maryjo Wigger's cousin, recovering from the long-term effects of covid
- Marilyn, Janell Wampler's sister, recovering from femur surgery and multiple infections
- Joe Prondzinski, Bob and Sandy Bauer's son-in-law, for pain relief and healing
- Kathy Halverson, recovering from surgery
- Ryan, friend of Greta Kutzer, struggling with MS
- Glenn, Brian Wirth's brother, fighting with cancer
- John Salveson, former Mt. Carmel music director, battling cancer.

To include your prayers on this list, contact the church office. If you would like the pastor to be aware of your prayer concerns but do not want them named publicly, please be sure to note that. Let the office know of any updates or changes.

HOMEBOUND AND LONG-TERM CARE

Ethel Antonson, Marlene Black, Lorraine Carlson, Annette Dahl, Marion Harris, Gerry Johnson, Carol Kwiecien, Jennie Porter, Virginia Schaal and Dorothy Warhol

FELLOWSHIP FEBRUARY

- ONLINE Good Fruits Bible Study—Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. (Contact Leona Olson, onondave@yahoo.com)
- ONLINE Men's Bible Study—Wednesdays at 6:45 a.m. (Contact Ralph Matthes, marinosdelimpls@gmail.com)
- On hold: Racial Justice Book Study Group – Resumes March 10th, every other Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Fireside Room and online (contact Barb Hollister, bjhollister@comcast.net)

REMEMBERING TO GIVE

Please continue to support our congregation with your faithful financial contributions to Mt. Carmel as you are able. There are several ways to give:

- Mail your check to the church or drop off in the secure mailbox.
- Online by credit card or bank account. Visit mountcarmelimpls.org/give or scan the QR code for online giving opportunities.



Your generous support for Mt. Carmel and our ministry is truly appreciated.



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The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 20, 2022

Please have bread and wine available for communion.
Congregation parts are printed in **bold**.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 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. Forgive us and lead us, that we may reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

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

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

All Are Welcome

ELW 641 (verses 1-2, 4-5)

- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

- 2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: [Refrain]

- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: [Refrain]

- 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: [Refrain]

GREETING

L: 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Halleluia! We Sing Your Praises

ELW 535

Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Hallelujah! We sing your praises,
all our hearts are filled with gladness. [Repeat]

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray: O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So, it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia

ELW p. 205

**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.**

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:27-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter:

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said:] "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lead Me, Guide Me

ELW 768

Refrain:

Lead me, guide me, along the way; for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee, Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]

2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting allmy trust in thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]

3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without.... thy sight to see.
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: 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.

L: You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another and to resolve conflicts with humility and patience. Bless families of all shapes and sizes and show love to those who are lonely or grieving. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

L: Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and urban gardens. Give favorable weather for planting, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Look upon our world with mercy, that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest. Amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Your people cry out for mercy. Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled, especially..... God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom. As you have raised them to eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: 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

OFFERING

Sanctuary Choir

“Song for World Peace”

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. 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.

C: Amen.

MEAL

- *There is bread on hand on a small plate. You may put a cloth or napkin on top if you like.*
- *There is wine or grape juice ready (or some other beverage if wine or grape juice is not available).*
- *That you have small glasses of some kind to drink from.*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n 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, hosanna in the highest.**

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

RECEIVING THE MEAL

L: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray: 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

FINAL 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 always.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

ELW 835 (verses 1, 4, 6)

- 1** All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4** All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
still make your song amid the tears:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6** O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

DISMISSAL

L: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Thank you to Paul Lathrop for providing the audio and video support for our worship services.

All Are Welcome

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Halleluia! We Sing Your Praises

Text: South African, tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984

English text © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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Lead Me, Guide Me

Text Doris Akers, 1922-1995

Music: Doris Akers

Text and music: 1953 Doris Akers, admin. Unichappell Music, Inc.

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. composite

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