

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Crookston, MN

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



# SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/SHARING THE PEACE

### OPENING WORDS/CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us celebrate God's strength! Let us rejoice in God's saving help. **Let us all be glad with the joy of God's presence!** Sing to the Lord, from the rising of the sun to its setting. **Sing praises to the only true God.** From the glory of heaven, God gives eternal life and restores us by grace. **Let us celebrate God's strength! Let us rejoice in God's saving help. Let us all be glad with the joy of God's presence!**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Brother and sisters, God not only desires our repentance, but longs to offer us forgiveness. Therefore, cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you eternally. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Loving God, we confess that we do not always bring honor and glory to your name. We are rebellious and weak; we flee before your goodness. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us by the grace and mercy of Christ, that we may rise up again in peace to love and serve your world. Amen.** Sisters and brothers, the Spirit of God is resting on you, to restore, support, and strengthen you. Therefore, be at peace in the One who forgives and loves you; rise up and give God thanks. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**HYMN: #527 Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now**

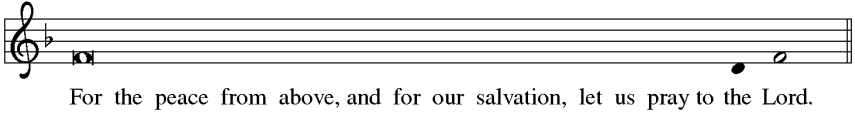
### GREETING (p. 203)

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.**

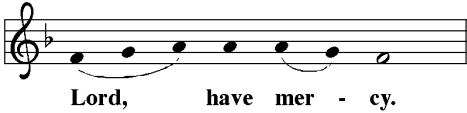
# KYRIE (p. 138)



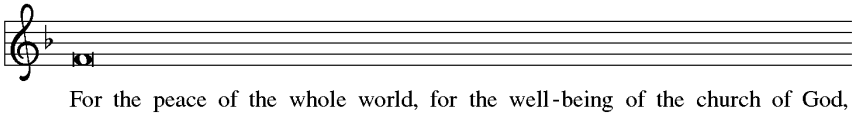
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



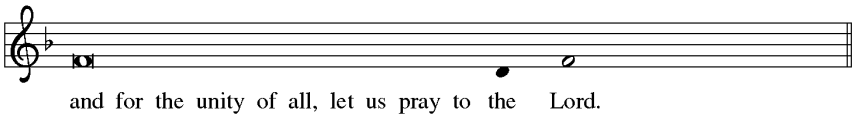
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



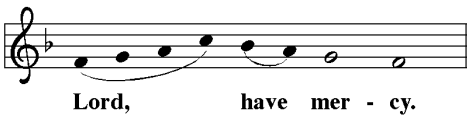
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



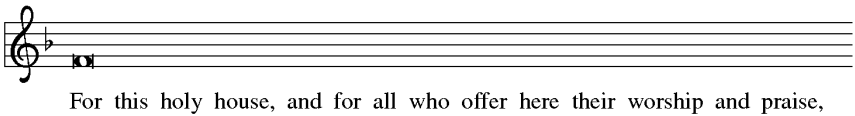
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



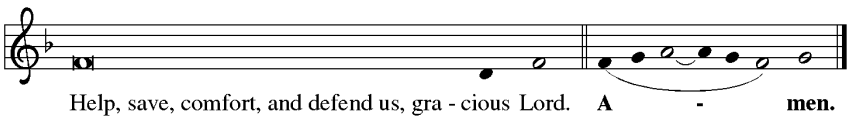
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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.**

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE (p. 140)

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Redeeming God, you call us to be one with you, as you are one with Christ. As his perfect love casts out our fear, and changes it to love, unite us by your Spirit of peace, that we may be one with you, as you are one with Christ. Amen.**

### SPECIAL MUSIC St. Paul's Choir

#### “Every Day is a Gift from the Lord”

#### First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7 (CEB)

*From east to west, there is no other God.*

<sup>1</sup> The Lord says to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whom I have grasped by the strong hand,  
to conquer nations before him,  
disarming kings,  
and opening doors before him,  
so no gates will be shut:

<sup>2</sup> I myself will go before you,  
and I will level mountains.

I will shatter bronze doors;  
I will cut through iron bars.

<sup>3</sup> I will give you hidden treasures of secret riches,  
so you will know that I am the Lord,  
the God of Israel, who calls you by name.

<sup>4</sup> For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen,

I called you by name.  
I gave you an honored title,  
though you didn't know me.  
<sup>5</sup> I am the Lord, and there is no other;  
besides me there is no God.  
I strengthen you—  
though you don't know me—  
<sup>6</sup> so all will know, from the rising of the sun to its setting,  
that there is nothing apart from me.  
I am the Lord; there's no other.  
<sup>7</sup> I form light and create darkness,  
make prosperity and create doom;  
I am the Lord, who does all these things.

**Psalm: Psalm 21:1-7 (CEB)**

<sup>1</sup> The king celebrates your strength, Lord;  
look how happy he is about your saving help!  
<sup>2</sup> **You've given him what his heart desires;  
you haven't denied what his lips requested.**  
<sup>3</sup> You bring rich blessings right to him;  
you put a crown of pure gold on his head.  
<sup>4</sup> **He asked you for life,  
and you gave it to him, all right—  
long days, forever and always!**  
<sup>5</sup> The king's reputation is great  
because of your saving help;  
you've conferred on him glory and grandeur.  
<sup>6</sup> **You grant him blessings forever;  
you make him happy  
with the joy of your presence.**  
<sup>7</sup> Because the king trusts the Lord,  
and because of the Most High's faithful love,  
he will not stumble.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 (CEB)**

*Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we*

*experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.*

<sup>12</sup>Dear friends, don't be surprised about the fiery trials that have come among you to test you. These are not strange happenings. <sup>13</sup>Instead, rejoice as you share Christ's suffering. You share his suffering now so that you may also have overwhelming joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are mocked because of Christ's name, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory—indeed, the Spirit of God—rests on you.

<sup>5,6</sup>Therefore, humble yourselves under God's power so that he may raise you up in the last day. <sup>7</sup>Throw all your anxiety onto him, because he cares about you. <sup>8</sup>Be clearheaded. Keep alert. Your accuser, the devil, is on the prowl like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, standing firm in the faith. Do so in the knowledge that your fellow believers are enduring the same suffering throughout the world. <sup>10</sup>After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, the one who called you into his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will himself restore, empower, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To him be power forever and always. Amen.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Before:* The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Gospel: John 17:1-11 (CEB)**

*On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.*

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus finished saying these things, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, so that the Son can glorify you. <sup>2</sup> You gave him authority over everyone so

that he could give eternal life to everyone you gave him. <sup>3</sup> This is eternal life: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you sent. <sup>4</sup> I have glorified you on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> Now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I shared with you before the world was created.

<sup>6</sup> “I have revealed your name to the people you gave me from this world. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. <sup>8</sup> This is because I gave them the words that you gave me, and they received them. They truly understood that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.

<sup>9</sup> “I’m praying for them. I’m not praying for the world but for those you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> Everything that is mine is yours and everything that is yours is mine; I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> I’m no longer in the world, but they are in the world, even as I’m coming to you. Holy Father, watch over them in your name, the name you gave me, that they will be one just as we are one.

*After:* The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON: “Before You Go”**

**HYMN: #392 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus**

## **SENIOR RECOGNITION**

### **THE NICENE CREED (p 104)**

**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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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 scriptures; 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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**

Each petition concludes: Fill us with your Spirit's power, that we may be one with Christ, as **Christ is one with you.**

## **OFFERING**

Jesus said to the Father, "All mine are yours, and all yours are mine." Therefore, let us offer to God this day our lives and labors in service of Christ's love.

**Offering Song: #186 Create in Me a Clean Heart**

**Offering Prayer: Glorious God, we know that everything we have comes from you, and everything that is ours is yours.**

**Every rich blessing rains forth out of the abundance of your love, even eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Bless these gifts and our lives together, that all we are and all we offer may give glory to you. Keep us united in your love, that we may be one; in the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING / HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (p. 144)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

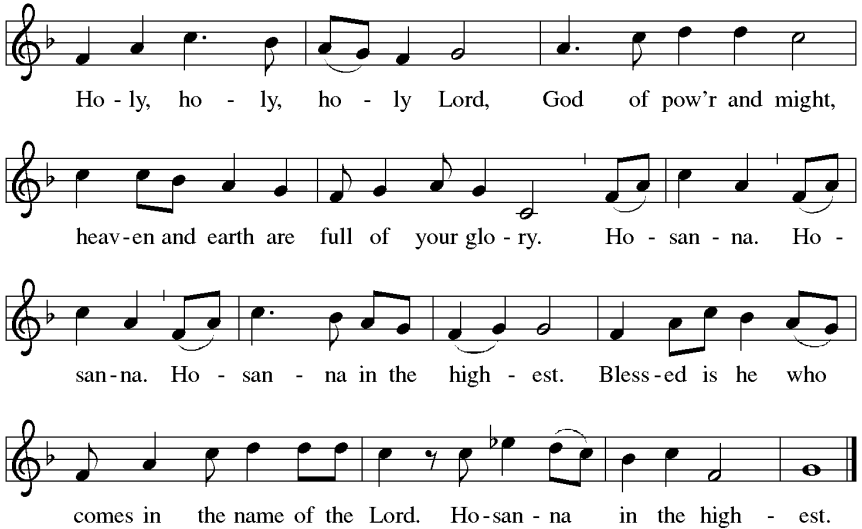
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Glorious God, in the prophets and the psalms you showed your purpose for your people, declaring that you alone are Lord and there is no other. In Jesus you fulfilled your promises and opened to us your heart. In his passion and death we saw the consequences of our rejection and the depth of your yearning. Yet you raised Jesus from

the tomb, granting him life forever and always. In his resurrection you invite us into the company of your eternal joy, and having finished the work you gave him to do, he watches over us so that we may be one. So, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we praise you forever, singing:



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.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION/EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**  
(p. 145)

...Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 145)**

**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.**

**LAMB OF GOD (p. 146)**

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord. Let us sing:

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Each group at the altar rail will be dismissed with a blessing. Please give a family Communion card to an usher. Please follow the guidance of the ushers as you come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.*

**Distribution Hymns: #480 O Bread of Life from Heaven  
#475 Lord Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## BLESSING

Now may the God who calls you by name bless you, the prayer of Christ keep you and make you one, and the Spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, shine upon you forever. Amen.

**Alleluia!**

**HYMN: #545 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing**

## CHARGE

Sisters and brothers, God loves and cares for each of us. Therefore, cast all anxiety on God, and keep alert, so that we may remain steadfast in faith with Christ, who supports and strengthens us in all things. **Thanks be to God.**

# SUNDAY BULLETIN

St. Paul's Lutheran, Crookston, MN

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

### **For those who need healing in body, mind, or spirit:**

Julie Love	Eunice Sondrol	Judy Luettjohann
Darleen Jackson	Katie Bakken	Julian Bertils
Marlo Moren	Evie Gunderson	Nancy Eia
Mike Ophus	Loiland family	Trevin Monahan
Nash Erdman	Stuart Hanson	Mark Peterson
Lenny Devos	Glorrayne Casmey	Lucile Torkelson
Delores Sandager	Carol Chaffee	Kari L Trudeau
Leah Knotek Ellefson	Mary Ann Knotek	

**For our missionaries:** Steve & Kelly Solheim  
City of Joy Rwanda

**For our servicemen:** Brandon Johnson      D.J. Brace

***Please keep them in your prayers this week.***

If you have prayer requests, please contact the church office at 218 281-3638 or our prayer chain coordinator, Marian Bakken: (h) 218-281-1584, (c) 218-275-3143, [marianbakken@gmail.com](mailto:marianbakken@gmail.com).

## MISSION

### To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people

1214 University Avenue – Crookston, Minnesota 56716

Website: [stpaulscrookstonmn.com](http://stpaulscrookstonmn.com)

[facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn](https://facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn)

Phone: 218-281-3638

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Ministers

St. Paul's members

Council President

Anna Peterson

Pastor

Rev. Curt Peterson

Organist

Mary Ann Knotek

Webmaster

Anna Peterson

Treasurer

Betty Arvidson

Financial Secretary

Kathie Barnes

Custodian

Marilyn Flateland

Administrative Assistant

Tammy Frohlich

## THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING TODAY!

Ushers

Dan and Brandi Halland

Scripture Reader

Dan Halland

Communion Server

Loren Sanderson

Acolyte

Judson Halland

Altar Guild

Marian Bakken

Offering Counters

Kathie Barnes and Dan Halland

Fellowship

Fellowship Committee

Livestream

Anna Peterson

## MAY WORSHIP SERVICES TEAM

We are grateful for the Spectacular May Worship Team.

**Ushers, Acolyte and Fellowship servers are needed for the 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Dan and Brandi Halland

Scott and Julie Kleven

Loren and Marjean Sanderson

Alvern Wentzel

Thank you for filling up most of the month already! 😊

## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Numbers 11:24-30

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b

Acts 2:1-21

John 20:19-23

Readings for May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Pentecost

## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

**Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9am- 2pm**

**Please leave a message after 2 pm on the answering machine/drop something in the mailbox (north side of building)/call ahead. Pastor Curt is usually in the building but may be out on other church business. Worship via Facebook: [facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn](https://facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn)**

***Sunday, May 17***

**8:45 am**

**10:00 am**

**11:00 am**

***7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter***

**Adult Bible Study**

**Worship and Communion**

**\*Senior Quilt Presentation**

**Fellowship**

***Monday, May 18***

**8:30 am**

**LWR Quilting**

***Tuesday, May 19***

**7:00 am**

**9:30 am**

**1:30 pm**

**7:00 pm**

**Men's Coffee Fellowship**

**Circle: Joanna Naomi**

**Circle: Lydia Rachel**

**AA**

***Wednesday, May 20***

**12:00 – 3:00 pm**

**Fellowship Hall Reserved**

***Thursday, May 21***

**8:30 am**

**5:30 – 9:00 pm**

**LWR Packing**

**Women's Book Read-Movie**

**Everyone invited!**

***Friday, May 22***

**Church office closed**

**Pastor's Day off**

***Saturday, May 23***

**Fellowship Hall Reserved**

***Sunday, May 24***

**8:45 am**

**10:00 am**

**11:00 am**

***Pentecost***

**Adult Bible Study**

**Worship**

**Fellowship**

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

**May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Attendance: 78**

### **Our gifts towards Budget:**

Sunday Envelopes	\$3,131.67
Loose Offering	\$ 65.00
Over and Above Benevolence	\$ 20.00
General Treas/No Benevolence	\$ 235.00

### **Other (non-budget) Receipts:**

Improvement Fund	\$ 35.25
Noisy Offering	\$ 83.62

### **Needed weekly towards 2026 Budget:**

Total received towards Budget	\$4,675.42
Total (non-budget) Receipts	\$3,451.67
Total Received	\$ 118.87
	\$3,570.54

The most recent Treasurer's Report was approved at the last Church Council meeting. You can review it in the bulletin or web bulletin from May 3<sup>rd</sup> or contact Tammy in the office and she can provide a copy.

## **A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR SUMMER TRAVELERS**

We know many of our members travel during the summer or have other commitments. Your consistent support is vital to our church and mission, especially during the summer months. If you think you will miss church services this summer, consider setting up **recurring giving**.

It takes just a few moments to get started, and your regular donations will help sustain us throughout the year. Visit **[stpaulscrookstonmn.com/giving](http://stpaulscrookstonmn.com/giving)** to set up a secure, recurring contribution from your bank account, credit card or debit card. We sincerely thank you for your generosity to our church community and various ministries!

## SPECIAL MESSAGES

### **ST. PAUL'S WOMEN'S BOOK READ**

This week Thursday, May 21st - We are planning to watch the soon-to-be released movie, "**Remarkably Bright Creatures,**" together as a group. We will gather at the church. Please Bring-Your-Own-Beverage and we will serve popcorn for this delightful movie night with friends. All are welcome! Movie begins at 6:15 - 8:15 pm.

### **SUMMER FAITH sPARK**

Calling all kids entering **1st–6th grade** this fall! Join us this June for an evening of outdoor fun, fellowship, and faith at **Summer Faith sPARK**.

This year's theme is **ROCK SOLID: Jesus Strong & Kind** (based on Matthew 7:24-27). Each week, we will gather to explore a new lesson:

<b>Week 1:</b> June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus Welcomes All
<b>Week 2:</b> June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus is Strong
<b>Week 3:</b> June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus is Kind
<b>Week 4:</b> June 25 <sup>th</sup>	ROCK SOLID Celebration Night at St. Paul's

**When:** Every Thursday evening in June

**Where:** A different park each week

**Time:** 5:30 PM (Bring your own picnic supper)  
6:00 PM (Activities begin)

**How to Register:** More details, including the weekly park schedule, are on the registration form. Please return your completed **registration to the office by Wednesday, May 27**. We can't wait to see you there!

### **LWR PACKING**



The wonderful ladies of our Lutheran World Relief Quilting group will soon be packing and sending another shipment of quilts, baby kits, and health care kits. If you are able to help this **Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**, beginning at 8:30 am, we would be very grateful. 😊

Thank you to everyone who has dropped off items to use in making the quilts! What a blessing!