

Christ the King ~ November 20, 2022

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

Pastor: Rev. Karen Parsh - 814.881.3266 - pastorparsh@gmail.com

2402 W. Grandview Blvd. Erie PA 16506 - ahadministrator@hotmail.com

814.868.8685 - www.abidinghopeerie.org - FB: abidinghopelutheranchurch



Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

PRELUDE ~ 8:30a

Come, Thou Almighty King

10:30a Adult Choir: *Come, Now is the Time to Worship*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. **Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 855 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

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.**

KYRIE

Sung in Unison

Refrain



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Last time

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all; for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER of the DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let's Pray Together.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. cont'd

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM:46

8:30a Spoken Responsively

10:30a Sung Responsively Tone 1



¹God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;

³though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble¹ with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation of¹ the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the¹ break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth¹ melts away.

⁷The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works¹ of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up-¹on the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the¹ shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that¹ I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted¹ in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~

S 188

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 23. *Glory to you, O Lord.*

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴[[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." ³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." *Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.*

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN of the DAY ~ ELW 838 *Beautiful Savior*

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

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world. *A brief silence.*

We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader's heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Shine over all people who suffer in body, mind and spirit, especially: Bill, Donna, Sandy, Trudy & Christian, Jo, Karen, Ed T, Sally & Matt, Sharron, Esther, John, Christine, Emily, Dick & Diana, Lew & Jane, Don & June, Norma, the Gresh Family, Nicole, Sam & Dorothy, Judi, Karen, Ruth, Don F, Judy, Carrie, Evelyn, Joyce, Jack & Marjorie, Roger & Irene.
receive our prayer.

We pray for this assembly. Guide Pastor Karen and council members in discernment, and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

We give thanks for all who have died in the faith (*especially*). Console us who mourn and comfort us with the beautiful promise of life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

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

Please be seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

PRESENTATION of GIFTS

OFFERTORY ~ ELW 616 *Jesus, Remember Me*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

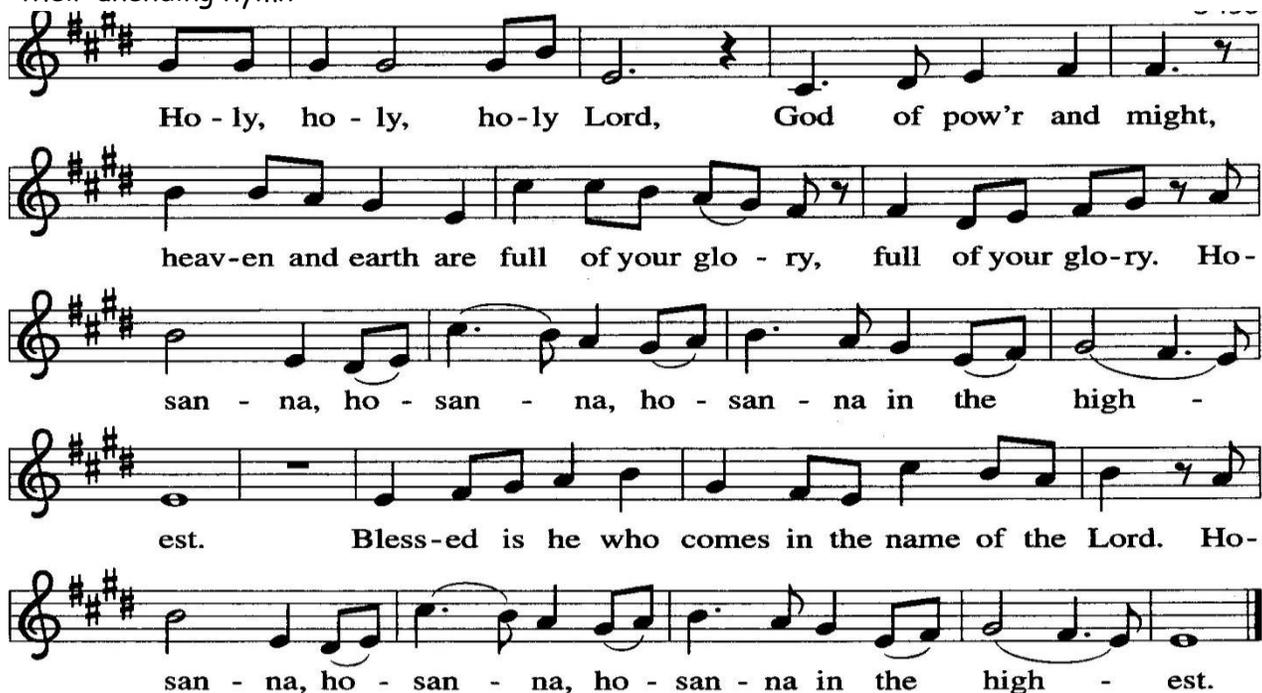
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

THANKSGIVING at the TABLE

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 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. **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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

At Abiding Hope all believers are welcome to share Holy Communion at the table of the Lord. After receiving the bread, (gluten free) you may receive wine from the chalice poured into individual glasses or you may choose pre-poured grape juice (in center of tray) as an alternative.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

LAMB of GOD

S 191



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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMNS ~ WOV 702 *I Am the Bread of Life*
WOV 778 *O Christ the Same*

PASTORAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our † Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER after COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ~ 8:30a ELW 430 *Rejoice, for Christ is King!*
10:30a *He is Exalted* pg. 9

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE ~ Jesus Shall Reign

GOSPEL MESSAGE ~ The Cross as Hinge

We end the church year in an unconventional fashion: at the cross. Today's gospel seems a strange capstone to the liturgical calendar, and that is intentional. This is because Christ the King Sunday is not a capstone at all, but rather a hinge that opens into the new year. We end at the cross because that is where we see most fully the great, culminating example of where God is willing to go to show love for humanity. We end at the cross because in the crucifixion we see Christ's enthronement as the one that nothing, not even death, can destroy. Christ's kingship lies not in his exultation in glory but in his being raised upon the instrument of death from which God causes life to spring. The cross of Christ is the tree of life. But this life is hidden in what appears to be anything but life. Christ is not king because he conquers all in self-preserving might and force but because he conquers all in self-giving grace, and in doing so, he proves that he cannot be conquered even by violence. Now we stand ready to step again onto Advent soil, where new life, hope, and possibility are germinating. We must remember, as we prepare to hear once again in the story of Jesus' birth and life, that God's glory is not found in power and might but in humility and sacrifice, in one willing to give his life for his friends, his enemies, and the criminal hanging beside him. That is the kingdom of God: that place where the friend, the enemy, and even the one rightly condemned receive the grace and forgiveness of Christ. For that, we praise Christ as king!

SENDING HYMN 10:30a ~ *He is Exalted*

VERSE



He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on _ high, _ I will praise _ Him.



He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise His name! _

CHORUS



He is the Lord, _ for - ev - er His truth shall reign. Heav - en and



earth _ re - joice in His ho - ly name. _



He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high! _

PARISH NOTES ~ November 20, 2022

Home Visitation Training this morning @ 9:30a

Confirmation Class this morning: St Paul's 11:30a. No class 11-27-22

Joint Thanksgiving Service at New Hope this evening @ 6:30p
with Pastor Karen, Sheryl Williams, Organist and the AHLC Choir.

Altar Candles are given to the Glory of God,
In Memory of Gordon and Mark Wunch,
from Carol Wunch

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the "GOD-LIVED LIFE" Stewardship Challenge and who returned their 2023 commitment card that enables Abiding Hope Lutheran Church to continue their ministry and mission. -Jacque Holmberg.

Please pray for: Judy Johnston, Donna Klakamp, Sandy Pacileo, Trudy & Christian Mueller, Jo Critchfield, Karen Penna, Ed Tropper, Sally & Matt Zill, Sharron Sontheimer, Esther Klakamp, John Litzel, Don & June Morey, Diana & Dick Stoker, Christine & Emily Stoker, Lew & Jane Penna, Roger & Irene Owens, Norma Squire, the Gresh family, Nicole Woomer, Sam & Dorothy Elder, Karen Shick, Ruth Hinkson, Don Fuller, Judi Pacileo, Carrie Fiske, Evelyn Senger, Jack & Marjorie Wonner, and Joyce Hersperger.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Christmas Eve Family Service, 4:30p

Candlelight Service, 9:00p.

No Christmas Day service.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: To decorate the church: **In memory, in honor, in celebration of a family member or friend.** Plants are \$8.50ea. red or white. **Order forms on the narthex table.** Last day to return form/payment in the offering plate is **Sunday, November 27** or to the office by **Tuesday, November 29.** **KAFP Donations:** If you wish to donate to the food pantry instead of a poinsettia, please have you form/ donation by **December 11** in the offering plate or to the office by **December 13.** (please note KAFP dates different than on form)

Sunday, November 20 ~ Home Visitation Training after 8:30a worship this morning for those interested in **visiting** and **giving Holy Communion** to our home bound members. **Volunteers are needed.** There are many members of our congregation who are grateful to have home visits and the opportunity to receive holy communion. This a critical need and your assistance will serve our ministry within the Abiding Hope family.

Sunday, November 27 - Christmas Decorating Begins: After the 10:30a service. Volunteers will hang outdoor wreaths and place interior candles etc. Afterwards enjoy a warm bowl of chili, and cookies, tea/coffee. The date for completing indoor decorating will be announced.

Saturday, December 3: The congregations of Abiding Hope, St. Paul's, and New Hope will offer a **St. Nicholas Party** for family & friends from **1:00 to 3:00p.** Puppet shows, crafts, games, therapy dogs, and a visit from St Nick will prepare us for Sinterklaas, the traditional European night when St. Nick rides on a white horse, delivering treats to well-behaved children. The festival is at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 3108 Sterrettania Road.** Come and join in the fun! **FREE FAMILY FUN**

Monday, December 12: Ladies Night Out for December will be a Christmas party at Abiding Hope, usual time ~ 5:30p. Details to follow. Save the date.

Prayer Warrior group, led by new member Jerry Vogt and Pastor Karen, **meets @ 1:00pm in the sanctuary the 3rd Wednesday** of each month. Consider to join in to pray for our nation and the world in crisis, those affected by illness or are grieving the loss of someone, plus other concerns. Additional information, contact Jerry @ 814.504.3566 or Pr. Karen.

Choir Rehearsal: Wednesdays, 6:00p: Please consider joining. You'll find rehearsals go by quickly, and there are a lot of laughs! Ability to READ MUSIC not NECESSARY! **NO choir rehearsal 11/23**

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Offering two weekly Holy Communion services @ 8:30a & 10:30a. The 10:30a service will live-stream on Facebook and then post to the **AHLC** web page. **BIBLE STUDY @ 9:30a between services.** Please check parish notes or our web site for any changes to times for worship or bible study. **No Bible Study this week - 11/20**

KAFP: Special Collection of Canned Food/Dry Goods & Personal Products can be left in the **Heritage Room.** **Project Dignity:** Item for Nov.-shaving supplies/First Aid products. **Donations** in "cry room".

Bethany Outreach: Remember your gently used clothing, shoes, household items, toys, children's items can be donated. All items are given out without charge. **Donations to Heritage Room.** Thank you for your continued support. Analee Cree -814-397-6168.

Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to **donate flowers** for Sunday worship, weekly sign-up sheet and request forms on table in narthex. Arrangements- **20.00 each.** Place the **completed form and payment** in the offering plate, or to the office at least two weeks, no less than one, prior to your chosen Sunday.

Office Hours: Mon & Tue 9:30a-3:30p, Wed 9:30a-12:30p. If the office is not staffed, leave a message, your call will be returned. For **immediate pastoral assistance,** call **Pastor Karen,** 814-881-3266. Pastor is in the office on Tuesdays @ 10:00a or by appointment.

CURRENT FUND REPORT

October Income: \$ 7,628.00 Year to Date Income: \$ 95,448.26
October Expenses: \$12,828.79 Year to Date Expenses: \$103,884.07
October Difference: \$-4,329.73 Year to date Difference: \$ -8,436.81
Year to Date Budget: \$104.039

WORSHIP LEADERS ~ November 20, 2022

	8:30a	10:30a
Videographer	X	Penny Gresh
Greeter/Coffee	Mary Randall	June Morey
Lector/Prayers	Lon Jenkins	Ed Whitbred
Comm Assist/cups	Analee Cree	Judi Pacileo
Comm. Assist/wine	Mary Randall	Kayla Miller
Communion tray	Lois Kuhns	Carol Whitbred
Presenter	Barb Paris	Jeanne Tropper
Presenter	volunteer	Penny Gresh
Usher	Mike Paris	Rick Penn
Usher	volunteer	volunteer
Counters		Michele Rion/Judi Pacileo

