

# THE BEACON

SEEKING AND WORSHIPPING GOD...REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

JUNE 2020... OUR 162ND YEAR

ST. JUDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • FENTON, MICHIGAN

106 East Elizabeth St.  
Fenton, MI 48430-2322  
810-629-5681

**E-MAIL:**

stjudeschurchfenton106@gmail.com

**WEB:**

www.stjudesfenton.com

**FACEBOOK:**

St. Jude's Episcopal Church

**The Reverend Tracie Little**

810-300-9177

E-Mail: TracieLLittle@gmail.com

**The Rev. Judy Marinco, Deacon**

E-Mail: JAMarinco50@gmail.com

**Liz Sailus,**

Administrative Assistant

**Office Hours:**

Monday & Thursday:

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday & Wednesday:

9:00 a.m.-noon

Minister of Music

**Marlene J. Weston**

810-658-2683

Director of Christian Formation:

**Kris Forsyth**

810-208-0886

**SUNDAY SERVICES:**

Holy Eucharist

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

**Coffee Hour follows**

**10:30 service**

## RECTORS REPORT

Today, the world is beginning to emerge from quarantine and things are slowly starting to open up across the globe as we all learn to live with this new virus, loose in the world. My neighborhood is no different. As the weather warms, our neighbors are emerging. They know what it is that I do and every single person I've met outside lately has asked me the same question. "Is your church closed?" My answer is always the same. No, the church never closed. Our buildings closed in order to protect our people and to help to reduce the strain on the health care system in order to save lives. The work of the church goes on! Outreach continues. Worship continues. Prayer continues. Care for one another continues. Differently, but the work of the church is very much alive and is powerfully continuing!

As I've been reflecting on the prevalence of the question, especially as I've listened to news reports that want to push "the churches" to open, I'm struck by how much buildings have shaped how we think about church. Our daily readings in the season of Easter have been taking us on a journey through the wilderness wandering of the newly freed people of God. Forty years of wandering. No map. No plan other than to find the promised land. A specific piece of geography? A future building? Maybe.

But what if the "promised land" wasn't so much about land or geography or buildings? What if the promised land had to do with the people's relationship with God? It took forty years to get there. If you look on a map and trace where the people had been living in Egypt and trace a path to where they emerged into the promised land, it wouldn't have taken forty years to get there. Something deeper was going on.

The people were learning to be in relationship with God. And that is never a straight-line kind of process. It takes time and it's filled with curves and mountains and valleys and roadblocks. There are times in this journey where you feel like you're taking five steps back for every step forward. Sometimes the path is pretty mundane and, well, kind of boring. And sometimes we're faced with so much beauty that we can't help but be filled with awe.

This past week our journey took a turn in the road that powerfully revealed the beauty of faith. Our Outreach Ministry Team has been working hard throughout this entire time of quarantine. It all began with a realization that children on free and reduced lunch, once the schools closed their buildings, wouldn't have meals. It's grown and expanded over time. And this past week I was

*(continued on page 2)*

## Rector's Report (cont'd)

(continued from page 1)

a part of a conversation that was incredibly exciting. Not the topic – that was heartbreaking.

The meeting itself was exciting for me. A Zoom meeting that brought together the superintendent of the Fenton schools with pastors and outreach coordinators from both mainline and evangelical churches in Fenton. The schools were sharing about a short term need and all of us together, all of us, were talking about ways to work together to meet the need. This was a place where we could focus on what unites us – following the mission of God to feed the hungry. There have been very few times in the 15 years I have been ordained as a presbyter, a priest, that I have been a part of such a denominationally diverse group of pastors working together to fulfill God's mission. Responding to this need allowed these very

different denominations to put our relationship with God first. It felt almost like looking out into the promised land. A land flowing with God's mercy and justice. A land that puts relationship with God and God's mission ahead of denominational differences.

It took a pandemic to bring us together. It took quarantine and separateness to bring us together. That's how God works! God sees what we see. A terrible health tragedy that is changing the landscape in which we live, move and have our being. God sees our isolation and knows that we were built for community. God works through the challenges we face to bring about good. New relationships, founded on shared mission. For me, that's exciting news!

I wonder...how is God bringing good into your life in the midst of the challenges we all face?

**Love and Blessings,**

*Tracie+*

## FROM THE VESTRY

Check in with Vestry members found all to be well, experiencing time up north where the virus cases are stable. Some are finding God in the watching and listening to birds, enjoying spring unfolding all around. Some are looking for God in all of this, but having trouble and struggle with finding God. Some are getting exercise, helping feed those in need, working in gardens, awaiting surgery, mourning from afar, watching grandchildren gain new skills, reading, working and worried about how to help clients who are suffering in this pandemic.

The Bishop would like the church to keep an online presence after the church physically reopens. Tracie

has looked into a program called StreamYard which will broaden our ability to call other voices/ music into online worship. Greg Forsyth has graciously offered to set the program up for us.

Two upcoming buildings and grounds concerns are our flat roof needing repair and a leak in our air conditioning system that was discovered on routine maintenance. They are being investigated and quotes for repair are being obtained for both concerns.

Paul Dolza reports that the rain barrel in the Memorial Garden has been repaired. There are people going into the garden in teams to keep it maintained.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Knitting continues with at least 5 prayer shawls completed while we have been in quarantine. Oh...the prayers that have gone into them!

The next phone a friend prayer shawl meeting will be on Monday, June 15th at 1:00 p.m. Anyone interested in taking part in the call (one member calls another and they share time together, knitting as able), please let Judy Maringo (586-770-7736) or Deb James (810-735-4547) know by Friday, June 12th, and we will include them in the call.

**For information, contact:  
Deb James at 810-210-6305**

## St. Jude's building remains closed due to COVID-19

In order to keep St. Jude's people and building as safe as possible and at the recommendation of our Bishop and the Episcopal Bishops of Michigan, the church building will be closed to ANY gatherings until further notice. This includes groups that use our building as well as any St. Jude's activities with the exception of our food giveaway Outreach programs.

You can still call the church office number which is being forwarded to our administrative assistant, Liz's, cell phone. You can also still call Tracie for any pastoral needs on her cell phone (810) 300-9177.

## Connect to Virtual Office Hours via Zoom

### Tracie's Zoom Office Hours

If you'd like to visit Tracie in her home office, please join her on Zoom. You will need a computer or a smart phone with video and audio capability. Just click on the link below. You may need to enter the meeting number and/or the password in order to enter. You will be placed in a waiting room and Tracie will admit you one at a time. Office hours will be held on Tuesday mornings between 10:00 a.m. and noon, and Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

#### \*Join Zoom Office Hours

##### **Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. til noon**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81594717198?pwd=NVVLMERCOWpIZWI4NmJSaHE1dJZdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 815 9471 7198

**Password:** St. Jude's

#### \*Join Zoom Office Hours

##### **Wednesdays from**

##### **2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85744824268?pwd=MjUvQWlYRU0xNzIzb1hmaURdUllZz09>

**Meeting ID:** 857 4482 4268

**Password:** St. Jude's

I look forward to welcoming you to my home office virtually!

*Blessings,*

*Tracie+*

\*Active links are found on St. Jude's website... 'click and go' from there.

## MUSIC NOTES

As we all know, there was no way to foresee that corporate worship would end so abruptly. Our final Sunday was March 8, when Tracy Dunlop, violinist, shared her special talent with us. What a week it was! St. Jude's Ringers were scheduled for March 15, but that did not happen.

Our musicians miss making music together, but it is most important that all of us remain healthy and safe.

Thank you to all our talented and dedicated musicians who give so freely of their time. This includes not just in worship, but in the other ministries of the church since many serve in other capacities as well.

**WE HAVE A GREAT NEED FOR MORE SINGERS AND RINGERS.** Please consider either joining us or recommending someone we may not be aware of.

As far as I know, we will resume in September.

*Have a blessed summer.*

*Marlene Weston*

## OUTREACH UPDATE

Food Distribution programs continue to be the focus of Outreach since social distancing has begun. We are now on a regular schedule of distributing food on Thursdays and Saturdays. On Thursdays, we alternate between the seniors at Dauner Haus, where we provide groceries for 80 residents, and the seniors at Millpond Manor, where we provide for 40 residents. On Saturdays, we continue to provide weekend lunch food for 60 to 80 kids and also groceries for 30 to 40 families. In total, we have now provided groceries for more than 1,400 since mid-March, at a cost of about \$4 per person. For families and seniors, that \$4 includes frozen meats, eggs, milk, lunch meat, peanut butter, bread, meals in a can or pouch, canned fruits and vegetables, dried fruits and nuts, legumes, soup, fresh food (when available from the Food Bank) and cereal.



Each day of distribution requires 4 to 6 volunteers who have now put in more than 600 hours to help our community outreach. Some of it is light work, some IS NOT... but even on the most difficult rainy days, I can assure you that it is done joyfully, with love in our hearts. While the Food Bank continues to be our primary source, they are having their own challenges in terms of food availability and funding. As a result, most of you know that we have begun

*(continued on page 4)*

# OUTREACH (continued)

(continued from page 3)

doing a regular weekly request for additional food items from St. Jude's and First Presbyterian. Each week it is something different depending on what goes in the bags and what the Food Bank is short of. If you watch Liz's "This Week at St. Jude's" emails, you can find out what is needed on any given week.

Last month we reported that we had been blessed with financial donations, in addition to the food that you are all bringing in. These blessings continue and we have now received over \$3,000 in contributions, all impromptu. Here is just a short example of what we are experiencing: Last Saturday there was a line of folks waiting for groceries and we were in a bit of a rush. The next person in line came up and said, "I don't need any groceries, but I am new to Fenton and have seen what you are doing, so I would like to give you a donation." She handed us an envelope and we thanked her very much for her thoughtfulness. Since we were in a rush, we just stuffed the envelope in a pocket and went on passing out groceries. Quite a bit later someone said, "Hey, did you ever look to see what was in the envelope?" When we opened the envelope, there was a \$500 check inside! As Tracie often asks us, "Where have you seen God this week? **RIGHT THERE!**"

Finally, I'd like to share some feedback that we received this week. The face to face thank you's that we get are endless, but we are especially interested in feedback from the 120 seniors that we serve. We drop the food off at their locations for employees of the apartments to distribute, but seldom interface with the residents. This past week was our first week assisting Millpond Manor, so we were particularly interested in getting input from them. Below is a note that came to the office on Friday (distribution was Thursday), from a resident.

*"Yesterday, your church delivered food to Millpond Manor of which I received. You have no idea how much it means to me, and the fact complete meals could be made from the products you gave.*

*I, again, thank you; the orange was delicious and soooo sweet, needed eggs and hot dogs/buns, and liked all you sent."*

Joshua 1.9



*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*

Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

I think this says it all to those who volunteer, donate, and pray for this ministry. Thank you again for your continued support in so many ways!

**St. Jude's Outreach Committee**



## FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

Family Promise has undergone many changes due to COVID-19. As of June 1st, the last family will have graduated from the program. The program has shifted their resources to preventing families from becoming homeless. This program is supported with matching funds for every dollar donated by Help Us Move In (HUMI). The funds collected help families prevent eviction or assist them with move in costs. Families who qualify for the assistance continue to receive case management through the Family Promise staff. This shift in program will continue until host churches are able to begin hosting again or static housing for families is reached.

Family Promise is in need of donations to help children from becoming homeless. So far, with Family Promise efforts, nine children were saved from homelessness through the HUMI program, at the low cost of \$300 per child. One way St. Jude's can continue to support Family Promise until we are back to being a support church, is to donate to Family Promise. When we make a donation, the funds are matched from an existing grant. The goal for Family Promise is to raise \$13,000 in donations. This HUMI program is critical to keep children from becoming homeless in these trying times. Please consider making a donation to Family Promise. On the memo line, write HUMI.

**Donations by mail:** Make check out to Family Promise of Genesee County, P.O. Box 4519, Flint, MI 48504

**Donate online:**

[www.familypromiseofgc.org](http://www.familypromiseofgc.org) Go to "Make a Donation" button.

# REFLECTIONS

Submitted by Judy Marincio from "Our Daily Bread," May 2nd edition

## Go-Between Prayer

*The Spirit intercedes for God's people.*

ROMANS 8:27



Late one Saturday afternoon, my family and I stopped at a local restaurant for lunch. As the waiter set crispy fries and thick burgers on our table, my husband glanced up and asked his name. Then he said, "We pray as a family before we eat. Is there something we can pray for you today?" Allen, whose name we now knew, looked at us with a mixture of surprise and anxiety. A short silence followed before he told us that he was sleeping on his friend's couch each night, his car had just quit working, and he was broke.

As my husband quietly asked God to provide for Allen and show him His love, I thought about how our go-between prayer was similar to

what happens when the Holy Spirit takes up our cause and connects us with God. In our moments of greatest need—when we realize we're no match to handle life on our own, when we don't know what to say to God, "The Spirit intercedes for God's people" (Romans 8:27). What the Spirit says is a mystery, but we're assured that it always fits with God's will for our lives.

The next time you pray for God's guidance, provision, and protection in someone else's life, let that act of kindness remind you that your spiritual needs are also being lifted to God who knows your name and cares about your problems.

*By Jennifer Benson Schuldt*

### *Reflect and Pray*

**Jesus, I thank You that temptation has no power to separate me from You. Please give me victory today through the power of Your resurrection from the dead.**

Is there anyone you can pray for today? How might you respond to temptation differently if you knew that the Holy Spirit was praying for you during the struggle?

## SUNDAY SERMONS

If you would like a hard copy of Sunday's sermons, please contact the church office. We can email them to you or snail mail hard copies.

## UPDATED PASTORAL DIRECTIVE FROM THE BISHOPS OF MICHIGAN

On Friday, May 2, the Bishops of Michigan sent out an updated Pastoral Directive with an extended hiatus from personal gatherings and a "Plan for Re-Entry for Great Lakes Episcopalians" with three phases laid out that we will move through as we begin to move back toward our "normal" worship in the future. We are currently in "Phase 1" – full lockdown – and our Vestry has already had a special meeting to discuss what moving into "Phase 2".

You can contact the office if you would like a copy of Tracie's letter regarding the Bishops' directive or if you would like a copy of the full outline for the "Plan for Re-Entry for Great Lakes Episcopalians".

## Beacon Deadlines

Submissions for The Beacon are due by the **22nd of each month**. Please submit them to Debbie Fry at [debbiemcwilliams00@gmail.com](mailto:debbiemcwilliams00@gmail.com).

# Calling All Crafters!

*We are planning for our  
2nd annual Fall*

## St. Jude's Crafter's & Holiday Bazaar

**Friday & Saturday,  
November 20 & 21, 2020**

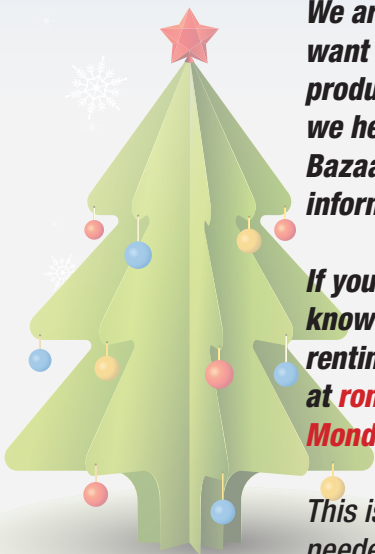
*Are you an artisan? A woodworker/craftsman? A potter? Do you have a hidden Van Gogh talent? Do you knit/crochet scarves, sweaters, hats?*

**We invite you to be a part of this project!**

*We are looking for individuals who may want an opportunity to sell their handmade products. This will be a juried event. Once we hear from you, a representative from the Bazaar Committee will be in touch with further information.*

*If you are interested in renting a booth, or know of crafters who would be interested in renting a booth, please notify Ron Trimmer at [ron.m.trimmer@gmail.com](mailto:ron.m.trimmer@gmail.com) no later than Monday, June 1, 2020.*

*This is our primary fundraiser for funding a much needed elevator lift for our facility, to aid in the accessibility of our parishoners and visitors.*



## June Birthdays

- 1st – Beverly Mills  
– Bob Simpson
- 2nd – Tess DuPei
- 6th – Paul Dolza  
– Lois Hartranft
- 7th – Amy Freeman
- 8th – Clay Putnam
- 10th – Linda Freeman
- 13th – Bill Anderson
- 14th – Leigha Forsyth  
– Ev Koller
- 15th – Craig Adams
- 16th – Nancy Mason
- 18th – Bob Alexander  
– Debbie James  
– Ashley Ransley
- 20th – Lynell Wright
- 22nd – Doug Koch
- 24th – Robbie Hunt  
– Christine Szostak
- 25th – John Vitovsky
- 30th – Mike Green

## June Anniversaries

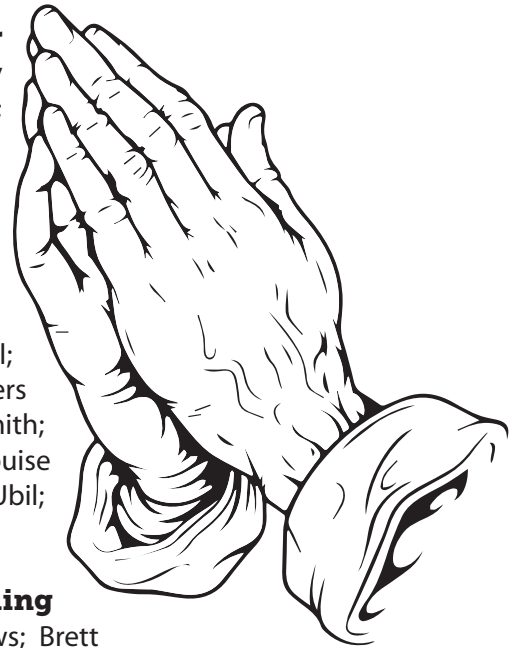
- 25th – John & Carol Pettipher  
(54 years)
- 26th – Bob & Kim Alexander  
(38 years)



# PRAYER LIST

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Whayne, our Bishop Provisional; Tracie, our Priest; for the Wardens and Vestry.

**For those in particular need of prayer:** Jeff F.; Jeremy Alber; Shanin Beall; Judy Bronner; Steven G.; Harold Gray; Bunny Gladfelter; Sarah Heikkila; Jaqueline Hoskins; Sydnie Jane Jones; Michael Krauthofer; Lisa Langly; Leon Layman; Bill Lenny; Jeff Luebke; Mike Maringo; Theresa Maynard; Jack & Beverly Mills; Noel; Paul Riley; Mike Rose; Leeanne Sanders and baby; James Simpson; Larry Smith; Sarah Smith; Stan Spicer; Mary Louise Susalla; Howard Thorpe; Jennifer Ubil; Marsha Wittig; Maureen Z.



**And those in continuing need of prayer:** David Barrows; Brett Beall; Butch & Julie Beuchel; Jack & Rita Bretzke; Margot Brummett; Dave Carr; Karen Cleaver; Cathy Conn; Alex Creamean; Betsy Davies; Melissa Draper; Gail Engdahl; John England; Mary Franklin; Ralph Gladfelter; Lisa & Barb Gladstone; Joan Graham; Brian Henderson; Clint Johnson; Kellie Johnson; Mindy Kania; Ev Koller; Janel Koop; Paul Koop; Angela Koresh; Leona; Cathy Niemet; Richard Otto; Brian Paisley; Jay Rizzo; Arin Shinabarger; Nanae & Fukuko Shiraishi; Brian Smith; Sandy Train; Jill Tripp.

**If you have updates or changes to the prayer list, please let Liz in the church office know. Thank you!**

### Pray for our St. Jude's Family:

- June 7 – Vance Gordon; Brian & Barb Goss; Jerry & Joan Graham
- June 14 – The Green-Hamel Family; Dee Grossmann;  
Rex & Judi Harris
- June 21 – Lois Hartranft; Dan & Beth Harvey; Mary Ellen Hazell
- June 28 – Connie Hibbard; Kylee Hodil; Lynn & Kathy Hopper

## Summer Program Plans

*This is Our Prayer*, at its heart, is about longings of the human heart. The weekly themes explore issues

and concerns that all people wrestle with, regardless of their beliefs or background. As people of faith, we look to scripture and the traditions of those who came before us to see how we might face these same issues in our own lives.

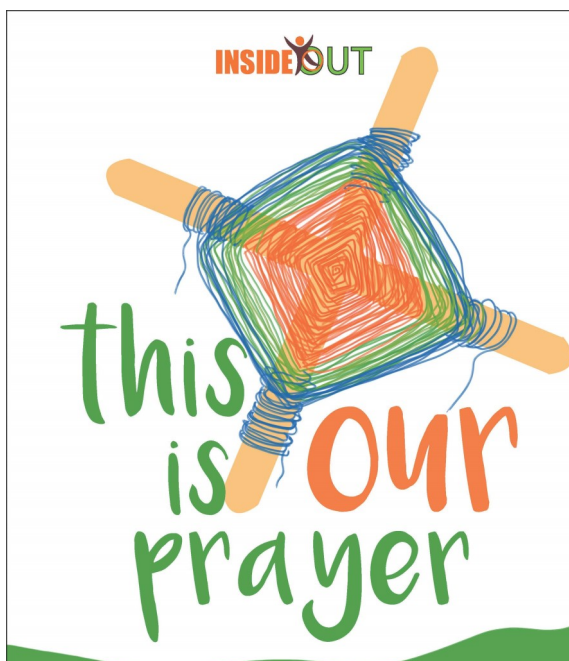
One consistent tool we see in both scripture and the tradition of the Church is prayer. People pray in different ways, yet that connection to God is at the heart of many happy

endings. Likewise, in times of struggle and sadness, people have looked for guidance, comfort, hope and healing. Often, those blessings have been realized through a form of prayer.

For some, prayer is simply speaking their thoughts and feelings to God. For others, it is clearing their minds and settling their hearts to make space for God. Some pray through music, art or the movement of their

body in dance or exercise. Some pray out loud, while others' prayers are whispers of the soul. Sometimes

the task we keep working at, even when it doesn't seem to make a difference, is a physical prayer of hope. Sometimes the relationships we build are prayers of love. It doesn't matter if we fold our hands and bow or raise them up and look to heaven, God is longing to connect with us. God is listening for the longings of our heart.



Look for our "This Is Our Prayer" Kit, to use at home, in late June and early July.

Join us as we explore the scriptural themes and prayer practices in this multi-generational program. Watch for porch drops of materials for the program in late June and early July. Stay tuned for news of how to connect with the community of St. Jude's while we travel this part of our journey together in mid to late July. On the reverse side of this page is a coloring page for the Lord's Prayer which we can work on in the meantime!

### Inside this Issue

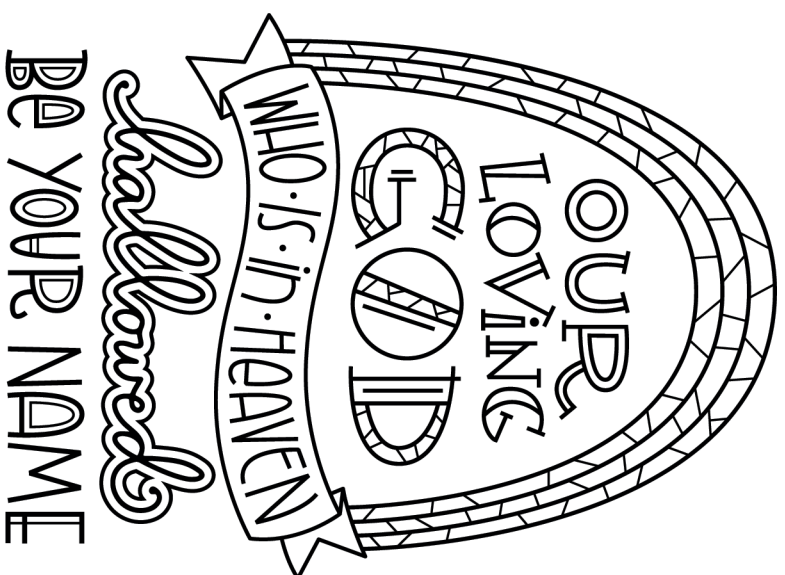
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This Is Our Prayer summer program! 1

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A Coloring Prayer 2

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BE YOUR NAME

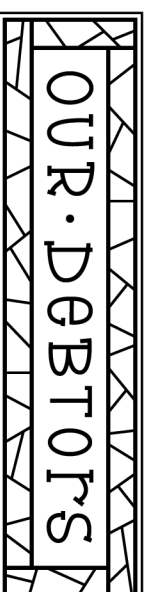


GIVE US THIS DAY  
OUR DAILY BREAD

& *Forgive*

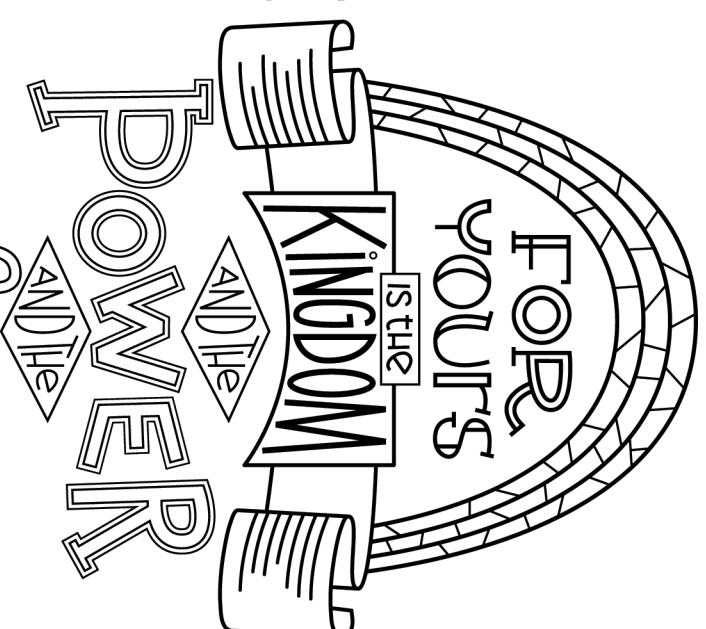
US OUR DEBTS

AS WE FORGIVE

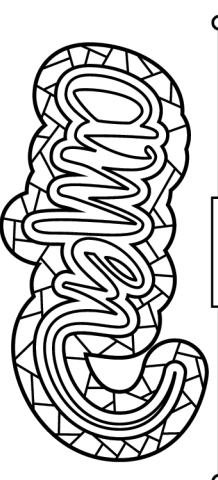


AND LEAD US  
NOT INTO

TEMPTATION



glory  
forever



Our Loving God, who is in Heaven. Hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done. On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.



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# St. Jude's Episcopal Church



## **VESTRY**

Charlie Johnston, Senior Warden  
Lynne Ronthi, Junior Warden  
Debbie James, Clerk  
Michelle Gangwer, Treasurer

### **2021**

Josephine Feijoo  
Lynne Ronthi  
Jerry Rucker  
Mike Wells

### **2022**

Deb James  
Charlie Johnston  
Jack Mills  
Diane Putnam

### **2023**

Nancy Day  
Paul Dolza  
Rex Harris  
Christine Szostak

### **Delegates to the Diocesan Convention**

Jack & Beverly Mills  
John & Carol Pettipher

### **Alternate:**

Dave & Denise Rayner  
Charlie & Francine Johnston