

# *Season of Gratitude*

*November 19, 2023*



Autumn Woods, Frederic Edwin Church

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church      Yarmouth, ME

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Kathy Abernathy

Opening Hymn, #392

Come, we that love the Lord

The Hymnal 1982

Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* This is the day that our God has made;  
*People* **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**


*Celebrant* Rejoice, people of God!  
Celebrate the life within you,  
and Christ's presence in your midst!  
*People* **Our eyes shall be opened!**  
**The presence will have new meaning,**  
**and the future will be bright with hope.**

*Deacon* Rejoice, people of God!  
Bow your heads before the One  
who is our wisdom and our strength.

*People* **We place ourselves before our God,**  
**that we may be touched and cleansed**  
**by the power of God's Spirit.**

*Celebrant* This is the day that our God has made;  
*People* **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Gloria, S280



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* God be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS

### **The First Lesson, Judges 4:1-7**

*Laurie Hyndman*

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

*Lector*            The word of the Lord.  
*People*             **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 123**

*Lisa Fitzgibbons*

- 1 To you I lift up my eyes, \*  
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \*  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the LORD our God, \*  
until he show us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, \*  
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, \*  
and of the derision of the proud.

### **The Second Lesson, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

*Laurie Hyndman*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

*Lector*           The word of the Lord.  
*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Hymn, #424**

For the fruits of his creation

*The Hymnal 1982*

**The Gospel, Matthew 25:14-30**

*The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer*

*Deacon*           The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew.  
*People*           **Glory to you, O God.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

*Deacon*           The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*           **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

*The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson*

**Anthem**

"Pray That Jerusalem May Have Peace" by Bob Chilcott

*Pray that Jerusalem may have  
peace and felicity:*

*let them that love you and your peace  
still have prosperity.  
Therefore I wish that peace may still  
within your walls remain,  
and ever may your palaces  
prosperity retain.*

*Now, for my friends' and family's sakes,  
peace be in you, I'll say.  
And for the house of God our Lord  
I'll seek your good always.*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

*Celebrant  
People*

Let us affirm our faith as we say together:

**We believe in God, the creator of all life and beauty,  
who blesses our journey.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
who lived as a friend and savior to all he met as he traveled,  
and who ate and laughed,  
wept and celebrated with them in love.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who rides on the gentle breeze,  
who strengthens our bonds, and  
who offers hope eternal.**

**We believe in the church,  
which stands open to all travelers,  
and bears witness to the everlasting love of God.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

*Lisa Fitzgibbons*

*Leader*

As we celebrate this season of gratitude, we are reminded that we have been called into relationship with God and are God's beloved children. With grateful hearts, we offer our prayers for the world, our loved ones, and ourselves. All that we have is yours, O God, give us also grateful hearts.

God in our midst, you love us and call us your children: We thank you for the gift of this gathered community of faithful disciples at St Bart's. Bless us as we live out your call to love one another as you have loved us. All that we have is yours, O God,

*People*

**Give us also grateful hearts.**

God of all people, you love us and call us your children: In a world of violence, political upheaval, and war, you bless the peacemakers and walk alongside those who are victims of destruction. We remember before you all in positions of public trust. May they, and we, too, be instruments of your healing and peace. All that we have is yours, O God,

**Give us also grateful hearts.**

God of the poor, the homeless, the immigrant and the addict, you love us and call us your children: Help us to remember that in serving the least of these, we are serving you. May we follow your example and love as you love. All that we have is yours, O God,

**Give us also grateful hearts.**

God of creation, you love us and call us your children; you have given this earth into our care. May our steps be gentle and leave a small footprint on our earth. As it has been handed on to us, may we carefully preserve this creation for future generations. All that we have is yours, O God,

**Give us also grateful hearts.**

God of the mournful and suffering, you love us and call us your children: comfort and heal those in need. Hear them in their affliction and send them the comfort of your Holy Spirit. We pray for those on the St. Bart's prayer list...

**Charles; Pat; Matthew; Antonia; Al; Alex; Virginia & Jamil; Ed; Hannah; Mike; David; Sarah; Jenny & Matt; Perry; Jim; Elaine; Sasha; Paige; Anne & Richard; Courtney; Diane; Karl; Sudon; Aunt Niki; Ron; Nathaniel; Will; Tom & Laurel; Nancy A.; Dennis; Robert & Mary; Karen; Marshall; Samantha; Sam; Dianne; Meghan; Hutch; Debra; Haskell; Hannah; Jonathan; Olivia; Sue; and Deb.**

We remember in prayer all those who are suffering in Israel and Palestine, especially Omer Wenkert, a family member of Deb Wathen Finn's colleague who is currently being held hostage by Hamas.

Are there others we wish to name now, either silently or aloud? (pause for additional intercessions) All that we have is yours, O God,

**Give us also grateful hearts.**

God of the Church at rest, you love us and call us your children: we praise you for the faith and witness of all who have gone before, especially Susan Butler, friend

of Jamie Michaud; John Diggins, father of Jeff Diggins; and Pat Onion.

Are there others we wish to name now, either silently or aloud?

*Pause for additional intercessions*

Bless all those who rest from their labors as they continue to grow into fullness of life in you. All that we have is yours, O God,

**Give us also grateful hearts.**

God of the Church, the Body of Christ, you love us and call us your children: by the inspiration of your Spirit, your servants created a worshipping community in Yarmouth 50 years ago that would become St. Bartholomew's, the vibrant community of disciples gathered here this morning. May your Spirit continue to inspire us to be a faithful expression of your grace and mercy in our communities. Give us the wisdom and strength to follow your Son and continue in his ministry to love you and to love our neighbors in our words and deeds.

For all that has been, **THANKS!**

For all that is to be, **YES!**

God, the giver of all good gifts, we give you thanks and praise for another day of life, the chance to breathe, sing, love, and help. Empower us to use this gift of life in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

**All that we have is yours, O God, Give us also grateful hearts.**

**Amen.**

## Confession of Sin

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*People* **Most loving God,  
we confess that we have not loved  
in thought, word, or deed.  
We have not loved you  
or our neighbors  
or ourselves.  
We are sorry.  
Remind us that you love us unconditionally  
and help us to rest in your love.**



*Celebrant* Loving God, have mercy on us, forgive us for forgetting to love, and renew our ability to give and receive love in all that we do.  
*People* **Amen.**

### The Peace

*Celebrant* The peace of God be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*You are invited to greet one another sharing God's peace!*

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### Offertory Sentence

*Celebrant* In gratitude for all of the blessings God has bestowed upon us, let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to our God.

*Bread and wine are brought forward while the ushers pass the offering plates.*

#### Offertory Hymn, #605

What does the Lord require?

*The Hymnal 1982*

*Ushers bring the offering plates forward as the congregation sings*

#### The Doxology, sung

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Sing praise all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts  
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### Offertory Prayer

*Celebrant* Let us pray,  
*People* **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.  
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:  
our selves, our time, and our possessions.  
Use us, and what we have gathered,  
in feeding the world with your love,  
through the one who gave himself for us,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

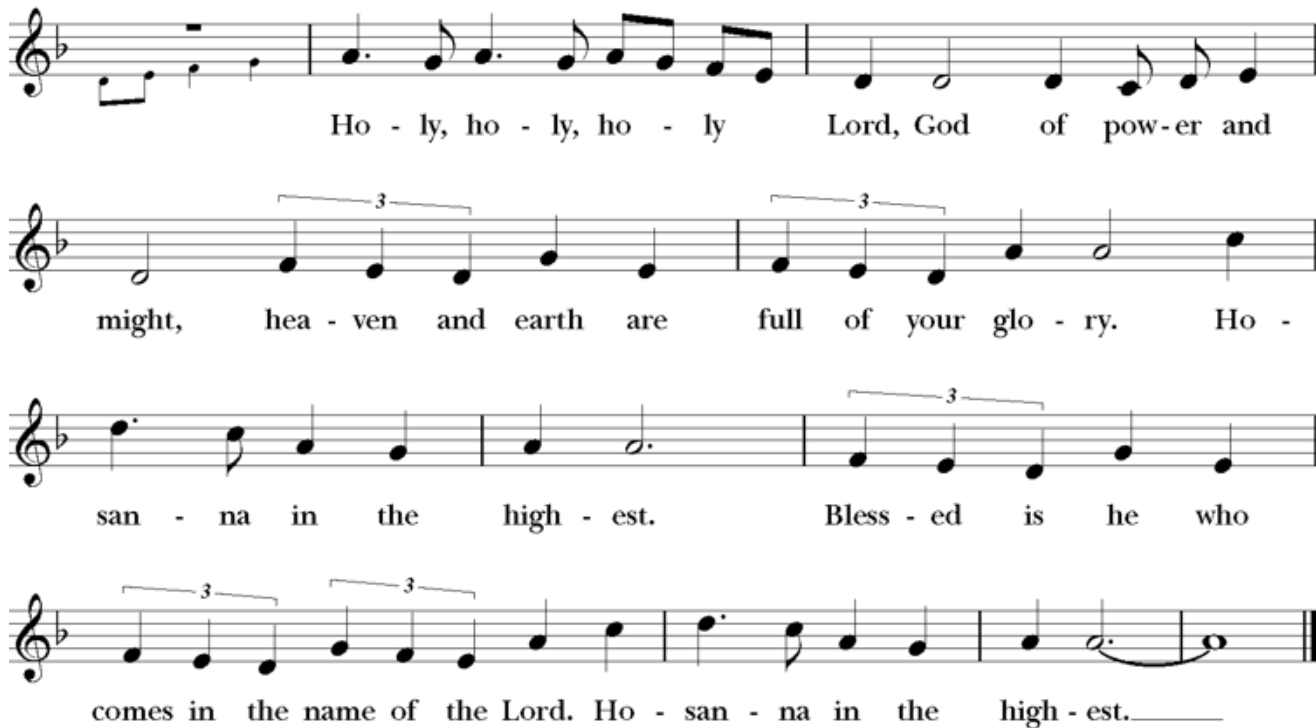
#### The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* God be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to our God.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Holy One.  
*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing  
and fed us with your constant love;  
you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ  
and knit us into one body.  
Through your Spirit you replenish us  
and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels  
and with the faithful of every generation,  
we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

### Sanctus, S129



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Eucharistic Prayer

*Celebrant*

Blessed are you, gracious God,  
creator of the universe and giver of life.  
You formed us in your own image  
and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care  
that we might be your faithful stewards  
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image  
in one another and in ourselves;  
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;

and so we violated your creation,  
abused one another,  
and rejected your love.  
Yet you never ceased to care for us,  
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.  
Through Abraham and Sarah  
you called us into covenant with you.  
You delivered us from slavery,  
sustained us in the wilderness,  
and raised up prophets  
to renew your promise of salvation.  
Then, in the fullness of time,  
you sent your eternal Word,  
made mortal flesh in Jesus.  
Born into the human family,  
and dwelling among us,  
he revealed your glory.  
Giving himself freely to death on the cross,  
he triumphed over evil,  
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us,  
Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,  
and when he had given thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:  
“Take, eat:  
This is my Body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine,  
and when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them, and said:  
“Drink this, all of you:  
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,  
which is poured out for you and for all  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me.”

*People* Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant* Remembering his death and resurrection,  
we now present to you from your creation

this bread and this wine.  
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us  
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.  
Grant that we who share these gifts  
may be filled with the Holy Spirit  
and live as Christ's Body in the world.  
Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your children,  
that with all your saints,  
past, present, and yet to come,  
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
to you be honor, glory, and praise,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*People* **Our Father, in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### The Fraction

*Celebrant* We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

*People* **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

### The Invitation

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### Communion

*Everyone is welcome to receive communion at St. Bart's! The ushers will invite you to come forward through the center aisle, individuals and families are invited to stand along the rounded*

*edge of the chancel to receive the bread, hands facing upward for bread with gluten, hands facing down will indicate you'd like gluten free bread. The Chalice Bearers will follow the Priest with the chalice of wine. You are invited to sip from the cup but not to dip. If you would prefer not to sip from the cup, you may place your hands across your chest to receive the blessing of the words. If you would prefer to receive neither the bread nor the wine but would like to come forward for a blessing, please come forward as described above and simply cross your arms at your chest and the Priest will offer a blessing. Hand sanitizer is available in the aisle. Please use the side aisles to return to your seat once you have received.*

## Music at Communion

*The Hymnal 1982*

**#707** Take my life and let it be

**#302** Father, we thank thee

## Post-Communion Prayer

*Celebrant:* Let us pray:

*People* **God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen**

## Blessing the Stewardship Campaign

*Celebrant* Beloved St. Bart's community,  
over the past five weeks you have prayerfully considered and discerned the ways in which you would like to contribute to the ministries of our congregation. Gifts of time, talent, and treasure contribute in numerous ways to the vitality and sustainability of what we do and who we are. For this, we give God great thanks!

*Deacon* From God come all the blessings of our lives: *here, graticudes that were shared on our gratitude chain are read by our Deacon.* For these, we give God great thanks!

*Celebrant* Let us pray: O God, out of an abundance of love you bestow with great delight your grace and mercy upon your whole creation; and, it is out of an abundance of gratitude, that we offer from what you have first given us, all that we are and all that we have towards the fulfillment of your dream. Bless the contributions of your servants here at St. Bart's – may our offerings be an expression of the love, grace, mercy, and justice that is our calling and our purpose, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Mentor.

*People* **Amen.**

## The St. Bart's Blessing

*Celebrant* My Friends, life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love, and make haste to be kind, and rest assured that God is infinitely more concerned with the promise of our future than the mistakes of our past. The Blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and remain with you always.

*People* **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn, #779

The church of Christ in every age  
*(see next page)*

*Wonder, Love, and Praise*

## The Dismissal

*The Deacon will dismiss us, to which the congregation replies:*

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

## The church of Christ in every age

1. The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by  
 2. A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
 3. Then let the ser - vant church a - rise. A car - ing  
 4. For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
 5. We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change but spir - it led, must claim and test its her - i -  
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for bread to  
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's sac - ri -  
 fe - ver in our blood. And teach us how to share our  
 be - dience to our Lord: to care for all with - out re -

tage and keep on ri - sing from the dead.  
 eat and nev - er live un - til they die.  
 fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
 bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
 serve. And spread Christ's lib - er - a - ting word.

### ***Need Hearing Assistance?***

*We have earpieces that receive audio from the sound system. You can find them in charging stations in the entryway. Simply slip the earpiece over your ear, turn it on with the volume switch, and adjust volume. Please return to the charging stations when you are done.*

## WORSHIP RESOURCES

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Opening Acclamation, Affirmation of Faith, Confession: *Daily Prayers for all Seasons*. © 2014  
Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel readings: New Revised Standard Version Bible, ©  
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Offertory Prayer: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006  
Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer, Post-Communion Prayer, Blessing: *Enriching Our  
Worship* © 1998  
Cover Image: Autumn Woods by Frederic Edwin Church. Courtesy of the Smithsonian Museum

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

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<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
<b>Deacon</b>	The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer
<b>Music</b>	Christina Edelen
<b>Musicians</b>	The St. Bart's Choir
<b>Chalice Bearer</b>	Lisa Fitzgibbons
<b>Lector</b>	Laurie Hyndman
<b>Ushers</b>	Nancy Gunzelmann, Pal Covie
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jan Burson, Mary Louise Chin
<b>Flower Arranger</b>	Anne Jacobs
<b>A/V</b>	Laurie Hyndman
<b>Bread Baker</b>	Susannah White
<b>Counters</b>	Pam Hobson, Pal Covie
<b>Lawn Care</b>	Joe Michaud
<b>VPOW</b>	Kathy Abernathy
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Kathy Abernathy + Jay & Basil Souder
<b>Nursery Assistant</b>	Michele Johns