

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Pastor Doug Minton

209 West Jones Street, Milford, IL

Email: pastor@oursaviormilford.com

Phone: (815) 889-4121 Cell: (507) 626-0202



Second Sunday after Christmas

January 4, 2026

Service of Prayer and Preaching

Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Opening Hymn

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.
Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786
Text and tune: Public domain

Opening Versicles

LSB 260

L This is the day which the Lord has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.
L Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.
C Our God shall come; He does not keep silence.

L Prepare the way of the Lord.

C Make His paths straight.

L Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

C Let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth.

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C 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.

Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261

Refrain



C The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.
With joy will you draw wa - ter from the

wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that

day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,

make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -

claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

Refrain
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done

glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the

earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -

hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the



Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.



Refrain

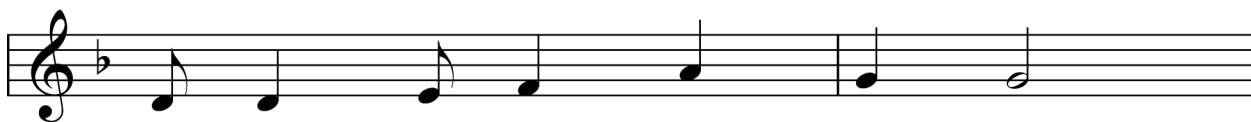
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son



and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will



be for - ev - er. A - men.



Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Introit

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11-12; antiphon: John 1:14

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;*
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;*
his understanding is beyond | measure.

But the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,*
in those who hope in his | steadfast love.

Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem!*

Praise your God, O | Zion!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

Old Testament Reading

Kings 3:4-15

[L] A reading from 1 Kings, the third chapter.

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶ And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day.” ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹ Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I

give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

L A reading from Ephesians, chapter 1.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

L A reading from Luke, chapter 2.

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.
⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom.
⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Common Responsory

LSB 263

L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Hymn of the Day

“In His Temple Now Behold Him”

LSB 519

1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -
 2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -
 3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,
 pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,
 hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him
 weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,
 God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,
 Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us
 His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.
 al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
 in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

Text: Henry J. Pye, c. 1825–1903, alt.
 Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt.
 Text and tune: Public domain

Ten Commandments

LSB 264

- C You shall have no other gods.**
- You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**
- Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**
- Honor your father and your mother.**
- You shall not murder.**
- You shall not commit adultery.**
- You shall not steal.**
- You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maid-servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

Apostles' Creed

LSB 264

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 264

**☐ 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.**

Sermon

Sermon Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

LSB 361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.
So God im-parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908
Text and tune: Public domain

Offering and Prayer

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

L . . . one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for the Word

L Blessed Lord . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Morning Prayer

LSB 266

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

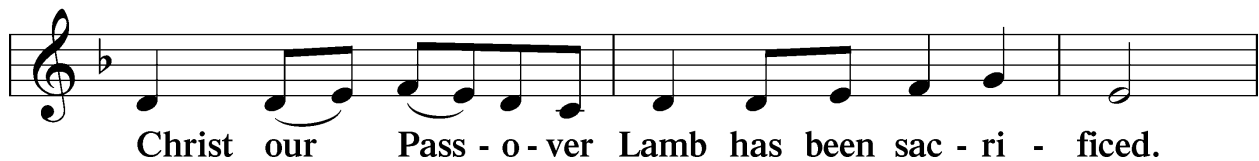
New Testament Canticle

LSB 266

Refrain

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.



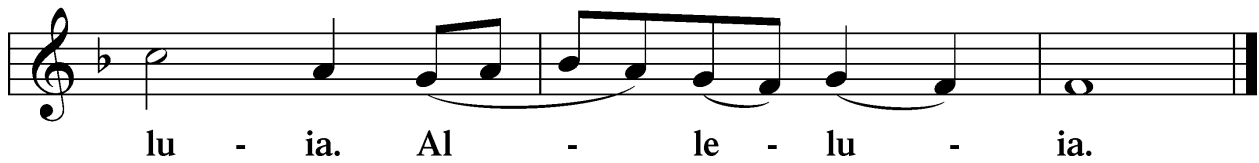
Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.



Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He



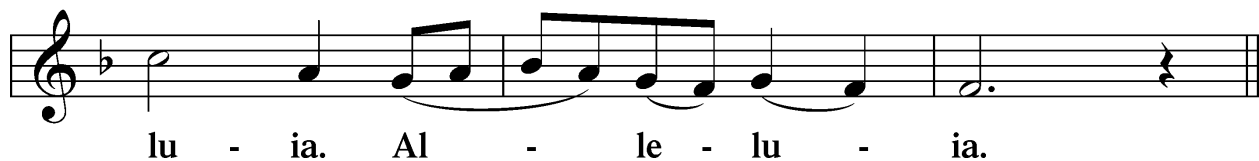
lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to



sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

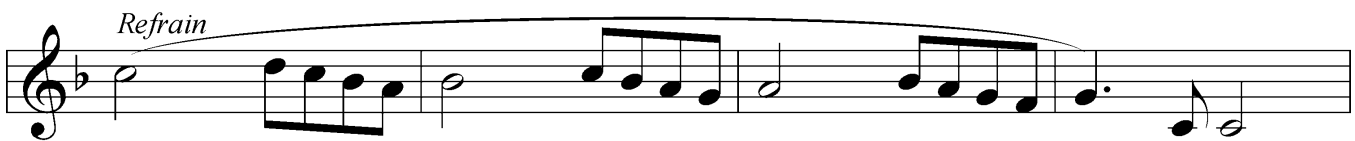
LSB 368



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



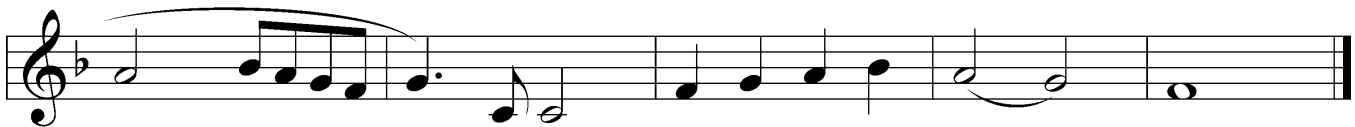
And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav' - n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.
Text and tune: French
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today: Worship at OSLC, 9am
Today: Worship at Good Shepherd, 11:30am
Wednesday: Bible Class, 10am
Wednesday: *Bulletin Deadline, 10am*
Wednesday: Confirmation, 3:15pm
Thursday: Gilman Nursing Home Service, 10:45am
Saturday: Men's Bible Breakfast, 8am
Saturday: Idaville Service, 6pm

Those Serving at OSLC

	1/4/26	1/11/26
Elder	Justin Schroeder	Jim Winder
Organist	Linda Kellerhals	Linda Kellerhals
Radio Monitors	Dean Lingley Patty Bruens	Linda Buhrmester Deb Wright
Sound Board	Kendra Morts	Patty Bruens
Greeters	Norman and MaryAnne Anderson	Doug Benner Kendra Morts
Acolyte	Avery Schroeder	Jaylin Lavicka
Head Usher	Landon Reutter	Landon Reutter
Altar Guild	Kendra and Evelyn Morts	Kendra and Evelyn Morts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN'S CARE CLINIC OF DANVILLE: As you shop this holiday season, prayerfully consider turning your purchases into PURPOSE by helping support families that are choosing life. You can purchase baby items from their Amazon Wish List to fill their Baby Market with essentials that moms can earn by completing their educational goals. Visit <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/W8GZQPHS8E9T> to view and make purchases. Thank you for helping!

JANUARY IS LIFE MONTH: Women's Care Clinic in Danville continues to care for those faced with an unexpected pregnancy. They provide pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, counsel, and prayer to many in our community. As we have done in the past, please pick up a Baby Bottle from the narthex to fill with money during the month of January. You can also donate baby items – diapers, wipes, lotions, sleepers, etc. Please return filled bottles and baby items by Sunday, February 8, 2025.

THANK YOU to Rev. Dennis Fangmeyer for preaching today in my absence. I will return to the office on Tuesday, January 6. – Pastor

WE WILL UNDECORATE THE SANCTUARY today following service. All help is appreciated.

ANNUAL MEETING will be Sunday, January 18. If you have a report, have it to Renee by Monday, January 12 to be included in the booklet.

UPDATES FOR THE 2026 DIRECTORY are needed. During the month of January, I will be updating the church directory. **Please look over your information and any other members of your family listed.** Send me any changes or corrections to your address, phone number, or email address by January 28. If you have tried to call someone using the information in the directory and it no longer works, please let me know that as well. Thanks for helping me keep information up to date.

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST will meet Saturday, January 10 at 8am. We will begin studying Lutheran history through the video study *Martin Luther*. Dean L. will be our host. This month, we start with the question "Who was Martin Luther?"

PRAIRIEVIEW LUTHERAN DOOR OFFERING: We will take a door offering for Prairieview Lutheran the next two Sundays. This offering will go towards the Community Enrichment Project. This Project is a multi phase development project that aims to make enhancements to the community surrounding Prairieview. Phase 1 consists of updates to Prairieview's structures (new flooring, paint, windows, etc), a Community Walking Path around Prairieview's campus (completed earlier this year), and a Community Daycare Center on Prairieview's campus. The fundraising goal for the Community Enrichment Project is \$1,000,000.

THE SMALL CHURCH SUMMIT for Winter 2026 will feature a presentation by SID President Heath Curtis titled "The Small Town Lutheran Church." Sectionals will be on "Shepherding our Strays," technology in small churches, and safety standards. St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lexington – on Feb. 21 or (if weather is bad then date is Feb. 28) Sign-in will be at 9:30 a.m., opening devotion will commence at 10:00, and closing prayer will be at 2:30 p.m. Register by January 3, 2026 at <https://forms.gle/eujwE5hmRC48wF7MA> Remember - If you think your church is small, YOU are invited. And everyone is welcome!

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Note from Pastor Micheal Schuermann: A student going off to college enters an exciting, yet perilous, season of life. There are many temptations to abandon Christ and the solid foundation of His Word and Church. The urge to invent or reinvent often pulls students away from the Lutheran Church towards trying other religious options. At the same time, however, many students find the opportunity to seriously consider the teachings of God's Word, and to deeply explore and grow in the Christian Faith. For all these reasons it is important that campus ministry congregations like University Lutheran exist and continue: to be a place for all those who flee to, or return to, Christ and His forgiveness for sinners. Find more information on the bulletin board including pictures of a confirmation, a baptism, fun and prayerful times as well as an opportunity to financially support UniLu.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE QUOTE "Your story might not look as extraordinary as Esther's. It might not be as exciting as David's or as tumultuous as Rahab's or as terrifying as Mary's. But you don't have to be extraordinary for God to work through you. He can accomplish great things through something as unassuming as prayer or as simple as a meal for a new mother." *Grace MacPherson – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life*

PRAYER LIST

Those celebrating a birthday:

Justin Schroeder	Today
Audrey Neukomm	Tuesday
Carrie Brazel	Thursday
Christopher Catron	Thursday
Kaitlynn Lange	Friday

Those celebrating an anniversary:

Alan and Suzie Smith	Monday (13 years)
----------------------	-------------------

Those suffering from cancer:

Linda Buhrmester
Ethel Lucht
Nancy Tobeck
Joey, radio listener
Dale Colvin, cousin of Jim Winder
Janet Doyle, friend of Patty Bruens
Tim Evans, brother in law of Bob Storm
Lisa High, friend of Becky Hiles
Kris Hines, daughter in law of Bonita Hines
Kendra Howard, niece of Doug Benner
Pamela Howard, sister of Doug Benner
Joe Judd, brother in law of Dennis Selk
Sue Schreier, friend of Renee Minton
Fred Wright, brother of Marvin Wright

Those requesting your prayers:

Homebound Members

Dianne Estes
Delmer Henrichs
Mary Kamin
Joann Sloan
Brenda St. Peter

Those serving in our Armed Forces and our local Law Enforcement, especially those connected to the OSLC family:

Armed Forces

Karl Gibbs - serving as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy

Justin McGahan - Milford community member, serving in the U.S. Army

Corey Moore - OSLC Member and son of Kevin and Kasey Moore, serving in the U.S. Marine Reserves

Timothy Raddatz - nephew of Phil and Cindy Raddatz, serving in the U.S. Coast Guard

Law Enforcement

Wyatt Alt - Iroquois County Sheriff Department

Central Illinois District Congregations: Concordia in Decatur and David Bueltmann her pastor.

Iroquois Circuit Congregations: Trinity in Cissna Park and St. John in Ash Grove and Dale Fjordbotten their pastor.

Those studying at the Seminary:

Seminarian Simon Niemtschk, Concordia Seminary, St Louis, MO.

Vicar Jacob Bergstedt, Redeemer Lutheran, Gresham, OR.

Those serving in the Mission Field:

Rev. Jordan Andreasen, his wife Alison, and children, Abigail, Bethany, Benjamin, Aaron, and Ethan, our international missionary, currently serving in

Romania. Rev. Andreasen works with the Confessional Lutheran Church in Romania and in the surrounding Balkan-Mediterranean subregion.

