

*Evangelical Lutheran
Church of the Holy Trinity*

*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 22, 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: In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

Gathering

Prelude

Variations on *Repton*

(Schelat et al)

Greeting / Announcements

(The assembly stands as the minister enters.)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen**

Opening Hymn

O Word of God Incarnate

1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
 2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
 3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold

O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;

we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 oh, teach your wand - ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,

a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

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.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

First Reading

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

A reading from Joshua:

1 Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. 2 And Joshua said to all the people,

14 “Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. 15 Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

16 Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; 17 for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; 18 and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 34:15-22

(Saturday psalm will be spoken responsively, Sunday psalm will be sung in unison.)



- 15 The eyes of the LORD are up- | on the righteous,
and God's ears are open | to their cry.
- 16 The face of the LORD is against those | who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them | from the earth.**
- 17 The righteous cry, and | the LORD hears them
and delivers them from | all their troubles.
- 18 The LORD is near to the | brokenhearted
and saves those whose spir- | its are crushed.**
- 19 Many are the troubles | of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from | every one.
- 20 God will keep safe | all their bones;
not one of them | shall be broken.**
- 21 Evil will bring death | to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous | will be punished.
- 22 O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished.**

A reading from Ephesians:

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14 Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. 15 As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. 16 With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18 Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. 19 Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

(Saturday acclamation will be spoken, Sunday verse will be sung by the Assembly.)

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

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

(The reading of the Gospel.)

Jesus said,

56 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57 Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” 59 He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

60 When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” 61 But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? 62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? 63 It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. 64 But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. 65 And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

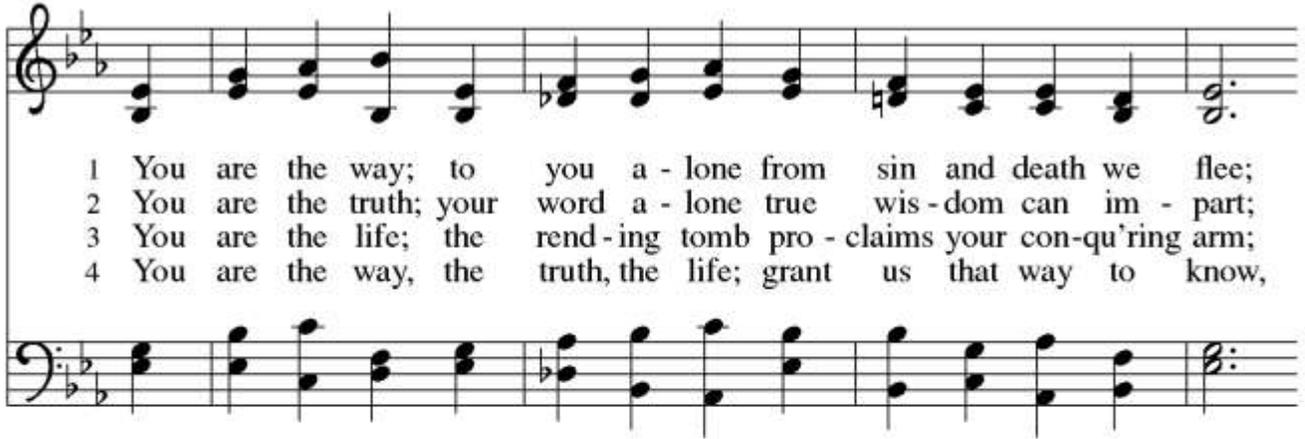
66 Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. 67 So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” 68 Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69 We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

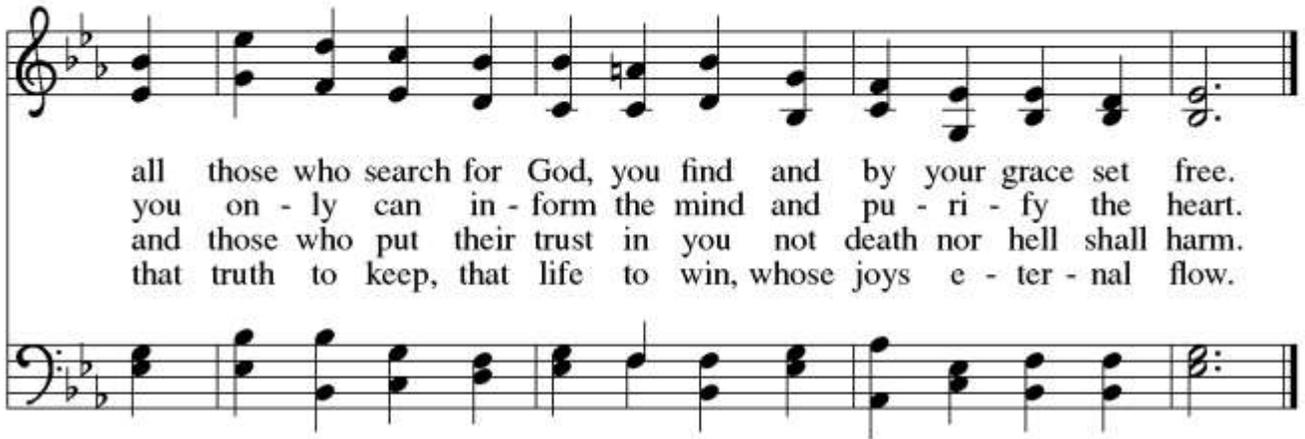
Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

You Are the Way



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Apostles' Creed

**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 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

A: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need, responding, "Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer."

(Brief silence)

A: God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; our pastors, musicians and other worship leaders; our council members and committee members. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures. We pray for those experiencing wildfires and flooding. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence. Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community. Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us, especially Paul. Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Are there others for whom we should pray?

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

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

Meal

Music as the meal is prepared

Interlude on *Omni Die*

(Wood)

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

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you open your hand, filling our lives with all good things and renewing the face of the earth. We offer these gifts in thanksgiving for all that we have received from your bounty. Accept them for the sake of him who offered his life for us, Jesus Christ our 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 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.**

Breaking of Bread

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.

When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

**Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you
revealed yourself to your disciples.**

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

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

Selected 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

Let us pray.

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.

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.

Sending Hymn

He Comes to Us as One Unknown



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Variation on *Munich*

(Cloakley)

This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, August 22, 2021, *Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

- 9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion
Acolyte training after worship
- 7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Monday, August 23, 2021

Messenger articles due today

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

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

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Weekday Communion

Thursday, August 26, 2021

- NO Weekday Communion
- 7:00 p.m. Happy Hour

Saturday, August 28 2021

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

Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 29, 2021, *Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

- 9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion
- 7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

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

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Weekday Communion

Thursday, September 2, 2021

- NO Weekday Communion
- 7:00 p.m. Happy Hour

Saturday, September 4 2021

- 5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion
(with prayers for healing)

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday Is Coming Up

Mark Sunday, September 12, on your calendar for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. After worship on that Sunday, we will be participating in a day of service for the benefit of our community.

Thanks to the leadership of our member, Mary Reames, we have invited ALL churches in the Greenville area to participate with us to see how much we can accomplish for the good of the Greenville area. A group of Greenville churches will participate, as well as Thiel College students, and are now working on the list of projects for various sites on that day.

Young People's And Women's Study Groups for Fall

Beginning in September, there will be two new small group studies, one for young people and one for women that will meet once a month at a predetermined time.

The young people's group study will be exploring how faith speaks into their lives, using a curriculum that includes video from some of the ELCA's dynamic young leaders. This group is for people in their 20s and 30s.

The women's group will explore the Old Testament story of Ruth, and focus on 11 things from Ruth's story that every woman faces in her life. This group is for any woman over the age of 18.

We ask you to sign up for these groups so that we can have materials for everyone. Please contact Tammy in the church office, or Pastor Brenda.

Good Shepherd August 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 **August is personal care items and school supplies.** Donations may be taken direct to the Food Pantry or placed in the marked box in the cloister.

Please note that their primary need is for personal care items.

Second Mile Giving for August – Youth Gathering

Youth Gathering gathers about 30,000 of our youth from around the country every three years for a week of worship, learning and service opportunities. The Gathering in 2022 will be held in Minneapolis.

Those who have attended Youth Gathering have said that no one – not the teens or their adult leaders – comes home unchanged. It is an amazing experience in a life's faith journey.

Because Youth Gathering involves significant preparation in advance – the teens spend a lot of time together and the congregation would help with fund-raising – we will lift up Youth Gathering as a repeated emphasis in Second Mile Giving.

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:

Bill and Mary Egger (friends of Barbara Swartz)

Danica (friend of Linda Armstrong)

Bonnie Grassmiller (friend of Linda Armstrong)

John Logan

Jennifer Martin

Judy Logan Carnal (sister of John Logan)

Henry Heil

Mary Beth (friend of Jill Murrin)

Donnie Littelle (friend of Rich and Denise Hall)

Pam (friend of Jill Murrin)

Dan Songer (friend of Carl & Bonnie Long)

Fred Junk (husband of Betty K. Junk)

Donnie K. (friend of Wayne and Darla Swift)

Marie (sister-in-law of Henry and Ruth Heil)

Lori McCann

Jim Shaffer

Nancy (friend of Linda Armstrong)

John L (father of Catherine Mott)

Brenda (sister-in-law of Betty K. Junk)

Carl Long

Dillon (friend of Ed Pitcher and Beth Harpst)

Belle (granddaughter of Linda Bateman)

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

Paul Bittler

Esther White (sister-in-law of Sharon VanKanegan, aunt of Denise Hall)

Dawn VanKanegan (cousin of Rich and Denise Hall)

Louise Rovatti (friend of Rich and Denise Hall)

Richard Morgan (brother of Matt Morgan)

Jim Currie

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)