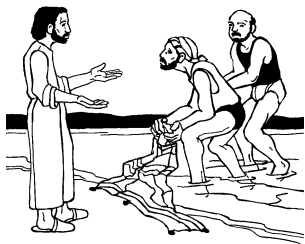


*Third Sunday of Epiphany ~ January 25, 2026*  
*Abiding Hope Lutheran Church*

Rev. Karen Parsh, Pastor  
Sheryl Williams, Coordinator of Music



*Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.*

**WELCOME**

***We invite you to quietly prepare your hearts and minds for worship.***  
*(Please turn off your cell phone)*

**PRELUDE ~ Choir:** *Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices*

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit call us together as the people of God

*Please stand*

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation. **Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.* God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security.**

**We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us.**

**Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.**

**Where we are reluctant, give us courage.**

**Where we are cynical, restore our trust.**

**Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.**

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God’s promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ☩ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG ~ ELW 720 *We Are Called*

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

### HYMN of PRAISE

**C** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

**I** Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we  
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

**C** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

**II** Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## PRAYER of the DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let's Pray Together. **Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

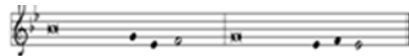
*Please be seated*

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

<sup>1</sup>There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: 27:1,4-9

Sung Responsively



Tone 7

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then I shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>4</sup>**One thing I ask of the LORD; one I thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God I in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble God will I give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- I on a rock.

<sup>6</sup>**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies I who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music I to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice, O LORD, I when I call; have mercy on me and I answer me.

<sup>8</sup>**My heart speaks your message— I "Seek my face."**  
**Your face, O LORD, I I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup>**Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of I my salvation.**



## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

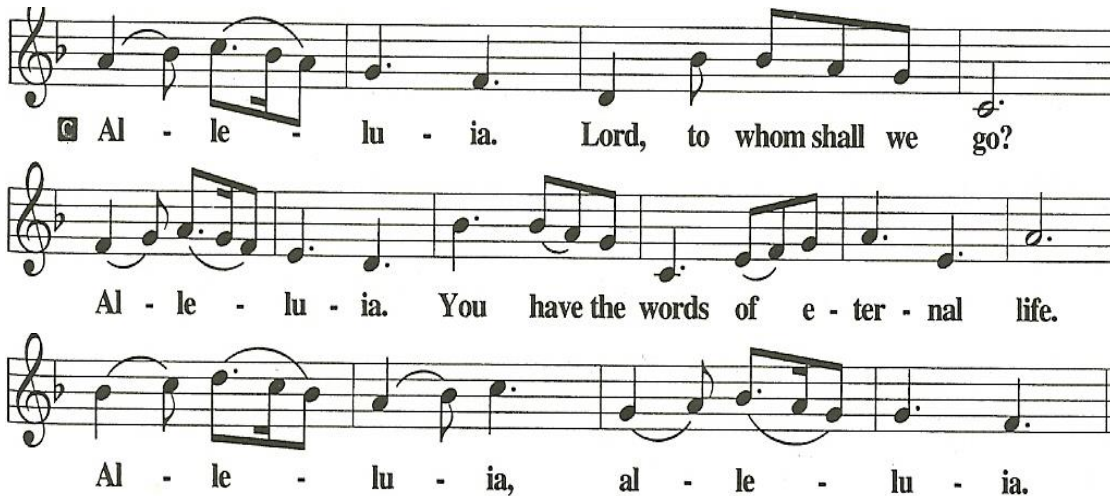
<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose.

<sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

### Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **GOSPEL: MATTHEW 4:12-23**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 4. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup> "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**SERMON** ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

*Please Stand*

**HYMN of the DAY** ~ **ELW 307** *Light Shone in Darkness*

## **NICENE CREED**

**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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Holy One, you entrust the message of the cross and the mission of the gospel to the church in every land. Guide the newly baptized and deepen the faith of all who follow Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Creator, you lavish creation with splendor, and we praise you for the gift of life. Teach us to live as wise stewards, sharing the earth's resources with all inhabitants of this garden planet. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Judge, your power is love, and you judge the nations by the measure of Christ. Free any who are unjustly accused or wrongly condemned. We pray for those in authority. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Lover, you care for vulnerable young children, frail elders, and any who are sick. We pray especially for: family and friends of Gail.

Also: Darcée, Ava, Ed, Matt, Carolyn, & Elliott, Paul, Josh, Adrianna, Titus, Lauren, Christina S., Laura, Jackie S, Harry & Susan, Dick & Diana, Candy & Arch, Leslie, Michele & Sue, Bob, Kathi, Maury & Linda, Damian & Marcia, Don & Donna, and Little Library requests. Provide for their needs and relieve their suffering. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Giver, you gather, forgive, and shape us as disciples of Christ. Nurture in us a spirit of patience and respect, that we may love one another as you love us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy Savior, you free us from the power of death. Lead and guide us until we come at last into the communion of all your saints in light. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **OFFERING and PRESENTATION of GIFTS**

#### **OFFERING**

*Please stand*

#### **OFFERTORY HYMN ~ Come and See**

What are you look - ing for? Come,  
see, come and see. What are you  
look - ing for? Come and see. Come and see.

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together. **God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.**

*Please Stand*

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

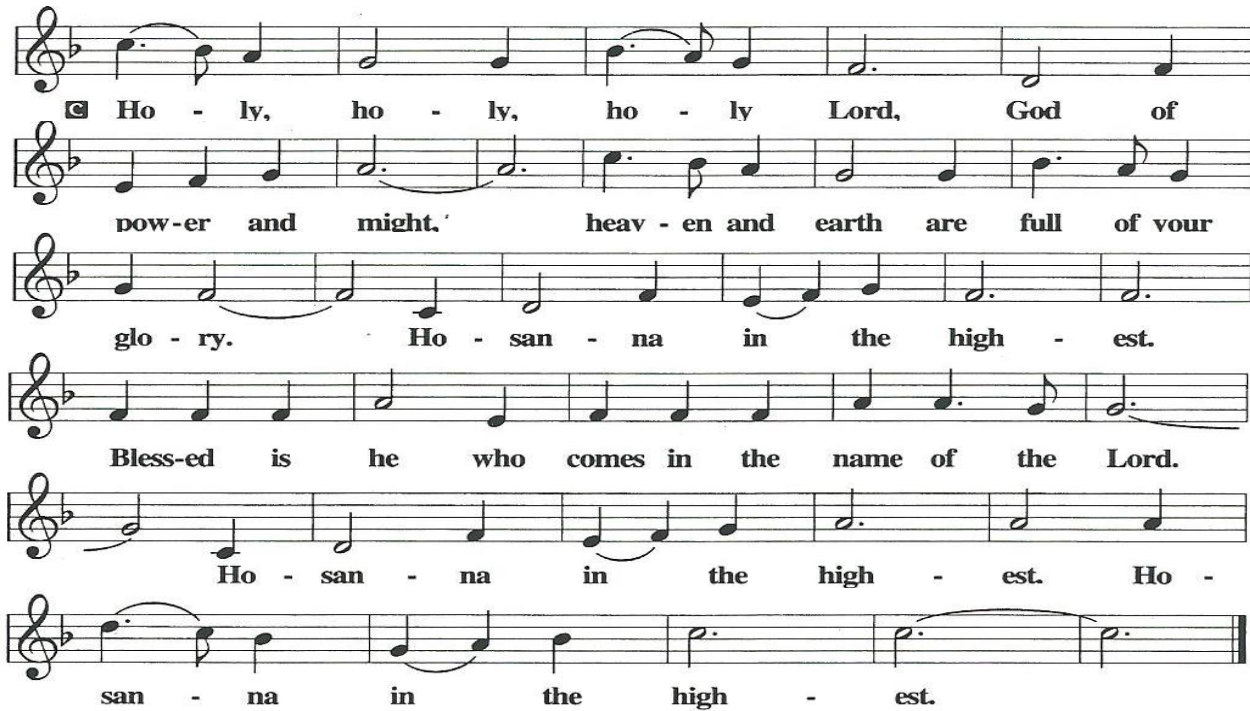
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



## PREFACE

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, almighty and ever living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING at the TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name....Amen.**

*Please be seated*

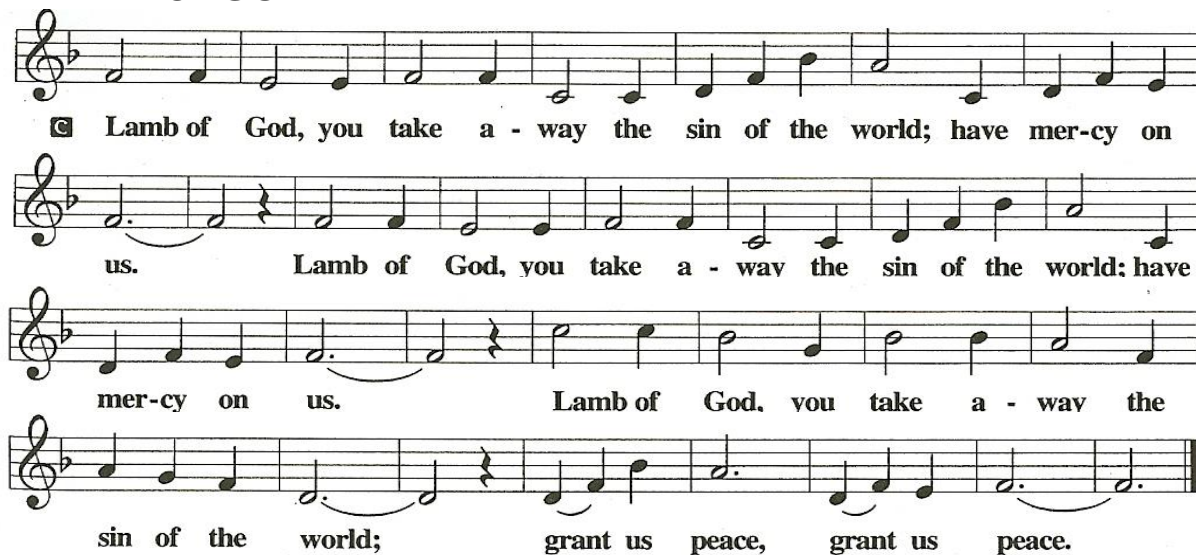
### **INVITATION to COMMUNION**

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

### **COMMUNION**

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

### **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.

### **COMMUNION HYMNS ~ ELW 798** *Will You Come and Follow Me* Instrumental Meditation

### **PASTORAL BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER after COMMUNION**

Let us pray. **God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please stand

## **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### **SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 677 *This Little Light of Mine***

### **BLESSING**

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

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### **PARISH NOTES ~ January 25, 2026**

Pastor Karen Parsh – 814-881-3266 [Pastorparsh@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorparsh@gmail.com)  
[ahadministrator@hotmail.com](mailto:ahadministrator@hotmail.com) - [www.abidinghopeerie.org](http://www.abidinghopeerie.org) –  
FB: [abidinghopelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/abidinghopelutheranchurch)

**Please keep in your prayers:** The family and friends of Gail Boyce.

**Also:** Darcée Anthony, Ava Whitely, Ed Whitbred, Matt, Carolyn & Elliott Marrotti, Paul Pacileo, Josh, Adrianna, Titus, Lauren Steele, Christina Sonthemier, Laura Vanlandingham, Jackie Seib, Dick & Diana Stoker, Harry & Susan Speakman, Leslie Gallagher-Kelly & Michele Rion & Sue, Candy & Arch Watkins, Kathy Sinnott, Bob McDaniel, Maury & Linda Allen, Damian & Marcia Santabene, Don & Donna Holder and Little Library request.

**Sunday, January 25: Worship 930a ~ Choir: 9a & 1045a ~ Bible Study 11a**

**“Read Through the Bible Together” zoom gathering @ 7pm–Still time to join the group. Sign your name/email address on the form in the narthex.**

**Sunday, February 1: Worship 930a ~ Choir: 9a & 1045a ~ Bible Study 11a**

**Tuesday, January 27: Anyone is welcome to attend a meeting @ 1230p to discuss this year’s **EASTER FLOCK** event scheduled for **Saturday, March 28.****

**Volunteers, raffle baskets and monetary donations will be needed for this outreach event for children. Additional Tuesday meeting dates will be determined at this time.**

**Wednesday, January 28: Prayer Warriors in the church sanctuary 1-3p. Please join us during this time for silent prayer, meditation and reflection or pray wherever you are within these hours.**

**Monday, February 1 and 16 @ 10am. Join Prayer Shawls Gathering in the Conference Room. Come join the group.**

**Sunday, February 8: "Souper Bowl of Caring"**. Your **monetary donations** or **cans of soup** will help **KAFP** and Second Harvest Food Bank provide meals to those in need.

**Friday, February 13: Night to Shine** prom-style event **needs volunteers**. Flyers with **additional information** are on the **table under TV in narthex**.

**Thursday afternoons: Share & Care @ 1p**. All are welcome to join this gathering for **meaningful discussions about God, Daily Life & Life Eternal** with Pastor Karen & Damian Santabene.

### *Looking Ahead to Lent*

February 18<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday services at AHLC @12n & 700p  
Lenten Study & Outreach: Beginning Wednesday February 25<sup>th</sup> @ 100p  
in the Fellowship Hall: Prayer & easy craft projects for Outreach Ministry.

**Little Jesus Project**: Every Sunday, please make it a practice to take a Little Jesus (or two!) and keep in it your purse/pocket for use during the week. You will find these in the Narthex— the basket located under the monitor. Find a place to leave A Little Jesus throughout your week to serve as an ambassador for Christ!

**Little Free Library/Pantry**: Do to increase in activity, the food supply has decreased. Greatly appreciate donations of **small packages of nuts/dried fruit/granola bars (no chocolate based ones), cheese/peanut butter crackers, individual cups/packets of meals/oatmeal/cereals with high protein, small packaged snacks. Cans/liquids cannot be accepted in cold weather**. Please check for expiration dates. **Also needed: gloves, hats, scarves, socks. Donation bins in Heritage Room.** *Abundant Blessings, Connie Kerr-Vogt*

**Sanctuary Flowers**: Arrangements have increased (1<sup>st</sup> time in over 15yrs) to **\$25.00 each**. Sign-up sheet/request forms with additional information on the table in the narthex.

**Office Hours**: Monday, Tuesday, 9:30a-3:30p. Wednesday, 9:30a-12:30p. For **immediate pastoral assistance**, call **Pastor Karen**, 814-881-3266. On Friday's please contact Rick Penn, 814-737-9974

### **WORSHIP LEADERS ~ JANUARY 25, 2026**

Videographer	Andy Saska
Greeter/Coffee	Nancy Cunning
Assisting Minister/Acolyte	Bob Hicks
Lector/Prayers	Jacque Holmberg
Communion Cups	John Holmberg
Communion Tray	Lois Kuhns
Presenter	Diana Stoker
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Usher	Rich Filson
Usher	Rick Penn
Counters	Diana & Lois