

RESILIENT TOGETHER



**LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE CROSS**

**Lutheran Church of the Cross
September 12, 2021
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
8:30 am & 10:30 am Worship
87.9 FM**

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 12, 2021 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa, Minnesota

Rev. Drew Bakken

Vicar Michelle Ruen

GOOD MORNING & WELCOME TO LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS!

Welcome to worship as we come together in praise and thanksgiving to our living Savior!
Holy Spirit, blow through our church with power. Open our hearts to follow your call.

INTRODUCTION

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of *messiah*) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

PRELUDE

"Lift High the Cross," J. Linker

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

"Lift High the Cross"

HYMN #660 (vs. 1,3,4)

(please stand as you are able)

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.
3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.
4. So shall our song of triumph ever be;
Praise to the Crucified for victory!

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

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

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God’s Work, Our Hands”

1. God’s work, our hands: working together, building a future, repairing the world,
Raising up homes, planting new gardens, feeding the hungry and sheltering the cold,
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel.
2. God’s work, our voice: singing together, praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
Praying for peace, shouting for justice, claiming God’s love for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel.
3. God is at work in and around us: seedlings are sprouting and bread’s on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored, gifted by grace, we respond in God’s love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call, sharing the good news of your gospel.

Wayne Wold, David N. Johnson©1968 Augsburg Fortress;2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,Augsburg;OneLicense#A-704268

READING

James 3:1-12

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of

nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

OFFERING “This Little Light of Mine,” arr. M. Hayes Sr. Choir, directed by Brian Stubbs

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(please stand as you are able)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

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GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-38

This story provides the turning point in Mark’s gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(please be seated)

SERMON

“Epitimaos”

Pr. Drew Bakken

SANCTUARY DEDICATION

APOSTLE'S CREED

(please stand as you are able)

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

“The Spirit Intercedes For Us”

HYMN #180

* The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express oh, oh, oh.

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Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word. Continue to nurture your church, that it is a place where your presence is experienced and shared. Lord, in your mercy*

Creating God, you brought life into being and called it good. Bring new creation to lands devastated by tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, and other disasters. Restore forests and curb overflowing waters. Lord, in your mercy*

Protecting God, you desire all people to live in peace and safety. Provide for all who are in danger. Strengthen first responders to help meet to the complex needs of others. Provide care and compassion as they face trauma themselves. Lord, in your mercy*

Transforming God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Amplify voices that go unheard and inspire us to advocate for those who are overlooked. Lord, in your mercy*

Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy*

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

(please be seated)

COMMUNION

Piano Selections

COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ✠ one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"The Trees of the Field"

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
And the mountains and the hills will break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.
The trees of the field will clap their hands.
The trees of the field will clap their hands,
While you go out with joy.

Stuart Dauermann, Steffi Geiser Rubin©1975, Lillenas Publishing Co.; OneLicense #A-704268

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Lift High the Cross,” J. Linker

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****Assistive Listening Devices function in the Celebration Center. If you choose to use one, please leave it on your chair when you exit so it can be sanitized for the next use.**

Dear Families with younger children: we enthusiastically welcome you and your growing family to fully celebrate the worship service with us. *Please relax.* We understand that God put the wiggle in children and we want them to feel welcome—it’s their church, too! Be sure to participate in the service, as kids learn how to “do” church by watching you. Quiet activity bags are available (are one-time use only, so take the bag and entire contents home with you.) Talk about church at home and in the car and address any curiosities children have. Finally, **THANK YOU for joining us**—we know it takes a lot of hard work and effort to get here!



*To give with your mobile device,
Scan the QR code to the left. Online giving available
at www.lccnisswa.org.*

Super Roll Sundays, our LCC youth fundraiser, will be served on the first Sunday of the month starting October 3rd. Freshly baked caramel and cinnamon rolls will be available during Coffee Fellowship —free will offering. We will also offer ROLLS TO GO by the dozen that will come boxed and ready to be picked up that morning. Sign up on the clipboard at the kiosk in the Narthex to reserve yours. Take a dozen (or two!) home to enjoy, or deliver to someone special! Thanks in advance for supporting this important Youth and Family Ministry.

LCC YOUTH PRESENTS

\$15 doz.



Thanks for supporting LCC's youth ministry!

welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship today. Please take time to quiet your heart and mind as you prepare yourself for worship today.

If you are visiting or interested in joining Lutheran Church of the Cross, please leave your contact information on the Welcome to Worship cards in the pews and place in the offering baskets.

If you have questions about LCC, please feel free to call Pastor Drew at 218-963-2564.

Lutheran Church of the Cross - News and Notes

September 12—September 19, 2021

PRAYER REQUESTS

LCC Members: Nonie Stumvoll, Dan Halland, Mindi Scott, Violet Anderson, Arlene Rice, Vickie Ottem, Wilfred & Marilyn Stoxen, Kathleen Warden, Mike & Bonnie Dunker, John Wallin, David Pederson, Don Anderson, Keith Both, Jana Campbell, Sarah Aga, Sue Pratt, Mark Boesen

Friends & Relatives of LCC Members:

Ellen Blais (Cheryl Swanson's mom), James Sawatzke (Mary Cram's nephew), Melanie Horvath (Gretchen Rogers mother), Marcia Scott (Mindi Scott's mom), Nancy & Emily (York Landing friends of Al & Linda Larson), John Ward (Rob & Loretta Norgon's neighbor/friend), Carol (Connie Peterson's sister), Jill Strange (Gloria Thomas' niece), Ernie Mancini (former LCC member), Martha Myers (Sharon Endicott's sister-in-law), Joe Torrez (Pete Mogensen's friend), Bill Ingham & Sharon Maki (Bob & Peg Beck's friends), John Granlund (Mary Cram's brother), Steve Foy (Mary Wnuk's friend), Helen Cason (Roxanne Soukup's mom), Bryce Eaton (friend of Dagny & Chuck Trucano), Judi Smieja & Brady Feist (friends of Jana & Brent Campbell), Emily Otto (sister of Pam Poston), Joan Goggins (sister of Diane Fogarty), Karin McCann (friend of Mark & Kari Erickson), Brandon Cram (grandson of Mary Cram), Lucille Schellin (aunt of Pete Mogensen), Lori Dowd (daughter of Lois Jensen), LCC members in care facilities, all veterans and active servicemen and women, and those struggling with mental health or addiction issues.

Please call the church office to make updates to the prayer list.



We're kicking off our new Fall Worship Schedule with a Rally Sunday Homecoming Celebration!

Live music and activities will be held between services today in the Celebration Center

Sunday Worship Schedule—

8:30 am & 10:30 am in the Sanctuary, Holy Communion on the 2nd & 4th Sundays

Cross Kids Connection 9:30-10:15 am in Celebration Center

Coffee Fellowship 9:30-10:15am in Narthex

Worship on Wednesdays starting Sept. 15, 2021

5:45 pm Supper, 6:00 pm King's Kids, 6:20 Worship Around the Table,

5:30 pm Bells of Praise, 7:00 pm Confirmation, Route 56, Sr. Choir

There's still time to sign up outside church office for Midweek Meal Ministry. This group will meet on Tues., Sept. 14 at 4pm in Celebration Center. Contact Sally Hodgson with any questions.

Join us next Sunday, September 19th during coffee fellowship to honor Clint Baker. After serving LCC for 16 years as our Custodian, Clint is leaving to pursue a new adventure. Come and bid a fond farewell, help us show Clint our appreciation, and wish him well.

Next Sunday is Affirmation of Baptism for 17 LCC Confirmands. We will be holding a special service for the confirmands, their families, mentors, and friends at 11:30 am in the Sanctuary.

We are in Stage 4 of our COVID –19 Reopening Plan.

In-person worship **Sunday Services** are held in the Sanctuary at 8:30 am & 10:30 am. 8:30 service is available via video streaming on our website and is broadcast to our parking lot on 87.9 FM.



- We no longer require visitors to sign in when entering the building.
- Large group gatherings and serving of food may resume.
- All restrooms and water fountains will be opened for use.
- Our Nursery will open starting Sept. 12th.

Mask wearing indoors strongly recommended even those who have been vaccinated.

In continuation of our Reopening Plan, our staff and Council will continue to consult with medical experts and gather input from community organizations and then make a recommendation for moving to Stage 5 at the appropriate date.

We thank you for your continued support, prayers and cooperation as we have navigated the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are truly RESILIENT TOGETHER!

Church Rummage Sale Volunteers Needed: September 13-18

- Sept. 13-15: Set Up & Display, 9am—4:30 pm (Furniture donations ONLY accepted on 14th & 15th)
Sept 16: SALE DAY, 8am—7pm There will be no clothing at this sale, which will be held outdoors only in the east parking lot.
Sept. 17: SALE DAY, 8am—6pm
Sept. 18: Clean Up, 9am until done *Volunteer sign up sheets located in the hallway by CC.*

***Monday morning we will be focusing on setting up the tents and tables.**

The Creation Care Team Sharing Market Sundays between services

Each Sunday thru September, tables will be located in the hall across from Chapel Hall by the small kitchen. Bring baked goods, preserves, flowers, and produce for the table. Share your bounty! Be as generous as possible when purchasing items.

2021/22 Supper Club. New Supper Club groups are now forming. We hope you will enjoy good food, good fun and good fellowship together. Sign up by October 3rd. Signing up for supper club means you are committed to hosting one supper at your home with everyone in your group providing part of the meal. Questions? Please call Kate Carlson at 218-851-1277 or Margaret Sommerfeld at 218-825-0576

Outdoor Adventures is a NEW group starting up at LCC this year. Throughout the year, this group will offer a variety of outdoor activities led by our own members; there are so many fun and intriguing adventures to do right in our own back yard. Our first Outdoor Adventure will be held at the **Cuyuna Lakes Bike Trails on Sunday afternoon, September 19, from 3:00 PM (til 5:00 app)**. This is open to everyone - singles, families, couples, young and old, beginners, intermediate, and expert bicycle riders. There are walking trails available for non-bike riders, too. Guests are welcome! Invite a friend or two and come! Hope to see you there! Contact person: Pam Johnson @ 218-330-5207.

THIS WEEK AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

September 12—September 19, 2021

- SUN, 9-12:** *B-days: Jodi Gerlich, Becky Hahn, Daniel Hemish*
8:30 **Worship w/ Communion & Online**
9:30 Cross Kids Connection
9:30 Coffee Fellowship/Homecoming Celebration
9:30 Sharing Market
10:30 **Worship w/ Communion**
- MON, 9-13:** *B-days: Melissa Bestul, Vivian Bolt*
8:30 Staff Meeting & Prayers
9:00 Rummage Sale Setup
11:00 Soul Sisters
1:00 Prayer Shawl Group
- TUES, 9-14:** *B-days: Anthony Nelson*
9:00 Computer Lab
9:30 Rummage Sale Setup
1:00 Nisswa Garden Club Board Meeting
4:00 Midweek Meal Ministry Meeting
- WED, 9-15:** *B-days: Wyatt Fink, Roland Johnson, Aurie Smith, Clinton Strother*
8:30 Text Study
9:00 Rummage Sale Setup
4:00 Creation Care Team Meeting
5:30 Bells of Praise Rehearsal
5:45 Wednesday Supper
6:00 King's Kids Rehearsal
6:20 Wednesday Worship
7:00 Confirmation & Route 56 Orientation
7:00 Sr. Choir Rehearsal
- THURS, 9-16:** *B-days: Emily Aga, Diane Baker, Serenity Kottke, Ally Oium, Dennis Ricklefs, Marty Schwab*
8:00 RUMMAGE SALE—OUTSIDE ONLY UNTIL 7PM
7:00 A.A.
- FRI, 9-17:** *B-days: Sally Hodgson, Matthew Mailand, Caroline Rasinski, Sandy Strom-Gieseke*
8:00 RUMMAGE SALE-OUTSIDE ONLY UNTIL 6PM
- SAT, 9-18:** *B-days: Mindi Brill, Alanna LeBlanc, Fern Schmidt*
9:00 Rummage Sale Cleanup until done
10:00 Internment
6:30 Capstone Creed Sharing & Dessert
- SUN, 9-19:** *B-days: David Maccabee*
8:30 **Worship & Online**
9:30 Cross Kids Connection
9:30 Coffee Fellowship & Sharing Market
10:30 **Worship**
11:30 **Affirmation of Baptism Worship**
1:00 Private Baptism
3:00 Outdoor Adventures

**Lutheran Church
of the Cross
Daily Bible Reading
from Lectionary B
Mon., Sept 13, 2021**
1 Kings 13:1-10
Romans 3:9-20
Psalm 119:169-176

Tues., Sept 14, 2021
1 Kings 13:11-25
Colossians 3:1-11
Psalm 119:169-176

Wed., Sept 15, 2021
Isaiah 10:12-20
John 7:25-36
Psalm 119:169-176

Thurs., Sept 16, 2021
Judges 6:1-10
1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Psalm 54

Friday, Sept 17, 2021
1 Kings 22:24-40
Romans 11:25-32
Psalm 54

Sat., Sept 18, 2021
2 Kings 17:5-18
Matthew 23:29-39
Psalm 54

Children, Youth & Family Ministry

Welcome to our Rally Day Homecoming Event today—join us as we kick off our fall programming with a Pep Rally atmosphere—between services we will have live music in the Celebration Center—grab a coffee and donut and check it out and welcome our kids back to Cross Kids Connection.

We will also kick off our new Cross Kids Message Time today—kids should sit in the sanctuary with their families for the beginning of the worship service, will leave for message and songs, and return for Words of Institution and Communion with their families.

Worship on Wednesdays is returning this week with Bells of Praise at 5:30pm, supper at 5:45pm, King's Kids at 6pm, worship at 6:20pm and Confirmation, Route 56 and Sr. Choir at 7pm. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Third Graders will be receiving their Bibles during the 10:30am worship service on September 26. Third graders and parents should join Kari at 9:30am that day for a Bible Workshop. Any questions, please let Kari Erickson know.



Affirmation of Baptism will be held next Sunday, September 19th at 11:30am in the Sanctuary. We wish God's blessings on all of our confirmands!

Please keep the following youth and their families in your prayers: Scarlett Anderson, Vanessa Anderson, Clay Erickson, Logan Fogarty, Weston Hiles, Aron Hushagen, Elizabeth Knutson, Landon Kubesh, Kelsi Martini, Jake Merseeth, Payton Scott, Charlee Sullivan, Will Taylor, Ethan Thomas, Martin Timmons, Logan Verville, Maggie Wolter.

Wednesday evening programming for 5th—9th graders starts up on Wednesday, September 15—details have been mailed out. We look forward to seeing you all again!!! Confirmation orientation (grades 7-9) will be held following worship in the Celebration Center that evening.

Creation Care Green Tip

Submitted by Laura Raedeke, Creation Care Team

The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced that by the end of this year, protections for millions of streams, marshes and other bodies of water across the country could be restored, following the request by the Department of Justice and Department of the Army to limit the discharge of pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides and industrial chemicals into those waters. In March, *Consumer Reports* and the *Guardian* issued findings that found serious levels of toxic chemicals including lead, arsenic and/or PFAS (a group of synthetic toxins) at dangerous levels in 35% of the 120 U.S. drinking water systems analyzed. PFAS compounds ("forever chemicals") are in our clothing, carpets, nonstick cookware, fast-food containers, and thousands of other products, contaminating drinking water in more than 2,300 communities in 49 states. Seeping in from chemical factories and landfills, they are linked to: high cholesterol, ulcerative colitis, thyroid disease, pregnancy-induced hypertension, testicular and kidney cancers, and possibly learning delays in children.

Thanks to our Worship Assistants!

Musicians	Cathy Taylor, Brian & Jenny Stubbs
Greeters	8:30 Jim & Bonnie Brandon 10:30 Rob & Loretta Norgon
Ushers	8:30 Wes Anderson, Marlow Strand 10:30 Nate, Rachel, Jake & Luke Merseth
Readers	8:30 Pat Larson 10:30 Danae Anderson
Altar Guild/Comm. Asst.	8:30 Colleen Both/Mary Frost & Kim Cameron 10:30 Colleen Both/ Deb Rottschafer & Mary Backlund
Worship Coordinator	8:30 Roger Macy 10:30 Darrell & Candy Barnack
Coffee Fellowship	Jim & Anne Kostreba
Nursery	Colleen Bakken



DIRECTORY

Church of the Cross Office

218.963.2564

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Email: lcc@lccnisswa.org

Web Site: lccnisswa.org

Pastor

Rev. Drew Bakken

Children and Family Ministry

Kari Erickson

Youth and Family Ministry

Custodian

Clint Baker

Office Manager

Laurie Hemish

Financial Secretary

Karen Wiele

Music Ministry/Organist

Cathy Taylor

Vicar

Michelle Ruen

Lay Ministries Coordinator

Sally Hodgson

Senior Choir Director

Brian Stubbs

Organist

Laura Raedeke

Bell Choir Director

Cheryl Karlgaard

King's Kids Director

Mike & Carol Smith

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