

Remind us to use our gifts of freedom wisely in all we do; to seize the opportunities You place before us.

Bless us as we pray and fellowship together, and as we contemplate the greatness of Your forgiving love for each of us. In Your Name we pray: Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liz Archibald

SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 5:1, 13-16, 22-23

I For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another; take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things."

GOSPEL READING

John 8:31-38

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are descendants of Abraham; yet you look for an opportunity to kill me, because there is no place in you for my word. I declare what I have seen in the Father's presence; as for you, you should do what you have heard from the Father.

SERMON

ANTHEM

For Everyone Born
Arr. Tom Trenney

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
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!

*** BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE**

Lift Every Voice and Sing
J. Rosamond Johnson and James Weldon Johnson



Rev. Mark Grorud has served for over 40 years as an ordained minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a full-communion partner with the Presbyterian Church. Pastor Mark and his wife, Caryl, moved from Nebraska three years ago to be close to their daughter, son-in-law and four grandchildren in Wilton. Pastor Mark is currently called to serve as a consultant to the Immanuel Vision Foundation, a Lutheran charitable foundation located in Omaha, for which he commutes on a regular basis back to Omaha.



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Berta Hull (Clerk)	Becky Shroyer
Jason Rice	Cathy Thomas
<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
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Patty Connor	Liz Archibald
Jock Wright	
<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
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