

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4th Sunday after Pentecost

June 21st, 2026

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

Let the Whole Creation Cry

1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
 2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
 3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,

Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
 those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song,
 and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
 Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
 from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:

sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
 all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
 "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

***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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Genesis 21:8-21

Sarah demands that Abraham send Hagar and her son, Ishmael, away. Abraham is distressed because he is Ishmael's father. Sarah wants to ensure that her son, Isaac, will be the one to inherit God's blessing. God, however, hears Hagar's cry and promises to also make of Ishmael a great nation.

A reading from Genesis:

The child [Isaac] grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. ⁹ But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. ¹⁰ So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." ¹¹ The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. ¹² But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. ¹³ As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." ¹⁴ So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

¹⁵ When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. ¹⁶ Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot, for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. ¹⁷ And God heard the voice of the boy, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. ¹⁸ Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." ¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰ God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness and became an expert

with the bow. ²¹ He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

A Word for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 69:7-10[11-15]16-18

Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)

¹ Surely, for your sake I have suf- | fered reproach,
and shame has cov- | ered my face.

⁸ **I have become a stranger to | my own kindred,
an alien to my | mother's children.**

⁹ Zeal for your house has eat- | en me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fall- | en upon me.

¹⁰ **I humbled my- | self with fasting,
but that was turned to | my reproach. R**

¹¹ I put on | sackcloth also,
and became a by- | word among them.

¹² **Those who sit at the gate mur- | mur against me,
and the drunkards make | songs about me.**

¹³ But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have | set, O Lord:
"In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your un- | failing help.

¹⁴ **Save me from the mire; do not | let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of | the deep waters. R**

¹⁵ Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swal- | low me up;
do not let the pit shut its | mouth upon me.

¹⁶ **Answer me, O Lord, for your | love is kind;
in your great compassion, | turn to me.**

¹⁷ Hide not your face | from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am | in distress.

¹⁸ **Draw near to me | and redeem me;
because of my enemies de- | liver me. R**

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

A reading from Romans:

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A Word for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows a musical score for the Gospel Acclamation. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The treble staff contains three lines of lyrics: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!', 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!', and 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'. The bass staff contains the corresponding musical notation, including chords and a melodic line. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a church service.

*GOSPEL – Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴“A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,

³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

***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.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her
 2 To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch - es of the
 3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the
 vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our
 prayer, with the pow'r to love and wit - ness, with the



new flame's ea - ger might: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
 midst as gift and sign: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
 peace be - yond com - pare: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BRIDEGROOM, Peter Cutts, b. 1937

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.
 The following responses will be used after each petition: **Hear our prayer.***

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.
A brief silence.

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Caring God, we give you thanks for our congregation, for our sister congregation New Life Lutheran in Alcona County with their pastor Rev. Dan Stoneback and for First Congregational Church with their pastors Rev. Nate Craddock and Rev. EJ Staib. Guide us as we search for ways to serve our communities. God of grace,
Hear our prayer.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

You are invited to share your offering as you enter the sanctuary. An offering plate is located in the center aisle near the back the sanctuary.

OFFERING PERFORMANCE:

Eat This Bread

Jesus Christ, Bread of Life

Refrain

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

The image shows two systems of musical notation. The first system is labeled 'Refrain' and consists of a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry. OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger." The second system also consists of a treble and bass staff with lyrics: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.” Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst." Both systems use a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C).

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,

so that all creation can taste your abundance.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

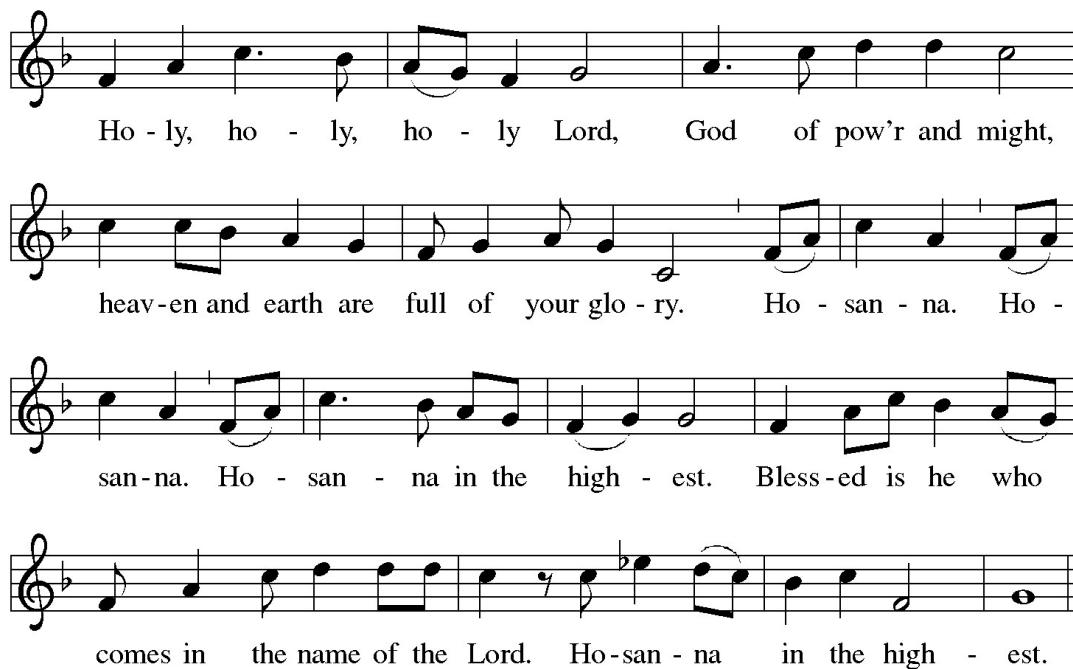
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give 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, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth burning with justice, peace, and love.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your Holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

***COMMUNION**

This is God's table. All are welcome. Please take a small cup as you come forward and find a space around the altar rail. Non-alcoholic grape juice is in the prefilled glasses and there is gluten-free bread available. If you do not wish to commune, you are still invited forward for a blessing. If it is easier to remain in your seat for communion, please let the usher know and we will bring communion to you.

***TABLE BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,

through the gifts of bread and wine

our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.

Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,

may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✠ one God,

bles, heal, and hold you

today and always.

Amen.

O Day Full of Grace



1 O day full of grace that now we see ap - pear - ing on
 2 O day full of grace, O bless - ed time, our Lord on the
 3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the
 4 God came to us then at Pen - te - cost, the Spir - it new
 5 When we on that fi - nal jour - ney go that Christ is for



earth's ho - ri - zon, bring light from our God that we may
 earth ar - riv - ing; then came to the world that light sub -
 cross was hang - ing; and then he a - rose and moved the
 life re - veal - ing, that we might no more in death be
 us pre - par - ing, we'll gath - er in song, our hearts a -



be a - bun - dant in joy this sea - son. God, shine for us
 lime, great joy for us all re - triev - ing; for Je - sus all
 stone, that we, un - to him be - long - ing, might join with an -
 lost, its pow'r o - ver us dis - pel - ling. This flame will the
 glow, all joy of the heav - ens shar - ing, and there we will



now in this dark place; your name on our hearts em - bla - zon.
 mor - tals did em - brace, all shame and des - pair re - mov - ing.
 gel - ic hosts to raise our voic - es in end - less sing - ing.
 mark of sin ef - face and bring to us all true heal - ing.
 join God's end - less praise, with an - gels and saints a - dor - ing.

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001, alt.
 Music: DEN SIGNEDE DAG, Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Welcome! We believe God created all of humanity in God's image. Since every person is made in the image of God, every person is part of God's family. Whatever your gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, income, mental or physical ability, age, religious background, nationality, or political ideology, you are welcome here. Diversity of skills, gifts, talents, opinions, and experiences are strengthened in the body of Christ. "For all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28b).

The Council has a goal of better advertising Trinity and all the things going on in our congregation. One way to reach this goal is to increase our presence on Facebook by having more folks see our posts. If you are on Facebook and you have not already followed Trinity, please do so and then "Like", "Comment" and "Share" our weekly service and any other happenings. THANKS!!



Contact Info: For emergency pastoral care contact:

Pr. Ed Ruble, St. Peter Lutheran Church
Cell: 269-569-4721
Email: pastor@saintpeterbc.org

Our thanks to all those who give of their time, talent, and prayers for our church and God's work in the world.

Assisting in worship today:

Preaching: Pastor Nate Craddock
Assisting Minister: Gloria Kolodiziezyck
Sound Board: Doug Martens
Streaming: John Kolodiziezyck
Music Director: Ronnie Cung

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

June 21 – June 28, 2026

TODAY: 11:00 am Worship, Coffee Hour

MONDAY: 6:30 Trinity 2026 Visioning Committee

TUESDAY: 2 – 4, Freeze Pop Tuesday; 7:00 Council

WEDNESDAY:

THURSDAY:

FRIDAY:

SATURDAY:

NEXT SUNDAY: 11:00 am, Worship, Coffee Hour

Readings for next Sunday: Jeremiah 28: 5 – 9; Psalm 89: 1 – 4, 15 – 18; Romans 6: 12 – 23; Matthew: 10: 40 – 42

PRAYER REQUESTS Prayer requests are gathered from the spoken prayer requests during worship and can also be added by calling or emailing to office@tlcbattlecreek.org. Prayer requests will stay on the list for three weeks and can be renewed:

June 14: Connie: Linda; **Janelle:** Jerry Woody, Jennifer Lockmiller; **Mary:** Tish; **Eileen:** Jennifer; **Doug:** Eileen; **Tresa:** Thanksgiving for Daniel and Trinity; **Kendra:** Zander

June 7: Connie: Family of Jim Ledbetter, Todd; **Doug:** Eileen; **Janelle:** Kris Leiter & Dan Leiter; **Tish:** Roseann; **Tresa:** Jim, Shawn Michael, Alyssa, Morgan, Daniel

May 31: Tish: Roseann; **Eileen:** JoAnn & Steve Rusan, Valerie, Vada; **Tresa:** Beth, Jim, Angela; **Eric:** Herb, Himself; **Connie:** Families of Ken Johnson and Ross Jarrard, Dick Sheffer, Linda Herman; **Janelle:** Kelly Case, Jessica Hatch, Jenny Wyatt, Justin Stacy, Ginesa; **Kendra:** Gina

The Franklin Food Pantry desperately needs to have its shelves restocked. The items needed are: Canned goods, soups, fruits, vegetables; also, cereal, juice, boxed milk, toilet paper and soap. Cash donations are also appreciated. Please drop off any donations at church placing them in the wagon in the narthex. Thanks!!