



# Holy Trinity

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

N A R B E R T H

Growing in Faith ~ Making a Difference ~ Open to All

### **Third Sunday of Easter** **April 19, 2026**

196 Woodbine Avenue, Narberth, Pennsylvania 19072

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Website: [holytrinitynarberth.org](http://holytrinitynarberth.org); Facebook: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Narberth

Rev. Jessica Zurcher, Pastor - [pastorjessica@holytrinitynarberth.org](mailto:pastorjessica@holytrinitynarberth.org)

Dale Morris, Office Manager - [holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com](mailto: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:**

"Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring"

J. S. Bach

### **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: As We Gather at Your Table (ELW 522)



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra-cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um-phantly Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

### 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: **O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

**First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

L: A reading from Acts, the 2nd chapter.

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>36</sup> “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup> **for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name of the LORD:  
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

<sup>12</sup> How shall I repay the LORD  
for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God’s people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in your sight, O LORD,  
is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup> O LORD, truly I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from  
my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God's people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the LORD's house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

### Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

L: A reading from 1 Peter, the 1st chapter.

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

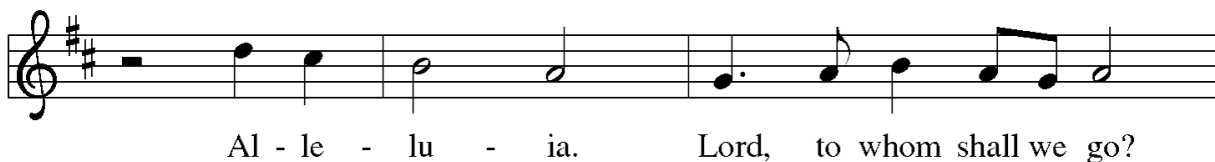
<sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation:



### **Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-35**

**L:** The Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup> He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

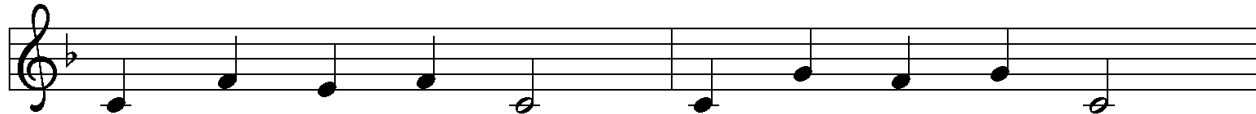
<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**L:** The Gospel of the Lord.

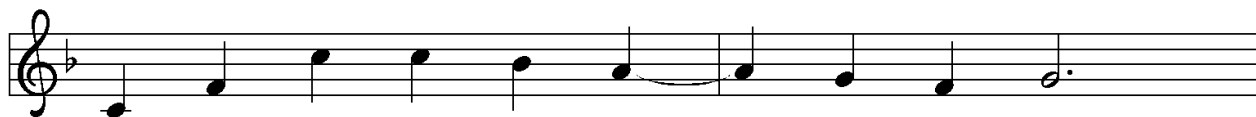
**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Rev. Jessica Zurcher

Hymn of the Day: Day of Arising (ELW 374)



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:  
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing  
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

## **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.*

Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

L: Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence and war, sow peace. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: Eternal Light, we give thanks for all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. 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:**

Alleluia, Praise the Risen King!

Lloyd Larson

*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.

**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.**

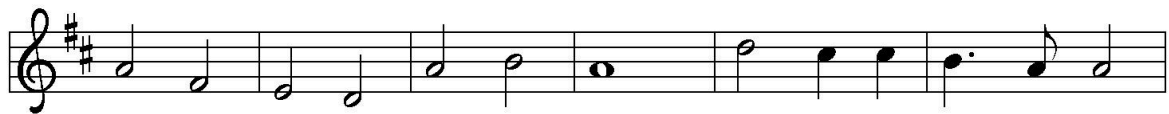
L: Lift up your hearts.

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:



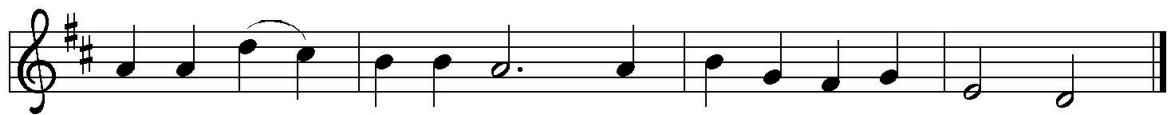
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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:

United at the Table (*Unidos en la fiesta*)

Joaquín Madurga

**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: Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus (ELW 501)



Come with us, O bless - ed Je - sus, with us ev - er - more to be.



And, in leav - ing now thine al - tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!



Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho - rus nev - er cease the heav'n - ly strain;



but in us, thy lov - ing chil - dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

### Dismissal:

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

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### Postlude:

"Little" Prelude and Fugue in F

J. S. Bach

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Ben Hoffman Memorial Service**

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Ben Hoffman. We give thanks for his life and the many ways he touched the lives of those in our community.

### **Funeral Service Details**

Date: Tuesday, April 21 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Visitation: 9:00am

Service: 10:00am

Internment: 11:30am at Westminster Cemetery

Reception following at the Palombaro Club, Ardmore

### **NarbEarth Day**

Saturday, May 2, 2026 | 12pm-4pm | Narberth Park - Volunteers are needed to staff our Giving Garden/Trellis Food for All table at the event. If you are interested, please let Pastor Jessica or the church office know. Come on out and learn about Narberth's green initiatives!

### **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 20,000 emergency meals for The Grace Food Bank in Mantua. Please contact the church office at [holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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.

### **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](mailto: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.

## **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](mailto:pastorjessica@holyltrinitynarberth.org), or Calendly [calendly.com/pastorjessica](https://calendly.com/pastorjessica).

## **Holy Trinity's Prayer List**

Jan Doan  
Mark Frye

Condolences to the family of Ben Hoffman on his passing.

## **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)