# That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself,



not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:19-20

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS
605 South Center Street
Bremen, Indiana 46506
574-546-2332
stpaulsbremen.church

The *Epistle*, our preaching text, is one of St. Paul's clearest explications of reconciliation, including what is surely one of the richest summaries of the Gospel and the sanctified life which results: "In Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation" (2 Cor 5:19).

<u>There is a Cry Room</u> available for use during our worship service. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

<u>Children Leaving the Sanctuary:</u> This is a matter of caring concern for your child, or the young child that you are responsible for, age 13 or younger. The Board of Lay Ministry asks that if your child needs to leave the sanctuary during the worship service, you as a parent or responsible adult will need to escort them to and from the sanctuary. Thank you

<u>The Lord's Supper</u> is a very special privilege God gives to His people. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because the Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

#### **OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US**

Offerings remind us of the blessings God has given us and are an opportunity to thank Him for what He has done in our lives. Please place your offerings in our Offering Box located in front of the water fountains in the narthex of the church. You may also choose "e-tithing" by having a weekly deposit to St Paul's from your bank account. If you have questions on e-tithing, please contact the Church Office.

**Bell Choir** Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

**Opening Hymn 908** Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P In the name of the Father and of the  $\top$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## **Adult Choir** A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth, the guilt of all men bearing; and laden with the sins of earth, none else the burden sharing!

Goes patient on grows weak and faint, to slaughter led without complaint, that spotless life to offer, bears shame and stripes and wounds and death, anguish and mockery, and saith, "Willing all this I suffer."

This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great Friend, the Lamb of God, our Savior; Him God the Father chose to send to gain for us His favor! "Go forth, My Son," the Father saith, "And free men from the fear of death, from guilt and condemnation. The wrath and stripes are hard to bear, but by Thy passion men shall share the fruit of Thy salvation."

From morn till eve my theme shall be Thy mercy's wondrous measure; to sacrifice myself for Thee shall be my aim and pleasure. My stream of life shall ever be a current flowing ceaselessly, Thy constant praise outpouring. I'll treasure in my memory, O Lord, all Thou hast done for me, Thy gracious love adoring.

#### SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit Psalm 51:1-6

- P Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
- C according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
- C and cleanse me from my sin!
- P For I know my transgressions,
- $\mathcal{C}$  and my sin is ever before me.
- P Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,
- ${\cal C}$  so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.
- P Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
- C and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- P Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being,
- $\mathcal{C}$  and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

- All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
- $\mathcal{C}$  according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Kyrie LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



#### P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 12:1-6

<sup>1</sup>You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to You, O LORD,

for though You were angry with me,

Your anger turned away,

that You might comfort me. <sup>2</sup>"Behold, God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid;

for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation."

<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day:

"Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon His name,
make known His deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that His name is exalted.

5"Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

6Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- $\mathcal{C}$  Thanks be to God.

### **Epistle**

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- $\mathcal{C}$  Thanks be to God.

### **Holy Gospel**

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.



<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So He told them this parable: . . .

"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants." <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.""

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



#### **Nicene Creed**

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\top$  of the world to come. Amen.

**Hymn 568** If Your Beloved Son, O God

Sermon Text 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

**Sermon** "Joy in New Life"

I.	Selfish living - which is really living apart from God and others -					
	is not .					

II. The life reconciled in Christ - back together with God and others -

1S				
	1S			

III. A great joy of this reconciled life is bringing others

### **Hymn 580** The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

#### **Prayers**

#### SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



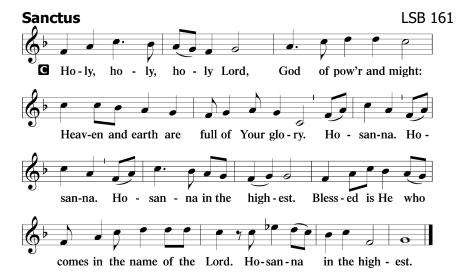
P Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

 $\mathcal{C}$  Amen.

#### The Words of Our Lord

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- $\mathcal{C}$  Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

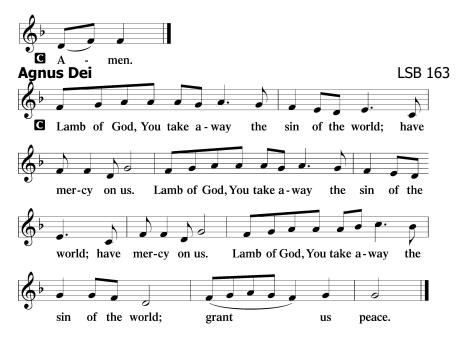
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

#### **Lord's Prayer**

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.

Pax Domini LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**Hymn 634** The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

**Hymn 431** Not All the Blood of Beasts

**Hymn 627** Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

**Hymn 623** Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

#### **Post-Communion Collect**

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.



**Hymn 917** Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

# Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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# Wednesday Lenten Service, March 30, 2022

Witness to Christ - Barabbas Lenten meal at 6:00

#### Calendar of Events

TODAY:	. March 27, 2022
Sunday School & Bible Classes	8:30 am
Worship Service with Communion	9:30 am
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation	
Choir Practice	6:00 pm
MON:	
Parish Planning Council	7:00 pm
TUES:	
Prayer Circle	7:00 pm
WED:	-
Preschool & Day School Chapel	11:00 am
Lenten Meal	6:00 pm
Lenten Service	7:00 pm
THURS:	_
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study	9:30 am
NEXT SUNDAY:	April 3, 2022
Sunday School & Bible Classes	8:30 am
Worship Service	9:30 am
Stewardship Estate Planning Luncheon	Noon

# Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

### **Thanksgiving:**

For the great joy for those reconciled to God and one another by Jesus' death and resurrection.

<u>Celebrating Anniversaries this week:</u> 30<sup>th</sup>-Eric & Kelly Thornton; 31<sup>st</sup>-Terry & Janet Miller

Celebrating Birthdays this week: 27th-Deana Miller, Austin Nielsen; 28th-Arick Cannon, Taylor Lizzi, Jack Wildauer; 29th-Beth Enders, Tom Slavey, Melanie Venble; 30th-June Hamman, Brandon Sahlhoff; 31st-Madison Raskow, Maddy Youngman; April 1st-Regina Brown Those who are ill: Tara Andrews; Elvira Besco (Jennifer Brurok's mother); Steve Brown (Ann Knepper's brother); Don Bollenbacher (Barb Berg's cousin); Janice Creighton (Kelly Sienicki's mother); Daniel Enders (Beth's nephew); Larry Evans; Suzi Furman; Adason Goffinet -leukemia (Robin Spicher's cousin); Meagan Gunter (Alice Shepherd's granddaughter); Karen Hansen (friend of the Tinkeyssurgery recovery); Bill Harrison (friend of Beth Enders); Holly

Johnson (friend of Coxey and Tinkey families); Mary Kaser; Carole Kessler (Marilyn Gumz's mom;) Steve Kukoy (cousin of Janet Kaiser); Tabatha Lahman (Noah Miller's girlfriend); Joyce and Lewis Leeper; Cortland Lynch (Virginia's great-grandson); Nancy Mast (Peggy Miller's aunt); Dave McGowen; Kathy Minix (Sandy Schooler's friend); John Moerer (friend of Andy Wildauer); Vicki Neher (friend of Helen Bellman: Steve Nelson (friend of Lee Anglemyer); Melinda Polson (Mary Ingle's daughter); Roger Rettinger (Jon's brother); Jerry Smith; Cari Snyder (friend of Bob & Nancy Koontz); Jamie Spiese (friend of Sandy Kiefer); Angie Yoder (friend of Shirley Lakins); Paisley Schidler (Eric & Kelly Thornton's granddaughter); Lori Stacy; Richard Stoller (Marian Yoder's brother); Dennis Swanson; Cheryl Wildauer; Troy Yoder

#### Special Concerns:

**That we would rejoice** in our new life in Christ by daily sharing the story of Christ's death and resurrection.

For the Lord's guidance in the calling process for a new Administrative Pastor. That the Lord would bless our offerings that we give today. For Jamielynn (Tinkey) Flores and Pastor Micah Wildauer and their work in foreign missions.

For our country and her leaders.

**That the Lord** would be with the people of Ukraine and that they would know His salvation, seek His guidance, see His love, and feel His comfort during this time of war in their country.

SHUT-IN OF THE WEEK James & Lillian Salyer 24550 Riley Road N. Liberty, IN 46554

Altar guild is accepting donations for Easter lilies. Place in the offering box marked "flowers," or give to any attendant. There was a price increase. Any amount is welcome. Thank you.

**WE ARE IN NEED** of visitors for our shut-ins for the months of May, June, and July. We visit about 15 home bound members each month. If you can help, **PLEASE** call Ellen Tjernagel.

**Altar Flowers** are given in praise and thanksgiving to our amazing Lord for His many blessings of marriage and family. Praise the LORD! Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

<u>Special offerings for the School roof</u> – Replacement of the school roof was approved by the voters at the special voters' meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>. We have \$36,00 available in special funds to be used but an additional \$18,000 is needed to complete the project. If anyone feels lead to donate, we ask that you please put it in a separate envelope marked **School Roof**. Thank you.

**LWML, Monday, April 11 at 7:00 pm:** Taste of Passover Seder Foods. All are invited to this special time to remember and experience what our Lord has done for us. We will need a count for food preparation so **please** indicate a number of those attending on the forms available near the offering box in the Narthex.

Meals on Wheels Door Offering: We will have a door offering today after church for Meals on Wheels to help alleviate the price increases for the meals. This is sponsored by Public Relations and Evangelism and approved by the Board of Stewardship. Thank you for your compassion!

**<u>Budget info:</u>** Operating budget fund balance as of March 24, 2022: \$114,200. This amount represents over 7 weeks of normal day-to-day expenses of the Church and School ministries.

**Dear Members of St. Paul's,** the Board of Evangelism asks you to **please invite your family, friends, and neighbors** to join us during our Holy Week services!

A Special Opportunity to Worship: On Good Friday we will have a normal worship service at 7pm. We will also have a special service at 1pm with our Day School students which will be similar to the evening service but will be shorter in length. All are invited and welcome to attend one or both services on Good Friday!

Join other men in Christian fellowship on April 21-24 at Lakeview Villages in Seymour, IN as we explore the topic of "Tyranny and Resistance" with Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz. How does the Bible describe tyranny? We'll look at biblical and historical examples of tyranny and resistance to better understand our world and God's calling on our lives. Get away and enjoy God's great

creation, eat like a king at our hog roast, join in good-natured brotherly competition and much more. Registration deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Visit www.mensgathering.us for info and registration.

Mark Your Calendars for April 22, the 27th PTL Showcase of Fine Arts and Crafts, 7:00 p.m. in the Bethany Room. This year we will again include art and craft items from members of the congregation as well as school families. Entry packets are in the rack in the narthex.

PTL will be having elections for the offices of Vice President and Treasurer on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, after the Showcase of Fine Arts and Crafts. If you would like to run for either office, please contact Jennifer Harman by April 15<sup>th</sup>. To qualify, a candidate must have a child or grandchild enrolled in the school or preschool, and a Vice President should be a member of St. Paul's. We are always looking for more people to serve!

**Save the Date!** This year's Vacation Bible School program will be June 20-24<sup>th</sup> from 9-11:30 am. The theme is **God's Wonder Lab-Jesus Does The Impossible!** 

**Support the Right to Life** by attending the **Plymouth Legacy of Life Banquet**, Tuesday, April 12, at 6 pm at Christos Banquet Hall. You will be encouraged and motivated by the speakers, as well as have an opportunity to support the pro-life movement in north central Indiana. Jim and Linda Tinkey are hosting a table at the event and tickets are \$20.00. More details on speakers are available at nci4life.org.

**Registration for Summer Camp** at Camp Lutherhaven is now open! Remember to register early if you have a special date in mind because the weeks fill up fast. Please check out the Youth Board for more information.

## **Youth News**

# Easter Sunrise Service (April 17<sup>th</sup>) – Youth in Grades 4-8: Practices for the Easter Sunrise Service begin today after the church service and are planned on the following dates:

- Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> after church for approximately an hour
- Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> after church this session may go a bit longer
- Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> time to be determined (afternoon)

If you have any questions, please speak with Andy Wildauer.

Lock In Recap: On March 18th, 16 Middle School Youth gathered in our Gym and School for our annual Lock In. With little to no sleep and lots of fun, the Youth enjoyed games, food, movies, fellowship and a special visit from Louis Haug, one of our church's Elders, sharing his testimonial as to how God has called him. We are thankful for this time together and the memories created throughout the night and early morning hours.

# **School Corner**

Enrollment is open for the 2022-23 school year, in preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. St. Paul's schools offer an affordable, Christcentered education with a dedicated and caring staff. Please "advertise" the schools to your friends and family and ask them to investigate what we have to offer! More information is available at www.stpaulsbremen.church.

In conjunction with enrollment, please consider donating to our SGO. The SGO provides scholarships to roughly 36% of our students, and helps make a Christian education affordable. It also assists the church and school financially. As an added benefit to donors, you would receive a 50% tax credit and a possible tax

deduction. You may visit <u>www.lutheransgo.org</u> or pick up a donor form from the tract rack to donate.

Families who qualify for SGO may apply for the upcoming school year starting April 15th. Those applications are available from the school office.

Thank you always for your support!

To God be all the glory!

Mark Wildauer

### Spring Play Help Needed

We are looking for a few good people . . . to help with scenery, props, the sound system, and filming for our spring play May 6<sup>th</sup>! If you have skills you'd like to use, please see Jennifer Harman. No experience necessary, just willing service!

# **Servants for Today's Worship**

Pastor: Rev. Neil Wonnacott Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Todd Haug & Jim Mitchell

Acolyte: Molly Harman Elder: Rod Schroeder

Communion Assistant: Lewis Haug

# Servants for Next Sunday's Worship April 3, 2022

Pastor: Rev. Neil Wonnacott Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Larry Winterboer & Dakota Schmeltz

Acolyte: Rebecca & Jessica Rogers

Elder: Bill Rogers