

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity
Greenville, Pennsylvania*

*The Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 20 and 21, 2021*

Welcome in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ! If you come as a visitor today, we hope you will leave as a friend. We count it a privilege and a blessing to have you with us in worship. If you are not presently a member of any congregation, please feel welcome to gather with us around Jesus in this community of his disciples at Holy Trinity. Come and worship with us again!

Invitation to Communion: Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus Christ by which our Lord is truly present to forgive sin and bring life and salvation. All baptized Christians who believe this promise are welcome to commune. Parents with children are encouraged to come to the altar together. Children who do not yet receive communion will receive the blessing of the Church from the Pastor.

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.

Gluten-free wafers are available; let Pastor know when you come forward to receive.

Service of Holy Communion

Significance of the Day: God promises Jeremiah that a “new covenant” will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God’s heart through Christ and draws God’s love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God’s love with all the world.

Gathering

Prelude Variations on *Jesu, Meines Lebens Leben* (J. S. Bach et al)

Greeting and Announcements

(The assembly stands as the ministers enter.)

Confession

(All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.
Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

Christ, the Life of All the Living

(Please be seated. We will not be singing but these words are here for your reflection.)

1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
 3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,

Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
 e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
 for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;

through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
 for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
 thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,

Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

(The assembly stands.)

Apostolic Greeting

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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

Word

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah:

31 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51:1-12

(Saturday psalm will be spoken responsively, Sunday psalm will be sung by Cantor.)

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**
- 3 For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your
judgment.**
- 5 Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.
- 6 Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**
- 7 Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.
- 8 Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**
- 9 Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.
- 10 Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**
- 11 Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.
- 12 Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.**

A reading from Hebrews 5:5-10:

5 So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

6 as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; 9 and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, 10 having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (*The assembly stands.*)

Glory and praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

**Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single grain;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(The reading of the Gospel.)

20 Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” 22 Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

27 “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” 29 The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” 30 Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” 33 He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly sits.)

(The assembly remains seated.)

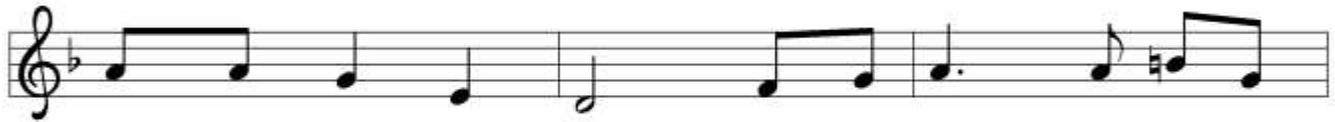
Hymn of the Day

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

(We will not be singing but these words are here for your reflection.)



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed
3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of
on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.
bod - y of our Lord.
riv - er, you the sea.

Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow,
God who lives beyond our death,
hold us close through each tomorrow,
love as near as every breath.

(The assembly stands.)

Nicene Creed

**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

A: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need, responding, “Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.”

(Brief silence)

A: You wash us through and through and remember our sin no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; for our pastors, musicians, worship leaders, council members, teachers and volunteers. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: You fill the earth—from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder—with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires. We especially pray for our farmers in this season as they are preparing for the planting season ahead. Bless the work that they do, and hear their prayers for the kind of weather they need for a plentiful harvest. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all. We pray for our country and those who lead it: Joe, our president; Tom, our governor; and all those who serve as school board members and borough council members. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind or body, those who are dying, and all who grieve. We pray for all who are sick with COVID and all who are sick of COVID. We pray to you, O Lord of healing, that you work through scientists and doctors and other medical providers, that the distribution of the vaccine is plentiful and that it includes the poor and the otherwise left behind. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation, and learning ministries. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you. With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Are there others for whom we should pray?

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The assembly sits.)

Meal

Music as the meal is prepared Interlude on *Herzlich thut mich verlangen*
(Pachelbel)

(The assembly stands. The deacon, on behalf of the people, prays.)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

The Breaking of Bread

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is now ready.

(The assembly sits.)

Communion of the Faithful

Procedure for Communing: *We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.*

(Following the Communion the assembly stands for the blessing.)

Music during communion Appointed hymns

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Our Prayer for These Times

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Variation on *Olivet*

(Young)

(Once the pastor is at the back of the church, ushers will dismiss by row.)

Serving Tonight

Presiding Minister Pastor Brenda Martin
Pianist Maidene Hackett
Liturgical Deacon Catherine Mott

Serving Today

Presiding Minister Pastor Brenda Martin
Organist Maidene Hackett
Cantor Sheryl Lanning
Liturgical Deacon Marj Stubert
Communion Assistant Nancy McLaughlin
Lector Bonnie Massing
Head Usher Linda Armstrong
Altar Guild Bonnie Massing, Bonnie Long

Acknowledgments

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Pastors in residence:

The Rev. Martin Roth, Pastor Emeritus, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
The Rev. Julia Fraser, chaplain at St. Paul Homes
The Rev. Brian Riddle, Thiel College Campus Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson, retired, Thiel College

Attendance at the Saturday, March 13, 2021, 5:30 p.m. Service: 18. Attendance at the Sunday, March 14, 2021, 9:30 a.m. Service: 31. Total: 49.

This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, March 21, 2021, *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

- 9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday Church School/Confirmation
- 7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Monday, March 22, 2021

Messenger articles due today

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Flying Quilts
- 6:30 p.m. CCSS
- 7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

- 6:15 p.m. Lenten Evening Prayer
- 7:15 p.m. Lenten Study

Thursday, March 25, 2021

- 10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion
- 7:00 p.m. Happy Hour (Zoom)

Friday, March 26, 2021

Virtual Stations of the Cross – *see below for instructions*

Saturday, March 27, 2021

- 5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 28, 2021, *Palm Sunday*

- 9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion
NO Sunday Church School/Confirmation
- 7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Monday, March 29, 2021, *Monday in Holy Week*

- 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Tuesday, March 30, 2021, *Tuesday in Holy Week*

- 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer
- 7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, March 31, 2021, *Wednesday in Holy Week*

- 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Thursday, April 1, 2021, *Maundy Thursday*

- 12:10 p.m. Holy Communion
- 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion

Friday, April 2, 2021, *Good Friday*

- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday liturgy

Saturday, April 3, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Service

Christ in Our Home

“**Christ in Our Home**” daily devotional booklets for April - June are available on the narthex table. Please take one for personal or family Bible reading and prayer.

Morning Prayer

We will **NOT** be gathering at the church to pray Morning Prayer on weekdays during Lent. However, one member of the congregation will pray Morning Prayer at the church each day on our behalf. Because we typically pray for every member of the congregation by name during Lent at these services, we have created a simplified order of Morning Prayer for you to pray at home every day. See that order, and the list of names for each day, in the current Messenger.

Wednesday Evening Prayer and Lenten Study

We **WILL** gather for Evening Prayer at 6:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. Because we have had a daily Eucharist scheduled for Wednesday evenings since June, a brief distribution of Holy Communion will occur at the conclusion of Evening Prayer for those who wish to remain in the church.

We will also have a Lenten study at 7:15 p.m. Pastor Brenda will hold the study in-person at the church for a small number of people who attend Evening Prayer and prefer to remain in the church. The study will also be available via Zoom for those who feel safer gathering in that way. If you would like to participate via Zoom, please contact the church office so that we can email you the Zoom link.

The study this year will be on the Luther writing, “Freedom of the Christian.” Last year was the 500th anniversary of the publication of “Freedom of the Christian,” and we will explore what it means for those of us who usually think about “freedom” as the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of a Western democracy, and compare that to what it means to be freed in Christ.

Stations of the Cross

We will not gather in person to pray Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings. We will, however, have Stations of the Cross available on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCamdIF705R3knw7NEksvFvg>. You can pray Stations on Friday evenings by using the posting on that channel.

Lenten Coin Folders

Lenten Coin Folders are available March in the narthex for anyone interested in keeping this tradition. There is a basket in the narthex where you may return your folder. They may also be placed in the offering plate on Saturday/Sunday.

Sunday Church School Lenten Project 2021 - Calling All Bunnies! Today is the deadline

The Parish Education Committee is requesting participation from the congregation in our SCS Lenten Project.

For the Good Shepherd Center's Easter basket distribution this year, we will again be collecting chocolate bunnies. We ask that the bunnies be medium-sized, preferably 6 oz. Bunnies can be brought in and placed on tables which will be located as usual at two spots – in the narthex, and in the administrative hall near the back alley door. We will need to have all bunnies collected by **Tuesday, March 23**, in order for GSC to have them in time for the Easter basket distribution dates.

Thank you so much in advance for any help you can provide with our Lenten Project!

Good Shepherd February Request

The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area. The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for **February is canned fruit**.

Donations may be dropped off at the church office or directly at the Food Pantry.

Good Shepherd Easter Request – Today is the Deadline!

The Good Shepherd Center's Easter request for Holy Trinity **60 pasta or rice side dishes**. Deadline for donations is Sunday, March 21.



Please Pray For

Permission is necessary to add a person to the prayer list. Please ask before your call the office. Thanks.

Health and Healing:

Marie (sister-in-law of Henry and Ruth Heil)	Jim
Tammy (friend of Jill Murrin)	Nancy (friend of Linda Armstrong)
Nancy Ullstrom	John L (father of Catherine Mott)
Morris (brother-in-law of Louise Gilmore, uncle of Jennifer Martin)	Brenda (sister-in-law of Betty K. Junk)
Lori McCann	Carl
Donnie (friend of Wayne and Darla Swift)	Paul
Betty K.	Dillon (friend of Ed Pitcher and Beth Harpst)
Hank (son of Henry and Ruth Heil)	Belle (granddaughter of Linda Bateman)
Kate (friend of Paul and Sue Bittler)	

Christ's comfort for those who grieve the death of:

Coleen Barwell (member of Flying Quilts)
Kelly Henderson Bradley (cousin of Jill Murrin)

In Military Service

Specialist (SPC) Andrew McCall, Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado (son of Mark and Jane McCall, grandson of Karen McKay and the late Jim McKay)
Sgt. First Class Nicholas Carman, US Army, Fredericksburg, Virginia (grandson of Nancy Ullstrom)
Admiral Richard Childs, Assistant Surgeon General of the USA (nephew of Harvey Childs)
CDR Ryan Leary, USN, Operation Officer, 7th Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan (son of David and Judy Leary)
Tim Ross, Navy Special Forces, (grandson of Rae Johnson, nephew of Lori McEwen)
Ian McQuiston, US Air Force, Kuwait (friend of Betty K. Junk)