



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 3, 2024 - 10:00 AM - in the Sanctuary



### Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Lani Ludian.

# SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister and Preaching	Susan Crowell
Assisting Minister	Patrick Preacher
Organist and Choir Director	Jim Parham
Guest Choir	The Greenville Gay Men's Chorus
Lector	Drake Powell
Gospel Reader	Josh Warner
Prayers	Lexi Thomas-Harewood
Communion Assistant	Richard Moose
Cantor	Jeff Rehm
Acolytes	Charlie Fontecchio Ben McCormack
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Chad Brightwell Julie Brightwell Anne Fagala
Praying for Possibilities	Lexi Thomas-Harewood
Greeters	Mark Allen Chad Brightwell Julie Brightwell Lani Ludian Sarah Weeks
Ushers	Steve Boguski Danny Fagala Teresa Harrington David Potts
Fellowship Hosts	The Orscheln-Hawkins Family
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

## WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

*Please stand as able*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin  
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors  
are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others.**

**We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts.**

**We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know,  
forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world,

God draws near to us,

breaks every snare of sin,

washes away our wrongs,

brings us healing and wholeness,

and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**God is here! As we your people meet to offer  
praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure  
what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.**

**Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong  
need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit;  
here the cross has central place. Here in honesty  
of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.**

**Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's  
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants  
of the Servant seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.**

**Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of  
change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel;  
help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's  
dedication, all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!**

## 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.**

## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, 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 u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



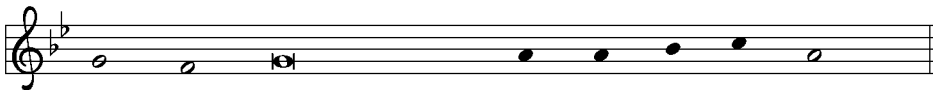
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



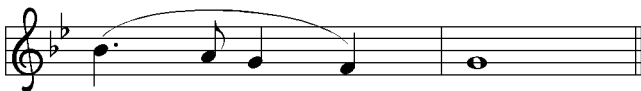
praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of strength and wisdom, you sent your very own child into the world as a bold and brave leader who would sacrifice his own life for the life of the world. Help us to follow Jesus' example. Help us to rise up against systems and practices and traditions that exclude, hurt, demean, and create pain and trauma for so many of God's beloved children. Give us the courage to challenge the status quo, to use our power and privilege to tear down unjust, unfair systems. Fuel us with righteous anger that we might play a role in helping you build a world that loves, affirms, and honors all people through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am GOD, your God, the very one who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, your GOD, am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of GOD'S name, for GOD will not acquit anyone who misuses the holy name. <sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to your GOD; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female workers, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days GOD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore GOD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. <sup>12</sup>Honor your parents, so that your days may be long in the land that GOD, your God, is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not desire your neighbor's house; you shall not desire your neighbor's spouse, or male or female workers, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm Refrain*

The com - mand - ment of the LORD  
 gives light to the eyes.

*Psalm Tone*

- <sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,  
 and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup>**One day tells its tale | to another,  
 and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**
- <sup>3</sup>Although they have no | words or language,  
 and their voices | are not heard,
- <sup>4</sup>**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world,  
 where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**
- <sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;  
 it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.
- <sup>6</sup>**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of |  
 it again;  
 nothing is hidden from its | burning heat. R**
- <sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;  
 the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.
- <sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;  
 the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.**
- <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;  
 the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.
- <sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,  
 sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb. R**
- <sup>11</sup>By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,  
 and in keeping them there is | great reward.
- <sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's | own offenses?  
 Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**
- <sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;  
 then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.
- <sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your  
 sight, O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer. R**

A reading from first Corinthians.

<sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

*All the Feelings*

*Please stand as able*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.



The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the second chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my God's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But Jesus was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

SERMON

*The Beauty and Burden of Tradition*

*Please stand as able*

**My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?**

*Refrain*

***My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.***

**Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me, and your mercy  
will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very  
name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, you will  
show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. *Refrain***

**From the hall of pow'r to the fortress tow'r, not a stone will be left on stone.**

**Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.**

**The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;  
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. *Refrain***

**Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:**

**God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.**

**This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,  
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. *Refrain***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Make a way for the world to acknowledge the holy need for the rest you model for us. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your reconciliation and freedom. Hear our prayers and have mercy on us, O God,  
**according to your steadfast love.**

You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Make a way for the sustainable way of living to also be the affordable way of living. Hear our prayers and have mercy on us, O God,  
**according to your steadfast love.**

You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land. We continue crying out for peace in Gaza and Israel, in Ukraine and Russia. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate this peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Ease the political stress placed on us here at home by election season. Hear our prayers and have mercy on us, O God,

**according to your steadfast love.**

You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick, grieving, or simply in need of extra love and compassion. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Hear our prayers and have mercy on us, O God,

**according to your steadfast love.**

You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, coming out as queer, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. Show yourself present in that which is being made new. We pray for those attending Trinity's new member class as they explore the possibility of membership in this community of faith. Help them to learn more about each other, this congregation, and the strength of Lutheran identity. Hear our prayers and have mercy on us, O God,

**according to your steadfast love.**

You celebrate all, without exception. As the voices of the Greenville Gay Men's Chorus fill this Sanctuary, we give you thanks, O God, for the many ways you are creating inclusive and loving spaces in Greenville. Continue to use the Gay Men's Chorus to shine light and love into the world with the music they make. Enrich and strengthen their mission. Assure each member that he is your beloved and cherished child. Hear our prayers and have mercy on us, O God,

**according to your steadfast love.**

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear our prayers and have mercy on us, O God,

**according to your steadfast love.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.*

*Please be seated*

## MEAL

ANTHEM

*Love Can Build a Bridge*  
arranged by Kirby Shaw  
Words and Music by Paul Overstreet,  
John Jarvie, and Naomi Judd

Gay Men's Chorus

I'd gladly walk across the dessert with no shoes upon my feet  
to share with you the last bite of bread I had to eat.

I would swim out to save you in your sea of broken dreams,  
When all your hopes are sinking, let me show you what love means.

Love can build a bridge between your heart and mine,  
Love can build a bridge; don't you think it's time, don't you think it's time?  
Love can build a bridge. Yes, we know love can build a bridge.

Now I would whisper; love so loudly ev'ry heart would understand  
that love and only love can join the tribes of man.

I would give my heart's desire so that you might see  
the first step is to realize that it all begins with you and me.

Love can build a bridge between your heart and mine,  
Love can build a bridge; don't you think it's time, don't you think it's time?

When we stand together it's our finest hour.

We can do anything if we keep believing in the power.

Love can build a bridge between your heart and mine,  
Love can build a bridge; don't you think it's time, don't you think it's time?

Love can build a bridge between your heart and mine,

Love can build a bridge; don't you think it's time, don't you think it's time?

Love can build a bridge. Yes, we know love can build a bridge; yes, it's time, yes it's time !

*Please stand as able.*

OFFERING HYMN

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

#188

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right  
spirit within me. Cast me not away from your  
presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

Let us pray. Jesus, **you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.**

**Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.**

**Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.**

**We pray this in your name.**

**Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is 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.**

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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:

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, 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.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### 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.**

#### THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God!**

*Please be seated*

#### COMMUNION

*All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.  
Gluten free wafers are available.*

*At the direction of the ushers, worshippers are invited to move to the front of the center aisle to dip the bread into the wine to receive Communion by intinction.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

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.

*Light Dawns on a Weary World*

#726

**Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to  
see all people's dignity. Light dawns on a  
weary world: the promised day of justice comes.**

*Refrain*

***The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;  
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!  
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,  
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.***

**Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find  
bread and children's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
weary world: the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain***

**Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once  
forlorn, find wilderness reborn. Hope blooms in a  
weary world: the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain***

Music by Mark Hayes

Text adapted from John Newton

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound; that saved a wretch, a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now am found; I once was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and that same grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour when I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already safely come;  
This grace hath brought me safe thus far, and surely grace will lead me home.  
I shall go home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than since the day we first begun,  
Than since the day we first begun.

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

#705

**God of grace and God of glory, on your people  
pour your pow'r; crown your ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flow'r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ,  
assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to  
your control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils  
we deplore; let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.**



**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

*Please stand as able*

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

**Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous God,  
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,  
now make us one loaf to feed the world;  
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

**Amen.**

# SENDING

ANTHEM

*A Blessing*

Gay Men's Chorus

arranged by Shelton Ridge Love

Music and Text by Jay Althouse after a traditional Irish blessing

May love and laughter light your days and warm your heart and home.

May good and faithful friends be yours wherever you may roam.

May peace and plenty bless your world. May all your days be bright.

May angels always be nearby to help you through the night.

May all the things you're wishing for and all your dreams come true.

May every gentle wind that blows bring peace and joy and happiness, bring happiness.

May love and laughter light your days and warm your heart and home.

May good and faithful friends be yours wherever you may roam.

May love and laughter light your days and warm your heart and home.

## BLESSING

Beloved,

we are God's own people,

holy, washed, renewed.

God bless you and keep you,

shower you with mercy,

fill you with courage,

and ✚ give you peace.

**Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

The Glory of These Forty Days

Text: 320 Tune: 389

The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -  
Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in

brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
fast\_ and\_ prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en

things were made, him - self has fast - ed\_ and has prayed.  
with\_ your grace, and give us joy to\_ see your face.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.

Stand with the marginalized.

Challenge the status quo.

Be exactly who God created you to be.

Play your part in building the world God desires.

Use your power to help God bring freedom and liberation to all.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please join us for fellowship and refreshments  
following worship on the front lawn.*

God is Here!  
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## CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell  
Senior Pastor

James C. Parham, III  
Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Amy R. Brown, Deacon  
Director of  
Educational Ministries

Patrick D. Preacher  
Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator  
Pastoral Intern

Angie H. McCormack  
Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

Kay M. Cook  
Office Manager

Henry W. Wilcox  
Accountant and  
Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig  
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook  
Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald  
Nursery Attendant

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## CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Lani Wise  
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