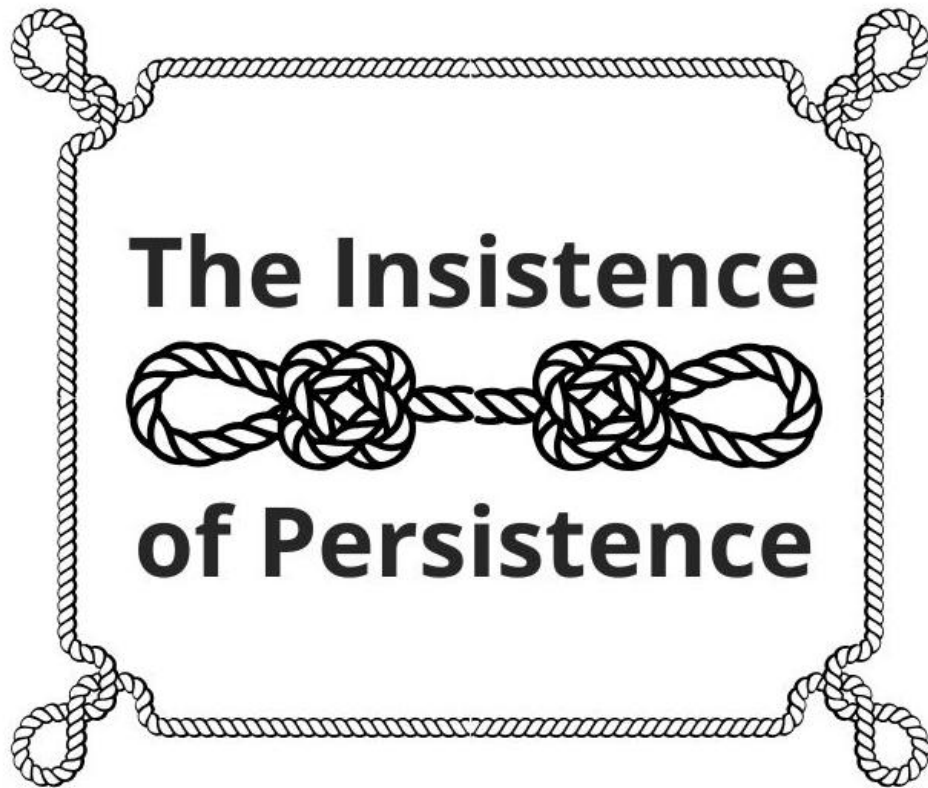




Time after Pentecost

September 5/6, 2026

6:00 pm | 8:45 am

Holy Communion

First Lutheran Church, Kearney, NE

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude “Give Thanks”

Music by Karen Kotrc

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

Liturgist: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

Liturgist: Confident that God justifies us by grace through
faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Liturgist: Compassionate God,

**C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from
overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions
disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our
hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to
one another. Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

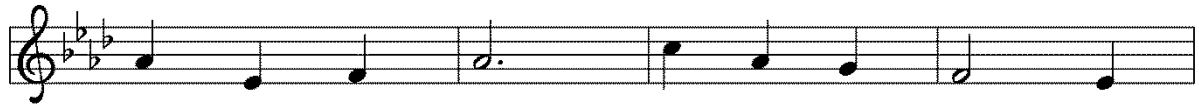
Liturgist: Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom
there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the
promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

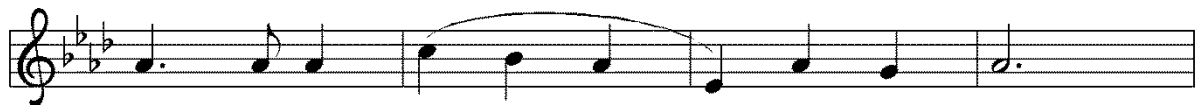
C: Amen.

Processional Hymn

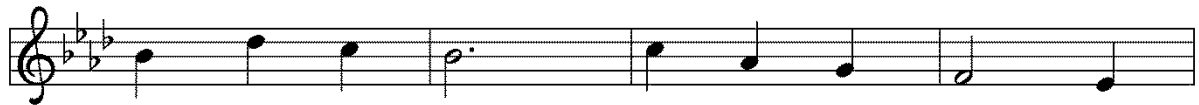
"Earth and All Stars" ELW 731



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
 5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



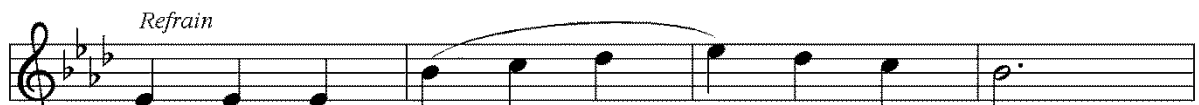
Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Refrain
 God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926, Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987. Text and Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Greeting

Liturgist: 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.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men, a - men.

Prayer of the Day

AM: Let us pray.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

8:45am Special Music “Friendly Fantasia”

Sung by: Mae, Tilly, Dottie Reece

**Accompanied by: Karen Kotrc, Jonathan Reece,
Miranda Wright & John Gosswein**

Please be seated.

Word

L: A reading from Romans the thirteenth chapter.

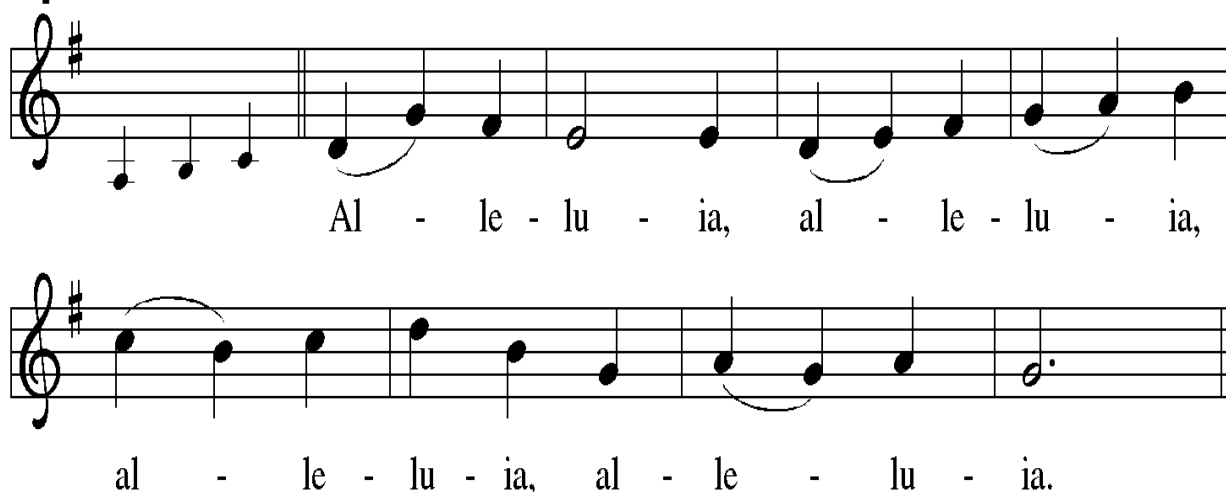
L: ⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.
(Romans 13:8-14)

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.

Gospel Acclamation



Thmoas Pavlechko, b. 1962 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one.

¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector.

¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” (*Matthew 18:15-20*)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message and “Noisy” Offering

(The Children’s offering goes to Lutheran World Relief to help children in Lebanon and Ecuador.)

Sermon Pastor Logan Ellis

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day “God, When Human Bonds Are Broken” ELW 603



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing
seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
all the fail - ures we con - fess.
set us free and grant us peace.
make us stron - ger, give us faith.
God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929. Music: William H. Monk, 1823-1889 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Co. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of CCLI #1093735

Apostles' Creed

AM: With the whole church, let us profess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of Intercession

AM: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence for reflection.

AM: Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. We pray especially for:

Jim Anderson Shelby Blankley Bertha Boyer Bo Burton Vicki Buschelman Pastor John Carlson Rich Ferris Corinne Fisher	Leonard Fowler Emersyn Fritson Randy Fritson Derek Johnson Lil Larson Pat Meyer Tom Meyer Natalie Radcliffe Mary Renshaw Michelle Sawicki	Garth Scism Bryan Slater Yvonne Steinocher Joanne Suing Betty Warren Dean Wiese Xander Wright Paula Yoachim James Ziebarth
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Prayers of comfort and peace for Evelyn Johnson's family and friends on her death.

AM: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

AM: Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Liturgist: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

Peace

Liturgist: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

Please be seated.

Meal

Offering *"The Gift of Love"*

Music by Karen Kotrc

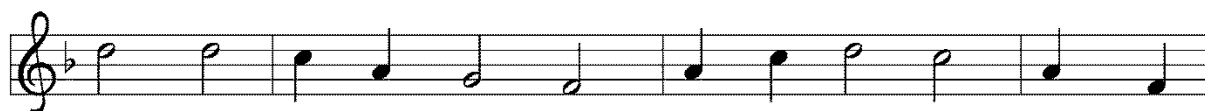
Communion Servers: Please come forward at this time.

Offertory Response

"We Place upon Your Table, Lord" ELW 467



1 We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, where you by
2 With - in these sim - ple things there lie the height and
3 Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them



grace have bid us dine, these to - kens of our dai - ly
depth of hu - man life: our pain and tears, our thoughts and
hum - bly from your hand; put these your gifts to high - er



work, the food of life, the bread and wine.
toils, our hopes and fears, our joy and strife.
use: the ho - ly meal that you com - mand.

Text: M.F.C. Wilson, 1884-1944, alt. Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835. Text and Music Public Domain

Offertory Prayer

AM: Let us pray.

God of creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.

All blessings are from you;

make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service to you and in love to our neighbors,

today and always.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord"

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was handed over, 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.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.

Invitation To Communion

P: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

We practice open communion at First Lutheran. All are welcome to receive the elements. Gluten-free wafers are available. In addition to the cups filled with wine (red) in the tray, there are cups containing grape juice (clear) in the center.

8:45am Prayers for Healing and Laying on of Hands

If you would like prayers of healing, join the pastor in the Narthex after you have received communion.

Lamb of God

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

Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Communion Music “I Surrender All” Music by Karen Kotrc

Please stand as you are able.

Table Grace

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

C: Amen.

Sending of Communion

AM: Let us pray.

Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who share your word and sacrament with our siblings who are sick and homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee", ELW 836



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adpt. Text and Music Public Domain

Dismissal

AM: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: “Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord”
Music by Karen Kotrc

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Worship Schedule**—Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9:45 am
- **Church Office Hours**—Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.
- **Brookestone Garden Services: First Sunday** monthly at 2:00 pm
- **For the hard of hearing FLC offers a loop system** for wearers with a “T” (t-coil) setting; the coverage works best on the main floor in the center aisles. T-coil is not available in the balcony.
- **S.A.F.E. Center donations** - for September are Kleenexes, paper plates, paper towels, toilet paper.
- **Volunteer of the Month** is the Property & Management Team. Their work includes North Kitchen updates, steeple repairs, and several other projects.
- **Communion registration**—Please register annually to maintain membership. Registration cards in pew racks & on Welcome Stations.
- **Visitors**—please complete a visitor card, found in the pews.
- **The Nursery** is available for anyone to use and includes a “toddler restroom”. Services are livestreamed inside.
 - **Sept. 7** – Labor Day / Church Office Closed
 - **Sept. 12 & 13** – Teacher Installation
 - **Sept. 13** – Sunday School & FLY Returns
 - **Sept. 13** – Adult Forum: 9:50am – Bishop Emeritus Brian Maas. Centennial Hall.
 - **Sept. 13** – God’s Work, Our Hands- 12noon Lunch, 1-3pm Work. Sign up in the Narthex.
 - **Sept. 19/20** – Installation of Women’s ELCA Officers
 - **Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4** – New Members Classes
- **Do you knit or crochet?** We need small prayer squares made. We have a pattern and yarn! Please call or stop in to the church office for details.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Jim Anderson Leonard Fowler Emersyn Fritson Randy Fritson Lil Larson	Pat Meyer Tom Meyer Natalie Radcliffe Michelle Sawicki Garth Scism Dean Wiese
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FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH

Shelby Blankley- Justin & Adriane Madsen's friend

Bertha Boyer – Susan Slater's aunt

Bo Burton – Janna Burton's son

Vicki Buschelman – Angie Wright's aunt

John Carlson – Monie Karschner & Becky Bredenkamp's cousin

Rich Ferris – Larry and Nancy Merz's friend

Corinne Fischer – Bridget VonSeggern's sister

Derek Johnson – Kylee Vreugdenhil's brother

Mary Renshaw – Linda Peterson's sister

Bryan Slater – Susan Slater's husband

Yvonne Steinocher – Deb Rohla's cousin

Joanne Suing – Angie Wright's aunt

Betty Warren – friend of multiple church members

Xander Wright – Dave & Angie Wright's nephew

Paula Yoachim – Deb Beerman's friend

James Ziebarth – Jane Ziebarth-Bovill's brother

Prayers of comfort and peace for Evelyn Johnson's family and friends on her death.

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Bev Vacha "*In Thanks and Praise for all God has done*".

Altar flowers are provided by Adam and Mollie Akerson in honor of Dempsey.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

**First Lutheran Church ~ 3315 G Avenue ~ Kearney, NE 68847
308-237-5544 ~ office@firstlutherankearney.org**

**Rev. Dr. Michelle Holley Carlson, Co-lead Pastor
Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson, Presiding Sunday
Pastor Logan Ellis, Preaching & Presiding Saturday**

**Assisting Ministers:
6:00 pm – Kim Deyo
8:45 am – Amy Behrhorst
11:00 am – Amanda Lewis**

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Give Thanks Henry Smith Arr. Mark Hayes 1990 Integrity Music, Inc.

Friendly Fantasia arr. J. Gosswein

The Gift of Love English Tune, Hal Hopson Arr. Hal Hopson 1982 Hope Publishing Co.

I Surrender All Arr. Lorie Line 2008 Time Line Productions, Inc.

Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord Bob Hudson Arr. Mark Hayes 1978 Maranatha! Music

