

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A faithful, serving community, joyfully sharing Christ's love.



Travels, Trips, and Journeys

Service of the Word

June 21, 2026

228 Ramapo Valley Rd, Oakland NJ 07436

www.messiahoaklandnj.org | 201-337-4900

@MessiahOaklandNJ

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

The congregation is invited to worship in any way that is comfortable and meaningful such as standing, sitting, kneeling, coloring, etc. You may join in worship by speaking the responses in bold type.

SILENT MEDITATION DURING PRELUDE

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

PSALM 139: 1-12

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

²**You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

³You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴**Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.**

⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

⁷Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

⁸**If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**

⁹If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

¹⁰**even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"

¹²**even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as
the day, for darkness is as light to you.**

ENTRANCE HYMN

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW #618



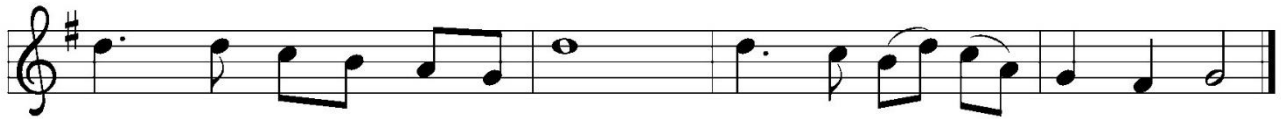
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

GREETING

The God who created space and time, journeyed with us in human form, and travels with us still, be with you all. **And also, with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, our beginning and our end, you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety throughout the days of their pilgrimage, you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a star you led the magi to the infant Jesus. Protect and guide us when we travel. Make our ways safe and our homecomings joyful, and bring us at last to our heavenly home, where you dwell in glory with our Lord Jesus Christ and the life-giving Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Ephesians 6:10-17

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER:

What should we pack as we begin our journey?

What should we bring along?

The word of God to illumine our path.

The light of Christ to show us the way.

The gifts of the Spirit to share with those we meet.

The love of God to be our compass and guide.

Let us pray. God of our salvation,

you are the source of all our beginnings. As we plan for our journeys, strengthen us through your word. Orient our lives toward Christ, the bright Morning Star. Send your Holy Spirit as our companion along the way. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Refrain



Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;



for if you lead me, I can - not stray.



Lord, let me walk each day with thee.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.



1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
 2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
 3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,



to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
 be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
 I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.



Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.
 I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.
 Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.



Refrain
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

SECOND READING: GENESIS 12:1-9

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told

him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.⁵ Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan,⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.⁸ From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD.⁹ And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER:

God called to Abraham: **"Go! Set out! And I will bless you."**

God calls to us: **"Come! Feel the water on your head!**

Hear the promise of new life.

Spread my word through all the world."

Let us pray. God of beginnings

you called Abraham and Sarah, leading them to unknown places.

In the waters of baptism, you claim us and send us out as your

children. Wash us with your grace and shower us with your

Spirit, so that we journey into the world overflowing with your

love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

HYMN

I'm Going on a Journey

ELW #446

1 I'm go-ing on a jour-ney, and I'm start-ing to - day. My
 head is wet, and I'm on my way. Christ's mark is on me;
 it's on you, too; it says he loves me, and he loves you, too!

2 I'm be-com-ing this day a saint of God. It
 real-ly does-n't mat-ter what roads I trod. Wher-ev-er I go, God's
 been there, too. God's love has touched me and will car-ry me through.

3 There are oth-er saints who have said a-men. They'll
 keep me faith-ful to my jour-ney's end. A - long the way
 I want to be the kind of per-son that God set free.

THIRD READING: MARK 1:35-39

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him.³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER:

On the Galilean road, Jesus stopped to reflect and pray.

We, too, long for rest and a balm for our souls.

Seeing those in need, Jesus healed, taught, and fed.

We are called to live as servants, loving our neighbors as ourselves

Holding the children close, Jesus blessed them;

for to such as these the kingdom of heaven belongs.

On the road to Bethlehem, the true light came into the world.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us and we have seen his glory.

Let us pray. God of incarnation, you entered our world as a tiny baby and you journey with us through each stage of our lives. Be with our children and youth who are growing in your love. Guide us all as the years and decades pass. Send us in the light of your grace and truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

HYMN

How Small Our Span of Life

ELW #636



- 1 How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:
- 2 And yet our speck of life is spanned by your in - fin - i - ty;
- 3 O Christ, you left e - ter - ni - ty to plunge in time's swift stream,
- 4 We thank you, God, for kind-ling faith that lights our tran - sient years,



a sin - gle beat with - in the heart, the catch-ing of a breath,
our tick of time on earth is caught in your e - ter - ni - ty.
to share the short-ness of our span, our mor - tal lives re - deem.
il - lu - min - ing our pil-grim-age through mists of doubt and fears;



a drop with-in the o - cean's deep, a grain up - on the shore,
While suns and stars spin end - less - ly through depths of cos - mic space,
You filled your cross-closed years with love; you loved us to the end
for hope that sees a life be - yond the swift - ly pass-ing days;



a flash of light be - fore we sleep to see the sun no more.
while ae - ons roll and ag - es pass, you hold us in your grace.
and touch us with your ris - en life that ours may time trans - cend.
for love, both hu - man and di - vine, that lifts our hearts to praise.

FOURTH READING: 1 KINGS 19:1-8

¹Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ²Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." ³Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. ⁴But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." ⁵Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." ⁶He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again.

⁷The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." ⁸He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER:

We sit like Elijah alone in the wilderness. **"It is enough, O Lord."**

The troubles of life overwhelm our spirits. **"It is enough, O Lord."**

The way seems too dark; the valleys, too deep.

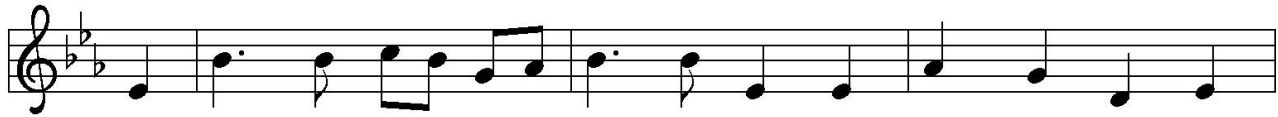
"It is enough, O Lord."

God rescues us from despair and grants us strength.

"You are beloved, my precious child."

Let us pray. God of our sorrows,

when we grieve a loved one, face an illness, or lose a job, the road seems long, lonely, and treacherous. Comfort us in our despair, guide us through the wilderness, and enfold us in your loving embrace. Grant your mercy and peace to all those in need this day. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -
 2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -
 3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and
 4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and
 5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in
 part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -
 foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the
 birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a
 dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.
 cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.
 tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.
 sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.
 not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

FIFTH READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:12-21, 4:1

¹²Not 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. ¹³Beloved, 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, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold fast to what we have attained. ¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the

body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER:

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.”

We believe in God, we believe in Christ.

“I go to prepare a dwelling place for you.”

You are the way, the truth, and the life.

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you.”

Lord, we abide in your love.

“You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Jesus, lead us in the path of your peace.

Let us pray. God of resurrection,

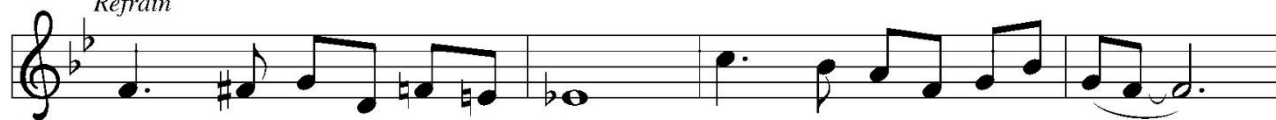
neither death nor life will separate us from your love. Walk with us when our journeys lead toward home. Strengthen us to follow the way of the cross & bring us at last into the joy of your heavenly kingdom. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

HYMN

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

ELW #697

Refrain



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



- 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
- 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;

Refrain



I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

THE 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 power of 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

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

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

OFFERING

Offering can be left in the plates at the back of the sanctuary, sent to the church office, or given online by using the QR code to the right.



OFFERTORY *Take My Life That I May Be (vs. 2)* ELW #583

Refrain:

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

⁴Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

Refrain

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Holy God, our Maker, our Healer, our Teacher, your magnificent creation springs forth from your Word. All that has life and breath praises your name. For your Word that sustains the earth, we thank you, O God. **We thank you, O God.**

You sent us Jesus, your Word, to renew the world. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, preached your mercy and called us to faith. For your Word in our Lord Christ, we praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

Nourish us with the Spirit of your Word, that we may grow in grace, bearing the fruits of redemption, and sharing your strength and beauty with all the world. For your Word in our lives, we entreat you, O God.

We entreat you, O God.

Accept our thanksgiving and receive our prayer, for the sake of your living Word, Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever. Amen

BLESSING

The Lord watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN Go, My Children, with My Blessing ELW #543



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near, go share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, June 28, 2026 | 10:00am Worship

JUNE BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH

The Trevor Project

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TUESDAY: 6:30 pm AA Meeting
THURSDAY: 7:30 pm Band practice
SUNDAY: 10:00 am Worship
Sundaes on Sunday

TODAY'S MINISTERS

LAY LEADER: Michele Weintraub

GUEST MUSICIAN: Jerri
Angermueller

LAY READER: Brigitte Albrecht

USHER: Cesar Rios

GREETER: Brigitte Albrecht

ALTAR GUILD: Brigitte Albrecht
& Susanne Herbst

FLOWER GUILD: Brigitte Albrecht

VIDEO TECH: Nick DeRoda/ Don
Brown

COUNTERS: Cesar Rios &
Arnold Ludke

COORDINATING COUNCILOR:
Eleanore Orman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graduate Blessing: We will honor our graduates this year on June 28th during worship. Please give the first name of any graduates (pre-K on up, including any type of training) you would like to be honored to the office no later than June 21st on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. You may also give the office a call with that information.

Sundaes on Sunday:

On June 28th also we will mark the end of Sunday School and another school year. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex with a listing of all the goodies you might like to bring. This event was a real hit last year for everyone!

Church Camp-Over: For Kids of All Ages!

Join us on Saturday July 11th at 3:00pm for an afternoon and evening of fellowship and fun! The fun starts at 3:00 PM, but feel free to drop in whenever, no camping required. Dinner is bring-your-own, plus a side to share. We'll have the grill going, a campfire ready, and dessert. For those brave souls who choose to camp overnight, your reward will be fresh-baked cinnamon rolls for breakfast. Come for a little while or stay the night, we'd love to see you! Contact Lida with any questions!



Please keep in prayer the following people in our Messiah family: Jonny & Natalie, Kim, Len, Mike, Sue and Alex.

And the following friends and family:

All affected by seasonal illnesses

All those in the armed forces, especially those connected to our congregation including Evan and Joseph

Erika, Kristen's sister

June, Lee's mother

Keith, Karen & Clyde, Valerie's brother & friends

Marilyn & Vincent, Lisa's parents

Melinda & Paul, Eleanore's sister & nephew

Miro, Vesna's father

Ron & June, Karen's parents

Alexa and Hank friends of Nancy

Gayle, friend of Joan & Eleanore

Janice, food pantry volunteer
Jennifer, friend of Sue & Eleanore

John, Joan, Todd, Peggy, Jim, Kathy, Carol, Ellie, friends of Ron and Marilyn

Kim, friend of Sue

Mark and Keith, Susanne's friends

Michele H., friend of Weintraub's

Nancy, friend of Kim

Paula, friend of Nancy

Peggy & Christine, Alex's aunts

Peter, Terri's father;

Julie, family friend of Nancy

Thomas, friend of Tony & Edie

Please let us know if you have changes we should make to our prayer list



Thank you to all who participated in celebrating and honoring the Father, grandfather, godfather, uncle or other special man in your life; of your loved ones, who are either a presence in your life now or someone you hold dear in your heart and memory.

Given By: Jerri Angermuller

In Memory of: Willard Somers, Rev. Chase-Tenafly Presbyterian church

In Honor Of: Willard Somers, Jr.

Given By: The Boyce Family

In Memory of: Al Washofer, Donald Boyce, Fred Sabloff, Tom Carducci, Grandparents, Godparents

In Honor Of: Alex Boyce, Al Washofer Jr., Chris Jones, Rob Fuduli, Rob Fuduli Jr. Neal Lein, Dan Weaver, Godfathers

Given By: Nancy Krause

In Memory of: Michael Krause

In Honor Of: Steven Krause, Stephen Howard

Given By: Marilyn Rubner

In Memory of: Frank Fitch, Ken Fitch, Raymond Rubner

In Honor Of: Ronald Rubner, Scott Rubner

Given By: Valerie Nicolosi

In Memory of: Robert Brunckhurst, Henry Brunckhurst, Leonard J. Nicolosi, Salvatore Nicolosi, Lawrence Jerry, Elliotte Hetrick, Alan Nicolosi

In Honor Of: Len Nicolosi, Lenny Nicolosi, Keith Brunckhurst, Paul Leidig, Brian Brunckhurst, Mitchell Brunckhurst; Charlie Brunckhurst

Given By: Michele Weintraub

In Memory of: Christian Kurtz-father, Chris Kurtz-brother, Robert Calcagno- uncle

In Honor Of: Robert Weintraub

Given By: Terri Vollmin

In Honor Of: Peter Kaminski (he will be 100 years old in August), father of Terri Volmin

Given By: Joan Ludke
In Memory of: Harvie, Otto, Rudolf
In Honor Of: Arnold and Andrew

Given By: Brigitte Albrecht
In Memory of: Hermann Bollt- father, John Albrecht- husband

Given By: Susanne Herbst
In Memory of: My father, Rudolf Rochau, an extraordinary man.
Given By: Eleanore Orman

In Memory of: Paul Bergeson, Julius Bergeson, J. Alfred Johnson
In Honor Of: Jon Bergeson Pr. Jeff Bergeson

