

Christ the King Sunday

November 26, 2023

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Portions from Sundays & Seasons 2023

Setting Four

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.



Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

- **P.** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. Amen
- **P.** 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.
- C. Amen
- **P.** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

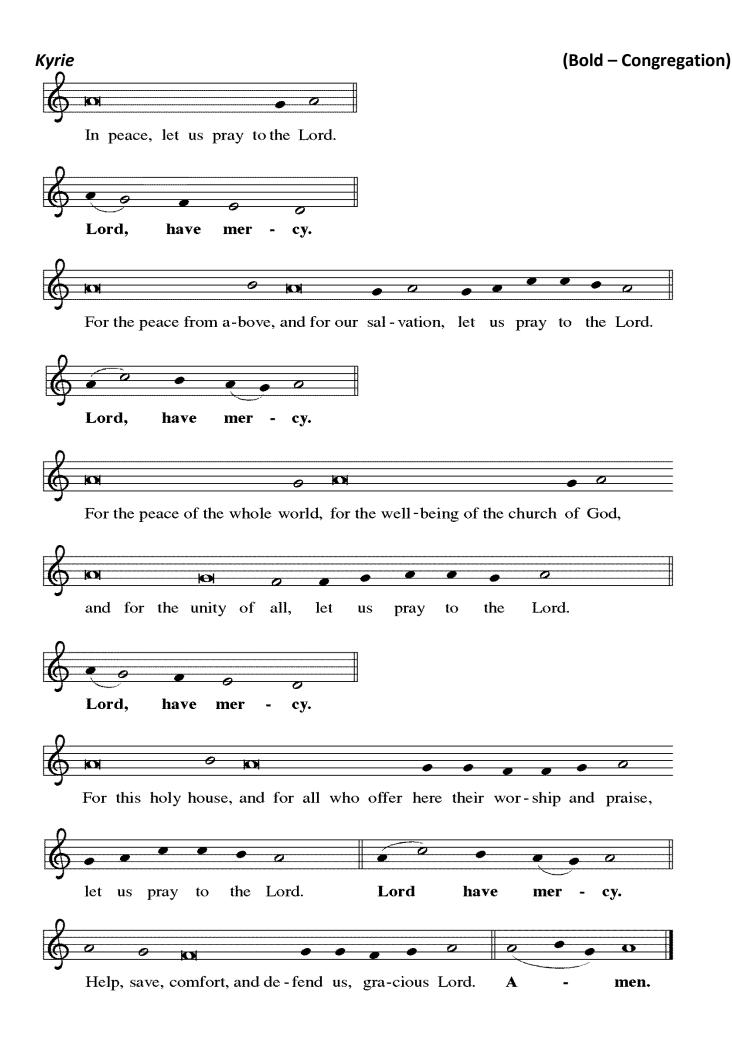
- P. Gracious God,
- C. have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and 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
- **P.** 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.
- C. Amen

Gathering Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

ELW 855

- **P.** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C. And also with you.



This is the Feast





Prayer of the Day

A. Let us pray.

C. O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

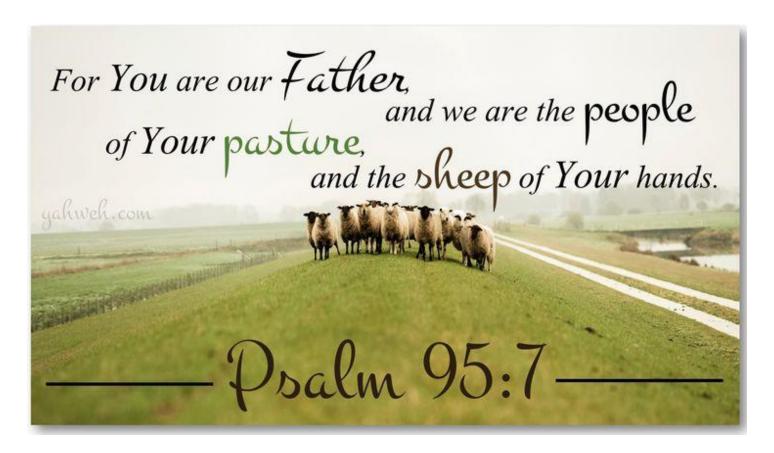
Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

¹¹Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

- L. Word of God. word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.



Psalm 95: 1-7a

spoken responsively (Bold – Congregation)

¹Come, let us sing ^I to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of ^I our salvation.

²Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.

³For you, LORD, ^I are a great God, and a great ruler a- ^I bove all gods.

⁴In your hand are the caverns ¹ of the earth; the heights of the hills are ¹ also yours.

⁵The sea is yours, ^I for you made it, and your hands have molded ^I the dry land.

⁶Come, let us worship ¹ and bow down, let us kneel before the ¹ LORD our maker.

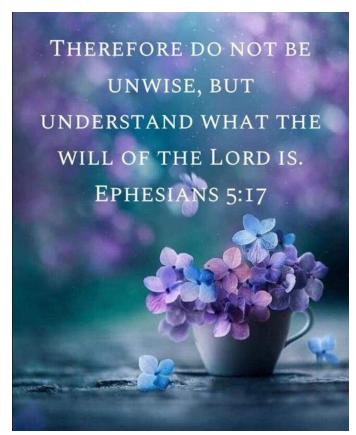
^{7a}For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your



heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

- L. Word of God, word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



- **P.** The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
- C. Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.



[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him. 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.' 41Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

- **P.** The gospel of the Lord.
- C. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Marissa Krey

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary,

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

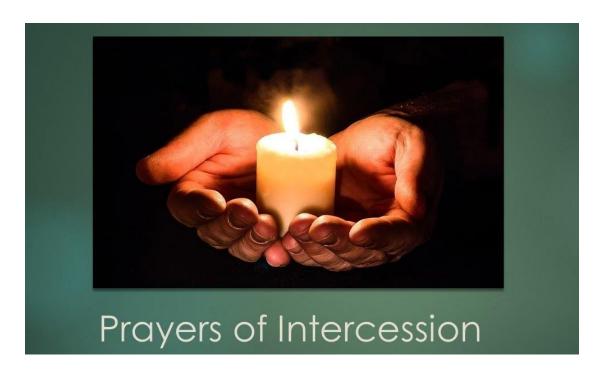
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen



Prayers of Intercession – Let Us Pray:

A. Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, from Christ we receive our call to feed, clothe, and welcome. Direct your church to respond to this call with faithfulness and generous love. We pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger and partnerships with global feeding ministries. Hear us, O God.

- C. Your mercy is great.
- **A.** In Christ, the rock of our salvation, we are brought into union with all of creation. With mountains, seas, dry lands, and animals of the field, we seek your guidance and protection. Hear us, O God.
- C. Your mercy is great.

Other prayers

- **P.** We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
- C. Amen.

The Peace

- P. Jesus said: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.Do not let your hearts be troubled.May His peace be with you always.
- C. And also with you.

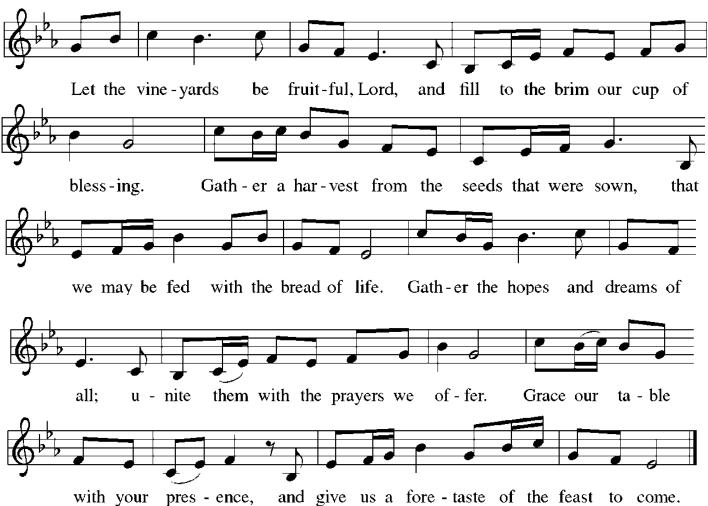


The Offering

Anthem Now Thank We All Our God

Choir

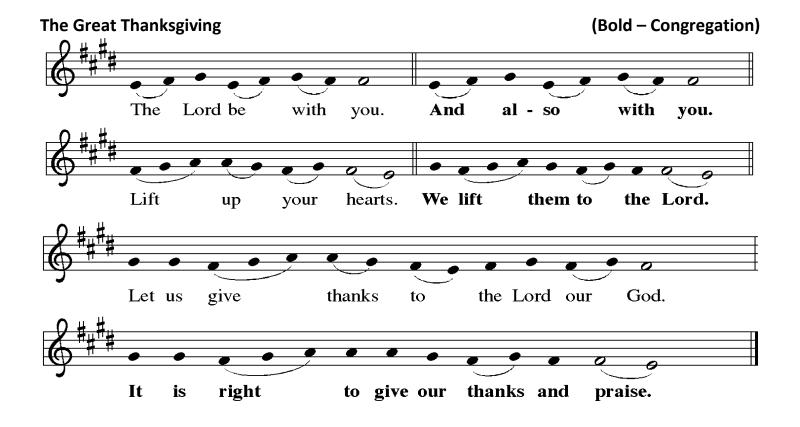
Let the Vineyards...



Offertory Prayer

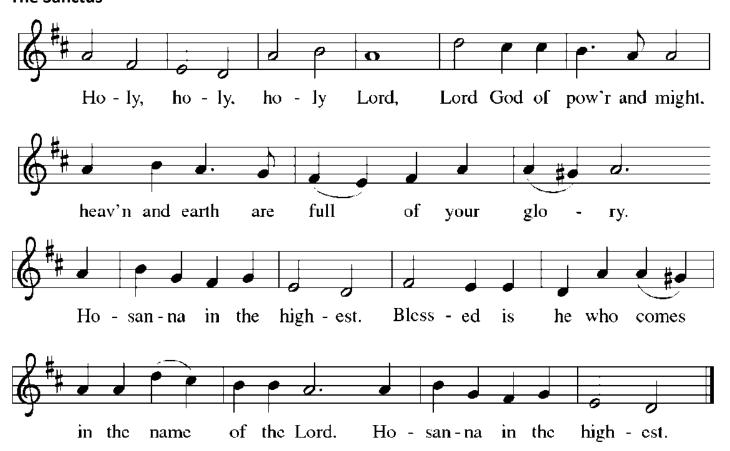
A. God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

C. Amen.



P. It is indeed.....

The Sanctus



Eucharistic 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

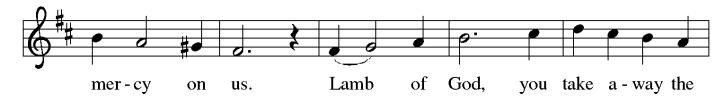
- P. There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table. Everyone is invited, no exceptions.
- C. Amen.

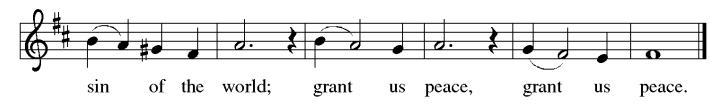






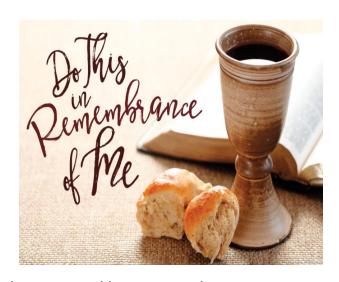
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have us.





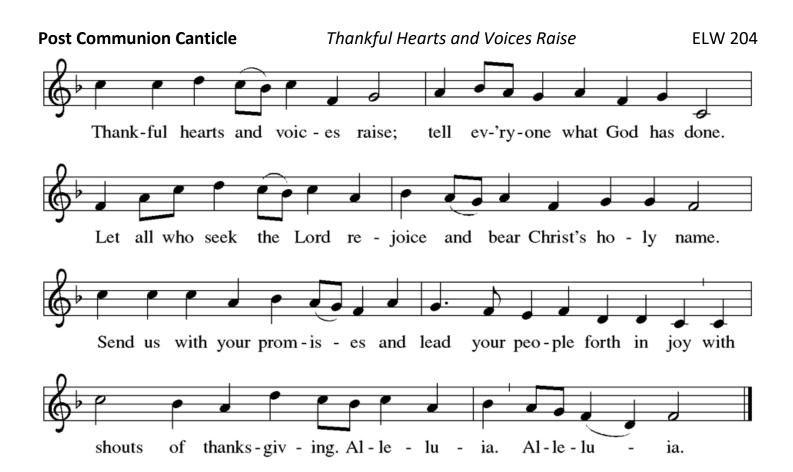
Communion Hymns

My Life Flows On in Endless Song ELW 763
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing ELW 807



Post Communion Blessing

- **P.** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his peace.
- C. Amen



Post Communion Prayer

- **A.** Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.
- C. Amen.

Blessing

P. May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

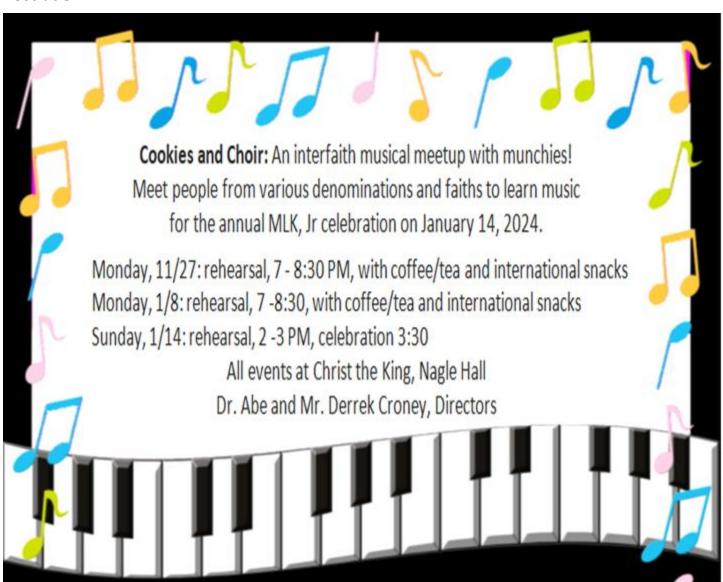
C. Amen.

Sending Hymn Lift High the Cross ELW 660

Dismissal

- **A.** Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Servers for Sunday, November 26th

Assisting Minister	Shannon Thomsen
Reader	Shannon Thomsen
Altar Guild	Sharyl Eggert
Greeters/Counters	Tess Andrews/Sylvia Lambert
Guest Musician	Dr. Abe Cáceres

Sign-up sheets for the various worship assistant slots are on the board in the hallway. Please consider spending time giving glory to God by filling one of these positions on a Sunday.



Flowers this week are provided by Julia Lochra in Thanksgiving of God's Blessings!



Candles for November are provided by Ginny King in memory of Dennis' Birthday.



Honor a loved one by making a donation for the candles in the sanctuary for the month or the flowers that beautify the church each Sunday. Sign-up sheet is on the board in the hallway.





Pray for your Call Committee

Family of Susan Cocchloia
Family of Peg Stamp
Family of Ellis (Tony) Guedel
Shirley Lewis, friend of Laura's – final stages of ALS

Hannah Kestner Bockover – improving, but still a long road of recovery ahead Mike & Tina Kestner, Hannah's parents and previous member of LOL Sylvia Lambert's grandson, Ian – deployment to Republic of Niger, West Africa Forrest Smith – recovering from ablation

Rita's co-worker, Elizabeth Alexander – colon cancer Tess Andrews' brother, David Van Benschoten Wendy Casey's mom, Barbara – under hospice care Sheila Dorey – recovering from angioplasty Clyde Bogle's sister-in-law, Wanda - cancer Mr. Smith, neighbor of Carolyn Watkins Father of Julya Mirro - (Gale's friend) Linda Hash's brother, Charles Barlow

Linda Hash's sister-in-law, Beth Hash Lennon Pam Klawiter's co-worker, Carolyn Harbertson – breast cancer Rebecca Swanson's sister in PA – Post Polio Syndrome

Rebecca Swanson's nephew – Dr. David Shaefer

Diana Havenstein
Rob Havenstein
Donna Hanna
Andrew Avakian – MS
Nick & Sharon Vietri
Mary Ann Jackson Dayshaun
Jonathan McCoy Jim Powers

The Han's Family

