

Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday April 28th, 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM

Fifth Sunday of Easter 2024



Name Ava

Age 4

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP!

- **It is a joy to welcome our visitors!** Please sign the guest book in the Communication Center at the rear of the church, to the right as you exit, and take a Welcome Packet which is filled with information about Harrold Zion. Please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave worship. We hope you return soon! Follow us on social media!
- **Children's bags** are available in the Narthex.
- **There is a prayer request book** on a podium in the Welcome Center. Please write name(s) in the book prior to the service to have names included in the prayers.
- **Large print bulletins** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **Hearing devices** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **An AED machine** can be found on the wall after the Ladies Room on the left.
- **Receiving Holy Communion** - We believe the body and blood of Christ to be present in the bread and wine. All who are baptized are invited to share in this meal. Please come forward at the usher's direction. Non-communing children may come forward for a blessing. If you desire communion in the pew, please inform one of the ushers so that you may receive communion there.

Our MISSION

***To Worship and Serve God,
Grow Disciples and Love our Neighbors***

Our Vision

***Building Faith that's Open, Affirming, Authentic,
Positive, Inviting, and that Serves Others.***

GATHERING – *We are brought together to remember who and whose we are.*
Welcome, Sharing and Announcements

Prelude: *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn # 363 *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*

Greeting and Kyrie: 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.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Hymn of Praise

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



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



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



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

WORD – *We hear God’s teachings to guide our path of serving.*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together: **O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found

himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Handbell Anthem: *Love Lifted Me* Stokes

Psalm: 22:25-31

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,**

who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,**

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (*Please Stand as able.*)

Celtic Alleluia

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

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

Gospel: John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to John the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Sermon

Please stand, as able.

Hymn of the Day # 732 Morning Cry

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us, and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scripture; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

(petitions)...Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**
(prayer concludes)...**Amen.**

*Our Secure Tithely
Giving Form*

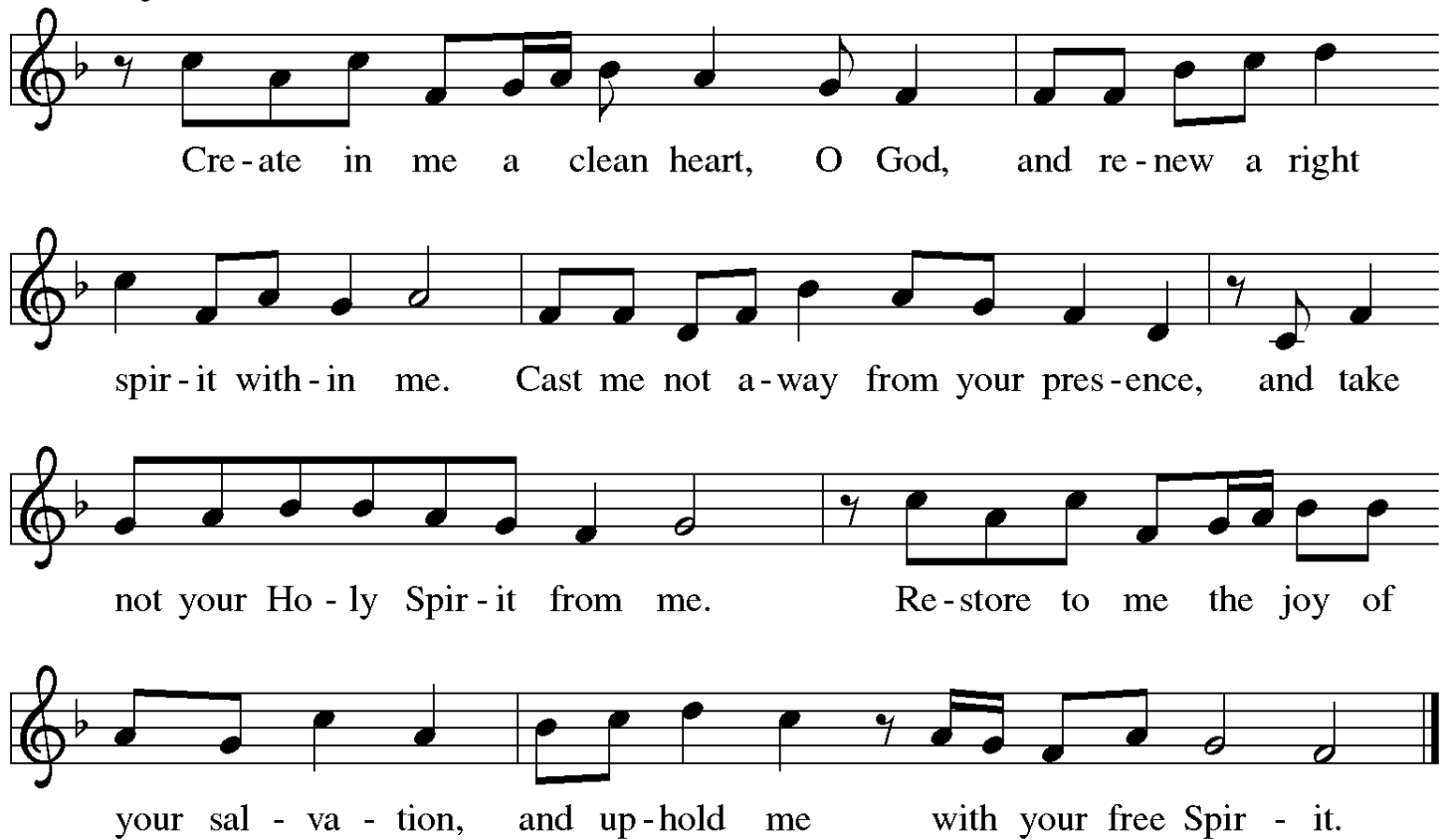
Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Air *Young*



Offertory



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together. **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

SENDING – *We are set out to share hope and make disciples.*

Benediction

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: #881 *Let All Things Now Living*

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: *The Exalted Christ*

Price

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THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE DEDICATED to the honor of God are given to the glory of God and in honor of Grandma on her birthday, love the Grandkids and in honor of my Granddaughter Mallory Oberts on receiving her DNP, Love Grandma, Barb Appleby.

THE ROSE ON THE ALTAR is given to the glory of God and in honor of my Granddaughter Charlotte and my twin Grandchildren Aston and Avery on their birthdays and to the glory of God and in honor of Fred & Ann Wineman on their 54th Wedding Anniversary by Lori, Rich, Trisha, Owen and Ethan.

THE BULLETIN is given to the glory of God and in honor of Joanne for her birthday. Happy Birthday Joanne! Love Kevin

WE THANK TODAY'S SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

LECTORS: 8 A.M. Beth Holsopple 10:30 A.M. Deb Mertz
ACOLYTES : 8 A.M. Norah Siniawski 10:30 A.M. TBD
USHERS 8:00 A.M. Pat Boyer, Linda Boyer, 10:30 A.M. Jerry Starenchak,
Rick Yaksic, Dave Henry
ALTAR: Susie Eicher

THIS WEEK....

Robyn's Office Hours MON-TH 9:00 AM–2:00 PM, FRIDAY 9 AM-12PM

On Call for pastoral emergencies: Pastor Andrew is Monday-Thursday. Pastor Caroline is Friday– Sunday. (These are tentative schedules, the pastors often need to shift time to accommodate pastoral needs, so please don't hesitate to contact either pastor!)

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday

10:30 am Quilting Ministry

1:00 pm Quilting Ministry

Tuesday

6:30 pm Summer Book Class

7:00 pm Stewardship Meeting

Wednesday

6:00 pm Bell Choir

7:00 pm Adult Choir

Thursday

8:00 PS Bike Day (parking lot)

10:30 am Bible Study with P Andrew

3:00 Grief Support / P Caroline

7:00 pm /Boy Scouts

Friday

8:00 PS Bike Day (parking lot)

10:00 am Ladies Bible Study

4:00 pm Herb Fair Set up

Saturday

8:00 a.m. Herb Fair

8:00 a.m. Narthex Reserved

5:00 pm Worship with Communion

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT to fill out a “communion card” for each person if you have not done so this year. They can be found in the pew rack in front of you. Please place the completed card in the offering plate.

Blood Drive There is a Vitalant Blood Drive on May 10. It will be from 12:00 pm-6:00 pm. Register online at Vitalant, org, call 412-209-7000 or the church at 724-837-7327.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

We need you! How many of you are familiar with the Meals on Wheels program? Many of you probably know or knew of someone who receives(d) this lifeline. Delivering meals is such a rewarding experience. The recipients are so grateful. For some of them, you are the only person they see or talk to in a day. It's a great opportunity to give back and do God's work with our own hands. We are only asking for one or two days a month. The deliveries are all close to the church. The time commitment each day is less than two hours. This is a great opportunity for retired couples! Harrold Zion has been doing this ministry for 23 years. Let's keep it going! If you are interested, please contact Fred Wineman, through the church office.

Camp Lutherlyn is having a Camp Blast on Saturday May 11 from 11 am to 4:30 pm. it will be a day of fun with all that Lutherlyn has to offer. Campfire. Gaga ball, Archary, Zipline, Crafts, Bouldering Room, Hiking, Nature Activities Canoeing, Hay Rides, Games, Sports, Archaeology, Jump Pillow, Kayaking, Lego Room, Tours, Great Food and more. Register at LUTHERLYN.COM/CAMPBLAST

Camp registrations are now open for summer campers! \$100 off for first time campers...IT IS \$50 OFF for half week campers. There is a discount code for this it is **First**. It doesn't apply for Family Camp, Confirmation Camp, Day Camps, or Small Fry Days. Register at LUTHERLYN.COM/SUMMERCAMP Please see/or call Rob Hepler for more information. 724-446-2174. We want to be sure that every child or youth that wants to go to Lutherlyn can go—we have camp scholarships!

Grief Support Group: We are going to begin another grief support group here at Harrold Zion for those who have lost loved ones. The group will begin on April 18th at 3:00 PM here at the church. The group will meet for at least six weeks. We may have other groups after this group ends. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Pr. Caroline at pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com or call the church office.

Giant Yard Sale/Craft Vendors

Saturday June 1st from 8 AM – 1 PM Harrold Zion will be having a Yard Sale/Craft Sales. If you have stuff to sell, this is the event for you. To be a vendor at the event, the cost will be \$20 for parking lot space or \$25 for space and one table provided by the church for your setup (Only 20 table are available for first 20 registered). If you have items to sale but do not want to be a vendor during the event, we will be accepting donations of sellable items which will be sold by the Trash & Treasure Sale volunteers. (There is a separate Sign up in communication center for this) You may bring your items to church on May 28th, 29th, or 30th from 5 – 7 PM. Please do not drop off items before May 22nd. Drop off will be in the upstairs Pre-School room. All items will be tagged and marked to sell so please don't be emotionally upset if items are priced differently than what you intend. Please sign-up in the communication center to reserve spot and if you need a table. We would also like to have baked goods to sell at the event, so we are looking for volunteers to bake cookies/cakes/pies/breads/etc... There will be a concession table selling breakfast and lunch items for sale all day. All proceeds from the rentals, item donations, and concession/baked goods tables go towards the church general fund and meeting the yearly budget. Vendors are always welcome to donate a percentage of their earnings from the event. Registration money is payable to Brad Zundel or the church office (You will receive a numbered Vendor ticket).

Summer Book Class: Deb Mertz and Pr. Caroline are offering a class this summer using the book, "Believe: Living the story of the Bible to become like Jesus," edited by Randy Frazee. We will be doing the second 10 lessons of the book. You are welcome to attend even if you could not attend the previous class. There is a book and a study guide. Please contact Pr. Caroline at pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com or Deb Mertz at deb_mertz@att.net if you are interested or talk to either one at church. We are having the class on Tuesdays, 6:30 PM, here at the church. It will begin Tuesday, April 16th, and it will last 10 weeks. We will not meet during the week of VBS, June 11th. The last class will be on June 25th.

Bible Study with Pastor Andrew: “Resurrection Ripples” – every Thursday at 10:30am starting April 11th. We will be covering the contexts, background, and everyday impacts of the Acts texts, the Revelation texts, and related Bible sections of the Easter season. We will wrestle with the faith questions of what does it mean to be Easter people in this day?

ViaQuest is Looking for Volunteers in our area for companionship. Please call Doug Johnson at 724-205-1573, for more information.

VBS Ms. Sheri is in need of empty cereal boxes for VBS. Please place boxes in the bins in the Communication Center. It does not matter if they are flat or left whole.

May 18th and 19th: Confirmation Meet and Greet. Coffee, juice, and pastries will be served on May 18th after the 5:00 PM service and in between services on Sunday, May 19th. Join us in welcoming our newest adult members of the body of Christ and Harrold Zion.

Order Begonia plants for Pentecost! We will decorate the altar area with begonias to celebrate Pentecost. A 5-inch pot is \$6.50. Please complete an order envelope, which can be found in the Communication Center. Enclose your payment and place it in the offering plate. Orders are due Sunday, May 12. Any plants not picked up by June 1 will be planted in the church “cross” flower beds.

Bike Collection in conjunction with Manor Presbyterian Church. They can be put at the pavilion. Rob will pick up from there. Please call Rob at 724-446-2174 and let him know that you dropped off bikes or if you need to have any picked up from your home. This collection will last through May 14th. The bikes will be refurbished and given to needy people. Please check with your neighbors and friends also!

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP:

Flowers available: May 4/5 (1 Vase), May 25/26 (2 Vases)

Roses May 4/5 (2 Roses), May 11/12 (2 Roses), May 18/19 (2 Roses), May 25/26 (1 Roses)

Candle May 11/12, May 25/26

Bulletin May 4/5, May 11/12, May 18/19, May 25/26

To sponsor items, please sign up in the Communication Center.

Church Staff and Office (724)837-7327

Rev. Andrew Fitch, Senior Pastor - 570-768-8455, pastorfitch@outlook.com

Rev. Caroline Clifford, PhD, Asst. Pastor – 814-769-5662

pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com

Sheri Anderson, Coordinator of Family Ministries - hzlcyouth@gmail.com

Laurie Racculia, Director of Music Ministries - lracculia@yahoo.com

Robyn Henry, Secretary, robynhzlc@gmail.com

Debby Schlegel, Custodian

Joanne Gebhardt, Sunday Organist

Melanie Altman, Saturday Organist