

CHORAL EVENSONG



St. Francis of Assisi, Ettore DeGrazia

5:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CHRIST CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA

Please silence all electronic devices.

4:40 ORGAN PRELUDE

CHRISTIAN CROCKER, ORGANIST

Impromptu in A minor

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

Symphony no. 3 in F-sharp minor, Op. 28: IV. Adagio

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Air

Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)

Allegro impetuoso

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

CHRISTIAN CROCKER currently serves as the Director of Music and Organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Chattanooga where he plays, conducts, and plans music for all liturgies as well as the St. Paul's Artist Series. Before joining the staff at St. Paul's in January of 2025, Christian served as the Director of Music and Organist at the Episcopal Church of the Nativity in Huntsville, Alabama. As an active professional singer, Christian has performed with the Oregon Bach Festival Chorus, Ensemble Altera, Yale Choral Artists, Bach Collegium San Diego, The Queen's Six (UK), Tenebrae (UK), and Stile Antico (UK). Christian received his B.M. in Organ Performance from Florida State University and his M.M. in Choral Conducting from the Yale School of Music and a certificate from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. While at Yale, he was the recipient of the Richard DeLong prize, which is awarded to the student whose work best exemplifies the dedication and the use of those special gifts required of practicing church musicians. In his spare time, he enjoys running, entertaining and cooking for his friends, and cycling through the mountains of southern Tennessee.

INTROIT

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:
Such a Life, as killeth death.

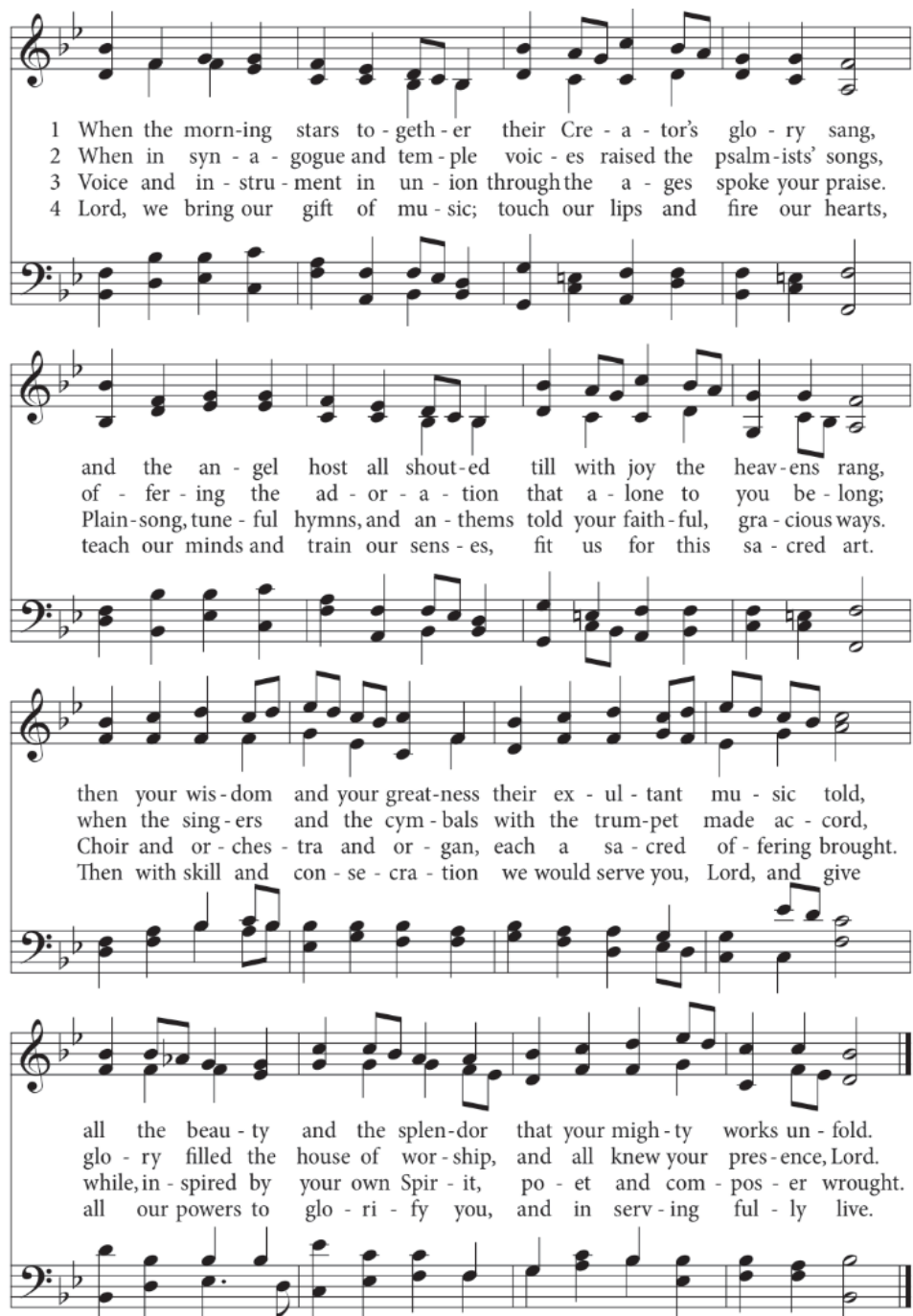
Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length:
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part:
Such a Heart, as joys in love.

Words: The Call, George Herbert (1593-1633)
Music: David Ashley White (b. 1944)

Please stand and sing.

HYMN



1 When the morn-ing stars to - geth - er their Cre - a - tor's glo - ry sang,
2 When in syn - a - gogue and tem - ple voic - es raised the psalm-ists' songs,
3 Voice and in - stru - ment in un - ion through the a - ges spoke your praise.
4 Lord, we bring our gift of mu - sic; touch our lips and fire our hearts,

and the an - gel host all shout-ed till with joy the heav - ens rang,
of - fer - ing the ad - or - a - tion that a - lone to you be - long;
Plain-song, tune - ful hymns, and an - thems told your faith - ful, gra - cious ways.
teach our minds and train our sens - es, fit us for this sa - cred art.

then your wis - dom and your great-ness their ex - ul - tant mu - sic told,
when the sing - ers and the cym - bals with the trum - pet made ac - cord,
Choir and or - ches - tra and or - gan, each a sa - cred of - fering brought.
Then with skill and con - se - cra - tion we would serve you, Lord, and give

all the beau - ty and the splen - dor that your migh - ty works un - fold.
glo - ry filled the house of wor - ship, and all knew your pres - ence, Lord.
while, in - spired by your own Spir - it, po - et and com - pos - er wrought.
all our powers to glo - ri - fy you, and in serv - ing ful - ly live.

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The people are seated.

PSALM 101

Anglican Chant: Kenneth Miller (b. 1989)

- 1 I will sing of mercy and justice; *
to you, O LORD, will I sing praises.
- 2 I will strive to follow a blameless course; oh, when will you come to me? *
I will walk with sincerity of heart within my house.
- 3 I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; *
I hate the doers of evil deeds; they shall not remain with me.
- 4 A crooked heart shall be far from me; *
I will not know evil.
- 5 Those who in secret slander their neighbors I will destroy; *
those who have a haughty look and a proud heart I cannot abide.
- 6 My eyes are upon the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me, *
and only those who lead a blameless life shall be my servants.
- 7 Those who act deceitfully shall not dwell in my house, *
and those who tell lies shall not continue in my sight.
- 8 I will soon destroy all the wicked in the land, *
that I may root out all evildoers from the city of the LORD.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

MAGNIFICAT FROM THE PORTLAND CANTICLES

Alfred Fedak (b. 1953)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The people may be seated.

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

NUNC DIMITTIS FROM THE PORTLAND CANTICLES

Alfred Fedak

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The people remain standing and say in unison:

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 Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

RESPONSES

Bristow

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

The people kneel.

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Chanted by 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. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Officiant O Lord, save the State.
Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.
Officiant O Lord, save thy people.
Choir And bless thine inheritance.
Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

CONCLUDING COLLECTS

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works to proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. *Amen.*

Please stand and sing

HYMN

Introduction



All voices 1 Most High, om - ni - po - tent, good Lord, to thee be
Lower voices 2 (My Lord be) praised by bro - ther sun who through the
Upper voices 3 (My Lord be) praised by sis - ter moon and all the
All voices 4 (By sis - ter) wa - ter be thou blessed, most hum - ble,
Upper voices 5 (By mo - ther) earth my Lord be praised; gov - erned by
Lower voices 6 (My Lord be) praised by those who prove in free for -
All voices 7 (For death our) sis - ter, prais - ed be, from whom no
All voices 8 (Most High, om) - ni - po - tent, good Lord, to thee be



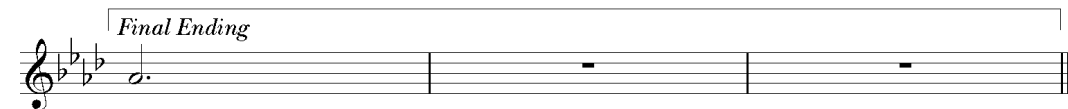
1 cease-less praise out - poured, and bless - ing with - out mea - sure.
2 skies his course doth run, and shines in bril - liant splen - dor.
3 stars, that with her soon will point the glit - tering hea - vens.
4 use - ful, pre - cious, chaste; be praised by bro - ther fire;—
5 thee she hath up - raised what for our life is need - ful.
6 giv - ing - ness their love, nor shrink from trib - u - la - tion.
7 one a - live can flee. Woe to the un - pre - par - ed!
8 cease-less praise out - poured, and bless - ing with - out mea - sure.



1 From thee a - lone all crea - tures came; no one is
2 with bright - ness he doth fill the day, and sig - ni -
3 Let wind and air and cloud and calm and weath - ers
4 joc - und is he, ro - bust and bright, and strong to
5 Sus - tained by thee, through ev - ery hour, she bring - eth
6 Hap - py, who peace - a - bly en - dure; with thee, Lord,
7 But blest be they who do thy will and fol - low
8 Let crea - tures all give thanks to thee, and serve in



1 wor - thy thee to name. Lower voices 2 My Lord be
2 fies thy bound - less sway. Upper voices 3 My Lord be
3 all, re - peat the psalm. All 4 By sis - ter
4 light - en all the night. Upper voices 5 By mo - ther
5 forth fruit, herb, and flower. Lower voices 6 My Lord be
6 their re - ward is sure. All 7 For death our
7 thy com - mand - ments still. All 8 Most High, om -
8 great hu - mil - i - (ty.)



Final Ending

ty.

Words: Francis of Assisi
Music: Lukkason, Calvin Hampton

The people may be seated.

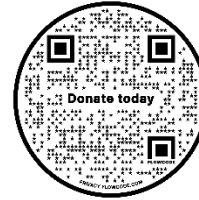
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We invite you to support the mission and ministries at Christ Church by making an offering.

To donate via PayPal:



To donate via Shelby:



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O be ye joyful in the Lord, all ye lands, in ev'ry tongue now praise the Lord!
With gladness praise the Lord, before his presence come with thine own song!
O be ye sure that the Lord, he is God, who hath made us, and not we ourselves.
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture, and his flock by still waters
We are his people, as stars in bright heavens, as the sands on bright shores.
For the Lord is all grace, whose mercy is everlasting,
And his truth endureth for ever, from generation to generation.
Therefore! Go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise!
To God give all thanks! Give honor to God's name for evermore:
Glory be to the Father,
Glory be to the Son,
Glory be to the Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end, Amen.

Words: from Psalm 100
Music: Shawn Kirchner (b. 1970)

The people kneel and say in unison:

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all people.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

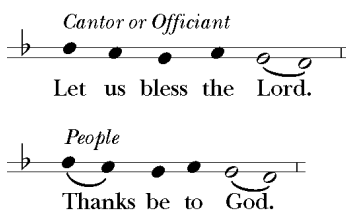
The Officiant prays

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

The people stand.

CONCLUDING VERSICLE AND RESPONSE



THE GRACE

HYMN

1 The day thou gav - est, Lord, is end - ed, the dark - ness
 2 We thank thee that thy Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls
 3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land the dawn leads
 4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall nev - er, like earth's proud

falls at thy be - hest; to thee our morn - ing hymns a -
 on - ward in - to light, through all the world her watch is
 on an - oth - er day, the voice of prayer is nev - er
 em - pires, pass a - way; thy king - dom stands, and grows for

scend - ed, thy praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.
 keep - ing, and rests not now by day or night.
 si - lent, nor dies the strain of praise a - way.
 ev - er, till all thy crea - tures own thy sway.

Words: John Ellerton
 Music: St. Clement, Clement Cottevill Scholefield
 Descant: Sarah MacDonald

POSTLUDE: Postlude in D Minor

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

*You are invited to be seated for the duration of the postlude, or you may exit quietly.
 Please join us for a reception in the Meade Room, located across the churchyard.*

NOTES ON THE MUSIC

The music sung by the choir in this evening's service is by contemporary American composers.

David Ashley White taught at the Moores School of Music for the University of Houston and was composer-in-residence for Palmer Episcopal Church in Houston for many years. In 2016, he was named Distinguished Composer by the American Guild of Organists.

Sheila Bristow, based in Tacoma, Washington, received third place in Major Choral Works for the 2025 American Prize and is an emerging talent in the American musical landscape. She currently serves as Music Director and Organist at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church (Bainbridge).

Kenneth Miller is Director of Music and Organist for St. James' Church, Madison Avenue, New York City. Prior to this appointment, he was Associate Professor of Church Music at the University of the South (Sewanee).

Alfred Fedak has over 300 choral and organ works in print. *The American Organist* named him "one of the country's leading church musicians." His Portland Canticles were commissioned in 2017 for St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Portland, Maine.

Shawn Kirchner is a composer, arranger, and songwriter based in Los Angeles. He is one of the country's most sought-after composers – having accepted commissions for the LA Master Chorale, Conspirare, Choral Arts Northwest, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and many others. His anthem sung this evening was commissioned by Christ Church in recognition of Jason Abel's 20 years as Director of Music in 2025. This is the premiere performance.

UPCOMING SPECIAL MUSICAL OFFERINGS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Monday, October 12

12:15 Concerts at Christ Church

Love: Songs for Peace

Chelsea Helm, Soprano, Dr. Lester Green, Piano

Sunday, November 1

5:00 All Saints' Sunday Requiem

The Christ Church Choir will sing Gabriel Fauré's Requiem accompanied by an instrumental ensemble

Monday, November 9

12:00 Concerts at Christ Church

American Landscapes: A Musical Celebration at 250

Ryo Usami, Violin, Yi-Chen Feng, Piano

Sunday, December 6

5:00 Lessons and Carols

The combined choirs of Christ Church, Brass Quintet, and organist Daniel Aune will offer carols and hymns for Advent and Christmas. Doors will open at 4:30 for seating.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC 2026-2027

The donors below have helped to make tonight's service possible. Gifts received since August 1, 2026

Abas & Eileen Adenan, <i>In memory of our parents</i>	Lysa Farah	Joanna Reams, <i>In memory of</i> <i>The Honorable Nancy Ely-Raphel</i>
E. Ruth Arnold	Tilman Finley & Jaclyn Moyer, <i>In honor of Jason Abel</i>	Steve & Anne Reed
Jay & Cindi Bartol, <i>In memory of our parents</i>	Jeffrey Fiore, <i>In honor of Jason Abel</i> <i>and the choirs</i>	David Riggs
Nancy Bieging	Rodney & Candace Fisher, <i>In memory of our parents</i>	Jim Sanders & Eileen Angle
Vici Boguess	Randy Garber, <i>In honor of Marilyn Bromley</i>	Sharon & Bill Schambra
Marilyn Bromley, <i>In memory of Cap Bromley</i>	Geoffrey & Marilyn Giovanetti	Witney Schneidman & Lee Guerry, <i>In memory of Russ Guerry</i>
Michael J. Brown	Frank Griffin & Billy Senter	Anne Shine
John & Debbie Burns	David Halwig, <i>In honor of Stuart Halwig and his</i> <i>Latin Quarter Orchestra</i>	Steve & Jan Slaton
Brian Butcher	Scott Harman, <i>In memory of Pam Harman</i>	Michele Smith & Glen Hewitt
Paul & Susan Cambon	Ron Hudak & Susan Hahn	Lyn & Kit Snodgrass
Bill Chavan	Rich & Christine Jones	Lynn Turner
Bill Dakin, <i>In memory of</i> <i>Margery Bowes Dakin</i>	Sherley Keith, <i>In memory of Craig Keith</i>	Ty & Patricia Tylander
Elizabeth Dakin, <i>In memory of</i> <i>Margery Bowes Dakin</i>	Susan Koscis	Fran Usher, <i>In memory of Bill Usher</i>
Mary Daly	Ellen Maday	Bob & Barbara Wade
Steve Ditmeyer, <i>In memory of Marty Ditmeyer</i>	John & Susan Magill	Eleanor Wilson, <i>In honor of Jason and the Choir</i> <i>In Thanksgiving for Susan Cambon</i>
Paul & Ginny Doherty, <i>In honor of Jason Abel</i>	Ken McElwain, <i>In memory of Alison McElwain</i>	Donnan Wintermute & James Arrison III
Tom & Carol Donlan	Judy Phillips	Libby Witt
Paula Dubberly, <i>In memory of Abbie Arms</i>	Audrey Rasmussen	Raymond Wolfe