

Central Lutheran Church

**First Sunday of Lent
March 9, 2025**

**The Rev. Veronika Czutor, Pastor
Dr. Joseph Henry, Music Director
Rachel Brown, Administrative Assistant**

Central Lutheran Church, ELCA

1000 Easton Rd., Dallas, Texas

God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.

Please turn off your cell phone.

This service is being livestreamed to our neighbors near and far on Facebook.

Most of the sanctuary- including all leaders and worshippers- is on camera.

BELL PEAL (10:30 am)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Ciacona in C minor*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C Amen.

P Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate One,

C you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.

Amen.

P Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.

In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

C Amen.

The assembly stands.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Sung by the choir.

*Almighty God, unto 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 Thy Holy Spirit,
That we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

GREETING

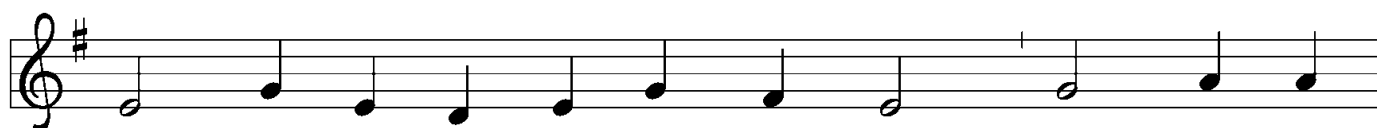
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God sent from heaven above, be with you all.

C And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 320

The Glory of These Forty Days



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹ When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16

Sung responsively.



- ¹ You who dwell in the shelter of | the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of | the Almighty—
- ² **you will say to the Lord, "My refuge | and my stronghold,
my God in whom I | put my trust."**
- ⁹ Because you have made the | Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your | habitation,
- ¹⁰ **no evil | will befall you,
nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.**
- ¹¹ For God will give the angels charge | over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.
- ¹² **Upon their hands they will | bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.**
- ¹³ You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion | and the serpent.
- ¹⁴ **I will deliver those who | cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they | know my name.**
- ¹⁵ They will call me, and I will | answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and | honor them.
- ¹⁶ **With long life will I | satisfy them,
and show them | my salvation.**

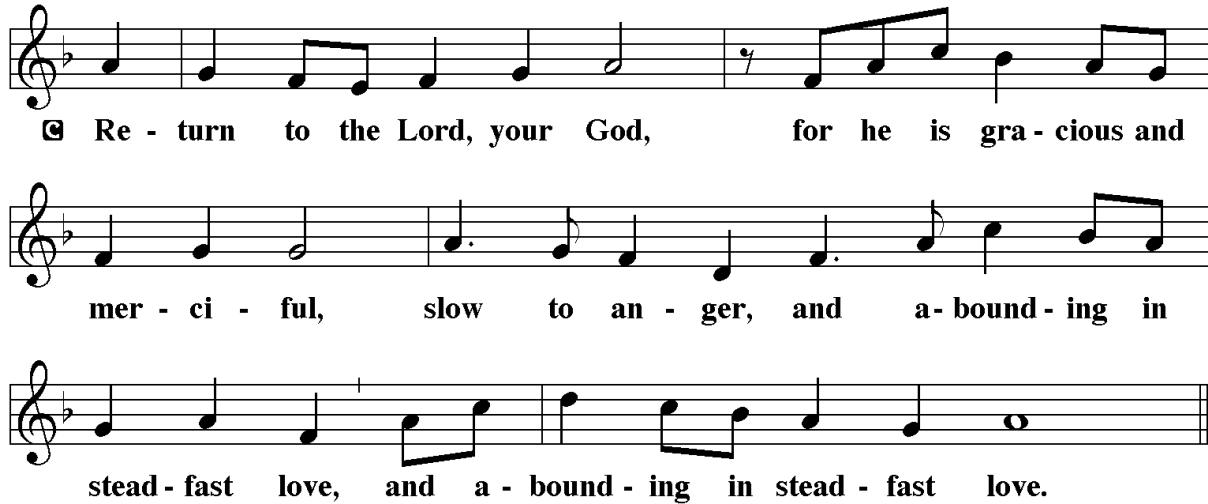
SECOND LESSON: Romans 10:8b-13

^{8b} "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the fourth chapter.

READING OF THE GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Veronika

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

SERMON NOTES:

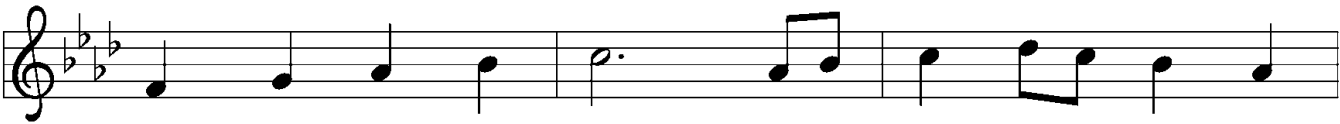
HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 319

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

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.

THE PRAYERS

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation

Please sit or kneel for prayer.

The response to each spoken petition is:

P God, in your mercy, **C Receive our prayer.**

People with prayer needs: **Lydia** Landfair, **Norma** Ruth Myrick, **Brenda** Burden, **Charlene** Zimmermann, **Elizabeth** Brownsted, and **Paul** Chambers.

The prayers conclude:

P ...We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace we share is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us and the reconciliation we have with one another in Christ Jesus. Please offer a symbol of reconciliation to one another.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C And also with you.**

THE OFFERING

We give thanks for what God has first given us. Our ministry to the people of East Dallas is supported by your offering. An offering plate is available in the narthex after worship. You may also use our online giving through Vanco, PayPal, or Givelify (available in the App Store) or continue to mail your offerings to our office.

MUSICAL OFFERING: *On Eagle's Wings*

*You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord Who abide in His shadow for life
Say to the Lord, "My refuge My rock, in whom I trust!"*

[Chorus] *And He will raise you up on eagle's wings*

Bear you on the breath of dawn

Make you to shine like the sun

And hold you in the palm of His hand

The snare of the fowler will never capture you

And famine will bring you no fear

Under His wings, your refuge His faithfulness, your shield

You need not fear the terror of the night Nor the arrow that flies by day

Though thousands fall about you Near you it shall not come

For to His angels He's given a command To guard you in all of your ways

Upon their hands they will bear you up Lest you dash your foot against a stone

OFFERING PRAYER

P Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

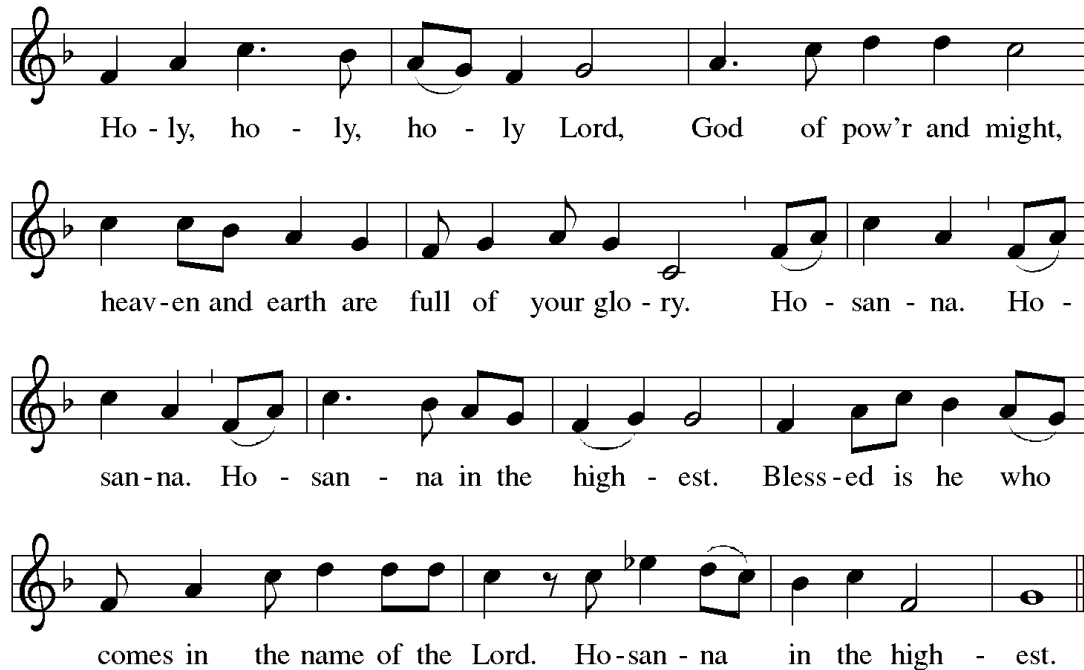
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age....

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.
C Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

As you come forward for Holy Communion, please sanitize your hands. Communion will be distributed at the altar rail, where you may choose to kneel or stand. The bread will be placed in your hand, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request—please inform the ministers if needed. The Communion cups contain red wine and white grape juice. If you prefer to receive only the bread, let the ministers know. If you would like to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

**The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

Follow the guidance of the ushers if you decide to walk up to the Altar to receive the Sacraments.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

MUSICAL MEDITATION: *Ricercare*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Generous Host,

C you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

**Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

P God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 329

As the Sun with Longer Journey



1 As the sun with long-er jour-ney melts the win-ter's snow and ice,
2 Through the days of wait-ing, watch-ing, in the des-ert of our sin,
3 Praise be giv-en to the mak-er of the sea-sons' year-ly round:



with its slow-ly grow-ing ra-diance warms the seed be-neath the earth,
search-ing on the far ho-ri-zon for a sign of cloud or wind,
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it—Source, Sus-tain-er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up-ris-ing gent-ly bring our hearts to life.
we a-wait the heal-ing wa-ters of our Sav-ior's vic-to-ry.
as the ev-er turn-ing a-ges roll to their e-ter-nal rest.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *I Call to You, Jesus Christ*

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Prelude: *Ciacona in C Minor*

Music: Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Gathering Hymn: *The Glory of These Forty Days*

Text: Latin hymn (11th cent); tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947)

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, Jr. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder* (1543)

Hymn of the Day: *O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman (1838-1898); para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., (1930-)

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony (1816)

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin.

Augsburg Fortress

Musical Offering: *On Eagle's Wings*

Text & Music: Michael Joncas (1951-)

Musical Meditation: *Ricercare*

Music: Girolamo Frescobaldi (1583-1643)

Sending Hymn: *As the Sun with Longer Journey*

Text: John Patrick Earls, OSB, (1935-)

Music: NAGEL, Carl F. Schalk (1929-)

Text © 1981 Order of Saint Benedict, admin.

Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN 56321

Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Postlude: *I Call to You, Jesus Christ*

Music: Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Central Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

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www.CentralLutheran.org

www.facebook.com/CentralLutheranDallas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors, we are glad to have you with us and invite you to come again!

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 10 am - 2 pm

You may make an appointment with Pastor Veronika by calling the church office.

Serving in Worship today: Ushers: Anne Monson & David Hopson Lector: Linnéa Castillo

A Message About Lent: The invitation to Lent spoken on Ash Wednesday reminds us that we enter this season together with the whole church. Lent is a time for deepening our connections with the communities that surround us. Reading the Scriptures invites you all to reflect on what it means to be in community with one another, with the world, with creation, and with God.

Midweek Lenten Vespers: For the following five weeks, we will walk through Lent together—a season of reflection, renewal, and drawing closer to God. Join us on **Wednesdays at 6:00 pm for Midweek Services and a Soup Supper** as we journey in faith.

Service Day: We will have a service day at White Rock Center of Hope on **Saturday, March 15, beginning at 9:00 am.** They have jobs for people of any ability. Sign up in the back of the sanctuary or email Rachel in the church office.

Dining Around: We will have our dining around fellowship event on **Saturday, March 15 at 5:30 pm at Rodeo Goat** (1200 Buckner Blvd, Dallas). All are welcome. Sign up in the back of the sanctuary or email Rachel in the church office if you would like to attend.

WELCA Retreat: Join the Dallas Area Women of the ELCA at their spring retreat on **April 5, 2025, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm** with keynote speech by our very own, Pastor Veronika Czutor! The retreat will be at **Christ the Servant Lutheran Church** (821 S. Greenville Ave, Allen, TX 75002). **Early Bird registration is \$20 and ends on March 15.** Fees include lunch and childcare. Scholarships are available if needed. For more information call Pam Grosze at 918-978-4046 or email her at pgrosze@tx.rr.com.

Lenten Collection: During Lent we are collecting hygiene items for White Rock Center of Hope. If you are able, please bring full-size, unopened varieties of the following items:

- Body Wash & Bar soap
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Tampons & Sanitary Pads
- Toilet Paper
- Deodorant
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Laundry Detergent

Church Council

The council is our group of lay leaders who represent different ministry fields. They meet on the second Sunday* of every month after worship in the Parish Hall. Their next meeting is today, March 9th. All church members can attend any council meeting. If you would like to get in touch with the council, contact the church's administrative assistant, Rachel, and she will help you.

President- Jan Moody

Vice President- Ted Steinke

Treasurer- Janis Farrow

Administration- Mark Moody

Worship- Mary Glenn

Education/ Youth/ Activities- Carrie Enocksen

Evangelism/ Mission & Outreach- Jeff Lowry

*Note: the council meeting for April was moved to April 6th; and the meeting for May was moved to May 4th.



Open this QR code (or go to linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch) to connect with us, join our mailing list, or make your offering online.

Our Prayer List: Please submit your prayer requests to the church office via email (central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com) or via phone (214-327-2222).

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT

For healing

Archie and Rebecca Huizenga
Linda Gourley
Robin Friedrich
Norma Ruth Myrick
Elizabeth Brownsted
Elizabeth Cardenas
Brenda Burden
Charlene Zimmermann

Relationship

Friends of Janis Farrow
Sister of Julie Atkins
Friend of Mary Glenn
Mother of Alesia Pearson
Friend of Janis Farrow
Daughter of Irene Hallmon
Friend of Jean Staffeld
Aunt of Jan Moody

Church Members

Lydia Landfair
Don Smith
Mario Montejo
Nancy Nulisch
Carol Paschetag
Paul Chambers

Kris McDowell
Yuvonne Muirhead
Mary Swenson
Judy Christiansen
Suzanne Schwenn