

Welcome to Worship!



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2026 ~ 9:45 a.m.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
875 Sunflower Drive, DuBois, PA 15801
(814) 371-2470

Rev. Dr. David W. Holtz, Interim Pastor
Abbey Weber, Family Ministry Coordinator
Maggie Swayze, Office Manager
Chris Luckenbill ~ Organist & Choir
Director

christlutheran@penn.com
www.christdubois.org
www.facebook.com/christlutheranchurchdubois
WiFi – Christ Church Guest
password – worshippinghere

*(Restrooms are in the back hall behind the lobby; a family restroom is at the far end of the education wing. An **unstaffed nursery** is available off the lobby during worship, with services heard through overhead speakers.)*

THE SERVICE

BOLD lettering indicates a spoken response

* Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

* Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen

* This is the day

CCLI 1763436



This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the



Lord has made; we will re-joice, we will re-joice and be



glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that the



Lord has made; we will re-joice and be glad in it.



This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

* Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

P: God is our light and our salvation,

C: our refuge and our stronghold.

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: we praise your name, O God.

P: For with you is the fountain of life,

C: and in your light we see light.

* Opening Song – We bow down

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C G/C C
 You are Lord of cre - a - tion and Lord of my life,
 G/C C
 Lord of the land and the sea. You were Lord of the heav - ens be -
 G/B Am F⁶ G C
 fore there was time, and Lord of all lords you will be.
 F⁶ C/E G G/B C
 We bow down and we wor - ship you, Lord; we bow
 F⁶ C/E G G/B C F⁶ C/E
 down and we wor - ship you, Lord; we bow down and we
 G Am Dm⁷ G C
 wor - ship you, Lord; Lord of all lords you will be.

Prayer of the Day

P: God of love, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them; keep us from those things that harm us; and guide us in the way of salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

A: The First Lesson is from the 18th chapter of Ezekiel.

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”?

³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die. ²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity

will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: Please join in saying the prayer for the call process:

Dear Father, please help us to offer our prayers of gratitude for all you provide. Open our eyes to see you in the awesome beauty of the world around us, and say, “thank you”!

In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ’s selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

A: The Second Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of Philippians.

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue

should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

*Gospel: **Matthew 21:23-32**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.



1 Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors

and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sermon

Pastor David Holtz

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Song – I will sing, I will sing

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B *E*



I will sing, I will sing a song un - to the Lord.
 We will come, we will come as one be - fore the Lord.
 if the Son, if the Son shall make you . . . free,
 They that sow in tears shall reap in . . . joy,
 ev - 'ry knee shall bow . . . and ev - 'ry tongue con - fess,
 In his name, in his name we have the vic - to - ry.



I will sing, I will sing a song un - to the Lord.
 We will come, we will come as one be - fore the Lord.
 if the Son, if the Son shall make you . . . free,
 They that sow in tears shall reap in . . . joy,
 ev - 'ry knee shall bow . . . and ev - 'ry tongue con - fess,
 In his name, in his name we have the vic - to - ry.

B *E*



Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.
 Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.
 you . . . shall be free in - deed.
 Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.
 that . . . Je - sus Christ is . . . Lord.
 Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.

Refrain *E*



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord. Al - le -

B *E*



lu, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia, glo -

B *E*



- ry to the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to the Lord.

*Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

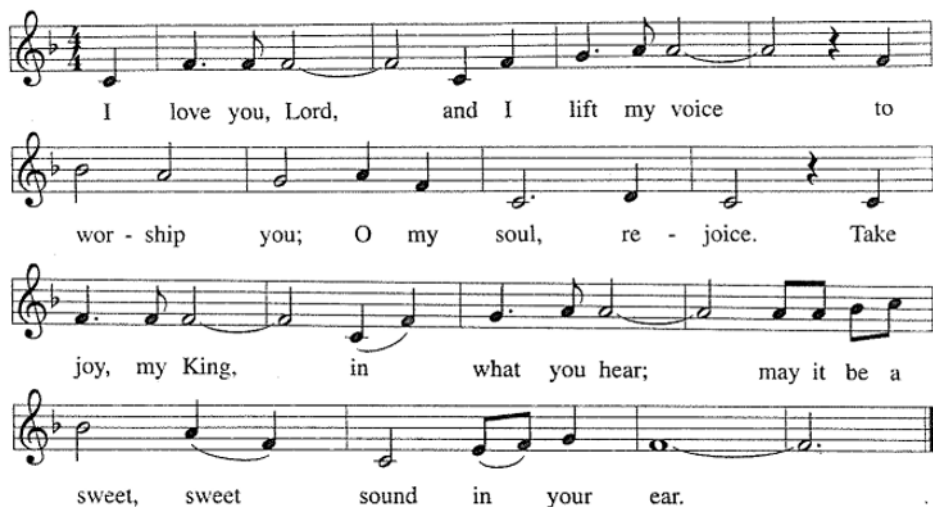
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.



The Pastor will offer prayers for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish, and special concerns.

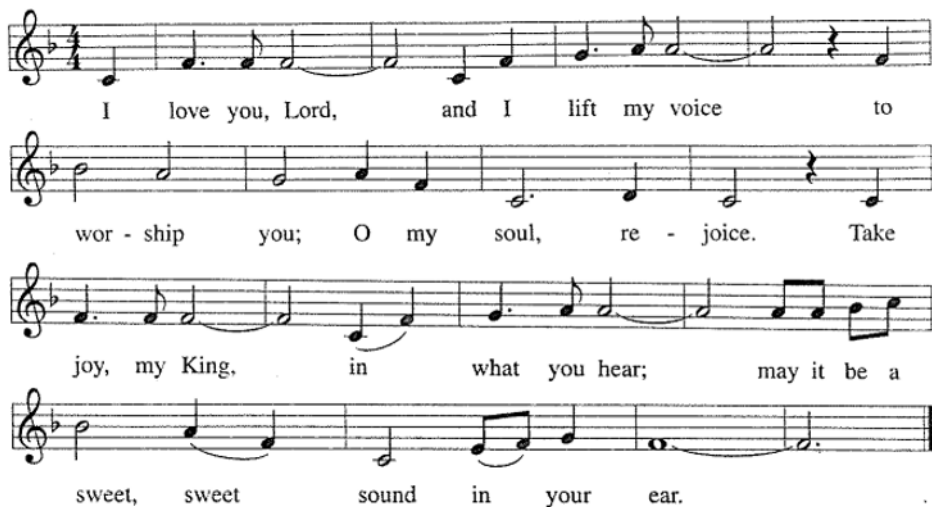
Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P: . . . Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen



*** Sharing of God's Peace**

We follow Jesus' direction in Matthew chapter 5 and make peace with each other before coming to the altar: Jesus said, "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*The ministers and congregation greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

***Offering**

Contemporary Worship Team

* Offertory – As the grains of wheat

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Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat - tered on the hill were
gath - ered in - to one, were gath - ered in - to one to be -
come our bread; so may all your peo - ple from the
ends of the earth be gath - ered in - to one in you.

C: you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

* Communion Prayer

P: Come, all you beloved of the Lord, come and eat the food that He gives freely. Be filled again with the goodness of God.

C: Lord God, giver of all good things, we hear Your invitation, we see Your gifts of life and grace.

P: Come to the table of the Lord.

C: We come with our wounds and faults ready to eat and to drink. Our hearts are glad.

* Words of Institution

P: Yes, dear Lord our God, our hearts are truly glad.
We are filled with thankfulness, because in Your great love You did not abandon us to sin and death, but in Jesus, You came to us, to rescue us, to restore us, and to give us new life.

We remember the way that Jesus showed us this love:
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.

* The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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**

* One bread, one body

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Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

The Meal (*Please be seated*)

For those at home or communing at their seat, please receive the bread and wine as the pastor speaks the words:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. *The communicant may say: "Amen."*

If you desire to receive communion up front, please come forward via the center aisle. As the pastor and communion assistant give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

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

The communicant may say: "Amen."

MUSIC AS WE SHARE COMMUNION

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love

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Refrain (Unison)

D A7/E

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love,

A A7/E A D Em/G A7 D

show us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

D Bm Em Em/G A7

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, si - lent - ly wash-ing their

D D/F# Bm Em/G A7 D to Refrain

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 race, neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.
 love, all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 feet, this is the way we should live with you.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of five staves. The lyrics are: "Make me a ser - vant, hum - ble and meek. Lord, let me lift up those who are weak. And may the prayer of my heart al - ways be: Make me a ser - vant, make me a ser - vant, make me a ser - vant to - day." The chords are: F, Dm⁷, Gm⁷, C⁷, Gm⁷, B^b/C, C⁷, B^b/F, F, F^{sus}₂, F, A, Dm, Dm/C, G²/B, B^bm⁶, F/A, Gm⁷, F/A, Gm⁷, F/C, C⁷_{sus}, F².

Make me a ser - vant, hum - ble and meek.

Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.

And may the prayer of my heart al - ways be:

Make me a ser - vant, make me a ser - vant,

make me a ser - vant to - day.

*Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

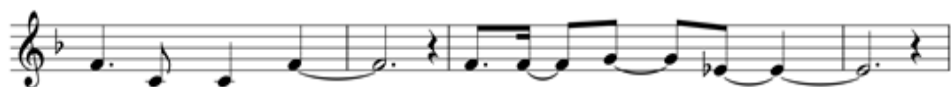
* Post Communion Canticle - You're worthy of my praise CCLI 1763436



I will wor - ship___ with all of___ my___ heart.____



I will praise You___ with all of___ my strength.



I will seek You___ all of___ my___ days.____



I will fol - low___ all of___ Your ways.



I will give___ You all my wor - ship___ I will give___ You



all my praise.____ You a - lone___ I long___ to wor - ship___



You a - lone____ are wor - thy of___ my praise.____

* Prayer

P: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

SENDING

* Blessing

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 + give you peace. **C: Amen**

* Closing Song-They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

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We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, We will work side by side,
We will work with each other, We will work side by side,
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, From whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Postlude - Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the fellowship hall following worship.

Worship Attendance last Sunday: 8:30-40, 9:45-68, SCS-14, 11:00-28

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Offering Update

Offerings needed weekly \$ 5,538.00

Offerings collected last week \$ 3,619.00

Next Sunday's Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF DuBOIS IS EMPOWERED
BY**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT AND NOURISHED THROUGH WORD &
SACRAMENT TO HEAR, STUDY, AND PROCLAIM
THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.**

*The flowers in the Chancel vases are presented to the Glory
of the Lord by Bob and Carol Mortland in memory of John
and Frances Jansen.*

Ushers: Brad Finalle, Ruth Johnson

Lector: Carol Lieber

Communion Assistants: Jessica Deasey, Janet Peterson

+ Calendar for this Week +

Monday September 28 8:30 Quilters

Tuesday September 29 2:00 Bible Study

6:00 Contemporary Team

6:30 Vocal

Wednesday September 30 7:00 Bible Study

Thursday October 1 5:30 Worship & Music Committee

6:30 Choir Rehearsal

+ Upcoming Events & Monthly Ministries +

The NALC Annual Mid Northeast Mission Region Convocation will be held on Saturday October 17, 2026 in Butler PA. Anyone interested in attending, the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you would like to attend, please sign up by October 4th. There is no fee to attend.

Mission of the Month - Pentz Run Youth Services is a residential program for at-risk and disadvantaged youth located in DuBois. They offer programs including a group home, emergency shelter, transitional and independent living, respite care, and family group decision making. If you would like to make a financial gift to Pentz Run, please use the pew envelopes, and write “*Pentz Run*” in the “other” line. Checks may be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church. Thank you.

Food Pantry Items needed for September are peanut butter and /or jelly.

Attention worship assistants: The October schedule is available in the narthex for pick up. Thank

Men's Group – If you are interested in participating in a men's group at Christ Lutheran Church for Worship, Service and Fellowship., please sign the list on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, please call Rich Johnson at (814) 661-2505.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER ~ September 27, 2026

Shut-in & Nursing Home Members & Friends:

Linda Berry ~ Edie Brown ~ Karen Deasey ~ Carolyn Finalle-Miller
~ Jeannine Fye ~ Nora Gelnett ~ Robert George ~ Grace Griffith ~
George Kramer Sr. ~ Hazel Kriner ~ Nancy Lilja ~ George McCurdy
~ Jim Norwood ~ Geneva Roberts ~ Gary Salada ~ Emily Schindley
~ Betty Swanson ~ Shirley Williams

Those Serving in the Military:

Davey Aughenbaugh ~ Jake Bell ~ Jordan ~ Wesley Russell ~ Caleb
Shields ~ Colton Shields

Long Term Prayer Requests:

Abby ~ Ron Abrams ~ Patti Allen ~ Brenda Amblod ~ Sherri Ball ~
Lindsey Bernardo ~ Ben Brubaker ~ Eleanor Bundy ~ Bill Clyde ~
Louise Cramer ~ Jack Dennison ~ Cheryl DeSantis ~ Brad Dodd ~
Jamie Dungey ~ Emily ~ Krista Evans ~ Tim Fuller ~ Beth Giese ~
Jackie & Bill Hartman ~ Gabby Horner ~ Vickie Jacklyn ~ Jendrey
~ Dan Johnson ~ Cheryl Jones ~ April Kalgron ~ Kathy ~ Jim
Kearney ~ Linda Keller ~ AJ Kessler ~ Keith Klingensmith ~ Scott
Klingensmith ~ Carol Lawson ~ Cindy & Tom Leete ~ Doug Leidl ~
David Leonard ~ Anne Lettrich ~ Devon London ~ Mona Mandich
~ Mark Markievich ~ Barbara Martini ~ Laura Mc ~ Teri McBride ~
Steve Moore ~ Brenda & Brett Mortimer ~ Gail Nissley ~ Stacy Park
~ Mary Ann Piccirillo ~ Deb & Bill Presnar ~ Liz Preston ~ Heidi
Riley & Family ~ The Snells ~ Karen Sprague ~ Ruth Sutphin ~
Kenny Swanson ~ Christopher Sykes ~ Virginia Traveny ~ Eric
Waldeck ~ Mary Lou Waldeck ~ Jerry Wallace ~ George Whipple ~
Pastor Bill White ~ Nancy Wilber

Short Term Prayer Requests:

Family of Lois Haag ~ David Radaker

To add/remove from this list, call the church office at 814-371-2470.