

Sunday, February 12, 2017
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany



First Evangelical Lutheran Church
900 Main Street Brockton, MA 02301
www.firstevlutheran.org



A Congregation of the

**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

900 Main Street Brockton, Massachusetts 02301

Telephone: 508-586-9021 Fax: 508-583-5501

Website: www.firstevlutheran.org

Ministers: The Members of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor: The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson

E-mail: jjohnson@firstevlutheran.org Cell: 508-944-7109

Parish Administrator: James E. Benson

E-mail: jbenson@firstevlutheran.org Cell: 508-207-8746

Church Secretary: Evelyn Reuben

E-mail: ereuben@firstevlutheran.org

Minister of Music: David N. Burnham Sexton: Brian Gagne

Pastors Emeriti: The Reverend Michael P. Fruth, Ph.D., Pastor of FELC for 29 years

The Reverend Kenneth W. Hilston, Jr., Assistant Pastor & Pastor of FELC for 31 years

Minister of Music Emerita: Hope E. Mehaffey, Minister of Music at FELC for 53 years

Today's altar flowers are given to the Greater Glory of God from the Estate of Carol Robertson

Presiding Minister: The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson

Assisting Minister: Pamela Mansbach

Lector: 9 am : Beth Christensen

Crucifer: Luke Woodward **Acolytes:** James Beckman & Katarina Sousa

Vision Statement: Our vision is to become a visible, outreaching community resource consisting of diverse, active, enthusiastic and supportive Christians of all ages, working together with dynamic leadership and ministering to the spiritual and social needs of the congregation and community.

Our Mission Statement: Gathered in Christ, Together We Serve

Welcome to First Lutheran Church. All are welcome.

No really, we take this pretty seriously; **we want everyone here, including the children.** Children are welcomed and celebrated at First Lutheran Church. We understand that children are children: they make noise; they run around; they like to play games; they even on occasion cry. This bothers the family of the crying child more than it does us as a community. So please stay in worship with your children. Children's Bulletins are available from the greeters. Please take this seriously.

All are welcome. We're glad you're here!

Sunday, February 12, 2017

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

PRELUDE

David Burnham, Organist

Prelude on "Sicilienne"

Maria Theresia von Paradis

WELCOME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.

GATHERING HYMN

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

804

Down Ampney

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 - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



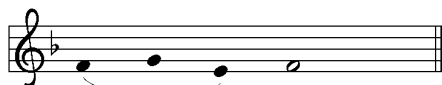
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.
ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - - men.

PRAYER OF DAY

Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The Lesson Ends: Lector: *The Word of the Lord* Congregation: *Thanks be to God*

THE PSALM: Psalm 119:1-8 *Chanted Responsively*



Happy are they whose | way is blameless,
who follow the teaching | of the LORD!
²**Happy are they who observe | your decrees**
and seek you with | all their hearts,
³who never do | any wrong,
but always walk | in your ways.
⁴**You laid down | your commandments,**
that we should | fully keep them.
⁵Oh, that my ways were made | so direct
that I might | keep your statutes!
⁶**Then I should not be | put to shame,**
when I regard all | your commandments.
⁷I will thank you with | a true heart,
when I have learned your | righteous judgments.
⁸**I will | keep your statutes;**
do not utter- | ly forsake me.

THE SECOND READING: CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, “I belong to Paul,” and another, “I belong to Apollos,” are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.

The Lesson Ends: Lector: *The Word of the Lord* Congregation: *Thanks be to God*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:21-37

The gospel is announced. The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew the fifth chapter.

Congregation: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you

will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

The gospel concludes: The gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

CHILDREN’S SERMON

9:00 AM

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Johnson

HYMN OF THE DAY

604

“O Christ, Our Hope”

Lobt Gott, Ihr Christen

APOSTLES CREED

**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

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

Holy Lord, you alone are God. Remove jealousy and quarreling between Christian denominations. Hold us in the unity of our baptism as we work together to serve you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You called into being the first fruits of the earth. Guide gardeners and farmers who till the soil and tend the fields. Bless their work and in due season bring forth the bounty of the land. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, your love knows no bounds. Break down barriers caused by nationalism. Challenge our stereotypes. Give us courage to engage in difficult conversations with those whose experiences are different from our own. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on all who struggle (*especially*). Ease the pain of families affected by divorce. Grant life-giving work to all who seek employment. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You know every hair on our heads. Yet we do not even know each of our neighbors. Equip our outreach ministry and this assembly to get to know the people in our community. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks that last Sunday's Super Bowl victory was won in a spirit of fun, good sportsmanship, and the great sense of national pride in a world needy of great joy and camaraderie. We give thanks for the immense skill of the New England Patriots and their extraordinary ability to conquer amazing odds in the face of defeat. We also give thanks that both teams suffered no long-term physical or psychological injuries. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal Lord, you are the God of our ancestors in faith. You are our God. Keep us faithful until we join all the saints at your heavenly banquet. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY CANTICLE

576

(1st verse)

“We All Are One in Mission”

Kurotane

We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission compels us from above
To plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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, 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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: '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 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

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 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

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

THE 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,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,

and the power,

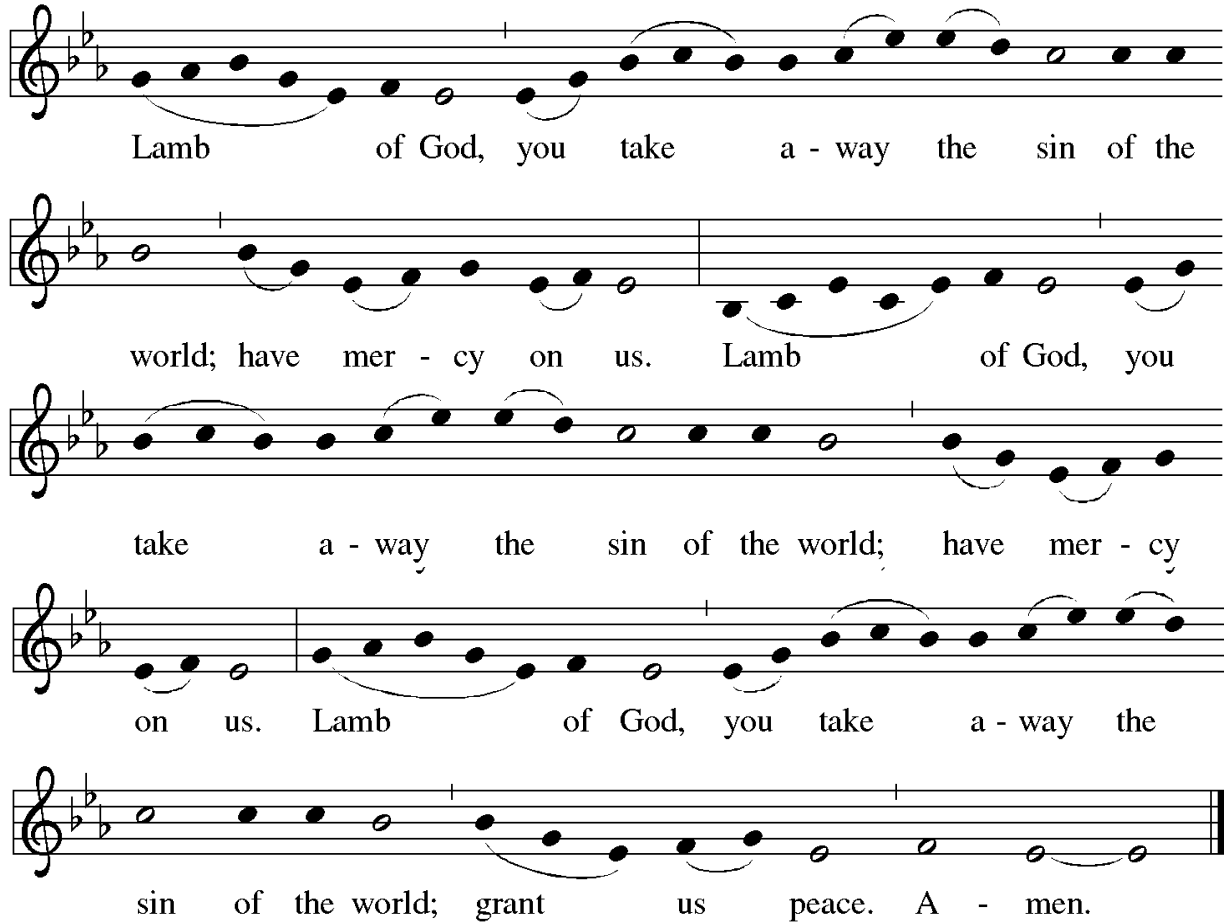
and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

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. A - men.

THE COMMUNION

(The assembly may be seated)

*Christ welcomes you to this Feast of the Baptized. This morning's communion will be a communion at the rail using **Intinction** as the method of distribution. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers, receive the bread from the Pastor or Assistant, then to the cup and dip the in either the wine (the chalice closest to the bread) or in the grape juice and proceed back to your seat by the side aisles. If you require gluten free bread, please indicate such to the Pastor/ Assistant.. Please Do Not Drink from the Cup. Small Children and infants are assisted by adults.*

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

612

Healer of Our Every Ill

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Assembly stands

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray, O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN

“Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing”

544

Alles Ist An Gottes Segen

DISMISSAL

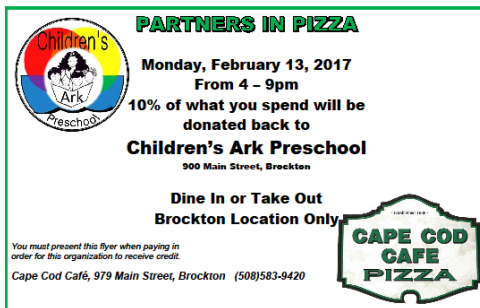
Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Entrada”

Eduardo Torres

TOMORROW NIGHT!



Children’s Ark Fundraiser—through the generosity of the Jamoulis family and the Cape Cod Café our Children’s Ark Preschool will be benefitting from your dining in or getting take-out from the Cape Cod Café on Monday, February 13 from 4 to 9 pm.

Coupons are available today after church in the hallway.

We thank both you and the ‘Cod’ for your support of the preschool.

Let Us Pray for our members that are homebound or ill, or otherwise in need of our prayers:

David Tyler
Kristine & Jim Manning
Linda Sullivan
Barbara Childs-St. Joseph's Manor
Phyllis Nielsen
Lisaann Czarnowski
Bill Kelley
Gustaf Dahlgren
Anna Haskins—St. Joseph's Manor
Scott Dunn

Marian Nelson-Hannah B. Shaw
Donna Persson
Eric Johnson
Jeanne Newman
Gary Eliasson-Brockton Rehabilitation
Vivian Tofteroo
Trudy Ciancarelli-Notre Dame Health
Phyllis Bolinder
Jeanne'e O'Connell
Angie Goucher

And for those members of our extended family:

- ◆ Leeann Richardson-Trahan-cousin to Liz & Mike Belanger
- ◆ Jean Burgeson-cousin to Barbara Johnson & Jean-Ellen Ouellette-Kenney
- ◆ Barbara Noe—sister of Skip Packard
- ◆ Jennifer Anderson—cousin of Diane Perry & niece of Alden Anderson
- ◆ Don Anderson-son of Alden Anderson
- ◆ Pastor Richard Schlak, Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, Foxboro
- ◆ Pastor Jonathan Ahnquist, retired pastor of First, W. Barnstable
- ◆ Bonnie Gagne –wife of Brian Gagne
- ◆ Junior Nicholas-son of Rosa Nicholas
- ◆ Sheri McIntire-friend of Anne & Rick Martin
- ◆ Barbara Horton-neighbor the of the Govoni's
- ◆ Donna Jeffreys-friend of Jean Anderson
- ◆ Christina Crosby-niece of Russ & Marian Grabau
- ◆ Jack Foye-uncle of Karen Christensen
- ◆ Doninick D'Agostino-father of Jessica Burke
- ◆ Olivia Tassinari-friend of Carole Casey
- ◆ Judy Dolan-grandmother of Pat & Chelsea Dolan
- ◆ John Cunningham-friend of The Thompsons
- ◆ Bob Bevis-friend of Don & Chris Newman, & Jim Benson
- ◆ John Core-brother of Jeanne Govoni
- ◆ Frankie Vigorito- friend of the Rovaldis
- ◆ Lorena Giordano-sister-in-law to the Giordanos
- ◆ Steve McLeod-friend of the MacNevens
- ◆ Rachel Grabau-daughter of Russ & Marian Grabau
- ◆ Marilyn Gilmetti-Friend of The Thompsons
- ◆ Bob Lowe-friend of the Rovaldis
- ◆ Lee Carlson-sister-in-law of Ruth Johnson
- ◆ Sharon Palumbo-friend of Jean-Ellen Ouellette-Kenney
- ◆ Maureen Pigeon-friend of Pat McAfee
- ◆ Kevin Gagne-brother of Brian Gagne
- ◆ Velia DeCarli-mother-in-law of Barbara DeCarli
- ◆ Martha Myers-aunt of Sandy White
- ◆ John Bordieri—friend of the MacNevens
- ◆ Sylvia Foster-Aunt of Pr. Jeff
- ◆ Mary Quinlan-friend of Anne & Rick Martin
- ◆ Evelyn Carlson--grandmother to Rob, great-grandmother to Matthew & Juliette Carlson
- ◆ Eleanor Canty-cousin of Marian Nelson
- ◆ Holly Hamilton-friend of Roberta Battaglia
- ◆ Waylon Goucher-son of Angie Goucher
- ◆ Hildred Tatro—friend of Hope Mehaffey
- ◆ Brian Delorenzo & Carl Cunningham-friends of Pastor Jeff
- ◆ Christopher Kinney—friend of the Christensen's
- ◆ The Rev'd Omar Stuenkel—friend of Pr. Jeff

And for a Special Measure of God's grace upon:

The people of the city of Aleppo and their country of Syria in this time of civil war,
Those members of First Lutheran attending college
Captain Scott Friski-grandson of Phyllis Nielsen, Sgt. Erik Akerblom-stateside,
Sgt. Ryan R, Casey, USMC-stateside-grandson of Carole Casey
SPC Shawn Jenkins-stateside-son of Tana Jenkins

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY: February 12

- 7:45 & 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am Martha Guild Chocolate Coffee Hour
4:00 pm Confirmation Class at Holy Trinity, N. Easton

MONDAY, February 13

- 4:00 to 9:00 pm “Partners in Pizza” Children’s Ark Preschool
Cape Cod Café Fundraiser. Coupon required

TUESDAY, February 14

- 7:00 pm Congregation Council Organizational Meeting

WEDNESDAY, February 15

- 10:00 am Bible Study
2:00 pm Food Delivery @ Food for Friends

SATURDAY, February 18

- 8:00 am Food for Friends Distribution Day—volunteers needed

NEXT SUNDAY, February 19 President’s Day Weekend

- 7:45 & 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
NO Sunday School
4:00 pm Confirmation Class at Holy Trinity, N. Easton



TODAY
Sunday February 12th

**Come and share a cup of cocoa
and chocolate concoctions
following the 9 o'clock service
in the parlor.**

Promises to be a sweet time for all!

A Kaffe Stuga meeting and craft night
will be held on
Thursday, Feb 23rd at 6:00 pm
downstairs in the old Youth Room