

The Baptism of Our Lord Sacrament & Renewal of Holy Baptism

January 11, 2026 | 10:00 am

Word & Eucharist | Online & Onsite



God Loves. We Love.
Everyone!
Dios Ama. Amamos.
Todos!

3001 Whitis Avenue
Austin, Texas 78705
info@felcaustin.org
512.478.1933 church

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. THIS MEANS YOU.

Welcome to First English Lutheran Church. We are a congregation of the Southwestern Texas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). You are invited to fully participate in a community of faith and friendship that gathers for worship, relationship building, personal growth, and service in the community and the world. Following the example of Christ, this congregation welcomes you exactly as you are.

Worship is at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we encounter God, express our adoration, define our identity, and are formed and transformed as the people of God. As we are gathered together, we receive the Word of God, give thanks, and are sent to be living, active images of divine love.

FELC is committed to the work of racial equity, justice, and advocating for marginalized groups. We welcome people in all places on the journey of faith and life. We celebrate differences in age, appearance, economic status, ethnic origin, nationality, race, family configuration, marital or relationship status, political leaning, religious background, and those who are differently abled physically or mentally. Since 1989, FELC has openly welcomed persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions to full participation in the church and society. For more on our welcome and life, visit www.felcaustin.org.

As we gather, we acknowledge the presence of God's people living on this land long before European conquest. These lands and waters have sustained the Coahuiltecan, Comanche, Jumanos, Lipan Apache, Sana, Tonkawa, and other indigenous peoples for thousands of years. Gathering today to worship on ancestral homelands, we acknowledge and honor our indigenous sisters, siblings, and brothers who continue to care for the land and water and call this land home.

All Gender Restrooms, with infant changing tables, are located in the hallway off of the sanctuary near the fellowship hall. **Hearing assistance devices** are available for the sanctuary, with two options: an earpiece, or a hearing loop for those who use hearing aids; please connect with an usher for a hearing assistance device. **Seat cushions**, for use on our wood pews, are available from an usher.

What is the time after the Epiphany? The manifestation of Christ to the peoples of the earth. Second century followers of Jesus chose this season to celebrate the various manifestations, or “epiphanies,” of Jesus’ humanity and divinity. These showings included his birth, the coming of the Magi, his baptism, the Wedding at Cana where he miraculously changed water into wine, his appearances, and his transfiguration. We continue to celebrate on Sundays leading up to Ash Wednesday. In the waters of the Jordan River, Jesus is revealed as the beloved. Through this great epiphany, Jesus becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light. At the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God’s mission for the life of the world. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim the good news of God’s love to all. Shine!

Spirit Space: Children and families are invited to a Spirit Space in the North Transept (near the front of the sanctuary), with a rug, floor pillows, and other supplies. Children and adults may engage in the worship service and stay together in the Spirit Space. We welcome the joy and curiosity children offer.

The assembly remains seated as the musicians begin.

Gathering Song

We Shall Not Be Moved

The assembly may stand, as able. The assembly joins the choir in singing these last verses:

**We shall not, we shall not be moved.
We shall not, we shall not be moved.
Like a tree that’s planted by the water,
We shall not be moved.**

“We Shall Not Be Moved” is an African-American spiritual, based in the bible, dating to the early 19th century American south. It was likely originally sung at revivalist camp meetings. It describes being “like a tree planted by the waters” who “shall not be moved” because of God’s faithfulness. This song gained popularity as a labor union and protest song of the Civil Rights Movement. This arrangement is based on Mavis Staples’ version.

Greeting

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

And the glory of the Lord is revealed!

There is one body and one Spirit.

There is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one faith, one baptism.

One God who created us all.

God dwells with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River you proclaimed him your beloved and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your beloved people, and empower all with your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

Welcome to Worship & Community

If this is one of your first times with First English, please use this QR code.
We are grateful for the opportunity to connect more.



✝ WORD ✝

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

² He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street;

³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;

he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵ Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out,

who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We welcome Christ in the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia



Verse: A voice from heaven said, “This is my Chosen One, | the Beloved,*
with whom I | am well pleased.” Matthew 3:17; Plainsong Via

The assembly repeats the Alleluias.

*The Gospel is announced, responding with: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Chosen One, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

The assembly repeats the Alleluias.

Sermon

At baptisms, affirmations and confirmations, funerals and memorials, and throughout the fifty days of Eastertide, we light the large Paschal candle as a reminder of the light of Christ's resurrection. The term "Paschal" comes from the Latin word "Pascha", which came from the Hebrew word Pesach, which in Hebrew means Passover.

✝ SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM ✝

Today we welcome Emily Claire Marty to this community of faith
through the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Parents: Paige & Michael Marty Sponsor: Elizabeth Bertolini
Birthdate: September 7, 2025

The candidate and family gather with the ministers at the font.

Children and adults worshiping today are invited close to experience the baptism.

Welcome, Thanksgiving at the Font, & Presentation of God's Beloved

God dwells with you

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

In the beginning, the earth was formless and void. There was no space and no time. Called by God, the universe sprang forth in light. As it expanded, pure energy condensed into protons and electrons, which combined into the first element, hydrogen. Hydrogen atoms gathered into the first stars and were fused by gravity into helium, carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen. In the darkness of space and in debris from dying stars, hydrogen and oxygen came together to form water. Billions of years later, the earth coalesced, and oceans of water formed on the cooling planet. Called by God, life sprang forth and evolved from a single common ancestor into incredibly diverse forms. However, all life still speaks the same molecular language and depends entirely on water. Water moves within us, through condensation reactions that build up the structures of our cells and hydrolysis reactions that break them down. Each breath connects us to the vast cycles of water throughout the planet.

You, little one, are the product of a patient Creator, who has waited billions of years to meet you and counted all the atoms on all the hairs on your head. Today, in baptism, God names you as their beloved child and anoints you with the Holy Spirit. You are a part of a complex and interconnected world. Today, in baptism, we welcome you as the latest sibling in Christ's family. You are also empowered as a co-creator with God. Your choices matter and will impact the world. Today, in baptism, you are called to a life of discipleship. Like the rest of us, you will struggle and fail at times. But, living in baptism is to be continually reborn, assured that the God of abundant mercy has washed our sin away.

Today, we will make promises to God, to you, and to one another. We will recommit ourselves to the mission of God as people of water and Word. These promises are from foundational tenants of our faith tradition and have been the language of the Church for thousands of years. Emily, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer matter. There are other aspects of discipleship that also matter: the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus turning of the tables in the Temple, and the Spirit's call at Pentecost. God is a God of "both/and", continually striving to include the excluded, and break down the walls that divide us. Jesus offered only one "either/or", saying that we cannot serve both God and money. Dear Emily, today we make clear that God has loved you and all creation since before the earth was formless and void.

The candidate is offered for holy baptism by parents and godparents.

I ask you: who is this little one here?

Response of parents: We bring Emily Claire.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have God's beloved baptized into Christ?

Response of parents: We do.

Vows & Promises

As you bring Emily to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with many responsibilities and joys: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands and heart the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that Emily may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Emily grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response of parents: We do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Sponsor, do you promise to nurture Emily as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help Emily live in the covenant of her baptism, in communion with the whole Church, and in support of Emily as she grows into who God has made her be?

Response of godparent/sponsor: I do.

Everyone may stand.

To all the baptized gathered, and speaking for the whole Church, do you promise to support Emily and pray for Emily in her life in Christ? If so, respond, we do!

We do!

Do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

If so, we respond together:

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Affirmation of Faith | Apostles' Creed

Let us boldly make affirmation of our faith before God and embrace the life of the Spirit. If you are not a disciple of Jesus, may this affirmation be a sign of blessing and an invitation to deeper relationships in the life of the Church.

I ask those making promises for and to Emily, and all disciples of Jesus, to profess and renew your faith, reject sin, and confess the faith of the whole church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them!

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them!

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them!

We belong to God's cosmos, and we belong to Christ's family, the Church. When we affirm "I believe in" through the story of God, Jesus, and the Spirit, we are trusting that, like the first apostles of Jesus, "we belong to" this story and to one another.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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

Intercession response: God of grace, hear our prayer.

Baptism

A minister of word and sacrament baptizes.

Emily Claire, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

Anointing of the Spirit

A minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized.

Oil prepared for this purpose, called Chrism, is used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Emily, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Spirit

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and keep us in eternal life. Stir up in Emily, and in each person, the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Welcome to Christian Community

A lighted candle from the Paschal Candle is given to the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a minister says:

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

In addition to the individual baptismal candle, another gift from the congregation of First English is presented.

All stand.

. . let us welcome Emily as we proclaim together:

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God, and bearing God's creative and
redeeming word in all the world.**

Sharing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

The exchange of peace within the gathered community is an ancient Christian practice. Gentle signs of reconciliation and love renew and build relationships prior to coming to Christ's table for Eucharist.

The assembly returns to their places.

Response Song

You Have Put on Christ

1* 2 3

You have put on Christ; in him you have been bap - tized.

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

* May be sung in two or three part canon.

Text: International Commission on English in the Liturgy

Music: Howard Hughes, b. 1930

Text © 1969 and music © 1977 International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL). All rights reserved.

✠ MEAL ✠

Welcome to Communion & Offering

We reflect on our stewardship of the gifts of God entrusted to us for the mission of the church and the care of those in need. God welcomes our generosity. Financial gifts may be shared through the offering plate or online at www.felcaustin.org/information/giving.

The assembly may stand as bread, wine, and other gifts are presented and the meal is prepared.

Offering Song

Nuestro Padre nos Invita



Nues-tro Pa - dre nos in - vi - ta a la me - sa de la
God ex - tends an in - vi - ta - tion to the ta - ble of cre -



vi - da, don - de hay vi - no, luz y pan; y no -
a - tion, where there's wine and light and bread. Here we



so - tros nos reu - ni - mos, y lo nues - tro com - par - ti - mos, pues a -
gath - er in thanks - giv - ing and we of - fer all our liv - ing. Here the



sí es la co - mu - nión; pues a - sí es la co - mu - nión.
feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.

Text: Miria T. Kolling; English and Spanish tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: NUESTRO PADRE, Miria T. Kolling
Spanish and English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.
Music © Miria T. Kolling.

Offering Prayer

Holy and Radiant God, Sovereign of the universe, receive the gifts we bring:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Unite us as Christ's body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Richard Hillert (1923-2010)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

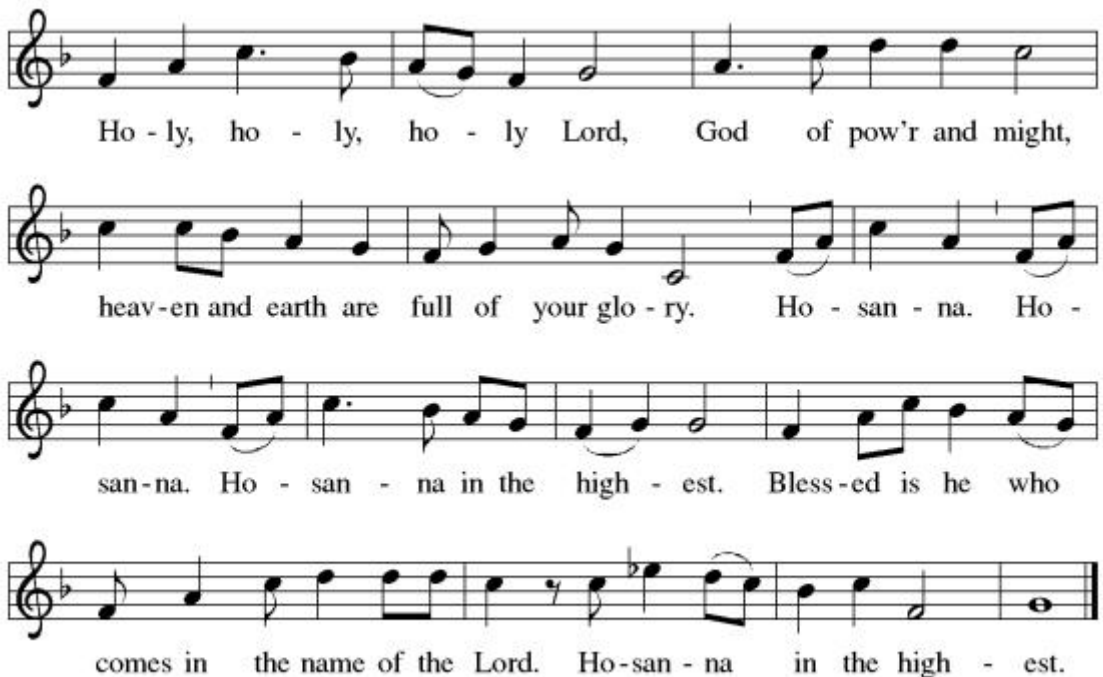
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; and so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

That night in which Jesus was at table, he loved his disciples,
and he loved them to the end, and he took bread,
and gave thanks to the Father;
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.

Let us proclaim together the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Holy and Life-Giving Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal; among all people; throughout the world.

All praise, blessing, and thanks to you, Holy and Radiant God,
in Jesus Christ, ✠ in the presence of your Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

God, remember us in your love, and teach us to follow your Son as we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

The word is made flesh and dwells among us. **O come, let us adore him.**

The assembly may be seated.



Invitation to Communion & Blessing

God, in Christ, fully welcomes people of every age to this Meal, which is known by many names: the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, the Mass, the Sacrament, the Eucharist. We encourage you to participate in ways that are meaningful for you.

Ushers will direct you by the center aisle to a station to receive bread in your hand for you to eat, then proceed to a station and receive a small cup, where wine will be poured and consumed. Gluten-free wafers/ grape juice are available upon request. If you desire not to receive bread or wine, you are invited to a station where a minister will offer a prayer of blessing. Then, return to your seat by a side aisle. We join in prayer, meditation, and music. If you desire communion or a blessing at your place, let an usher or minister know.

Communion Music

Baptized in Water | ELW 456

Text: Micheal Saward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. Hymnal version

The assembly remains seated as we offer our thanks.

Prayer after Communion

Holy and Radiant God, Sovereign of the universe, thank you for the gift of Jesus in his body, blood, and blessing. Transform us by your Spirit as we offer our gifts and skills to be Christ’s light, for he lives and reigns, now and forever. **Amen.**

✝ SENDING ✝

Community Announcements & Invitations

The assembly stands.

God’s Blessing

God the Creator who delights in us, Jesus the Savior who is born in us, ✝ and the lifegiving Spirit who shines in us, continue with us, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

You Have Put on Christ

1*

2

3

You have put on Christ; in him you have been bap - tized.

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

Dismissal

Be at peace. Shine with the light of Christ!
Thanks be to God!

Hospitality & Lunch & Learn

Individual Epiphany Bags to chalk and bless your home or another dwelling were distributed last Sunday. If you did not receive one, please connect with Heidi Goebel after this worship service.

✝ OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED. OUR SERVICE BEGINS ✝

Ministers Serving in Learning, Liturgy & Hospitality | January 11

Ministers	All the People of God
Altar Care	Barbara Wiederaenders
Assisting Minister	Shannon Aguirre
Building Open/Close	Charlie Boas, Betsy Appleton
Lector	Erin McCracken
Livestream Minister	JP Northcutt-Benson
Music Ministers	FELC Choir; Oliver Rajamani, percussion; Cantor Bryan Rust JD Aguirre, Leigh Northcutt-Benson, Nikki Northcutt, guitars
Presiding Minister	Pastor Katie Rode
Ushers	Randy Baden, Terry Porter

Lunch & Learn | TODAY | 11:30 am

All are welcome to gather in the Fellowship Hall today, following Hospitality, for lunch and a presentation by the Finance Committee of the 2026 Proposed FELC Budget.

FELC Annual Congregation Meeting | Sunday, January 25 | Noon

The annual meeting of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held Sunday, January 25, 2026, at noon. All voting members are encouraged to attend. We will gather for worship at 10 am, followed by a hospitality time in which we will enjoy a potluck luncheon in the fellowship hall. Please bring a dish to share if you are able.

WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The mission of First English Lutheran Church is to declare the Word of God and the love of Jesus Christ through proclamation, teaching, worship, and a caring ministry to all people.

Visit felcaustin.org to learn more about the FELC welcome, worship, music, community life, learning, engagement, racial justice, and reconciliation ministries. To subscribe to a Weekly Newsletter by email or connect with one of our staff, contact office@felcaustin.org.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President LaRu Woody
felcpresident@felcaustin.org
Vice President Leigh Northcutt-Benson
Secretary Nancy Baden
Treasurer Joe Cain
Financial Secretary Gwen Flory
Elijah Aguirre
Betsy Appleton
Paul Barlow
Charlie Boas
Margaret Bruesch
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FELC Bookkeeper
Melissa Kruckenberg

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Terry Porter
Worship Ministry
Trish Karli
Learning Ministry
Leigh Northcutt-Benson
Betsy Appleton

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PRAYER CONCERNS & JOYS

As a community of faith, we pray for:

joy & thanksgiving for the baptism of Emily Claire Marty;
the people of Venezuela in this time of turmoil for their nation;
the family, friends & neighbors of Renee Good;
people of various faith traditions, & people of goodwill;
FELC congregation, council, & our mission & ministry;
benevolence ministry partners and their leaders: Micah 6 Food Ministries,
LuMin, Global Refuge, & Casa Marianella;
the whole church & church leaders throughout the world;
citizens & leaders of, immigrants, & refugees to the United States;
places of violence, war, oppression, disaster, conflict & recovery;
those who advocate for healing, safety, justice, inclusion, & equity;
all in need of safe shelter, nourishing food, & quality care, & for those who offer it;
all living with addiction, cancer, grief, & with spiritual, health, & employment needs;
all who are homebound;
Stan Cravatt & Ann Graham, as Stan continues chemotherapy;
Emily Schottmann, undergoing cancer treatment;
strength & a spirit of justice for all who have worked & continue to support
peacemaking efforts in Gaza and Ukraine;
all in any need & thanksgiving.

