



The Fifth Sunday of Easter Graduation Sunday

**May 18, 2025
8:00am and 10:15am**

**St. John's Episcopal Church
Royal Oak, MI**



St. John's Welcome Statement

Welcome! We are St. John's, a parish that invites you to be a part of our community and warmly embraces you when you do.

At St. John's, our history has taught us that accepting and embracing true diversity is challenging. As a result, we have come to claim a firm, undying commitment to inclusion. So here is our invitation to you: regardless of your cultural background, ethnicity, gender, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or heterosexual identity, economic status, physical or cognitive ability – you will not be labeled, singled out or excluded here. You will be welcomed, affirmed, embraced and celebrated! We will be better because you are here.

Adopted by unanimous vote at St. John's Annual Meeting, January 31, 2016

Everyone is Welcome! Everyone Belongs! Welcome Newcomers!

Young Children – *with all their sounds and wiggles* - are very welcome in this church!

If you are here for the first time, please help us to get to know you by signing our Guest Book (clipboard in the entry of the church) and/or filling out a yellow card found in each pew. Place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. We are so pleased that you are here and want to do everything we can to help you make the most of St. John's Episcopal Church and its resources for your spiritual journey.

All are welcome to communion, where we share one bread, one body. To facilitate this, our communion bread is all Gluten Free. All are welcome to St. John's programs and events.

Sunday Morning Schedule at a glance:

- 8:00am – **Worship**
- 10:00am – Children age 4 through 5th grade gather at the stairs on second floor in the entry/narthex) and sign in before going up to the third floor for Sunday School. Children are also welcome to stay with family in church if they prefer.
- 10:15am – **Worship**
- 10:00am - 10:45am – **Sunday School** (age 4 through 5th grade) meets on the third floor
- 10:45am – Sunday School children join their families for Communion

PRELUDE

THE WORD OF GOD

At the ringing of a bell, the people stand.

OPENING HYMN (at 10:15am)

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more The Hymnal 1982, 296



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. _____
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. _____
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. _____
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows _____



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; _____
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life _____
The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. _____
as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. _____



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. _____
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. _____
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. _____ Al - le -
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: _____



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

ACCLAMATION

Presider †Blessed be God, the Holy and life-giving Trinity.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

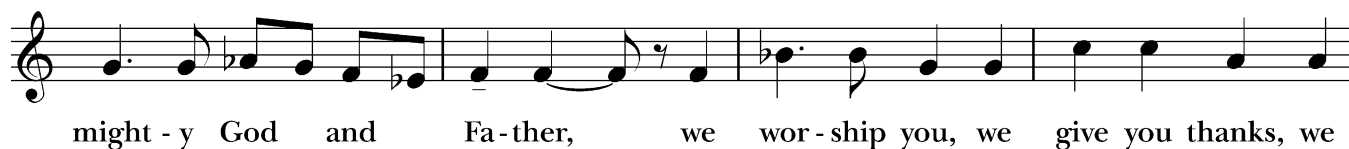
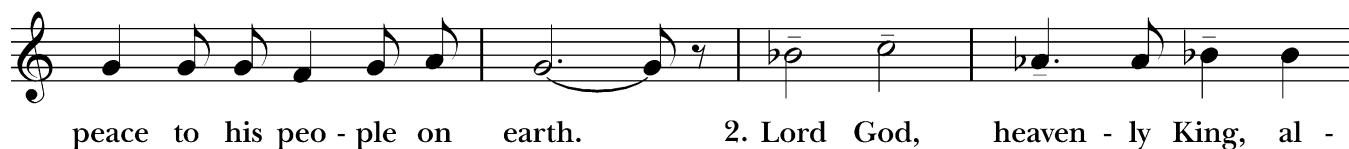
GLORIA (*at the 8:00am*)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king,
Almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory!

SONG OF PRAISE (*at the 10:15am*)

The Hymnal 1982, S278

The people remain standing.



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For

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

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 11:1-8

Lector A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 148

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD from the heavens; *
praise the LORD in the heights.

- 2 Praise the LORD, all you holy angels; *
praise the LORD, all heavenly host.
- 3 Praise the LORD, sun and moon; *
praise the LORD, all you shining stars.
- 4 Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the LORD; *
who commanded, and they were created.
- 6 The LORD made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
and gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, obeying God's will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Rulers of the earth and all peoples, *
rulers and all judges of the world;
- 12 Young men and women, *
old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the LORD, *
for the name of the LORD only is exalted,
and the splendor the LORD is over earth and heaven.
- 14 The LORD has raised up strength for the chosen people
and praise for all loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near to the LORD.
Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 21:1-6

Lector A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand and sing (10:15) as the Gospel book is processed to the nave.

GOSPEL HYMN *(at 10:15am)*

We walk by faith and not by sight

The Hymnal 1982, 209, vv. 1, 2

1 We walk by faith, and not by sight; no
2 We may not touch his hands and side, nor
gra - cious words we hear from him who spoke as
fol - low where he trod; but in his prom - ise
none e'er spoke; but we be - lieve him near.
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 13:31-35

Gospeller †The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

REFLECTION

A period of silence is kept.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Clergy Gathered as followers of the Risen Christ, let us offer our prayers to God for the needs and concerns of all people.

We pray for the Church; for all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay people in their many ministries. Help us to remember that we are called and sent into the world to serve right where we are, according to our abilities. God of new life –

Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for those in our community who are graduating from high school and college: Vincent Betanzo, Griffin Bruns, David Freeman, Brody Gibb, Kaitlyn Lynady, and Katie Macey. May they continue to grow in wisdom and grace in the next part of the journey of life. God of new life – **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world; in the midst of turmoil and violence, may your light shine on us. Bless all who tirelessly work for peace, sustain those who feed the hungry, and strengthen those who defend the rights of all. God of new life –

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those seeking a deeper relationship with God. Grant us wisdom in our journeys, inspire us to ask hard questions, and grant us courage to not settle for easy answers. Grant us to set our minds and hearts on your Way of Love. God of new life –

Hear our prayer.

We pray for St. John's in this time of transition. Help us to remain committed to serve and care for one another gracefully and faithfully as we navigate change.

God of new life –

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all those in need or trouble, for those facing injustice, for the sick and the suffering. We pray especially for Gloria, Sandor, Kathy, Madiba, Trudy, Gayle, Martha, Annalise, Jared, Terrence, Karen, Joan, and those we now name _____. Fill them with your comfort and peace. God of new life –

Hear our prayer.

We commend to God all who have †died, especially those we now name _____. We pray for those who have died and are known to God alone. May they rest in eternal peace. God of new life – **Hear our prayer.**

Presider O God who makes no distinctions between people but welcomes all as your children, hear our prayers which we offer in the hope of glory, and breathe upon all of us your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider The Peace of Christ be with you always.
People **And also with you.**

The peace is exchanged in place among the people.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO THE OFFERTORY

Oblation bearers bring forward the bread and wine on behalf of the congregation. The ushers collect our gifts of pledges and other offerings. Gifts of pledges and offerings may also be placed in collection baskets at the steps of the altar. Your pledges and financial gifts support the mission, the many ministries, the outreach, and the fellowship offered through St. John's.



Give online: stjohnsroyaloak.org and click on GIVE

Text: Text "StJohnsRoyalOak" to 73256

Mail: St. John's, 26998 Woodward Ave, Royal Oak, MI 48067

OR scan this code to be directed to the giving page.

OFFERTORY MUSIC *(at 10:15)*

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven

Mark Andrews

10:15am At the Presentation Hymn, all stand. The ushers present our gifts at the altar. The Eucharistic ministers join the clergy to prepare for Eucharist.

PRESENTATION HYMN *(at 10:15)*

Praise to thee, my God

The Hymnal 1982 43, v. 4

4

1 2

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). It contains two measures, with a '1' above the first measure and a '2' above the second measure. The second staff also begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp, and contains three measures. The third staff also begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp, and contains three measures. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The lyrics are: 'Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.'

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

We thank you for your risen Son, Jesus, who meets us behind the locked doors of our fear and breathes the Holy Spirit into us, commissioning us to proclaim peace and mercy to all the world.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

SANCTUS

Presider and People (spoken at 8:00am)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel as able.

(sung at 10:15am)

The Hymnal 1982, S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, hea - ven 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. _____

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Presider continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then,

the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make **†**us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. ***Amen!***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. *Amen.*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD/FRACTION ANTHEM

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celtic Alleluia

Gather, 266



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Presider These are the gifts of God.

People **And we are the people of God.**

Presider Behold who you are, and become what you receive.

This is Christ's table, and Christ is our host at this feast. Everyone who comes to the altar seeking Christ will be welcomed. The wafers are gluten-free.

St. John's youth (6th-12th grade) are the first to receive communion and then leave immediately following Eucharist to meet with their leaders. All youth are invited to participate – you are very welcome here!

COMMUNION HYMNS (at 10:15)

Pan de Vida

My Heart Sings Out, 93

Refrain



*Pan de Vi - da, _____ cuer-po del Se - ñor, _____
 _____ cup of bless - ing, _____ blood of Christ the
 Lord. _____ At this ta - - ble _____
 _____ the last shall be first, _____ **po-der es ser -
 vir, _____ por-que Dios es a - mor. _____

Verses



1 We are the dwell-ing of God, _____ fra - gile and
 *** 2 Us - te - des me lla - man "Se - ñor," _____ me in cli - no a la -
 3 There is no Jew _____ or Greek, _____ there is no
 wound-ed and weak. _____ We are the bod - y of Christ, _____
 var - les los pies: _____ Ha - gan lo mis-mo, hu - mil -
 slave _____ or free: _____ there is no wom-an or man; _____
 _____ called to be _____ the com - pas-sion of God. _____ D.C.
 - des, sir - vién - do-se u - nos a o - - - tros.
 _____ on - ly heirs _____ of the prom-ise of God. _____

* Bread of Life, body of the Lord,

** power is for service because God is love.

*** You are the Lord, and I bow to wash your feet: you must do the same, humbly serving each other.

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

The Hymnal 1982, 487



1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a
 2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a
 3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all
 light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in
 joy as none can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as kill - eth death.
 length; such a strength as makes his guest.
 part; such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633). Music: *The Call*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The people stand as they are able and pray together.

Presider Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image
 and nourishing us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of Christ's Body.
 Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, and renewed;
 that we may proclaim your love to the world
 and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES


BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN *(at 10:15am)*

I come with joy to meet my Lord

The Hymnal 1982, 304

Unison or harmony



1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

DISMISSAL

Clergy Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Please make your way to Jatho Hall, where we will celebrate our graduates with coney dogs and ice cream! All are welcome!

Altar Memorials and Thanksgivings

In celebration of
Griffin Bruns
upon his graduation from Iowa State University
with a BA in Computer Science and Psychology
by Jen Bruns

In honor of
Gary & Kelly Neighbors
in celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary
by Maryann Maiuri

In celebration of all our
St. John's Graduates
Vincent Betanzo, Griffin Bruns, David Freeman, Brody Gibb,
Kaitlyn Lynady, Katie Macey, and Sam Wittig

Ministers of Today's Service: The People of St. John's

8:00am Lectors	Cathy Holcomb – First Lesson and Psalm; Rosemary Spatafora – Second Lesson and Prayers of the People
8:00am Acolyte	Brian Craft
8:00am Greeter/Usher	Jackie Speer
8:00am Greeter During Service	Dennis Spatafora
8:00am Eucharistic Ministers	Joey Spano, Chuck Tucker, Kayleigh Long
8:00am Healing Minister	Janet Craft
8:00am Altar Guild	Pam Lupinski
10:15am Lectors	Eliza Stewart – First Lesson; Amelia Scott – Psalm; Bob Nagaj – Second Lesson; Marcy Darin – Prayers of the People
10:15am Acolytes	Annalise Galat, Julian Griffin, Ryley Griffin
10:15am Greeter	Janice Pedersen
10:15am Greeter During Service	Steve Fairman
10:15am Ushers	Jonatan Ascarruz-Asencios, Janie Pedersen, Kristine Sprague, Kirk Wicker
10:15am Eucharistic Ministers	Sandy Curtis, Bruce Donigan, Jelane Richardson
10:15am Healing Minister	Cindy Fellner
10:15am Altar Guild	Bob Davis, Joyce Morey, Betsy Morton, Katie Morton
Bread Baker	Mary Ann Morrow
Tech Team	Chris Bosley, Barbara Jones, Laurie McLaughlin
Vergers	Rachel Andrews, Kevin McLogan
Opener/Closer	Dennis Spatafora, Chris Moran
Parking Lot Greeters	Gregg Barnett, Richard Le Jeune, Veronica Griffith
Musicians	Dr. Steven McGhee, <i>Music Director</i> ; Bex Conway, Brooklyn Pfeffer, <i>Choral Scholars</i> ; St. John's Chancel Choir
Priest in Charge	The Rev. Gerardo Aponte-Safe

Additional Prayer List

Persons being prayed for:

Sarah
 Briana, Wettona, Ezra, Vic, Jackie
 Sandi
 Willa
 Edward, Ariana, Glenn
 Matthew, Heather, India, Joann, Jim
 Larry, Lois
 Gary, Patrick
 Jeanette, Evelyn
 Angelina, Jamie
 Donna, MaryPat, Linda, Debbie
 Kae, Lois, Peggy, Linda
 JoAnn, Edgar, Mary Lou, Natalia
 Lorie, Patty, Betty, Gail, Dot, Wilma, Nan, Mike
 Jennifer, Richard, Mark
 Mike
 Linda
 Patty, Jim, Ron, David, Maria
 Bill, Dorothy
 Dave, Kate, Evie, Caroline, Rhonda, Joe, Dennis, Norma, Ashley, Jake, Carson
 Gail, Phil, Steven, Paul
 Gwen
 Arthur, Dan, Winnie
 Randy, Kelly, Charlotte
 Adam, Don
 Bob, Jennifer, Scott
 Barbara, Bob, Cathy
 David, David
 Dominic, Pam, Nancy, Miles, Tom, Clyde
 June
 Brian
 Gabrielle
 Debbie, Marion, Harvey

Requested by:

Rachel Andrews
 Gloria Brown
 Jen Bruns
 Janet Craft
 Sandy Curtis
 Carolyn Darling
 Chris Davis, Lonnie Shelton
 Ann Davis
 Cheryl Donigan
 Allyson Frank
 Diana Graor
 Elaine Kapelanski
 Kathy Kustowski
 Maryann LeComb & Kathy Stricker
 Richard LeJeune
 Leah Lynady
 Kelly Mankin & Michael Tonda
 Mapley Extended Family
 Barbara & Chris Moran
 Mary Ann Morrow
 Bob & Trudy Nagaj
 Scout Osborn & Kristine Sprague
 Janice Pedersen
 Marilyn Robinson
 Jeff & Nancy Sever
 Joey Spano
 Bob Stevens
 Elizabeth Swanchara
 The Sykes Family
 Barbara Thornton
 Bob Walsh
 Pam Lupinski
 Tamra Zakar