



Holy Trinity

LUTHERAN CHURCH

N A R B E R T H

Growing in Faith ~ Making a Difference ~ Open to All

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 2 , 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:

"Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring"

Johann Sebastian Bach

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

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

L: In the name of the Creator,
and of the ✙ Christ,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Creator, and of the ☩ Christ, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: Let All Things Now Living (ELW 881)

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

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



Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

- L: Let us pray together...
- C: **Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

+ WORD +

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

L: A reading from Genesis, the 32nd chapter.

²² [At night Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

The psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.

⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ **LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶ You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ **You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;
you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰ You watch over all those who love you,
but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

L: A reading from Romans, the 9th chapter.

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:

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

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

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:13-21

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

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

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon: Rev. Jessica Zurcher

Hymn of the Day: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (ELW 712)



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum - ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
- 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
- 4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

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: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders, and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

- L: For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers, those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- L: For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and peace. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- L: For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- L: For this congregation, that it bears faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- L: With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. By their example, may we trust your promises in life and in death. Merciful God,
- C: **receive our prayer.**
- L: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 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.

Offertory Hymn: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (ELW 504)



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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 in treble clef, 3/4 time. It features a melody with various note values including eighth, quarter, and half notes, as well as triplet markings. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. 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 voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

L: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave themselves for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

+ MEAL +

The Great Thanksgiving:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

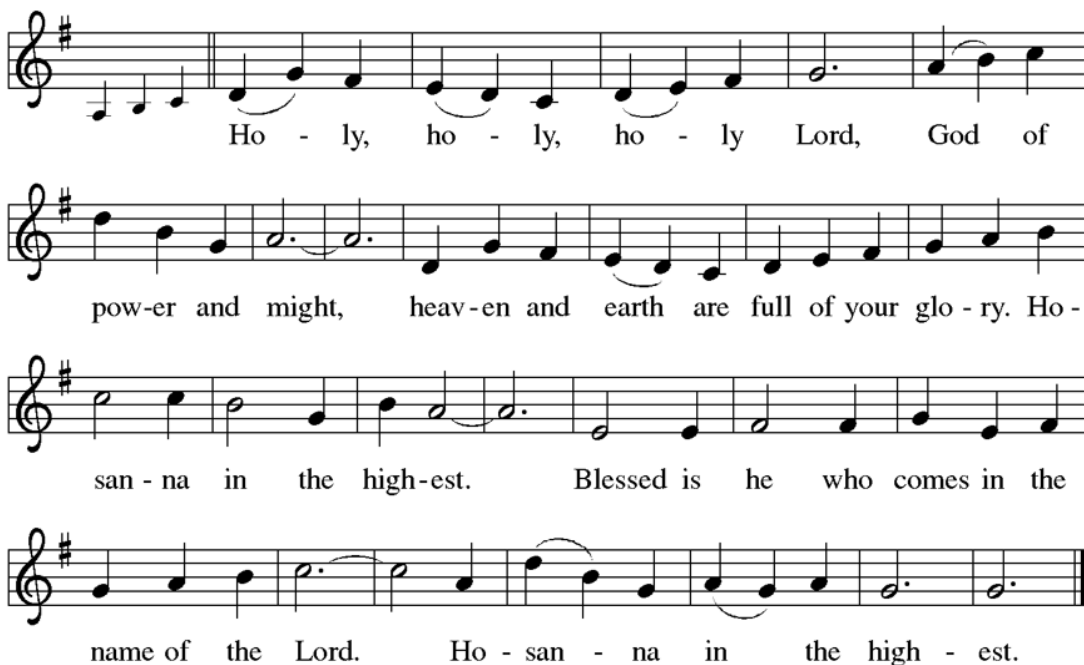
L: Lift up your hearts.

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

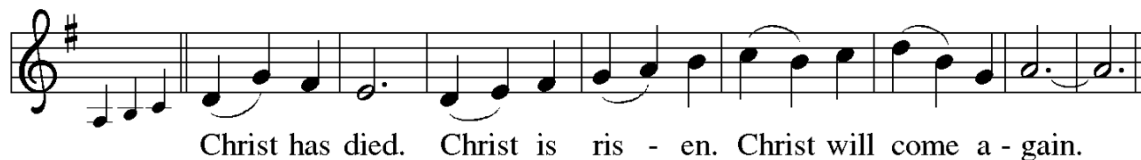


L: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

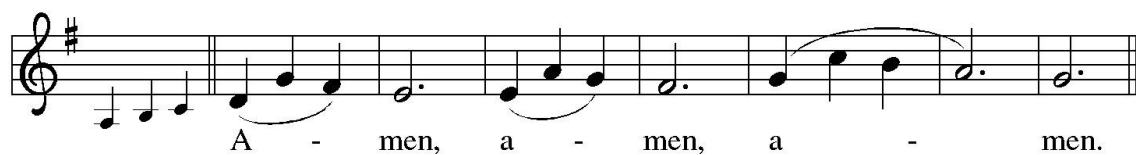
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.



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: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C: **Amen.**

Communion Song:

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

Marty Haugen

Prayer after Communion:

- L: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

Benediction:

- L: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.
- C: **Amen.**
- L: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**
- L: The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (ELW 674)



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Dismissal:

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

"Little" Prelude and Fugue in C

J. S. Bach

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

School Supplies Drive ends today!

Help local children start the school year with the tools they need to succeed! We are collecting new school supplies to support students and families in need. Donations may be placed in the drop box in the CLC at church. Thank you for helping our neighbors prepare for a successful school year!

Pastor Jessica's Ice Cream Office Hours 🍦

Got a question, an idea, or just want to chat? Join Pastor Jessica for Ice Cream Office Hours on Thursday, August 6, from 12:00–2:00 p.m. at Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams on Haverford! Stop by anytime for conversation, fellowship, and maybe a scoop (or two). Whether you'd like to talk about faith, church life, or simply catch up, Pastor Jessica would love to see you there.

Lector/Reader volunteers needed

Thank you to everyone who signed up to lector and read during the summer! Since this system is working well, we will continue using it moving forward.

If you know when you will be worshiping with us and would like to lector/read, please use this QR code or contact Dale in the church office at 610-664-5503 or holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com.



Thank you for your continued willingness to serve!

Giving Garden

We continue to harvest every Wednesday at 8am. Just bring your garden gloves and whatever hand tools you may want for digging and harvesting. All are welcome as your schedules permit.

Ways to Meet with Pastor Jessica

As your pastor, I'm here to listen, pray, and walk alongside you in faith. To schedule a meeting, visit calendly.com/pastorjessica, or feel free to call/text 301-412-8989, or email pastorjessica@holytrinitynarberth.org. You can also catch me after worship. Whether you have a question, need pastoral care, or would simply like to chat, I'd love to hear from you.

Holy Trinity's Prayer List

Jan Doan

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)
Lori Chambers (friend of Mark and Dee Jaye Frye)
Laurie & Wayne (friends of Pat Brubaker)
Bob Fuhrmeister (grandson of Bob Catherman)
David Rovner (friend of Holy Trinity)