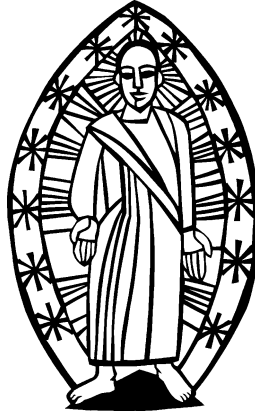


ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

welcomes you!

February 11,
2024



The
Transfiguration
of Our Lord

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (*1st Saturdays - Chapel*)

SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

in-person & streaming

EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP HOUR: 10:30 AM

105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

PHONE: 618.233.9809

EMAIL: WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

The Reverend Brian M. Robison, Pastor

PLEASE wear a **mask/face covering** *if* you are **exhibiting any upper respiratory symptoms consistent with allergies, a cold, or COVID-19** (runny nose, cough, sore throat).

To parents with small children: We are glad your family is worshiping with us today! “*Quiet Bags*” (supplies & activities for use by small children) are available in the Welcome Area. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to walk to the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is still audible over the speakers).

Parish Hall and Restrooms are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. A second **handicapped access** restroom is available next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level is located in the Welcome Area. An usher will be happy to assist you with the lift.

Assistive listening devices and **low vision items** are available. Please ask one of our ushers for assistance.

CHORALE PRELUDE

“Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist” by Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” ELW 631 *Please STAND*



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

GREETING

Blessed the one God – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit – creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen.**

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

And also with you.

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-8, 11-12

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

PSALM 50:1-6 *spoken responsively between leader and congregation by half verse*

¹The mighty one, God the ¹ LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun ¹ to its setting.

²Out of Zion, perfect ¹ in its beauty,
God shines ¹ forth in glory.

³Our God will come and will ¹ not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a ¹ raging storm.

⁴God calls the heavens and the earth ¹ from above
to witness the judgment ¹ of the people.

⁵"Gather before me my ¹ loyal followers,
**those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed ¹ it with sacrifice."**

⁶The heavens declare the rightness ¹ of God's cause,
for it is God ¹ who is judge.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

ALLELUIA VERSE *The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Following the Gospel, please SIT.

SERMON

"A Super Question"

The Rev. Brian M. Robison

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the



2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark-ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,



play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.



mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain



Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

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.**

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *The names of those for whom we pray aloud are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the Mark Times newsletter. The response to God of grace, is **hear our prayer...***

**Eleanor Benton, Dave Brauer, Toni Brendel, Gary Dozier, Jan Dressel, Evelyn Duncan,
Mary Hill, Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Marilyn Robinson,
Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol Weshinskey, Gary Weshinskey,
Barb Wurdinger, & Dee Zopp**

MEAL

PEACE *The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God's peace with one another. Please be respectful to those who wish to do so from a distance. Following **the Peace**, you may be **seated** for a few moments*

Should you wish to leave an offering today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.

MEN'S CHORUS "*Climbing Up the Mountain, Children*"

OFFERING PRAYER

Assistant: **Let us pray... Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy... and join in their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

S 144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major and 4/4 time. The melody is more rhythmic and includes some eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below each staff.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional*

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,

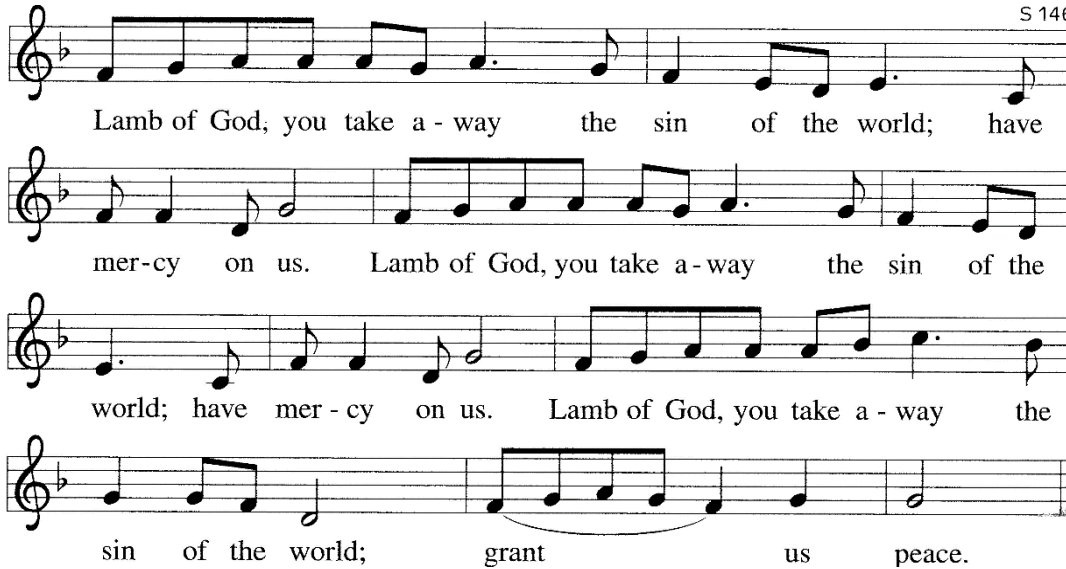
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

LAMB OF GOD

S 146



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *Please SIT*

Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel at the altar rail.

- ✘ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✘ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✘ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✘ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✘ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*



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1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:
 2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:
 3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known
 4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:
 5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,



may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer
 than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
 sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,



this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"
 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!
 ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

ST. MARK CHANCEL CHOIR

“The Voice of God”

by L. Larson & J. McGuire

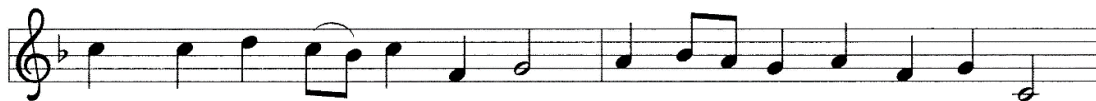
Follow along with the lyrics as printed on the back page

After the distribution is complete, the assembly **STANDS** for the blessing.

TABLE BLESSING

The Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” ELW 204



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together... **Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May the One who names you, who claims you, and who dwells in you – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - bless you and remain with you always. **Amen!**

SENDING HYMN

"Thy Strong Word"

ELW 511



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Swiss Song with Variations

by Daquin

Words to today's Choir Anthem:

*In ev'ry local language, in ev'ry native tongue,
God hears the hearts of people and speaks to every one.
The limits of our language God easily transcends.
Love hears our weakest whimper and always comprehends.
God speaks in ev'ry language to all both far and near.
With words of grace and mercy. Love longs for all to hear.
But whether still and quiet or with a mighty sound,
 wherever love is spoken the voice of God is found.
The languages of nature, of land and sky and sea,
 of all the living creatures, God speaks them fluently.
All that God created in diff'rent ways, even trees and mountains can offer up their praise!
 All things that God created converse in diff'rent ways,
 so even trees and mountains can offer up their praise!
God speaks in ev'ry language to all both far and near.
With words of grace and mercy, Love longs for all to hear.
But whether still and quiet or with a mighty sound,
 wherever love is spoken, the voice of God is found.
God speaks at times with thunder and mighty rushing wind;
 at other times, a whisper, a gentle thought within.
But whether still and quiet or with a mighty sound,
Wherever love is spoken, the voice of God is found, the voice of God is found*

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 13, 5:30PM-7:00PM
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Parish Hall

Ash Wednesday, February 14
9:30AM & 7:00PM
Joint worship services with distribution of ashes

Wednesdays in Lent
6:00PM: Soup supper - Parish Hall
7:00PM: *The Pilgrimage Way of the Cross* - church

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Danielle Tribout
Crucifer: Frank Dressel + **Chalice Bearer:** Tom Partelow + **Camera Operator:** Greg Martens
Lector: Jan Litherland + **Organist:** Carol Kugler
Ushers: Rick Crosby & Rex Rothgangel + **Safety Volunteer:** Missy Kimbrell

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for February 11, 2024

THE WEEK AHEAD:

Monday 2/12: 9:00AM Health & Wellness Meeting-conference room
Tuesday 2/13: 5:30PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Wednesday 2/14: 9:30AM Ash Wednesday Morning Worship - church
7:00PM Ash Wednesday Evening Worship - church
Thursday 2/15: 6:15PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:15PM Voice Choir Rehearsal

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Returns!

St. Mark members are invited to St. George's annual **Pancake Supper** **THIS Tuesday, February 13** from **5:30-7:00PM** in the Parish Hall. Pancakes & sausage are the traditional fare for this day since meat, eggs, fat & butter were prohibited during Lent. There is no charge, but donations will be accepted.



Ash Wednesday Worship



St. Mark hosts Ash Wednesday services celebrated with St. George's Episcopal Church **THIS Wednesday, February 14** at **9:30AM** and **7:00PM**, both in the **church**. Father Mark will preside at the Eucharist, both Pastor Brian & Father Mark will assist in the imposition of ashes, and Pr. Brian will preach.

St. Mark's Financials for 2023 finish in the black - Thank You!

St. Mark saw healthy donations totaling \$43,301 for December 2023. This brought our 2023 income total to \$234,362. With 2023 expenses of \$231,382, our Net Cash Flow was a favorable \$2,980. The Council wishes to thank the congregation for this positive effort at the year end and the resulting positive outcome for the year. This is a positive starting point as we enter 2024 with a spending guideline/budget of \$250,234.

Some St. Mark Wooden Ornaments Still Available

There are five dated wooden ornaments and one undated ornament available at the wholesale cost of \$5. This is the break-even price. Any donation above the cost will go directly to the Chapel Organ fund. Contact Diane Earhart at 618-235-8823 or earhart500@aol.com.

St. Mark Offerings for 2/4: General Fund: **\$4,459.11** (*incl. online offerings received by 2/2*);
Coffee Fund: \$10; Sunday Morning Coffee: \$32

Lenten Quiet Day at Toddhall

On **Saturday, March 23**, from 9:30AM to 3:30PM, Fr. Mark will lead a spiritual Quiet Day at Toddhall Retreat and Conference Center. The event is free to attend, and a freewill offering will be taken on the day to cover the cost of lunch. However, **registrations are required by Thursday, February 22** to obtain an accurate headcount. You may register at <https://forms.gle/BPsnJMUoLxUctPpW8> or by contacting the church office, or scanning the adjacent QR code.



St. Mark/St. George's SHARE THE WARMTH Project

Our project, inspired by Phillip's Wish in the movie *5000 Blankets*, concluded January 31 with the following AMAZING total items donated. THANK YOU to everyone who participated!

164 blankets; 231 hats/ear covers; 105 pairs of gloves; 85 neck scarves/mufflers; 116 pairs of socks.

Donations were distributed to:

St. George/St. Mark Food Pantry (2); Union United Methodist Church for their homeless program;

Belleville Christian Center in Belleville; Moms on a Mission in Dupo (2)

Violence Prevention Center of Southwestern Illinois; Pregnancy Care Center in Belleville;

St. Clair County Sheriffs Department Investigations Division; Liz's Blessings in a Bag



Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Dave Brauer, Gary Dozier, Jan Dressel, Evelyn Duncan, Mary Hill,
Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Marilyn Robinson,
Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol Weshinskey, Gary Weshinskey, & Barb Wurdinger

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Phyllis Booker, Kathy Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson,
Dorothy Cheek, Christine, Pam Clark, Catherine Davis, Brian Dinges, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner,
Taiylar Foppe, Josh Gansmann, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Carrie Gravot,
Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Jamie House, Debbie Jacobs, Austin Lickenbrock, Becky Loeschner,
Elroy Luffman, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Glenda Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall,
Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Theresa Painter, Hilda Parnell,
Tim & Missy Partelow, Debbie & Larry Powers, Michelle Rideout, Darrell Robinson, Sarah & Family,
Dave Schaaf, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Ingrid Thompson,
Toni Walston, Kris Whitley, Louise Wilson, Karen Woolf, Wilma Woolf, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

We pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones:

The family and friends of **Sandra "Sandy" Purdy** (2/5)