



GRACE LUTHERAN

CHURCH • SCHOOL



Second
Sunday in *Advent*

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2025 - 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 07, 2025 - 10:45 AM

(The * indicates when the congregation is to stand.)

PRELUDE

"Arise, O Christian People"

Jeffrey Blersch

WELCOME

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Arise, O Christian People"

Hymn 354

[10:45] (Stand and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.)



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

*INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ—both His coming in the manger and His coming again in glory—let us confess our sins and repent of all the times we have been distracted and not put Christ first in our lives.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: **We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. Instead of seeing the trees, lights, and decorations as symbols that point us to You, we are often distracted by them. We become so consumed with them that we fail to prepare our own hearts for Your coming. We have turned from Your promises and have grown weary in our waiting for You. Forgive us, we pray, of all our sins. Renew in us an eager anticipation for Your coming; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the Lord is never distracted! In this season of advent we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ who went to the cross and died and rose for you! Therefore, for the sake of Christ and by His authority I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

***THEME HYMN**

“Joy to the World” (v. 2)

Hymn 387

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

***SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR ADVENT**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O merciful Lord, grant to us the wisdom of Your Spirit and the blessing of faithful voices, that they may call us to prepare for the coming One and so that all who have heard Your Word and have been baptized into Christ may be preserved from evil, be counted worthy in Christ to be delivered into Your eternal kingdom, and be kept to the day of His coming at the end of all things; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and to the end of the ages.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7

¹But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he

has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone... ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***HOLY GOSPEL**

John 1:1-9

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

[10:45] CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,

The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain
In Him there is no dark - ness at all.

The night and the day are both a - like.

The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

SERMON**"Christmas Lights"*****CONFESSION OF FAITH - THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***ADVENT LITANY**

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For eyes to behold the Father's hand in all creation, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That we may eagerly await Christ's return and encourage one another all the more as we see that Day drawing near, even as we celebrate His birth, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That we may be living witnesses of new life in Christ through our loving service to our neighbor—both in word and in deed, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That we may be thankful for the bountiful harvest You have given us amid the many festivities of this season, especially the gift of salvation through Your Son, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: That we may love one another as God so loved us, forgive one another, and work together in the unity we have in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who are hurting, battling disease, undergoing surgery; we particularly raise to You ..., and for all those we name in our hearts, that

they may not lose heart but receive good care, healing in mind, body, and spirit, and receive Christian love and support, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy. Amen.

*HOLY COMMUNION

*PREFACE

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Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

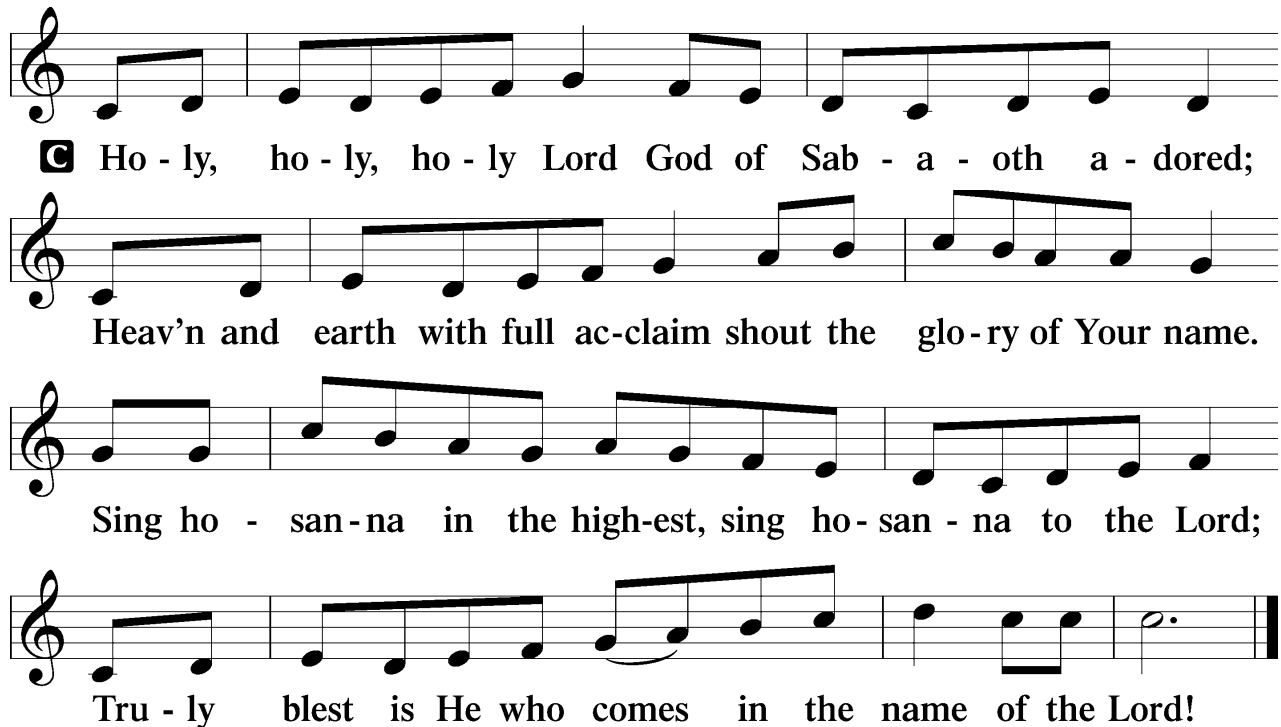
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

*SANCTUS

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*LORD'S PRAYER

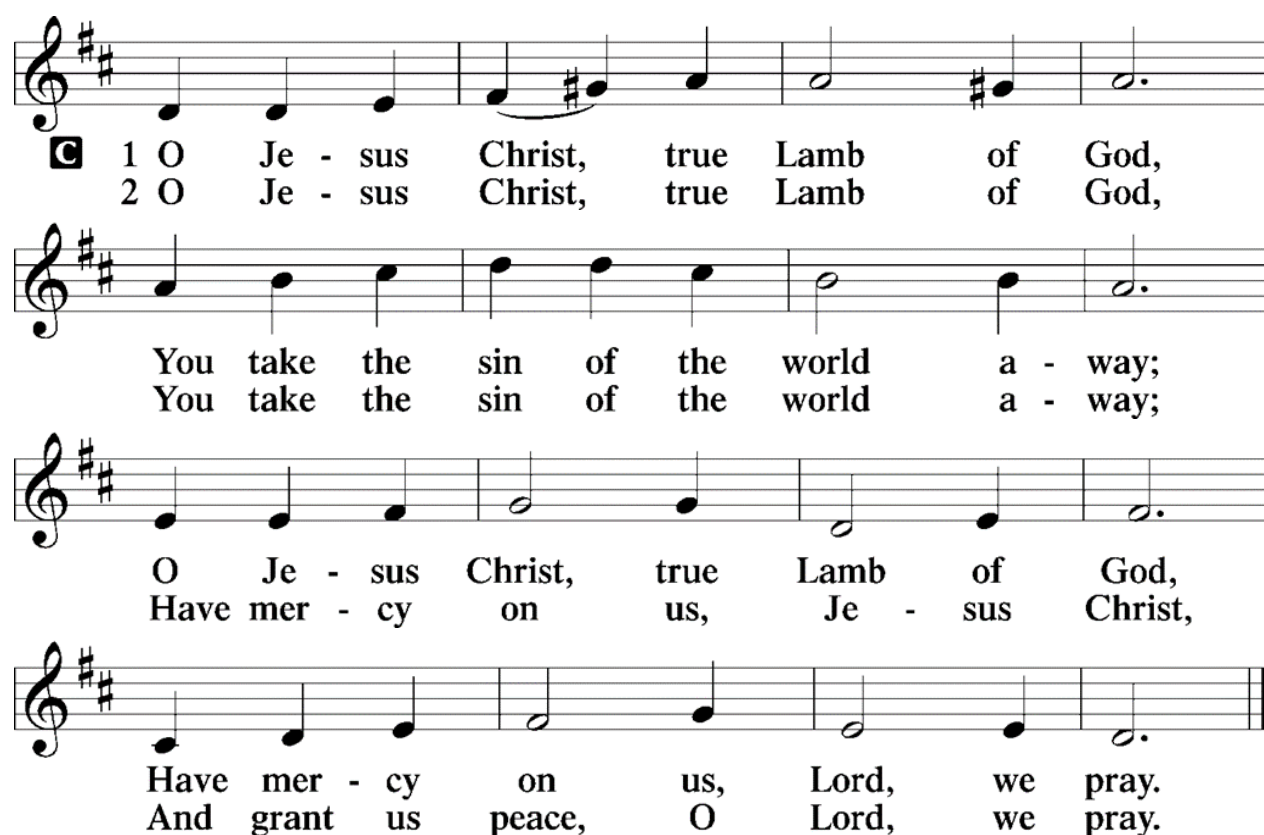
Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,

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.

***AGNUS DEI**

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1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“The Night Will Soon Be Ending”



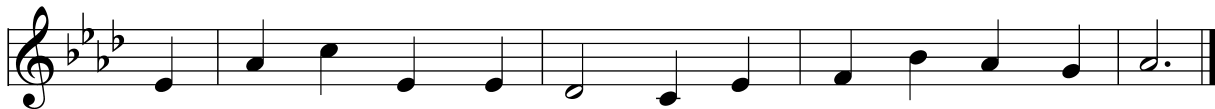
1 The night will soon be end - ing; The dawn can - not be far.
2 The One whom an - gels tend - ed Comes near, a child, to serve;
3 The earth in sure ro - ta - tion Will soon bring morn - ing bright,
4 Yet nights will bring their sad - ness And rob our hearts of peace,
5 God dwells with us in dark - ness And makes the night as day;



Let songs of praise as - cend - ing Now greet the Morn - ing Star!
Thus God, the judge of - fend - ed, Bears all our sins de - serve.
So run where God's sal - va - tion Glows in a sta - ble's light.
And sin in all its mad - ness A - round us may in - crease.
Yet we re - sist the bright - ness And turn from God a - way.



All you whom dark - ness fright - ens With guilt or grief or pain,
The guilt - y need not cow - er, For God has rec - on - ciled
As old as sin's per - ver - sion Is mer - cy's vast de - sign:
But now one Star is beam - ing Whose rays have pierced the night:
But grace does not for - sake us, How - ev - er far we run.



God's ra - dian - t Star now bright - ens And bids you sing a - gain.
Through His re - demp - tive pow - er All those who trust this child.
God brings a new cre - a - tion-- This child its seal and sign.
God comes for our re - deem - ing From sin's op - pres - sive might.
God claims us still as chil - dren Through Ma - ry's in - fant Son.


“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Hymn 367




1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

Hymn continues on next page →




all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing




Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain




Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.




"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"


Hymn 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
way for God with - in, And let us all our
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS AND CONSECRATION FOR THE LORD'S WORK**

***THE BENEDICTION** (*Numbers 6:24-26*)

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Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"

Hymn 347



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er

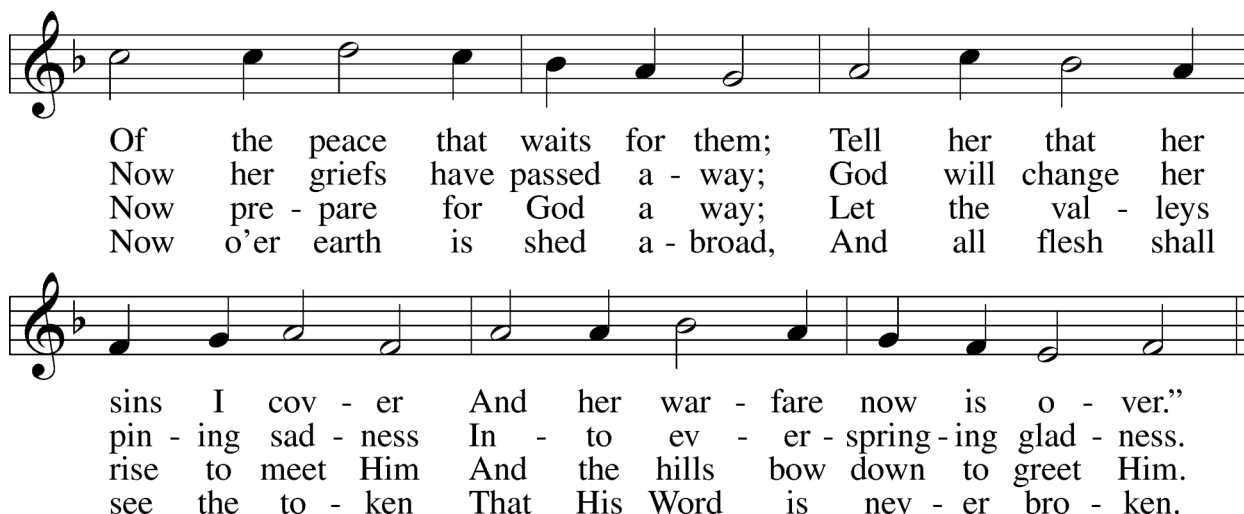


saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
 dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
 far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
 plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
 more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
 King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
 fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord

Hymn continues on next page →



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
 Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall

sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

*DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"Comfort Now My People"

Tom Trenney

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

Pastor
 Organist
 Communion Deacons
 Lectors
 Usher/Greeter Team

The Rev. Charles T. Reich
 Thomas Schulteis
 Jackie Stine, Roger Walker
 Rodney Petersen, Jane Petersen
 Jim Campbell & Linda Davy

SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

Preacher
 Celebrant
 Liturgist
 Organist
 Sound Technician
 Communion Deacons
 Elder on Duty
 Lectors
 Greeters
 Crucifer
 Acolytes
 Ushers

The Rev. Charles T. Reich
 The Rev. Steven M. Braun
 Vicar Stephen Moore
 Thomas Schulteis
 Rodney Steffen
 Ron Booth, Martha Walker, Jessica Wittcop
 Janet Hostler
 Ed Smith, Nikki Smith
 Sally Anderson, Colleen Mueller
 Hudson String
 Sylvia Ullrich, Annie Witcher
 Janice Graydon, Douglas Hall, Ernie Harben, Bonnie Petersilge,
 Rob Petersilge, Carl Rod, Larry Walker

CREDITS

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