



Holy Trinity

LUTHERAN CHURCH

N A R B E R T H

Growing in Faith ~ Making a Difference ~ Open to All

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2026

196 Woodbine Avenue, Narberth, Pennsylvania 19072

Office Phone: (610) 664-5503, Office E-mail: holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com

Website: holytrinitynarberth.org; Facebook: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Narberth

Rev. Jessica Zurcher, Pastor - pastorjessica@holytrinitynarberth.org

Dale Morris, Office Manager - holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com

Christopher Ertelt, Music Director

You are a child of God and you are welcome here: whatever your faith commitment, experience, or level of doubt, mental or emotional health, physical abilities, financial or employment status, race, ethnicity, or primary language; whatever your gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. We welcome you whether you are a parent or caregiver; whether you are a fussy baby, an energetic toddler, a 'tween, or a teen; whether you are an inquisitive young adult, exhausted adult, or wise senior citizen; whether you are single, in a relationship, married, divorced, or widowed; whether you struggle with an addiction to drugs, alcohol, or anything else. We welcome you however you found us: on the internet, from your neighbor or friend, or passing by our Giving Garden. We welcome those who hurt and those who celebrate, those who worship every week or just this once, and in whatever you choose to wear. We extend a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now. We welcome you to join us as we grow in faith through worship, study, and friendship. We welcome you as we seek to make a difference through combating food insecurity, ministering with those in need, and committing to racial equity. And we welcome you to help us be fully open to all. Whoever you are and wherever you are from, you are a child of God and you are welcome here.

+ GATHERING +

Prelude:

Berceuse

Louis Vierne

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

C: **Amen.**

L: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

L: Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.
We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.
We thank you for the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers and the waters that nourish us.
Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: Come, Thou Almighty King (ELW 408)



1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;
2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be



help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in
hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in



to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.
ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Greeting:

- L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: **And also with you.**

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



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



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray together...

C: **Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

+ WORD +

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

L: A reading from Acts, the 17th chapter.

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

L: Word of God. Word of life. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:8-20

The psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

L: A reading from 1 Peter, the 3rd chapter.

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the

resurrection of Jesus Christ,²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

L: The Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:]¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees the Spirit nor knows her. You know the Spirit because she abides with you, and she will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Rev. Jessica Zurcher

Hymn of the Day: Come Down, O Love Divine (ELW 804)



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
4 And so the year - ning strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Apostles' Creed:

L: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: **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 again 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

L: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

The Peace of Christ:

L: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share a sign of peace with one another, as you are comfortable.

Anthem:

At Home, Let There Be Love

Ruth Elaine Schram

You are welcome to give by scanning the QR code, by visiting our church website, or by placing your offering in the offering plate. We are inviting you to give financially out of your heart and love for God. Our giving is a spiritual practice as part of our faith and discipleship.



Offering Song and Prayer: We Are an Offering (ELW 692)

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands, and the offering song is sung by all.

The musical score is written on six staves of music. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering." The score includes various musical notations such as treble clefs, 7/8 time signatures, eighth and quarter notes, rests, and triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes).

L: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

The Great Thanksgiving:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

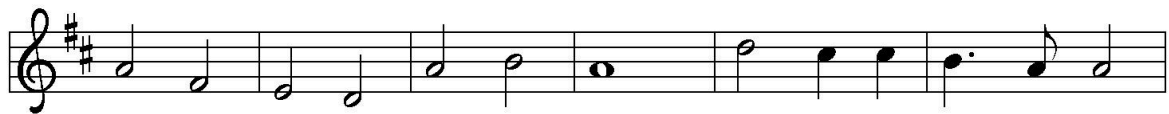
L: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

L: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, 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:



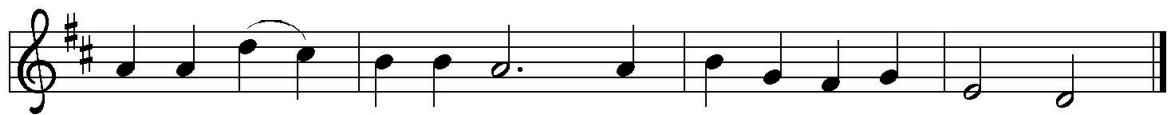
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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.

L: When the time was right, O God, you sent Jesus
To show us the way that we had lost.
He healed the broken and fed the hungry.
People of power feared him;
People in need followed him.
He invited those on the edges to come to the center.
Wherever he went, he broke bread with those who needed him most.

In the night before he died for us,
our Lord Jesus gathered with faltering friends
for a meal that tasted of freedom.
Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, Jesus 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.

We remember that night Jesus spent with friends,
and we feel his presence with us now.
We ask God, through the Holy Spirit
to bless these gifts we offer and share,
making them Christ for us,
and making us into Christ's holy body.
Together with all the church, we give you thanks:
Creator, Redeemer, Spirit of love.
Bind us together. Open our hearts. Grant us peace.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
**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.**

All are welcome to receive communion. Those online will be communed first. Then, ushers will dismiss you by row to come forward for communion. You may proceed down the center aisle to the front, where you may receive bread to dip into the cup. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice cups are available for those who prefer them. If you are unable to come forward but desire to receive, please let the usher know so that the Eucharist may be brought to you. If you do not wish to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing and may indicate this by crossing your hands over your chest when you approach the minister. After you have received communion, please return to your seat using the side aisles.

Invitation to Communion:

L: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.
C: **Amen.**

Communion Song:

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

Marty Haugen

Prayer after Communion:

- L: 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,
- C: **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

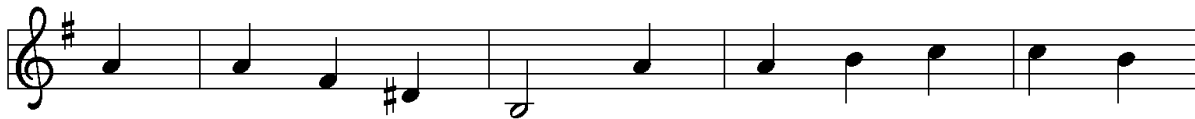
Benediction:

- L: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✝ bless you now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: Oh, Sing to the Lord (ELW 822)



1 Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
 2 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
 3 So dance for our God, and blow all the trum - pets.
 4 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.
 5 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
 So dance for our God, and blow all the trum - pets.
 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.
 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
 So dance for our God, and blow all the trum - pets.
 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.
 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Dismissal:

L: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude:

Invention in A minor

J. S. Bach

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday to: Al Gebhart III (5/11).

Ascension Day Service

Thursday, May 14, 2026 | The service will be held at Reformation Lutheran Church in Media, beginning with food at 6:30pm, followed by the service at 7:30pm. All are welcome!

Barb Grimaldi Meal Packaging Event

Saturday, May 16th | 9:30am - We will gather to package 25,000 emergency meals for The Grace Food Bank in Mantua. ***Please contact the church office at holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com or 610-664-5503 if you plan to attend.*** We also need your financial support to make this happen. Please consider donating online at holytrinitynarberth.org. Checks can be made out to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church with "Barb Grimaldi Meal Packaging Event" noted in the memo line. Checks can be mailed to the church office at 196 Woodbine Ave. Narberth, PA 19072, or simply placed in the offering plate at worship. Thank you.

Giving Garden

The next Giving Garden planting date is Saturday, May 23rd at 11:30am (note the slightly later time). All are welcome! Plantings will include herbs, a new and welcome addition to our garden last season and continued again this season.

Cederstrom Sargent Scholarship Fund - Applications due June 1st

If you are interested in applying for the Cederstrom Sargent Scholarship, please have your application to the church office via email at holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com or snail mail to 196 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, PA 19072, by June 1st. The Cederstrom Sargent Scholarship Fund at Holy Trinity is accepting applications for school and camp tuition assistance for the 2026-2027 school year. If you'd like to apply, please contact the church office for an application.

Geraniums

Once again, our sanctuary will be decorated with red geraniums on Pentecost Sunday, May 24th. If you are interested in memorializing a plant (cost \$5.00 per plant), please email the church office at holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com or call the church office at 610-664-5503. Please include the following information:

your name

how you would like your memorialization to appear in the bulletin (in loving memory of or in honor of)

number of plants

if you will be taking your plant/s or leaving it/them to be planted on our grounds

Checks can be made out to Holy Trinity with a note in the memo line "Geraniums". Please mail or drop off checks to Holy Trinity, 196 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, PA 19072. Deadline to order is Sunday, May 17th. Thank you!

Lutheran Night at the Phillies - June 5

The Phillies take on the Chicago White Sox.

Use Code LUTHERAN

https://mlb.tickets.com/schedule/?agency=MLB_MPV&orgid=21#/sales_group_code:salesGroupId=7455

Join with your family and friends to cheer on the Phillies. Make a day of it and start your America 250 celebration early by visiting local historical sites ahead of the crowds!

Graduate Recognition Sunday | June 7

We will celebrate Graduate Recognition Sunday on June 7th! If you or someone in your family is graduating this year, whether from elementary, middle, or high school, college, or another program, we would love to recognize this important milestone during worship.

Please submit the graduate's name, school, degree (if applicable), and any future plans to the church office (holytrinitynarberth.org) by June 2. You're also welcome to include a photo to be shared.

Join us as we give thanks for these accomplishments and pray for our graduates as they begin this next chapter!

Save the Date! Pride at the Park | June 20 🌈

Join us for Pride at the Park on June 20th! Mark your calendars for a joyful time of community, celebration, and affirmation of God's love for all. More details to come... we hope you'll be there!

Meet with Pastor Jessica

Pastor Jessica would love the opportunity to meet with you and get to know you better. If you're interested in scheduling a conversation, please reach out to Pastor Jessica after worship, by phone 301-412-8989, email pastorjessica@holyltrinitynarberth.org, or Calendly calendly.com/pastorjessica.

Holy Trinity's Prayer List

Jan Doan

Mark Frye

Friends and Relatives

Bettina Chavanne (friend of the McCluskeys)

Sharon Neall (Hall family member)

Beth Brady (Kristine DelMonte's co-worker)

Norma DelMonte (Tom's mother)

The Houghs (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Linda Baldi-Boyd

Marbury Hooey

John & Rosemary (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Margie (Jan Doan's friend)

Joseph Davis

Heinrich Mengel (cousin of the Hoffmann Family)

Louise Jackson (cousin of Julie Ackerman)

Mary Fran (friend of Dorothy McCluskey)

Tara Echelmeier Dolan (friend of Julie Ackerman)

Mary Ann Dixon (friend of the Hoffmans)

David Segermark (Kristine DelMonte's father)

Jane S. (friend of Pat Brubaker)

Ken Ackerman (Carl Ackerman's father)

Grace Vanartsdalen (friend of Bruce and Dorothy McCluskey)

Ellen Mitchell (sister of Mary Williamson)

Steve Crews (Kim's father)

The Lim family (friends of the Princes)

Cheryl Kurpiel and Family (friends of the Frye Family)

Cestare family (Extended family of Kim)

Bob Gamble (friend of Bruce & Dorothy McCluskey)

Joe Prince & Greg Savoy (loved ones of the Princes)

Deborah deHeyman and family (friends of Holy Trinity)

Katy Olsen (Pat Brubaker's niece)

Lori Chambers (friend of Mark and Dee Jaye Frye)

Laurie & Wayne (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Bob Fuhrmeister (grandson of Bob Catherman)