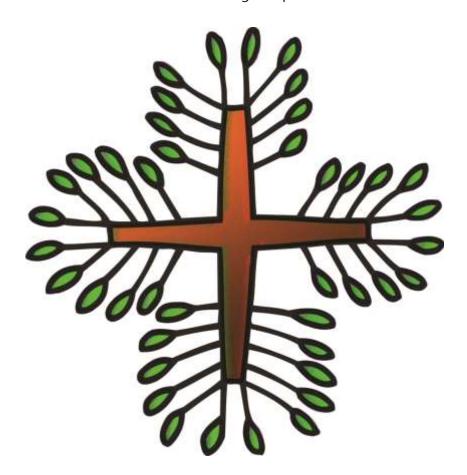


The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

We Greet Our Members and Visitors Warmly In Jesus' Name.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter 10:00 a.m. Sunday, April 28, 2024



This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

Welcome to Worship at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour **Sharing the Gospel, Learning God's Love, Reaching and Lifting Up Creation!**

2415 Chili Avenue. Rochester, NY, 14624 | 585-247-7824 | www.oursaviourrochester.org

Announcements & Preparation for Worship

Prelude

(Please stand until the conclusion of the Gloria)

Entrance Hymn: "Gather Us In!"





Thanksgiving for Baptism

Pastor: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter

and our joy.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Look, here is water!

All: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Pastor: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done

for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's

verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal

life.

Look, here is water!

All: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Pastor: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the

Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the

floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now

and forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Look, here is water!

All: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live.

Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and

reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Enter Holy Spirit Spir -En - ter, Ho - ly it! Come, en - joy our prais a - mong us with your pres -Je - sus, be Bless us. ence. 3 Mer - ci - ful Cre - a come, let us a - dore tor, you. 8 Spir - it, you wel come here and now, are Je - sus, you arc wel come here and now.

Gloria

come

here

and

now.

wel

arc

Stay,

for you



(You may be seated)



The First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Lector:

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Lector: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:25-31

Lector: From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the

sight of those who fear the Lord.

All: The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the Lord give praise!

May your hearts live forever!

Lector: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families

of nations shall bow before God.

All: For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

Lector: Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down

to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

All: Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to

generations to come.

Lector: They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them,

"The Lord has acted!"

The Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Lector:

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.

A reading from the first book of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. **Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for** those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand if you are able)

Gospel Acclamation



Cantor: I am the vine, you are the branches.

Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit.





The Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8

Pastor: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord According to St. John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor: Jesus said: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes

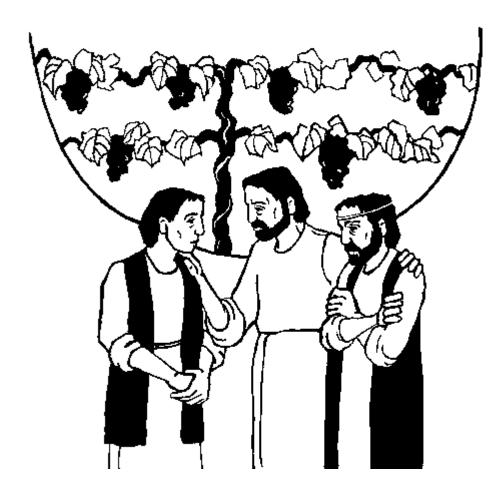
every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my

disciples."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.



The Hymn of the Day: "Like The Murmur of the Dove's Song"



(You may be seated)

The Sermon: Pastor John Macholz

Hymn of Response: "There in God's Garden"



(Please stand if you are able)

The Nicene Creed

Pastor: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, 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 worshipped 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 sin. We look forward for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession

Pastor: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. (a brief silence)

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes,

streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of

the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders,

for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations,

that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for

those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or

suffering. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all

who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or

care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world.

God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them,

to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to

that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace,

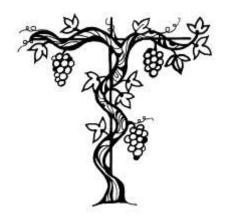
All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray,

trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living

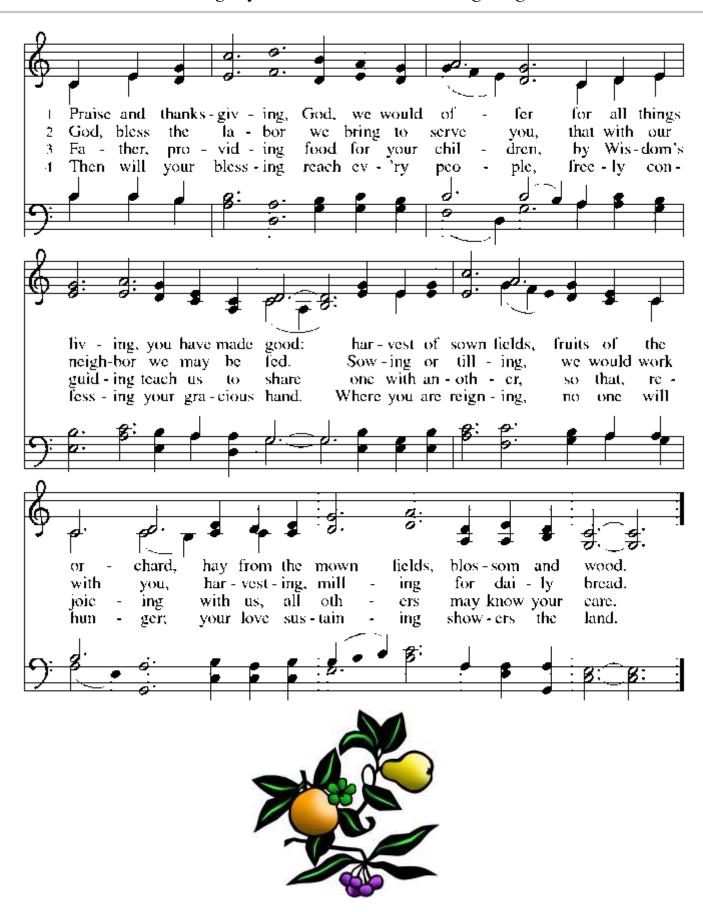
Lord.

All: Amen.



(Please be seated)

Offering Hymn: "Praise and Thanksgiving"



Offering Presentation: "Accept, O Lord, the gifts we bring"



Offering Prayer

Pastor: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer

here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thank and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. 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:



Pastor:

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 in remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray as our Savior taught.

All:

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.



Communion Invitation

Pastor: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

Communion Hymn: "One Bread, One Body"



Post Communion Prayer

Pastor: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with

your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and

share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

All: Amen.

Blessing

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of

Easter hope

→ bless you now and always. Amen.

Closing Hymn: "Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death"



Dismissal

Pastor: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

SAVE THE DATE—MAY 4TH at 9:00 a.m. YARDWORD DAY Sign up in Narthex

"Christ is the vine, we are the branches."

Announcements

Coverage While Pastor Wilck is Healing

April 28th—Former Bishop, Rev. John Macholz

Rev. Craig Swanson will be on call for pastoral emergencies.

<u>Equal Exchange</u>—Orders will be taken on May 5th. This will be the last order until September.

<u>Christian Book Club</u>—Our next book will be, "Very Present Help," by Mary Ann Martin. Purchase a copy and join the conversation Tuesdays at 11am.

<u>Loop Ministry Looking for Board Members</u>—Give your time to a worthy cause and become a board member. Speak to Leader Wilck or Rainer Stellrecht for more information.

<u>Congregational Meeting</u>—On April 28th we will have a congregational meeting to make some changes to the bi-laws. All members are encouraged to attend. Copies of the proposed changes will be made available on the Narthex Table.

<u>Spare Car?</u> - Marlow, one of our church attendees is currently in need and looking for a vehicle. If you or someone you know has a car they are interested in selling, please contact her at: 664-5811.

Save the Date

- WELCA— is hosting a talk by Gary Larder, Chairman of the Red Wings. All are invited, May 14th at 6:30 p.m.
- Celebration of the Life of Mike Otto—Saturday, May 18th at 2:00 p.m.
- May 26th, installation and dedication of Veteran Bricks. The deadline for requesting a brick is May 4th.
- Jubilees Picnic—June 20th at 12pm at Memorial Park Lodge in Gates.

Volunteer at Camp Joy this summer! Since its foundation in 1982, Camp Joy — a week-long overnight summer camp for developmentally disabled adults - has thrived as an ENTIRELY volunteer based organization. To maintain our Christ-centered, inspirational, fun-filled experience for the 100 individuals who attend camp every year, we need volunteers like you! Camp is held at the Rotary Sunshine Campus in Rush, NY, and this year will be June 23rd-28th (Sunday-Friday). Both full- and part-time staff are needed, full room and board are provided for full-time staff, and there is absolutely no monetary requirement for volunteers and no previous experience with this population needed! Part-time volunteers are welcomed to meals while there. Please consider being a part of this outstanding organization and share the experience of a lifetime to continue to make this camp possible for so many individuals who desire this fulfilling experience. As all volunteers need to have background checks, registration, even if unsure of dates available that week, needs to be done as early as possible For more information or to register as a volunteer, visit our website: www.campjoyny.org, or call (585) 371-8851 with any additional questions. Thank you!!!Talk with past and returning volunteers at Our Saviour, Pam and Steve Brady, Mary Ellen Saur, and Charlyne Hickey.

This Week

April 28th—Sunday	
9:00 a.m.	
10:00 a.m.	Communion Service
11:00 a.m.	0 0
following the meeting	Bell Choir Rehearsal
April 29th—Monday	
6:30 p.m.	Scouts, BSA
April 30th—Tuesday	
10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
11:00 a.m.	Christian Book Club
May 3rd—Friday	
5:30 p.m.	German School (small class)
May 4th—Saturday	
9:00 a.m.	German School
9:00 a.m.	Yard Cleanup Project
May 5th—Sunday (EQUAL EXCHANGE) (Special Sign Language P	resentation from Sunday School)
9:00 a.m.	Sunday School/Choir Practice
10:-00 a.m.	Worship Service?
11:00 a.m.	Bell Choir Practice

Service Schedule

Day & TIME	SERVICE LEADER	USHER	LECTOR	GREETER	Communion Assistant	Cross Bearer
Sunday April 28	Carol Werth	Deb Frey	Mike Frey	Paul Hamblin	Deb Frey	Mary Ellen Saur
Sunday May 5	Pam Brady	Ann Marie MacBride	Wendy Forrest	Carol Werth	n/a	n/a
Sunday May 12	Brian Spencer	Pam Spencer	Pam Spencer	Charlyne Hickey	Charlyne Hickey	John/ Macksamie

Birthdays This Week

Jacob Foltz	April 28
Reinhold Freimuth	April 28
Charles Borzilleri	May 1
Donna Evenson	
Chloe Osterling	May 1
Michael O'Connor	May 3
Ronald King	May 4

Lending a Hand

Volunteers are always needed to keep the church running smoothly. With that in mind, the Finance Committee is pleased to welcome its newest volunteer, Jim MacBride.



Our Saviour Church Council



Steve Brady, <i>President</i>	2 year term	Zoom Coordinator
Ann Seppa, Vice President	2 year term	WELCA, Church & Community
Heidi Kozireski, Secretary	2 year term	Finance
Deb Ciccone, <i>Treasurer</i>	1 year term	Finance
Dave Cuff		Missions
Lois Dannenberg	3 year term	Properties
Charlyne Hickey, <i>at large</i>		Reformation Archives
Frank Johnson	2 year term	Properties
John Macksamie	2 year term	Missions
Ruth Otto	3 year term	
Mary Ellen Saur, at large	1 year term	Stewardship
Pam Spencer	1 year term	Evangelism, Alpha
Rainer Stellrecht	1 year term	Logistics
Carol Werth	2 year term	

In Our Prayers

Members In Need of Prayer

Barb Collins, Jack Erbelding, Bev Evans, Jim Flick, Meredith Fries, Gerry Haak, Carolyn Hane, Merlyn Hann, Bonnie Hartfiel, Lynn Johnston, Greg Lombard, Jean Lombard, Elly Mahler, Linda Palmer, Jackie Potter, Joe Scuderi, Bob Snyder, Pastor Joachim Wilck, Janine Westa, Marilies Renke, Irma Sieg, John Macksamie, David Stone, Alice Crawford, Daryl Jarvis, Sharon Nazarian

Members & Friends Serving Our Country

Alexander McDonough, USCG, Dave Oliver, Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard

Others Serving

LTC Paul Graf, Captain Matthew Wormuth

Major Scott Moncrief, Captain Chris Stevenson, Steve Kim, Major Joshua Davis

Family & Friends In Need of Payer

John Aune <i>brother of Ann Marie MacBride</i>	
Sam Bagdan	nephew of Ray McQueen
Danny Baird	
Michael Baird, Jr	
Jeremy Balmer	nephew of Valerie Baird
Shannon Balmer	niece of Valerie Baird
Dan Burrell and family	friends of John and Debi Macksamie
Anthony Caratello	
Rick Conley	friend of Jean Lombard
Annette and Casey Corbridge and family	family of Debi and John Macksamie
Marilyn Dawe	sister of Richard Forsey
Marlene Denz	mother of Paul Denz
Family of Cliff Dilg	friend of Carol and Dick Ransom
Rich Doehl	friend of Debi Macksamie
Krystle Earle	daughter of Debbie Frey
Valerie Gingello	sister of April O'Connor
Gary Gubiatti	
Barbara Haefele	aunt of Steven Fries
Roy & Ann Hamblin	parents of Paul Hamblin
Alfreda Hanna	
Stacy Harris	friend of Wendy Forrest
Kyle Hopkins	son of Larry & Janie Hopkins
Sean Hopkins	son of Larry & Janie Hopkins

Family & Friends In Need of Payer Continued

Family or Rick Horn	ousin of Wendy Forrest
Cathy Lee Johnson	niece of Ann Seppa
Nancy Lenox	mother in law of Steve Fries
Greg Lombard	son of Jean Lombard
Scott Lynaugh	nephew of Alice Crawford
Zoe and John Marshall	
JohnAnthony Neri	nephew of Alice Crawford
Lucy Pilaroscia	•
Scott Preston	
Marianna Reed	friend of Debi Macksamie
Martha Richenberg	sister of David Nowatka
Lois Russell	friend of our WELCA
Mary Anne Schnabel	friend of Bill Vogel
Matt Seger	family friend of Valerie Baird
Joseph Seiler	brother in law of David Nowatka
Avrie Sinesiou	
Mark Spencer	nephew of Brian & Pam Spencer
Denton Sutphen	brother of Debi Macksamie
Glena Sutphen	
Kerri Wallenhorst and family	friends of Jenny (Stich) Guiles
Judy Whitney	cousin of Ric Seiling
Clarence Wingate	nephew-in-law of Jack Erbelding
Sammy Zaffuto	

2415 Chili Avenue Rochester, NY 14624 585-247-7824