



Fifth Sunday in Lent The Liturgy of Holy Communion April 6, 2025 10:00 am

Ministers, The People of God
Reverend Jean Dougherty
Director of Music, Nicholas Suminski
Cantor, Cynthia Davis
Bell Choir Director, Laura Gustavsen
Assisting Minister, Leslee Mathiesen
Readers, Grete Kraus, Lorna Bozak
Ushers, Jane DeRosa, Grete Kraus, Steve O'Hagan,
Lorna Bosak, Steve Mathieson
Priscilla Guild, Jane Samuelsen



This is Christ's Church:

There is a place for you here. We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities, and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world. **Those with us for the first time** are kindly asked to introduce themselves to the pastor and greeters and are welcome to sign our guest book in the narthex.

NEED PRAYER? Kindly share prayer concerns at the lectern located at the church entrance to have a name read aloud during worship. Completing a prayer card or calling the office assures the name will appear in print, and you may ask to receive a call from the pastor.

Our Mission: Because God shows His Love through Jesus Christ,

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, a community of faith,

gathered around Word and Sacrament,

lives to WORSHIP, WITNESS, LEARN, and SERVE,

and welcomes all people to share God's love

and to be workers together in this mission of the Church.

Communion: St. Andrew's practices eucharistic hospitality.

All are welcome at God's table.

In response to Jesus's command, we celebrate with a worship meal of bread (or gluten-free by request) and red wine or white grape juice (in the center of the communion tray.) It is the Lutheran tradition to commune using both elements. However, we believe Christ is fully present when receiving one kind (bread or wine/grape juice). Those desiring a blessing but not communion are invited

forward and may cross their arms to indicate their intentions.

What is Reconciling in Christ?

This means we joyfully welcome all of God's people to worship with us regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ability, or socio-economic circumstances.





GATHERING

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

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Come, all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and Christ will give you rest.

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

Our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice; our bodies rest secure.

O Come let us worship.

O Come let us worship. O Come let us worship.

PRELUDE

The assembly stands as they are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

In the name of the Father, and of the

H Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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. **Amen.**

The assembly stands as they are able.

GATHERING SONG #661 I Love to Tell the Story



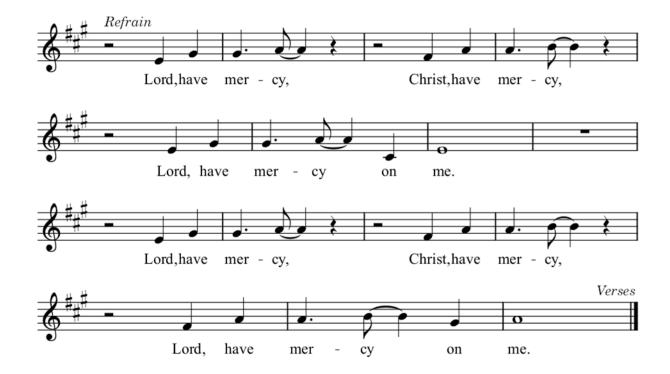
GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

Lamb of God



Verses:

- Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.
 Lamb of God, you take away The sins of the world.
- Lamb of God, I'm asking you to take away my sin.
 I confess that I've done wrong, I need your help again.
- 3. The precious blood of Jesus Christ cleanses me from sin.
 The precious blood of Jesus Christ cleanses me from sin.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Creator God,

you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

"An Offering" by Dan Forrest, text by Eileen Berry

Text:

O Christ, Who spared not any cost, Nor any grace withheld, But poured forth Your redeeming blood In love unparalleled;

What would you have me offer Lord?
What must I count as loss
That I may taste the fellowship
That brings me near the cross?

Why should I cling to gifts You give? Why grasp in foolish pride What You who gave Yourself for me Now bid me lay aside?

To know You is my highest gain, Worth any sacrifice, A treasure worthy to possess At any earthly price.

Yet if behind my open hands, My heart shrinks from the cost, Teach me nothing offered You Is ever truly lost.

A hundredfold reward awaits In one glimpse of your face, My sacrifice forgotten in the riches of Your grace.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus. A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁶Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing: now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 126 (Choir introduces refrain, assembly repeats, psalm is chanted responsively)



- ¹ When the Lord restored the for- ¹ tunes of Zion, then were we like ¹ those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with † shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great | things for them."

- ³The Lord has done great ¹ things for us, and we are ¹ glad indeed.
 - ⁴Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord, like the watercourses | of the Negeb. Refrain
 - ⁵Those who ^I sowed with tears will reap with ^I songs of joy.
 - ⁶ Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed, will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. Refrain

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

A reading from **Philippians**

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands as they are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #512 Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil



GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ¹ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. 8 You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.
The assembly stands to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY #722 O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate



- 1 O Christ, your heart, com pas sion-ate, bore ev 'ry hu-man pain.
- 2 As once you wel-comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
- 3 O Christ, cre ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
- O Love that made the dis tant stars, yet marks the spar-row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main. so may all bruised and bro-ken lives through us your help still find. that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors. whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com-bined in per-fect rhyme Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone, We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser-vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time. and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own. that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed, whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Also included in prayer today......

A brief silence.

The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah's imagination, Paul's transformed identity, and Mary's faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet's future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands. Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above, and beneath the ground. God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide interreligious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

The people declare your praise, O God. Restore those whose hope has been dampened through a health diagnosis, job or home loss, divorce, or death. Bring healing to those in need especially Mel, Jimmy, David, Amanda, Carynne, Judy, Michelle, Lyla, all on our prayer list and those we now name silently or aloud.......(pause for names). May all who weep now sing songs of joy again. God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

The gifts of the Spirit declare your praise, O God. We thank you for artists who proclaim the gospel. Inspire music, poetry, and images that proclaim the new thing you are doing. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

The communion of saints declares your praise, O God. Giving thanks for those who have died, we trust in the one who has made them his own: Christ Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

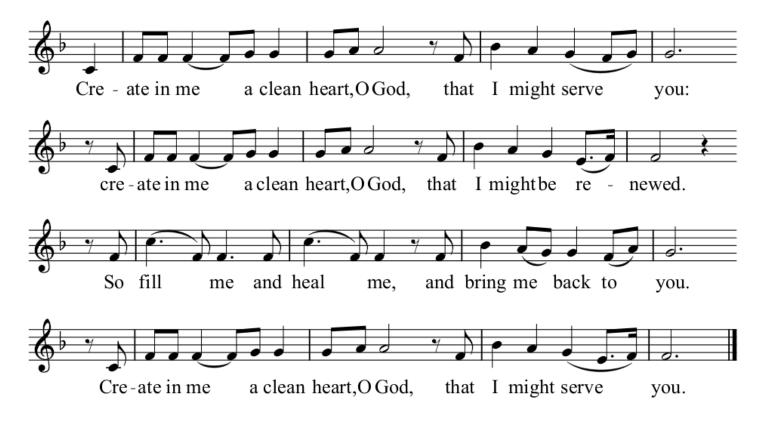
The assembly may be seated. An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERING



(When Jesus fed the 5000 with only five loaves of bread and two fish, he was showing us how God's love can multiply the effects of our generosity [see Mt. 14:13-21]. Thank you for sharing from the abundance you have received. Offerings may also be given online at the church website.)

OFFERING HYMN W&P #35 CREATE IN ME



The assembly stands as they are able.

OFFERING PRAYER (assisting minister)

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING: DIALOGUE AND PREFACE...

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts

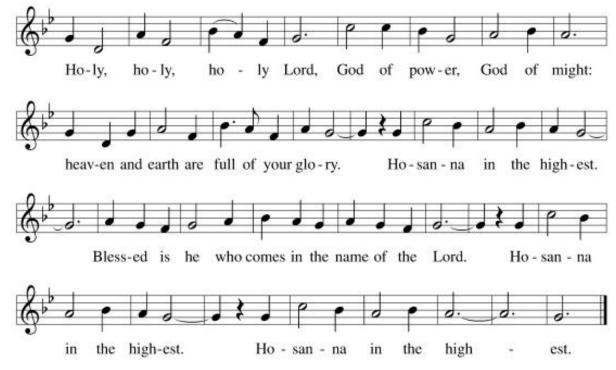
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,

that, renewed in the gift of baptism,

we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God, Creator of our wilderness world,

O God, Savior of the lost

O God, Comforter of the sick and suffering

We give you thanks for your everlasting might:

We glorify you for covenant of mercy.

For forty days you cleansed with the waters of the flood.

We praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

For forty days you illumined Moses with the words of your law. We praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

For forty years you fed your people with manna from heaven. We praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

You became truly human in Jesus our brother.

For forty days, with fasting and prayer, he renounced the power of the devil.

On 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.

We extol his life. Amen. **Amen**We lament his death. Amen. **Amen**We celebrate his resurrection. Amen. **Amen**Transform us, O God, O God, with your lively spirit.
Make this food into manna for our journey, the body and blood of your Son.
Grant us with the Ninevites forty days of repentance.
Teach us your words of wisdom and justice.
Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace.
At the last, lead all your pilgrim people through our deserts to your Easter garden.

To you, O God, Creator Savior, Comforter Father, +Son and Holy Spirit Be our worship and praise, adoration and thanksgiving, Now and forever. Amen. **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.

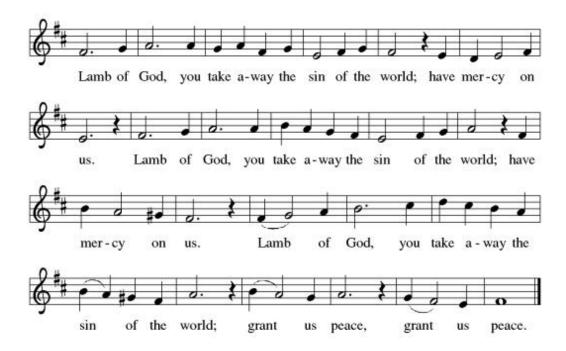
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to our Lord's table where all are welcome. Return to God with all your heart. Here is bread for the journey and drink for the desert.

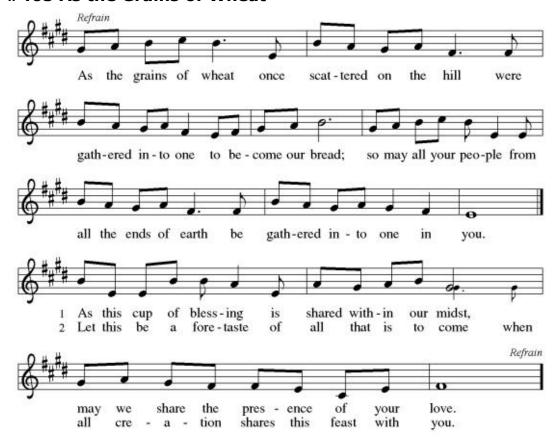
COMMUNION

The assembly may be seated during distribution. Please follow the ushers' directions as you are invited forward to either kneel or stand at the rail.

COMMUNION SONG



#465 As the Grains of Wheat



After all have received, please stand as you are able.

EUCHARISTIC BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (assisting minister)

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly stands as they are able. The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

BLESSING

Lord, take our minds and think through them.

Take our lips and speak through them.

Take our hearts and set them on fire.

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.

Amen.

SENDING SONG #631 LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING (verses 1 &4)



DISMISSAL (assisting minister)

Go in peace. Christ is with you as you journey! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Mel Flaherty, Elizabeth Flaherty [requested by Amanda Flaherty]

Neil Gwinn [requested by Anastasia]

Norma Meystrik [requested by Donna & Frank Meystrik]

Family of Richie Cardoza [requested by Bill Moser]

Jimmy LaSurdo

David Schwack

Amanda Haeffer

Fran Favara [requested by Liz DeLuca]

Anita Ahrens, Craig Keil, Kate Furtado [requested by Janis Raineri]

Carynne Solensten [requested by Joanne Wortmann]

Sal Agnello, Charlie Macaluso [requested by Jane DeRosa]

Lyla Suffis [requested by Jen & Brett Suffis]

Karen Crimi, Jeffrey Gilmore, Rev. Wayne Gollenberg, Barbara McCanlis [requested by Jill Breimann]

Pastor Rebecca Pollicino

Micelle Dozier-Morgan [requested by Mary Fjellstad]

Carolyn Martin [requested by Linda Overton]

James Riley [requested by Lita Riley]

Lauren Cravotta, Mary Serigano, Pam Provetto [requested by Joe & Margie Costello]

Jeanne McCurdy, Belinda Busaca Zeitlin, Margo Naranjo [requested by Barbara English]

Rev. Margaret Casses, Jeff Taylor [requested by Fred Swanson]

The family of Robert Grisafi [requested by Colleen Donohue]

Mary Ellen Tiffany, Don Cimato [requested by the Klouda Family]

Bobby Hazen, James Pallazzo, Don Spagna, Rose Marie Peragine, Amy Jane McGlynn, Richard

Lewis, Rocky Cinque [requested by Marianne Spagna]

Jennifer Meisenkothen, Rachel Boccio, John Sullivan [requested by Dorothy & Jim Clavell]

Carolyn Bennett [requested Jill Spage]

Arthur Schaeffler [requested by the Poulos Family]

Nancy M., Judy Zimmerman, Brett D, [requested by Cindy Davis]

Gavin Lahann [requested by Grandmother Violet Lahann]

Emilie Diehl [requested by daughters Cyndie & Kathy]

Betsy Johnsrud, Laura Hicks, Andrew Madarasz, [requested by Leslee & Steve Mathieson]

Bruce Logan, Betty Perlish, Alex Hegarty, Bob Widmer, Carmine Colasanto, Richard & George

Mengert [requested by Carolyn Gabelman]

Marilyn Havighorst [requested by Martha Hahn]

Andy Hazin & the Hazin family, Ilse Gunther [requested by the Hoffman family]

David Travis [requested by Richard Travis]

THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE:

Sgt Eric Hodosky, Lt Col Lenore Livingston née Fortin, Corporal August Detting, LT Col William Fortin, Sgt Jack Dougherty, Sgt Jasmine Dougherty