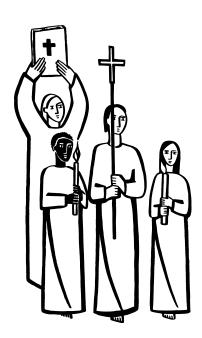
Bendersville Lutheran Parish

St. JamesChristBethlehemWenksvilleAspersBendersville8:25 am9:45 am11:00 am

REFORMATION SUNDAY

• October 27, 2024 •



Parish Office:

126 Church St. P.O. Box 449 Bendersville, PA 17306-0449 Office Phone: (717) 677-9880

Office email:

3 churches @benders ville luther an parish. com

The Rev. Susan Scott:

Phone: (717) 497-1013

Email:

pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com

www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the

Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the # Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

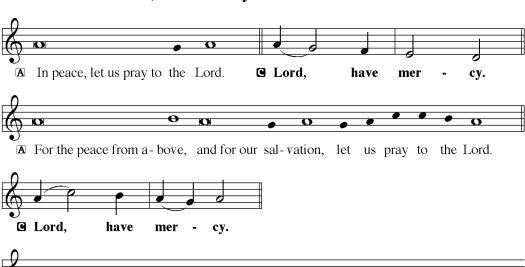
*GATHERING HYMN: "Be Thou My Vision" WOV 776

*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

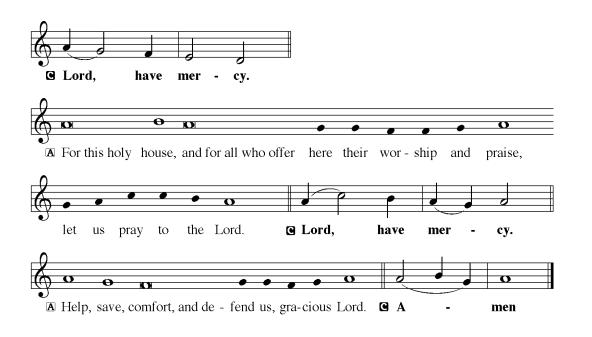
C: And also with you.

*KYRIE: "In Peace, Let Us Pray to the Lord"

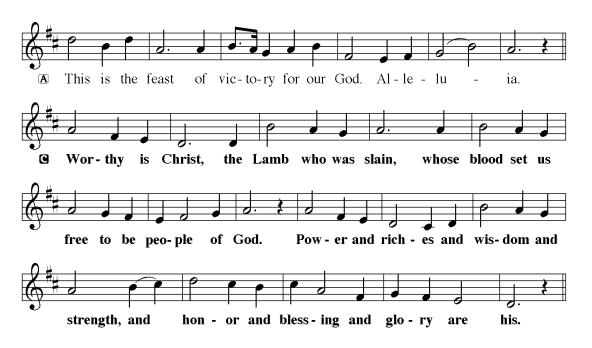


A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,





*HYMN OF PRAISE: "This Is The Feast"





*PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray.
- C: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The First Reading is from Jeremiah, the thirty-first chapter.

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.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God

PSALM: Psalm 46

- L: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- L: though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- C: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- L: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.
- C: The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

- L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- C: Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
- L: behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- C: "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."
- L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING:

The Second Reading is from Romans, the third chapter.

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

Romans 3:19-28

²¹ But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law?

By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand.)

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia"



*GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the eighth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Susan E. Scott

HYMN OF THE DAY: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

LBW 229

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

the only Son of God,

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

P: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature's cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond, especially those on our prayer list and those we silently name in our hearts. Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. Thank you for the saints who now rest with you, especially Gary Barbour, Luann Fix, and Byrl Gates. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

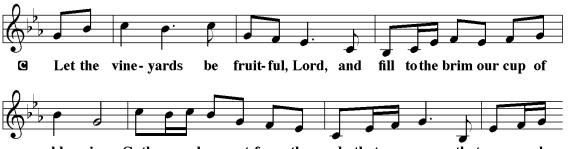
PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN: "Let the Vineyards"



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



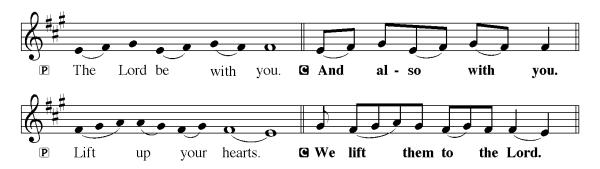
OFFERING PRAYER

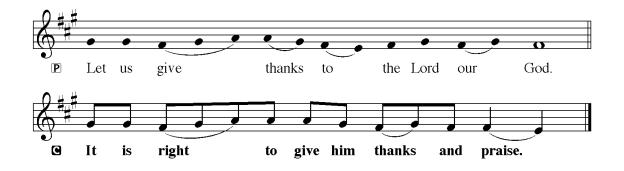
P: Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

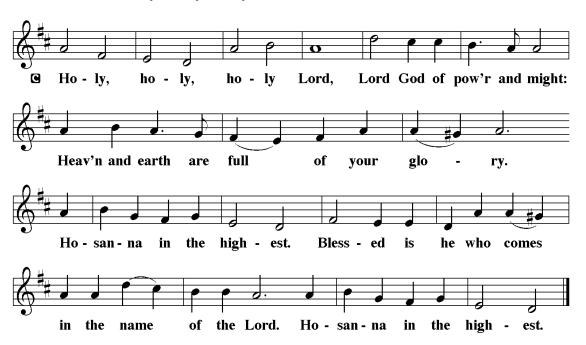
GREAT THANKSGIVING





PREFACE (sung by the pastor)

SANCTUS: "Holy, Holy, Holy"



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: 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.

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

P: 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

P: 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.

C: Amen, amen, 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All who wish to encounter Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to the Table. As directed, please come forward. The elements will be given by Pastor Susan or the Communion Assistant. If you would like a verbal blessing only, please let the Pastor know. Holy Communion may also be received at your seat. Just inform the Pastor or usher. The elements will be partaken at the Pastor's or Communion Assistant's direction:

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

COMMUNION HYMN: "Lamb of God"



*POST COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: "Thank the Lord"



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

P: And now as you go from this place, go knowing that you are saved by grace. You are justified, you are forgiven, you are sought out, beloved, hidden in Christ, and made for the glory of God. You are known, you are never forsaken, you are held in the palm of God's hand, you are loved. May the peace and power of our God be with us until we gather again; in the name of the Father, and of the Fon, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN: "My Life Flows On in Endless Song" WOV 781

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

• OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2024 •

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
Oct. 27	Oct. 28	Oct. 29	Oct. 30	Oct. 31	Nov. 1	Nov. 2
REFORMATION SUNDAY 8:25 am: St. James 9:45 am: Christ 11:00 am: Bethlehem DUE: Halloween Candy for Treat Bags	7:00 pm: Joint Council Budget Committee Meeting (Bethlehem)	1:00 pm: Care & Share Meeting (Home of Jackee McCartney) Birthday: Tony Bretzman Harold Heller Mary Peters	7:00 pm: Bible Study (Bethlehem) • Mark 15 and 16 •	6:00 to 8:00 pm: TRICK -or- TREAT NIGHT (Bendersville)		(Sunday) 2:00 am: Fall Back One Hour for EST
SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
Nov. 3	Nov. 4	Nov. 5	Nov. 6	Nov. 7	Nov. 8	Nov. 9
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 8:25 am: St. James 9:45 am: Christ 11:00 am: Bethlehem Birthday: Jayne Weaver	7:00 pm: Joint Council Meeting (Bethlehem) Birthday: Hannah Bernheimer		7:00 pm: Bible Study (Bethlehem) Obadiah Anniversary: Steve & Claudia Spangler	Birthday: Nancy Miller Logan Trimmer		

ON-LINE SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship is livestreamed on YouTube at 11 AM on our Bendersville Lutheran Parish channel (this info can also be found on our website – www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com).

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeters/Ushers</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>
J Henry Taylor		Harold & Kathy Stoner
C Chris Cooley		Deb & Dave Copenhaver
B Jeanette Schachle	Tony & Bev Bretzman	Kathy Singley



ALTAR FLOWERS:

St. James, Christ & Bethlehem

To the Glory of God



OFFICE HOURS AND PASTORAL NEEDS

Pastor Susan has office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. at the Parsonage. You are welcome to stop by the Parsonage to visit. Her official day off is Friday, but she is available for pastoral emergencies.

For all your pastoral needs, please contact Pastor Susan Scott by phone/text at 717-497-1013 or email pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com.

Reminder: Budget Committee Meeting

The annual meeting of the Parish Budget Committee will be held tomorrow evening, **Monday, October 28, at 7 p.m.** at Bethlehem. The Budget Committee will formulate the annual budget for the year 2025 which will then be presented for approval at the November 4th Joint Council Meeting. The Budget Committee consists of the Joint Council President, Vice President, Treasurer/Oversight Committee Chair, Pastor; and also the individual Council Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Treasurers. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

ATTENTION: BETHLEHEM CONGREGATION

During the month of October, Bethlehem Council would like to do a special collection for United Lutheran Seminary/Gettysburg. During our years in the "wilderness" (before calling Pastor Susan), we were blessed to have two interns from the Seminary serve as our pastor. Even now we have a recent Seminary graduate as our full-time called Pastor. Without the Seminary none of this would have been possible. We would like to take up a collection throughout the month as a gift in recognition of the Seminary's on-going work in training the leaders of the Church of tomorrow. Quite frankly, had we not had the steady guidance of our interns over their past two years of service and had been forced to rely on a stream of different Supply Pastors each Sunday, it is doubtful that we would be here today. In joyous recognition of the contributions of the Seminary to our continued success as a congregation, we think it entirely appropriate to contribute financially to their continued work. Please mark your envelope on the "OTHER" line with "ULS" or "SEMINARY". Our council has voted to match each contribution from our funds up to \$500. We encourage you to give generously.



HALLOWEEN TREAT BAGS

The Parish will again be handing out treat bags to Bendersville trick-or-treaters on Halloween night. We are asking for donations of wrapped candy to go in our treat bags. (Only factory wrapped candy can be accepted.) We are asking that all donations be made by Sunday, October 27, to allow time to fill the treat bags. Donations can be given to Pastor Susan or dropped off at the parish office (717-677-9880).

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 3 +

On Sunday, November 3, we will celebrate All Saints' Sunday. The special tablecloth is currently available for you to write the names of your loved ones on it. It will be used on the altar at each church next Sunday, November 3, to remind us that every time we gather at the Lord's table, we gather with the faithful of every time and place.

CARE & SHARE CARD MINISTRY

The Care & Share Card Ministry meets the last Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at 896 Upper Temple Road.

• NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29th •

As prayer concerns continue to rise within our churches and communities, we also see the cost of stamps rising.

All parish members on the prayer list will continue to receive cards.

As for family and friends that we pray for, whom you would like to receive a card, the committee will make a card for you to deliver or mail upon your request.

Thank you for understanding and for your help distributing cards.

Jackee McCartney - 717-321-0979



"Donations of stamps are always appreciated."

Parish Joint Council Meeting

The Parish Joint Council will meet on **Monday, November 4, at 7 p.m.** at Bethlehem. The purpose of the meeting will be to approve the annual 2025 Parish Operating Budget and also to address any other necessary parish business. The Joint Council is, of course, made up of all <u>three</u> full church councils, elected Joint Council officers, and the Pastor.

VACATION DAYS FOR PASTOR SUSAN

NOVEMBER 9 through NOVEMBER 24 •

Pastor Susan will be on vacation from November 9 through November 24.

If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact:

November 9–16: Pastor Chris Suehr at 724-989-8106

November 18–23: Pastor Ben Siebert at 419-953-8158

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

• June 5-7, 2025 •

At the 2025 Lower Susquehanna Assembly, we will be electing a new bishop as Bishop Dunlop is retiring. This is an exciting time in the life of the synod. As part of the process, the synod is requesting that each congregation has their delegates in place by **December 31, 2024**.

There are two meetings that the Gettysburg Conference has scheduled in preparation for Assembly.

FEBRUARY 2, 2025: 2 p.m. at ULS Information regarding the bishop election process.

MARCH 23, 2025: 2 p.m. at ULS Regular pre-Assembly meeting.

Tentatively, Synod Assembly will be in session on Thursday evening, June 5, and all day on Friday, June 6, and Saturday, June 7.

Two delegates are needed from each congregation. Please let Pastor Susan know if you are interested in this important opportunity.



Prayer List - Parish Members

Dixie Atha c Dot Bosak b Ruth Bretzman b Tony Bretzman b Mary Chronister b Dave Copenhaver c Wahnettah Harvey c Harold Heller j Linda Heller j James Lang b Lois Rinehart b Mike Rinehart b Alan Showers j Bill Slaybaugh j Dan Turner c Mike Wolfe c

Friends of the Parish

Douglas Barbour Mary 'Sis' Becker Adam Black Jeff Black Tracy Brandt Bev Bretzman Valerie Bushey June Cline Nicole Cline Dick Cook Carl Corl Linda Cramer Jeanne Cuttitta Peter Cuttitta Helen Daniels Bonnie DeHaven John Gantz Aubrey Grimes Galen Hartz Cody Johnson Susanna Kidwell Kinley Karen Lawson Nicole Mackey Emily Maiolo Diane Myers Caden Nye Zach Pelc Brian Reed Kati Reynolds Ginny Rinehart Marlea Williams

With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of those who have died in the faith and who are now at rest with their eternal Father (our saints who have gone before us).

Gary Barbour, Luann Fix, and Byrl Gates