**WELCOME TO**

**HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, New Jersey Synod

1220 Bayshore Rd.

Villas, NJ 08251

609-886-2414

holyspiritlutheran@comcast.net

holyspiritvillas.com

facebook.com/holyspiritvillas

Church Office Open on Wednesdays from 6-8PM

Pastoral Office Hours on Thursdays from 10AM-1PM

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, are People of God, who

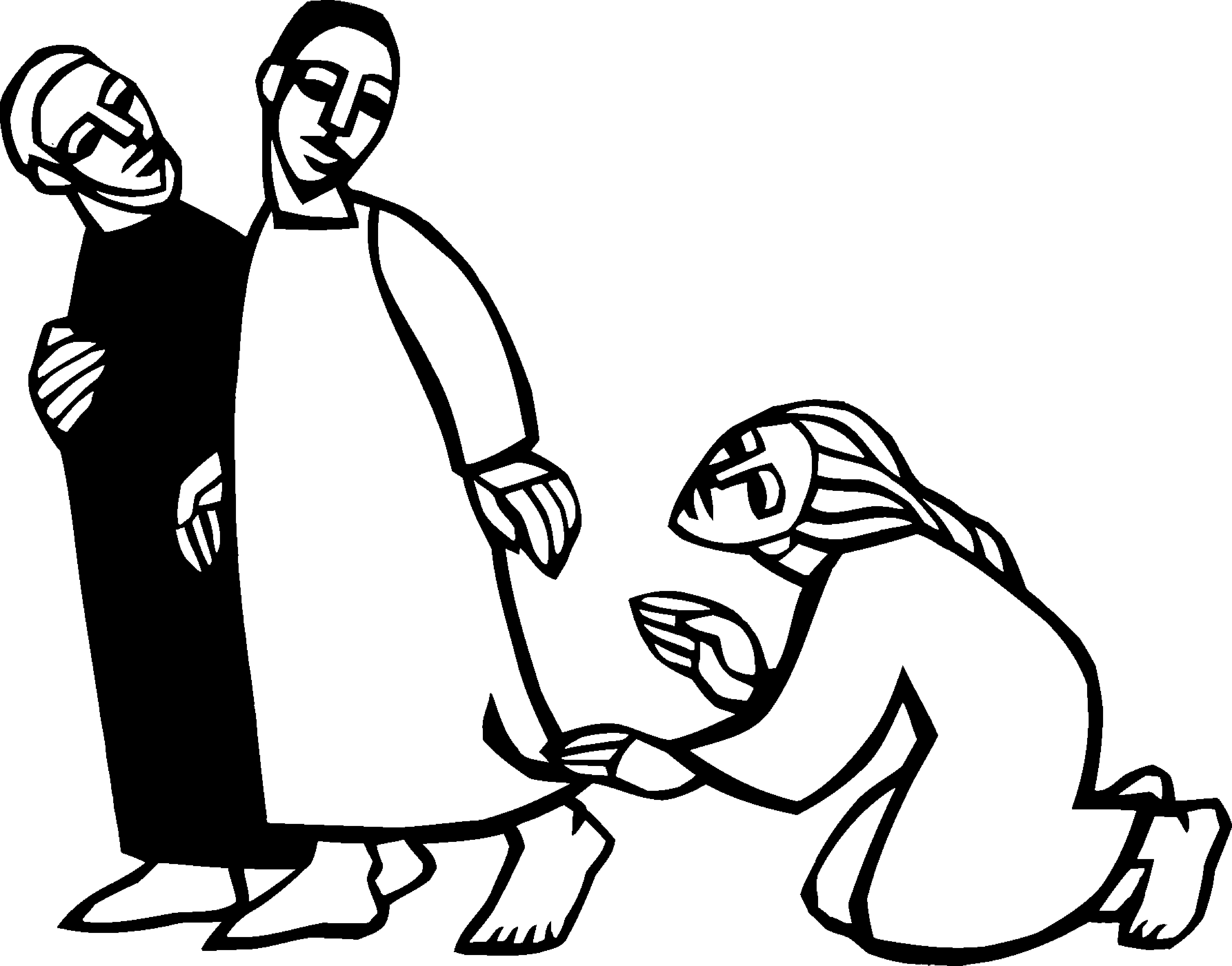
are called by the Holy Spirit to pray, worship, joyfully proclaim Jesus Christ,

and compassionately witness and serve others in Christian Love.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 11TH, 2023**

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**10:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION**



**AN ESPECIALLY WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

We are glad that you joined us for Worship today! Thank you for enriching our time together! We would like to get to know you better, and we would like you to get to know us better too. We invite you to let us know how we can help you. Informational brochures, welcome gifts, prayer shawls, Bibles, and other items are available at our welcome areas. Church members are happy to show you around, answer questions, and share about our ministries. Please don’t hesitate to speak up and ask questions.

**CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION**

We continue to conduct our Sunday Worship Service in coordination with our Conference Call. Join us on our Conference Call # 657-390-7423. If that does not allow you to gain access, please utilize our other # 701-802-5170 and the access code 8221190, then hit the # key. Please announce your name after you log-in.

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR HOLY COMMUNION**

All who believe in Jesus Christ are welcome at the table. We either utilize bread or wafers for Communion, and we also have the option of individually wrapped gluten free wafers if you desire. We have pre-filled red wine or white grape juice cups in the Communion Tray to choose from. The Usher will offer the option to leave your pew, and you can then proceed forward on the right side of the aisle to the steps between the Communion Rail. Following Communion please process back on the left side of the aisle and place your empty cups in the basket before returning to your pew.

Children who have not had their First Communion instruction, and adults who do not wish to receive Communion, are welcome to come forward for a special blessing.

If you are unable to leave your pew for various health, or other related reasons, please inform the Usher of your desire to remain in your pew and have someone come back to give you Holy Communion or a special blessing.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE**

The month of June’s is given to the Glory of God.

**ALTAR CANDLES**

The month of June’s are given to the Glory of God & in memory of

PHILIP ZIMMERMAN, JR. by Jean, Phil, & Bob Zimmerman.

The Sanctuary and Altar Candles cost $10 each, and can be dedicated in

memory of someone. The sign-up sheet is located on a clipboard in the narthex.

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(Offered by Vicar, Assistant, and Congregation.)

**INTRODUCTION**

A. Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for

eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus

criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our

religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of

society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we

gather each Lord’s day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us

forth to be signs of God’s mercy for the world.

**PRELUDE**

(Music offered by our Organist before the start of our Worship Service.)

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

V. We invite you to stand if you are able.

V. Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who greets us in this and every season,

whose word never fails,

whose promise is sure.

**C. Amen.**

V. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God

and of our neighbors.

V. Merciful God,

**C. we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have hurt our community.**

**We have squandered your blessings.**

**We have hoarded your bounty.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

V. Righteous God,

**C. we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have failed to be honest.**

**We have lacked the courage to speak.**

**We have spoken falsely.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

V. God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God’s mercy:

you are freed and forgiven

in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ.

**C. Amen.**

(We invite you to remain standing if you are able.)

**FIRST HYMN**

(We invite you to sing along with the music offered by our Organist & Cantor.)

With One Voice – Blue Book

**718 Gather Us In**

**GREETING**

V. May 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.**

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**HYMN OF PRAISE**

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

V. The Lord be with you.

**C. And also with you.**

V. Let us pray,

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of

your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of

your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C. Amen.**

(We invite you to be seated.)

**FIRST READING**

Because the people have trusted in military powers and not God, God decides to

withdraw from the scene until Israel acknowledges its guilt and seeks God’s face.

The response of the people does not acknowledge this guilt and is as fickle as

fog or dew burned away quickly by the sun. God desires loyalty rather than words

or meaningless deeds.

R. Our First Reading is from the5th Chapter of Hosea (Verses 15—6:6).

R. 15I will return again to my place

   until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.

   In their distress they will beg my favor:

  6:1“Come, let us return to the Lord;

   for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;

   he has struck down, and he will bind us up.

  2After two days he will revive us;

   on the third day he will raise us up,

   that we may live before him.

  3Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord;

   his appearing is as sure as the dawn;

  he will come to us like the showers,

   like the spring rains that water the earth.”

  4What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?

   What shall I do with you, O Judah?

  Your love is like a morning cloud,

   like the dew that goes away early.

  5Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets,

   I have killed them by the words of my mouth,

   and my judgment goes forth as the light.

  6For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,

   the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

R. This is the Word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

R. Our Responsorial Psalm is from the 50th Psalm (Verses 7-15).

**C. Call upon me in the day of trouble, says your God.** (Ps. 50:15)

R. 7“Listen, my people, and I will speak: Israel, I will bear witness against you;

   for I am God, your God.

  8I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices;

   your burnt offerings are always before me.

  9I will not accept a calf from your stalls,

   nor goats from your pens;

  10for all the wild animals of the forest are mine,

   the cattle on a thousand hills.

**C. Call upon me in the day of trouble, says your God.** (Ps. 50:15)

R. 11I know every bird of the mountains,

   and the creatures of the fields are mine.

  12If I were hungry, I would not tell you,

   for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.

  13Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls,

   or drink the blood of goats?

  14Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving

   and make good your vows to the Most High.

  15Call upon me in the day of trouble;

   I will deliver you, and you shall honor me.

**C. Call upon me in the day of trouble, says your God.** (Ps. 50:15)

**SECOND READING**

Paul presents Abraham as a living model of right relationships. For Abraham and

for us, a right relationship with God involves trusting that God’s promises will be

fulfilled because God makes the dead alive and calls into existence what

otherwise does not exist.

R. Our Second Reading is from the 4th Chapter of 2nd Romans (Verses 13-25).

R. 13The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his

descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. 14If it is the

adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.

15For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

16For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace

and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but

also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, 17as

it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of

the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence

the things that do not exist. 18Hoping against hope, he believed that he would

become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous

shall your descendants be.” 19He did not weaken in faith when he considered his

own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred

years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. 20No

distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in

his faith as he gave glory to God, 21being fully convinced that God was able to

do what he had promised. 22Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as

righteousness.” 23Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for

his sake alone, 24but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him

who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25who was handed over to death for

our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

R. This is the Word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

(We invite you to stand if you are able.)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**C. Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, and has anointed me to bring**

**good news to the poor. Alleluia.** (Luke 4:18)

**GOSPEL READING**

Jesus demonstrates God’s mercy and power, accepting the unacceptable and

curing the incurable. Even the dead receive new life.

V. The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew, the 9th Chapter (Verses 9-13, 18-26).

**C. Glory to you, O Lord.**

V. 9As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax

booth; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

10And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came

and were sitting with him and his disciples. 11When the Pharisees saw this, they

said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

12But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a

physician, but those who are sick. 13Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire

mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

18While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue

came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and

lay your hand on her, and she will live.” 19And Jesus got up and followed him,

with his disciples. 20Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from

hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his

cloak, 21for she said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.”

22Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has

made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well. 23When Jesus came to

the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,

24he said, “Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at

him. 25But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the

hand, and the girl got up. 26And the report of this spread throughout that district.

V. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(We invite you to be seated.)

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

(Delivered by Vicar if Children are present.)

**SERMON**

(Delivered by Vicar.)

(We invite you to stand if you are able.)

**SECOND HYMN**

(We invite you to sing along with the music offered by our Organist & Cantor.)

Lutheran Book of Worship – Green Book

**551 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee**

**NICENE CREED**

V. Let us confess our faith together using the Nicene Creed.

**C. We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven;**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,**

**and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A. Trusting in God’s abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

(A brief silence.)

A. We pray, O God, for the church. Unite us with any on the margins, that the whole

world recognizes that your mercy is greater than our human capacity to restrict it.

God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. We pray, O God, for creation. Tend forests and fields and safeguard all cattle,

birds, and wild animals. Preserve lakes, rivers, and oceans and send rains to

water the earth. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters. God, in your

mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. We pray, O God, for the nations. Awaken in our leaders compassion for people

who have too often felt forgotten or neglected, and inspire policy solutions that

promote equity and inclusion. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. We pray, O God, for all who are in need. Accompany anyone enduring chronic

illness, any who suffer in secret, and those grieving a loved one’s death. Send

healing for all who plead for relief from sickness or pain; especially:

Betty Lang (Church Member)

Betty Becker (Church Member)

Janet Coleman (Church Member)

Debbie West (Church Member)

BettyAnn Rich-White (Church Member)

Jacalyn Nehlig (Church Member)

Kay Call (Church Member)

Frank Ford (Church Member)

Mo Bixler (Skip & Bonnie Millard's Friend)

Christy Spero (Blanche Cameron's Family)

Megan Pratz (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Patty Cioce (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Butch Mitchell (Mary Pierce's Family)

Carla Wagner (Betty Lang’s Family)

Tom McNamara (Audrey Kinka’s Family)

Beth & Bill Knapp (Betty Lang’s Family)

Denny Lauer (Maryanne Lauer's Family)

Terry Davis (Alice Davis’ Family)

Christine Fuller (Betty Lang's Family)

Rhiannon (Frank & Sharon Ford's Family)

Bob Brady (Maryanne Lauer’s Friend)

Bill Kanass (Betty Lang's Family)

Kevin (Betty Becker's Friend)

Ed Borse (Betty Lang’s Friend)

James Kershaw (Audrey Kinka’s Friend)

Edna McCann (Maryanne Lauer's Friend)

Patrick Brannan (Judy Brannan's Family)

Bandit (Betty Lang's Pet)

Suzie Clark (Rose Lang's Friend)

Kathy Beard (Maryanne Lauer's Family)

Evy (Betty Lang's Friend)

Amelia Skyrm (Audrey Kinka's Family)

Cindy Irana (Betty Lang’s Friend)

Ed Watson (Betty Lang's Friend)

Bill Bickley (Betty Bickley's Family)

Joe Cox (Maryanne Lauer's Friend)

Francis Clock (Dianna DeNote’s Family)

Jean O’Brien (Diana DeNote's Friend)

Andrew Hudak (Rose Lang’s Friend)

Fred Lang (Betty Lang’s Family)

Viena Murtha (Bob Fritsch’s Friend)

Salvatore Friscia (Diana DeNote's Family)

Amanda Testa (Betty Bickley’s Family)

Sally Shaffer (Betty Becker's Friend)

Christine Schneider (Audrey Kinka’s Family)

Maisie Donnelly (Betty Bickley’s Family)

Jackie Churchman (Audrey Kinka’s Family)

Caroline Palush (Bonnie & Skip Millard’s Family)

Sharon Waicus (Skip & Bonnie Millard's Friend)

Jill (Maryanne Lauer & Betty Becker's Friend)

Jerry P (Wanda Bryan’s Friend)

Ann Dickinson (Dianne & Ted Bell’s Family)

Karen O'Brian (Paul Bowker's Friend)

The Henning Family (Maryanne Lauer’s Family)

Dellie Valcourt (Bonnie & Skip Millard’s Family)

Analida Irizzary (Mary Melnicoff’s Family)

Dustin Irizzary (Mary Melnicoff's Family)

Helen Ehlers (Judy Brannan's Friend)

Cathy Smith (Mary Melicoff & Judy Brannan’s Friend)

Mike Maguire, Jr. (Betty Becker & Maryanne Lauer's Family)

John Lauer, Jr. (Maryanne Lauer & Betty Becker’s Family)

Craig Brearey (Judy Brannan & Mary Melnicoff's Friend)

Dolores Johnson (True Deliverance Praise & Worship Center)

Bruce Becker, Jr. (Betty Becker & Maryanne Lauer’s Family)

Michael Hale (Community Member)

Chip Hand (Church Family)

Tim McCartney (Betty Becker's Family)

Bobbie DelPrete (Church Member)

James Andreotta (Charlie & Karen Buckley’s Friend)

Del McKenna (Church Member)

Ed Green (Church Member)

Kali Poe (Betty Lang's Family)

Linda Dressic (Carol Detweiler's Family)

The Bryan Family (Wanda Bryan's Family)

Ernie Kinzler (Marie Hand & Doreen Kinzler’s Family)

Jimmy Ogg (Vince and Heather Piekarski’s Friend)

Mark (Judy Brannan’s Friend)

Bill Sivley (Skip & Bonnie Millard's Family)

Laureen Leshik (Diane & Ted Bell's Friend)

Anthony DeLuca (Church Member)

Kenny Balog (Vince Piekarski’s Friend)

John Banco (Bob Fritsch’s Friend)

Donovan Cruz Greenfest (Diana DeNote’s Friend)

Linda Smith (Rose Lang's Friend)

Joan Brown (Betty Lang's Friend)

Donna Bradley (Betty Lang's Friend)

Theresa Marioti (Betty Lang's Friend)

Roxanne Demartinis (Community Member)

Jake Staurt (Mary Melnicoff's Friend)

(Additional Names Added Prior to the Worship Service.)

A. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. We pray, O God, for the eradication of racial hatred. On this week when we

commemorate the Emanuel Nine, we implore you to cast out the demons of white

supremacy that make us believe lies about ourselves and our neighbors. God, in

your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

A. We give thanks, O God, for Barnabas and all the saints. Renew our faith that you

can do what you have promised and raise us, with all our beloved dead, to new

life. God, in your mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

V. Watch over all of us who are worried and suffering, and especially those whose

names we now say aloud or within our hearts (extended pause). God, in your

mercy,

**C. hear our prayer.**

V. Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C. Amen.**

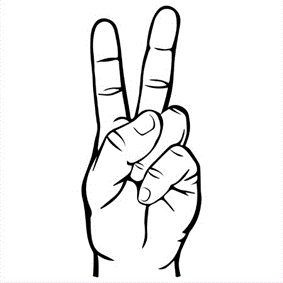
**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

V. May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C. And also with you.**

V. Let us share God’s Peace with one another.

(Please remain in your pews and offer the sign of peace with a peace sign or wave.)



**OFFERTORY**

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(Usher brings the Tithes and Offerings up front to the Assistant.)

(Assistant and Vicar prepare the Altar for Communion.)

**OFFERING PRAYER**

V. Let us pray,

God of field and forest, sea and sky,

you are the giver of all good things.

Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,

and multiply your graciousness in us,

that the world may be fed with your love,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C. Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

V. The Lord be with you.

**C. And also with you.**

V. Lift up your hearts.

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

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C. It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

V. It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer

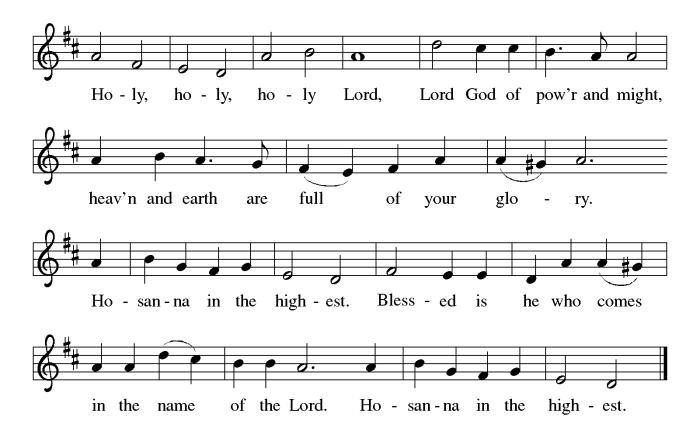
thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who rose

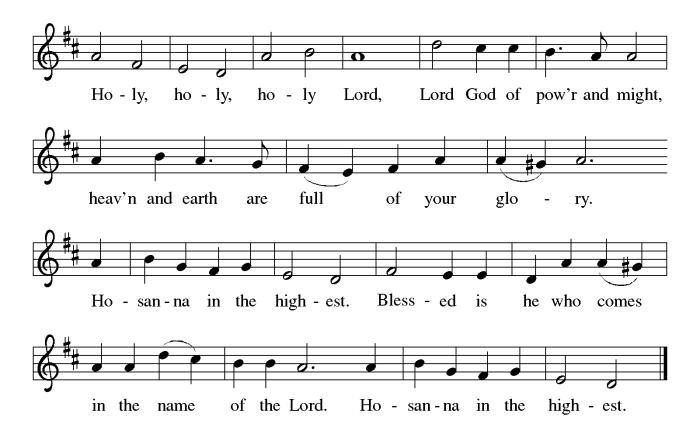
beyond the bounds of death and, as he promised, poured out your Spirit of life

and power upon the chosen disciples. At this the whole earth exults in boundless

joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your

name and join their unending hymn:





**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

V. Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, in mercy for our fallen world you gave

your only Son, that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have

eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us

through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may

receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in His holy supper.

**C. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

V. In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, he 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.*

V. Again, after supper, He took the cup, he 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**

V. May we now join with one another and pray together as Jesus has 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.**

**THE LAMB OF GOD**

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(We invite you to be seated.)

**HOLY COMMUNION**

V. All who believe in Jesus Christ are welcome at the table. We either utilize bread

or wafers for Communion, and we also have the option of individually wrapped

gluten free wafers if you desire. We have pre-filled red wine or white grape juice

cups in the Communion Tray to choose from. The Usher will offer the option to

leave your pew, and you can then proceed forward on the right side of the aisle to

the steps between the Communion Rail. Following Communion please process

back on the left side of the aisle and place your empty cups in the basket before

returning to your pew.

Children who have not had their First Communion instruction, and adults who do

not wish to receive Communion, are welcome to come forward for a special

blessing. If you are unable to leave your pew for various health, or other related

reasons, please inform the Usher of your desire to remain in your pew and have

someone come back to give you Holy Communion or a special blessing.

V. All people are called to Christ’s table.

Come, eat what is good.

**C. Amen.**

**COMMUNION SONG**

(Please enjoy music offered by our Organist.)

(Assistant and Vicar remove Communion Vessels from the Altar.)

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

V. Let us stand as we are able.

V. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us

always in His grace.

**C. Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**

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**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A. Let us pray,

We thank you, generous God,

for the refreshment we have received

at your banquet table.

Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,

through the one who is our dearest treasure,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

V. The God who calls across the cosmos

and speaks in the smallest seed

☩ bless, keep, and sustain you

now and to the end of the age.

**C. Amen.**

(We invite you to remain standing if you are able.)

**CLOSING HYMN**

(We invite you to sing along with the music offered by our Organist & Cantor.)

With One Voice – Blue Book

**782 All My Hope on God Is Founded**

(Assistant extinguishes the Altar Candles half way through the Closing Hymn.)

(Vicar processes out once the Altar Candles have been extinguished.)

(We invite you to be seated.)

**BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(Offered by Assistant and Congregation.)

**BIRTHDAY**

13th Jayde Cobleigh

**ANNIVERSARIES**

11th Vincent & Heather Piekarski

17th Frank & Sharon Ford

**DISMISSAL**

A. Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

(Music offered by our Organist as we depart following our Worship Service.)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & GENERAL INFORMATION**

**COFFEE HOUR**

The Women of the Church will be hosting their monthly Coffee Hour **TODAY**, following our Worship Service. The Women of the Church will host their next

Coffee Hour on Sunday, July 16th. See Judy or Kathy for more information.

**NEWSLETTER**

We continue with seasonal quarterly newsletters. Our next one will be released for the Summer. Please collect all of your info, stories, pictures, and committee reports for the next Publication. Turn it over to Heather by no later than Sunday, June 18th.

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Share your comments, concerns, questions, or joys with one of our Church Council Members who can bring them back to our meetings. Visitors are always welcome to attend and listen to what is going on in and around the church. Join us In- Person or on our Conference Call at our next Meeting on Tuesday, June 20th, at 6PM. Vince stepped down from his President position and off of Church Council to take on the position of Vicar. We remain hopeful someone will feel the call to fill this position. If you have any questions, please see Vince or any member of the Church Council.

**RUMMAGE SALE**

Our Rummage Sale will be on Saturday, June 24th, 2023, from 6AM-12Noon. Donations for the Rummage Sale can be brought into the Church Fellowship and placed on the tables outside the Sunday School Room to be sorted. Help is needed with various things leading up the event, and the day of the event. A clipboard is in the Narthex if you are interested in volunteering in any way.

**CAPE MAY JAZZ VESPERS**

Want something different to do on Sunday afternoons? Feel free to enjoy some music and time out on the town at Cape May Presbyterian Church located at 500 Hughes St., Cape May, NJ 08204. The Sunday Shows are at 3PM, and are only a $10 donation per person. The next performances and performers will be: June 25th with The Barry Miles Trio, July 16th with Edgardo Cintron’s Mambo Music,

August 20th with E. Shawn Qaissaunee, and September 17th with Gina Roche.

**WOMEN OF THE CHURCH**

The Women will be holding their next meeting on Monday, July 10th, at 6PM.

New members are welcome to attend! Contact Judy if you are interested.

**FIRST COMMUNION**

Although no particular age for first communion is prescribed by The Use of the Means of Grace, one guideline is offered. Because admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord to the baptized, "baptized children begin to commune on a regular basis at a time determined through mutual conversation that includes the pastor/vicar, the child, and the parents or sponsors involved, within the accepted practices of the congregation.” Each congregation is encouraged to ask the question of readiness for first communion, establish their own policies regarding age and practice, and accompany that practice with catechesis appropriate to the age of the communicant. If you have questions, or want to provide support, please see Vince.

We’re planning classes for two more sets of children to make their First Communion. Caylee and Bubba will be making their First Communion on Sunday, July 16th.

Callie and Amelia will be exploring making their First Communion on a future date.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A NEW MEMBER**

Have you been attending our church for a while? Have you just recently returned to church after being away for a bit? Maybe you transitioned from another church,

or just started to recently attend our church. We are glad to have you, and would love to have you as a member of our Congregation. Please feel free to ask Vince any questions, and for more information about becoming a member.

We are also blessed to have a few people considering membership in our congregation. Classes and plans for this special day will be taking place soon.

**PIANIST / ORGANIST NEEDED**

Charlie & Karen have prayerfully considered and decided to retire. As a result, we are seeking a Pianist / Organist that has the ability to follow Worship Service.

With the availability of Sundays 10AM-Noon and for various special services.

Call 609-886-2414 or Email Resume to Holyspiritlutheran@comcast.net

**FAVORITE HYMNS**

Charlie & Karen are willing to play your favorite hymns for the Prelude & Postlude

on Sundays. Let them know your requests so that they can be added to the list.

**CHURCH OFFICE**

Open on Wednesdays from 6PM to 8PM to serve the Congregation, the Community, and to continue handling the business of the Church. Feel free to stop in to talk, pick-up or drop off something, pray in the Sanctuary, or for whatever other reason.

**WORSHIP MINISTRY**

The most important thing we do each week is gather together as God's people to worship. God is the center and focus of everything we do. Participating in worship is active. Liturgy means the work and actions of the people gathered. Everything we do during the week to prepare for worship, and everything we do as we assist in leading worship, is important. Worship Leaders, Worship Assistants, Conference Call and the Computer, Readers, Greeters and Ushers, Communion Assistants, Home Communion Ministers, Altar Guild, Choir and The Music Team help make worship a meaningful experience. We are thankful for all the wonderful work being done. If you are interested in any position, please let Vince know so a training can be set-up.



**FOOD PANTRY, COMMUNITY DELIVERIES, & MORE**

Open every Thursday, and the last Saturday of every month, from 10AM to 1PM.

82 people were served in May. 393 people have been served in 2023. We have been blessed to serve a total of 7,055 people since we reopened in May of 2014. Donations can be dropped in the basket in the Narthex, placed in the outdoor drop-box by the Church Office door, placed in the money jug in the back of the Church, mailed into the Church Office, or placed in the Offering Plate. Volunteers are needed each week. If you are interested in any way please see Heather, Vince, or Bonnie.

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| **FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS** | | |
| **Thursday, 6/15** | **Thursday, 6/22** | **Saturday, 6/24** |
| Dolores & Tori | Cathie & Tori | Vicki & Vince |

Our local North Cape May Acme provides us with Expiring Soon, Recently Expired, and Slightly Damaged Foods weekly. Kathy helps those in need by delivering items each Saturday in the community. Kathy then brings leftover items to the Church for church members in need, and those who visit the food pantry during the week.

**PASTOR JEFF ELLIOTT UPDATE**

Pastor Jeff is Supervising Vicar Vince and continuing to help with the Food Pantry.

**HOME COMMUNION MINISTRY**

A Minister is available if you have a loved one, or if you yourself desire services in the community. We look forward in sharing the Word and Holy Communion with you! We continue looking for anyone interested in being trained. Please inform Vince, Kathy, or the Church Office so plans can be made for visits through this ministry.

**BIBLE STUDY & FAITH DISCUSSIONS**

What makes the Lutheran confession of faith unique? Why is Lutheran worship different than at the church next door? Does it have to be confusing? If you're a lifelong Lutheran looking to dig deeper, new to Lutheranism and want answers,

or are just curious about the Lutheran church-this is for you! All are welcome to

join us as we explore Lutheranism 101 on Wednesdays from 7PM to 8PM.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY**

You can pick up your copy of the 2023 Church Directory. We have continued to keep it updated to the best of our ability throughout the past year. Undoubtedly, we have probably missed a few changes, and that is okay. The newly printed church directories have spaces for changes in people’s information, new people’s information, notes, and even your favorite Bible verses. If you have any changes

or updates, please make it a point to inform the Church Office.

**TITHES & OFFERINGS**

We worship God with our tithes and offerings. These are monetary gifts in order to support our ministry for service in God’s name. Feel free to drop your envelopes in the offering plate, mail them to the church, or drop them off in the locked mailbox.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND**

We continue raising money for any unforeseen costs or repairs at the Church.Kathy is continuing to sell $5 Wawa Tickets, and the donation bin is in the back of the church. Thank you for your continued thoughtfulness, donations, prayers, & support!

**HALL RENTAL**

​​​​​Do you know anyone interested in renting our Fellowship Hall for a Party or Event? It is $250 for hall and kitchen use, plus a $50 refundable security deposit. Contact Vince or the Church Office with questions, for more info, or to reserve a date & time.

**BULLETIN ENTRY DEADLINE**

The Bulletin goes to print on Wednesdays during church office hours. Changes need to be submitted to Vince or Heather no later than Wednesdays at 5PM. Thank You!

**PRAYER LIST**

Our Prayer List continues to lengthen and we realize the important need for prayers and healing. Sometimes the unfortunate result is that someone has passed on, and the words “The Family & Friends of” appear before someone’s name. However, sometimes we forget names are still on the list and “they are healed” or the “they are no longer struggling” and they can be removed. Share the good and bad stories as we continue to pray for strength and healing. Names can be added or removed from the list on the clipboard in the Narthex prior to the Worship Service, by calling the church office, or addressing it on the Conference Call. Please let us know the relation to the person(s) you listed so we can be more mindful with our prayers too. Names will stay on the list until removed by the person(s) who requested prayer.

**DONATION STATION**

Get on the train and place all purchased items in the specified project donation bins located on the counter by the front doors. See Heather for more information.



**CLEANING & DISINFECTION SERVICES**

Heather’s Heavenly Cleaning Services cleaned the building on December 17th. Dave from Bactronix completed another swab test on January 8th, and another treatment was completed on January 27th. Please continue to be mindful and ensure good cleaning to make sure we provide a safe environment for everyone.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Prayer Shawls, Lap Quilts, and Scarves have been made with love for those in need. The blessed items are located in the Narthex, and are free for anyone. Members of the group continue to work at home on new stitches and patterns.

We have been blessed to continue collecting many more newly made items.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Classes have ended for the 2022-2023 school year. Classes will resume again

in October 2023 for next school year. Children of all ages will be welcome to

attend and learn through Scriptures, Crafts, Games, Videos, and Activities.

See Heather for more information or volunteering opportunities.

**TRUE DELIVERANCE PRAISE & WORSHIP CENTER**

Reverend Maria Brooks and her Congregation continue to utilize our facilities

from 1-4PM on Sundays. Their congregation helps us with the Food Pantry and hosts or assists with various other events throughout the year at the Church.

True Deliverance PWC also hosts a Prayer Line you can join on their Conference

Call # 1-657-390-7957 on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays at 5PM.

**VICAR APPOINTMENT ON MARCH 19TH, 2023**

A Memorandum of Understanding

On the Matter of Pastoral Appointment

In Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM) Candidacy

TO: Congregation Council, Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Villas

FROM: The Rev. Tracie L. Bartholomew, Bishop, New Jersey Synod

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

This memorandum is in support of your discussions with Vincent Piekarski as pastor of Holy Spirit, Villas. Because this is not the usual pattern for completing the educational and candidacy requirements for ordination, it is my hope that this memorandum will both provide guidelines and engage in conversation with those who are invested in this process.

I would say at the outset that because Vincent is an outstanding candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, we will all want to do whatever is necessary to assure that his placement serves the mission of the church in the best possible fashion.

The following notes reflect my own understanding of this matter:

(1) The appointment for Vincent will begin on April 1, 2023. At this time, Vincent will

assume all responsibilities of a regularly called pastor, including presiding at the

Sacrament of Holy Communion and Baptism at Holy Spirit, Villas.

(2) A pastoral appointment in the TEEM process is an option for completing

seminary educational requirements and the steps of the candidacy process.

Upon completion of the candidacy process and seminary education, the

candidate may receive and accept a call to ordained ministry form the

congregation where the appointment is being served.

(3) This appointment is jointly supervised by the Office of the Bishop and the TEEM

pastor’s seminary. A mentoring relationship with a local pastor is required for the

length of this appointment.

(4) The synod of candidacy origin will be responsible for the approval process.

(5) Upon approval for ordination, the congregation would be expected to extend a

call to the pastoral appointee.

(6) Compensation for the TEEM pastor will be according to the guidelines of the New

Jersey Synod. All normal forms of compensation should be in place for the term

of the appointment, including stipulation that base salary and housing shall be in

accord with synod guidelines for first call at time of ordination.

(7) The ELCA Portico benefit plan for lay persons in full-time church service should

be used for the pastoral appointee up to the time of ordination, whereupon the

benefit package is to be converted to the plan for ELCA clergy.

(8) A decision for Pastoral Appointment is made with the agreement of a synod and

its candidacy committee, and the ELCA, normally represented by the regional

staff person of each in consultation with the seminary and its Director for

Contextual Education.

(9) Pastoral Appointment in a TEEM Candidacy is an option that is to serve the

mission of the Church in a particular and vital way and is not to be viewed or

used as a means to circumvent the normal candidacy process and/or first call

placement process.

In the specific case of Vincent, the New Jersey Synod remains responsible for the candidacy and approval process, and has agreed to this proposal for Appointment at Holy Spirit, Villas.

Continued blessings to both Holy Spirit and Vincent Piekarski as you embark on this journey of mutual ministry. As partners in ministry, we walk with you and rejoice in this new relationship.



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| **2023 FINANCIAL STANDING** | |
| **MAY INCOME** | $5,042.00 |
| **MAY SPENDING** | $5,186.53 |
| **MAY GAIN OR (LOSS)** | ($144.53) |
| **2023 INCOME** | $77,825.59 |
| **2023 SPENDING** | $36,844.02 |
| **2023 GAIN OR (LOSS)** | $40,981.57 |
| **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND** | $20,390.46 |
| **FOOD PANTRY FUND** | $16,863.28 |

**CHURCH STAFF & VOLUNTEERS**

**VICAR, BIBLE STUDY & FAITH DISCUSSIONS, EVENTS, & WEBSITE**

Vincent Piekarski

**SUPERVISING PASTOR**

Pastor Jeff Elliott

**ORGANIST**

Karen Buckley

**CANTOR**

Charlie Buckley

**CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Vacant

**CHURCH COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT & CHURCH PROPERTY**

Ed Green

**TREASURER, CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY, & CHOIR**

Bonnie Millard

**SUNDAY SCHOOL, CHURCH OFFICE, FOOD PANTRY, & NEWSLETTER**

Heather Piekarski

**LICENSES & EXPIRATION DATES**

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