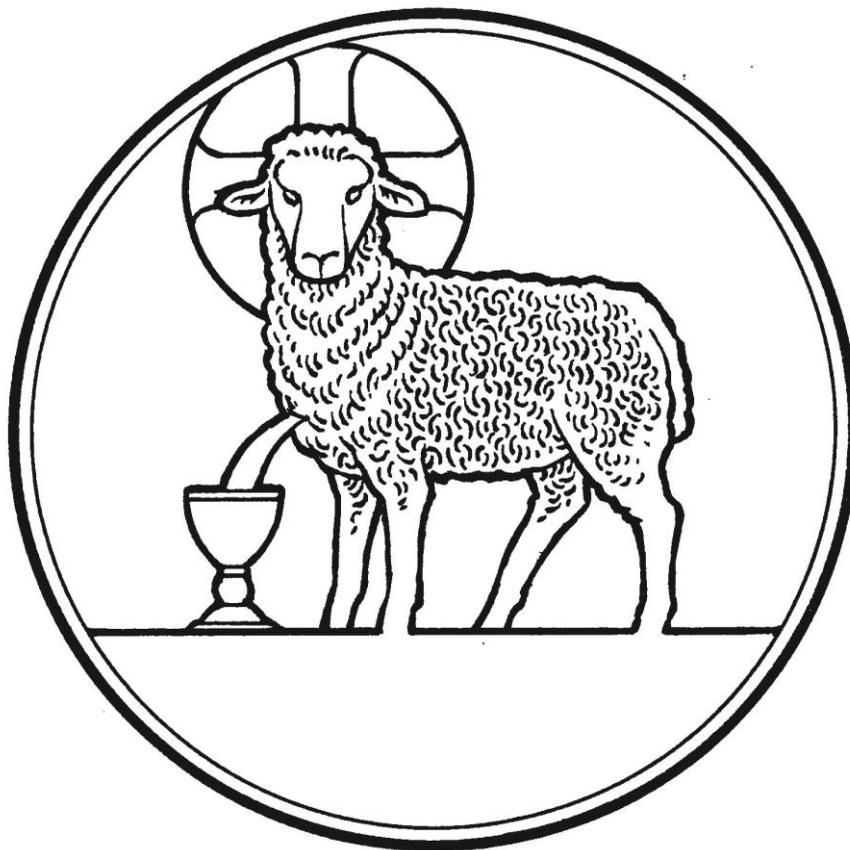


# *Rorate Coeli*



*Showers, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;  
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit; let the earth cause them both to sprout.*

## **The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 18, 2022**

**9:30 a.m.**

This Morning's Hymns

334 357 359 355 352 814 346

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better Word than the blood of Abel.

*Hebrews 12:18–24*

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread . . . For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My Body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

*1 Corinthians 10:16–17; 11:23–29*

*Who receives this sacrament worthily?* Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

*Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar*

Falsely are our churches accused of abolishing the Mass; for the Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved . . . For ceremonies are needed to this end alone: that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ . . . The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined.

*Augsburg Confession XXIV: Of the Mass*

#### A Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad that you have joined us this morning to receive from our gracious God and to offer Him your prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. If this is your first visit to St. Paul, or you have never received the Lord's Supper from Pastor Proctor, we ask that you speak with him or one of the elders before receiving Holy Communion. Children and adults who are not permitted to the Sacrament of the Altar may come forward and cross their arms against their chest to indicate they would like to receive a blessing at the rail.

# ✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO ✠

**P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

**C** who made Heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** O Most Merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His Name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C** Amen.

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

## Introit

*Psalm 19:1, 4–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a*



*Shower, O heavens, | from above,\**

*and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;*

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*

let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,\*

and the sky above proclaims His | handiwork.

**Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words  
to the end | of the world.\***

**In them He has set a tent | for the sun,**

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*

and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.

**Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of them,\***

**and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.**

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\**

*and to the Holy | Spirit;*

as it was in the be- | ginning,\*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*

and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;

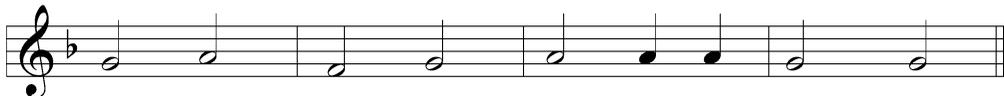
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*

let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

## Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

Sit

## Old Testament

*Deuteronomy 18:15–19*

*At that time Moses said:* <sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to Him you shall listen— <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to My words that He shall speak in My Name, I Myself will require it of Him.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalms 145:18, 21*



The LORD is near to all who | call on Him,\*  
to all who call on | Him in truth.

**My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,\*  
and let all flesh bless His Holy Name forever and | ever.**

## Epistle

*Philippians 4:4-7*

*Brethren:* <sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia & Verse

*Psalms 40:17b*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

You are my help and my de- | liverer;\*  
do not delay, | O my God!



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 1:19-28*

**P** The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. John:



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

<sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Then why are you

baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even He who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven *and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man*; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is *worshiped and glorified*, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in One Holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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Sermon

Offering

Stand

## 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

## Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of Heaven we laud and magnify Your Glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
 bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but ✠ deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

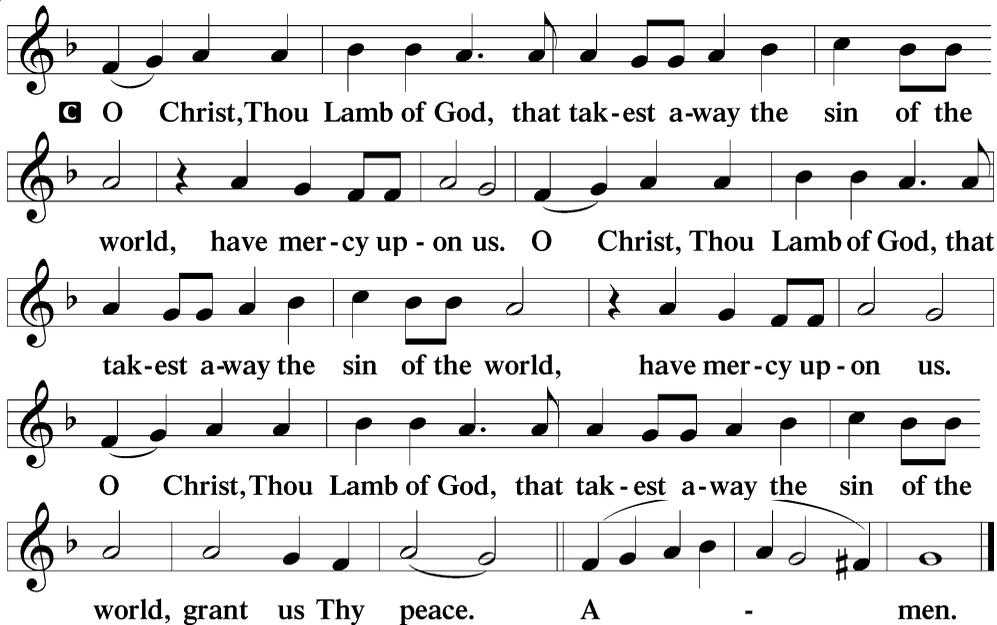
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei



□ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

*Sit*

## Distribution Hymns

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	359
O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide	355
Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord	352
O Bless the Lord, My Soul	814

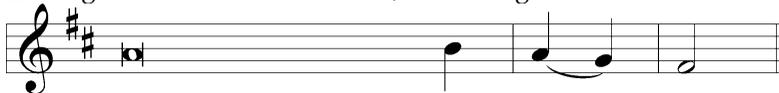
## Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

**P** O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### Salutation and Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

### Hymn

### When All the World Was Cursed

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#### Acknowledgments

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*"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"*

# BULLETIN NEWS

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, December 18	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:30am	Christmas Luncheon	Irmer Hall
Wednesday, December 21	9:30am	Matins	Sanctuary
Thursday, December 22	7:00pm	Advent Evening Prayer	Sanctuary
Friday, December 23		Church Office Closed	
Saturday, December 24	7:00pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary

## BIRTHDAYS

12/17 – Dennis Stonecypher  
12/20 – Pauline Belleh  
12/23 – Oliver Belleh

## BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY

11/29 – Melody Peterman  
12/01 – Joel Moreno  
12/18 – Deborah Dyjak

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

**The deadline for poinsettia orders is today.** The plants will be placed in the chancel and sanctuary area around the altar on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day. The cost is \$15.00 per plant. Please place payment in the white pew envelope and indicate if the plants are “in honor” or “in memory” of a loved one.

## CONFIRMATION CLASS AND WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Confirmation Class and Wednesday Bible Study will not be held December 21 or 28. Both will resume on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

## EDUCATION & EDIFICATION . . . ISSUES, ETC.

This week's topics include: The Movie “Avatar,” Marriage Enrichment, Looking Forward to Christmas Sunday, Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter, and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

# MIDWEEK ADVENT EVENING PRAYER

Thursdays @ 7:00 pm

December 1, 8, 15, and 22

# THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Saturday, December 24 @ 7:00 pm



# THE MASS OF JESUS CHRIST THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Sunday, December 25 @ 9:30 am

## LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, or email at [info@stpaul Lutheran-az.com](mailto:info@stpaul Lutheran-az.com). Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

### IMMEDIATE CONCERNS:

**Charlie Cook** – Admitted to hospital in Maricopa, AZ with severe covid.

**Debbie Dyjak** – Seeking employment in UAE and medical insurance to cover eye injections.

### ON-GOING CONCERNS:

**Cymantha Makeley** – suffering from spinal injuries

**Christopher Richards** – ongoing health issues

**Vi Redner** – complication resulting from stroke

**Bea Hendricks** – fell and currently in a care center

**Michael Moreno** – recovering from surgery

**Kevin Stamm** – suffering from back pain

**Jon Brant** – health problems

**Nicholas Jimenez, Linda Rossow, Jim Rucker, Pat Haas, Judith Kuhjda**

**Dennis Stonecypher** – medical reasons

**Barbara Sand** – diagnosed with MDS

**Suzanne Berna** – on dialysis

**Suzi Riley** – suffering from sleep apnea

**Rose Tressler** – health issues

**Jorge Jimenez** – fighting cancer

**Doc Dalbey** – dealing with back pain

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

**Maija Alise Jensen** (great-grandniece of Marci Brekken) born prematurely, on oxygen and feeding tube.

**Barbara Peterson** (niece of Mary Howard) diagnosed with rare disease and currently in ICU on ventilator with double viral pneumonia and sepsis.

**Travis Loeslie** (classmate of Pastor Proctor) diagnosed with Huntington's Disease.

**Pam Werdabaugh** (mother of Dan Noggle) diagnosed with cancer and undergoing chemotherapy.

**Jean Lorenzen** (mother of Debbie Dyjak) cognitive function has worsened and has entered a care facility.

### MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

**Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan**, serving in Japan. **Deborah Dyjak** serving in Abu Dhabi.

**Rev. Steven Massey and son, Marco**, serving in Guatemala. **PSWD Missions**

**Rev. Stephen Oliver and wife, Maggie, and children**, serving in Taiwan and the Asia Region.

### PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Rev. Jeff Proctor, his wife, Joan, and children, Christian, Olivia (Joseph), Nigel, Fiona & Siwan  
Sunday School teachers & children

LCMS officers, congregations & schools

Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff

Lexington Life Academy families & staff

**OUR NATION:** For all elected and appointed public servants, and all who labor to maintain peace and order.

**FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY** (*members, friends, or relatives*): **Juan Garcia, Tiffany Gilmore, Robert Gilmore, Ethan Peterman, Julian Perez, Robert Majewski, Mike Nguyen, Jacob Wilson, Lucas Butterfass, Nathanael Dyjak, Erich Dyjak**

**OUR SHUT-INS:** Anne Smith, Arbutus Wood