# ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH ANNAPOLIS · MARYLAND · ESTABLISHED 1692



# THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

A SERVICE OF CHRISTMAS LESSONS & CAROLS with HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE TWO



DECEMBER 24, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

# WELCOME TO ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

If you are visiting us for the first time, let us offer you an especially warm welcome. We hope that you will enjoy worshiping with us. We would like to continue our relationship with you, so please fill out a visitor card which may be found in a pew packet or on our website's Newcomers page, <u>www.st-margarets.org/newcomers.html</u>.

#### SAFETY PROTOCOLS AT ST. MARGARET'S

Our COVID-19 safety protocols have been relaxed and mask wearing is optional. Hand sanitizer bottles are offered throughout the campus. In the event of an emergency, please stay calm, stay seated, and listen for instructions.

#### CHILDREN AT ST. MARGARET'S

**Nursery care** is provided on Sunday mornings by loving professionals for ages 0-3 from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the lower floor of the Annex, the building attached to the Sanctuary.

During the 9:00 a.m. service when the Hymn before the Sermon begins, children ages three and a half through fifth grade are welcome to follow the wooden cross out to attend **Children's Chapel** with an age-appropriate lesson and music. They will return during announcements time.

We provide **Sunday School** for children ages 3-14 most Sundays from September through May. To sign up your child, email Emily DelSordo, Children's Formation Coordinator, at <u>emily@st-margarets.org</u>. Our Youth Group, fellowship for middle and high school students, is conducted on Mondays at 6:45 p.m. To register your youth, email Jeff Conover, Youth Ministries Leader, at <u>jeff@st-margarets.org</u>.

On Mondays from September through May, we offer an evening of **Faith and Fellowship**, with choir rehearsals (grades K-5) and activities for their younger siblings at 5:15 p.m. followed by a Fellowship dinner for all ages at 6:15 p.m., with crafts for children afterwards. Adult choir rehearsals and adult formation take place after dinner at 7:00 p.m. Please check the church calendar at <u>www.st-margarets.org/calendar.html</u> to confirm programs are scheduled each week.

Our **Day School** has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and named a Green School by the State of Maryland. For ages 2-6, the school offers a quality curriculum and special activities such as Spanish, STEM lessons, music, and physical education. After school activities are also offered, such as soccer, ballet, and basketball. The school offers highly popular summer camps from June to August for ages 2-10. More information may be found on their website at <u>www.stmargaretsdayschool.org</u>.

#### ADULT FORMATION AT ST. MARGARET'S

We offer adults a variety of ways to grow in faith. Our **Thursday Morning Book Club** meets through Zoom at 9:00 a.m., while our **Senior Sessions** for those 65+ are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 9:00 a.m., also on Zoom.

St. Margaret's is known for its support of **many outreach efforts** both locally and around the world. From Winter Relief, producing masks and prayer shawls, and assisting with feeding the hungry, we are an active and committed church. Our Endowment Grants annual program has provided millions of dollars to organizations here and across the globe. To get involved, visit the Missions page on our website at <u>www.st-margarets.org/missions.html</u>.

#### MUSIC AT ST. MARGARET'S

Here at St. Margaret's, we are blessed with a **vibrant music ministry** that has something for everyone, presently consisting of an adult choir, a K-12 chorister program (grades K-2, 3-5, 6-12), handbell ensembles, and the contemporary music ensemble Third Sunday Band. If you would like to find out more about our music ministry and are interested in joining any of our ensembles, please email Director of Music Jim Douglas at <u>music@st-margarets.org</u>. Membership in our choirs and ensembles is open to all, regardless of religious affiliation or background. Please visit the music page on the website at <u>https://www.st-margarets.org/music.html</u>. The Music Ministry calendar may also be found on the website at <u>https://www.st-margarets.org/music-calendar.html</u>.

The **liturgy and music** for today is led by Director of Music Jim Douglas, members of our Adult Choir, the Adult Handbell Ensemble, the Annapolis Bay Strings, harpist Anna Dunlap, and accompanist Debra Kampsen. It is drawn from The Book of Common Prayer, the 1982 Hymnal, and other resources as noted. Permission to print and live-stream music granted through OneLicense #A-709554 and CCLI #661345/#CSPL068962.

## ABOUT THIS SERVICE

The first Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was held on Christmas Eve 1918 in Cambridge, England. It was planned by The Rev. Eric Milner-White, who at age of thirty-four had just been appointed Dean of King's College, Cambridge. His service as an army chaplain during World War I convinced him that the Church of England needed more imaginative worship. He would later go on to devise the College's Advent Carol Service in 1934, and was a liturgical pioneer and authority during his twenty-two years as Dean of York.

A revision of the order of the Lessons and Carols service was made in 1919, involving rearrangement of the lessons, and from that date the service has always begun with the hymn 'Once in royal David's city.' In almost every year the choice of carols has varied, and some new ones have been introduced by successive Directors of Music. The backbone of the service, the lessons and the prayers, has remained virtually unchanged, moving deliberately through the season of Advent into Christmas. The original service was adapted from an Order drawn up by E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed that was Truro Cathedral on Christmas Eve 1880.

In the early 1930s, the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas programs. It is estimated that there were and still are millions of listeners worldwide, including those to Radio Four in the UK. In recent years, King's College broadcasts a recording of the service on Christmas Day, and a shorter service is filmed separately for television. Recordings have also served to spread its fame. In these and other ways, the service has become public property.

~adapted from a King's College, Cambridge Chapel Lessons and Carols leaflet

Cover Art: The Adoration of the Magi (1633-34) Peter Paul Reubens King's College Chapel, Cambridge, UK



### Please silence all electronic devices and remain quiet during the Prelude as we prepare for worship. Thank you.

#### PRELUDE

The Shepherd's Farewell (from L'enfance du Christ, Op. 25) Joy to the world! Lo, how a rose e'er blooming (from Phantasie über zwei Weihnachtslieder) In dulci jubilo

Hector Berlioz arr. Gerald Manning arr. Karissa Dennis Johannes Snoer Johann Michael Bach

#### WELCOME

The Rev. Peter W. Mayer

#### The People stand as able as a soloist sings verse 1, then join in singing verses 2-5.

Hymn

Once in royal David's City

IRBY

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty Stood a low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a
2. He came down to earth from hea - ven Who is God and Lord of all, And his
3. And through all his wond-rous child-hood Day by day like us he grew, He was
4. And our eyes at last shall see him Through his own re-deem-ing love, For that
5. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, With the ox - en stan-ding by, We shall
mo - ther laid her ba - by In a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry
shel - ter was a sta - ble, And his cra - dle was a stall: With the
Child so dear and gen-tle, Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove: And he
see him: but in hea-ven, Set at God's right hand on high, Where like
was that Mo - ther mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.
poor and mean and low - ly, Lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.
feel - eth for our sad-ness, And he shar - eth in our glad-ness.
leads his chil - dren on To the place where he is gone.
stars his chil - dren crowned, All in white shall wait a - round.

#### The People remain standing.

### **BIDDING PRAYER**

*Officiant* Dear People of God: in this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem, and see the Son of God lying in the manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy child Jesus; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for the Church in our country and in this community.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

#### LORD'S PRAYER

All	Il 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,			
	for ever and ever. Amen.			
Officiant	The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.			
People	Amen.			

The People are seated.

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### FIRST LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

The Choir sings

CAROL

Adam lay ybounden

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond. Foure thousand winter thought he not to long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took. As clerkes finden written in theire book. Nay had the apple taken been, the apple taken been. Nay had never our lady been heavene queen. Blessed be the time that the apple taken was. Therefore we moun singen Deo Gracias! Martha Burford

#### SECOND LESSON

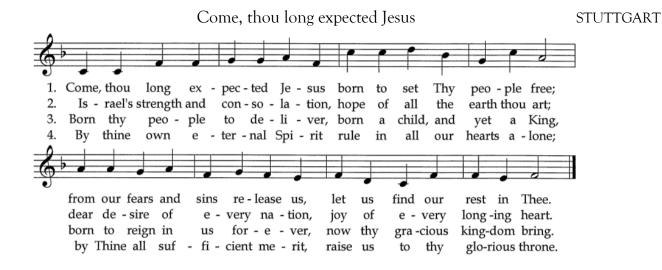
The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

~ ~ ~

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on then light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Isaiah 9:2; 6-7



The People are seated.

HYMN

#### THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-35; 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

~ ~ ~

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Lector	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

#### CAROL

Of the Father's love begotten arr. Paul Wohlgemuth Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore! O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race; and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,

and the Babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore! O ye heights of heav'n adore Him; angel hosts, his praises sing; powers, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert sing, evermore and evermore!

~ ~ ~

#### FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-16

#### Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and shepherds.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

CAROL (played by the Handbell Ensemble) Star in the east

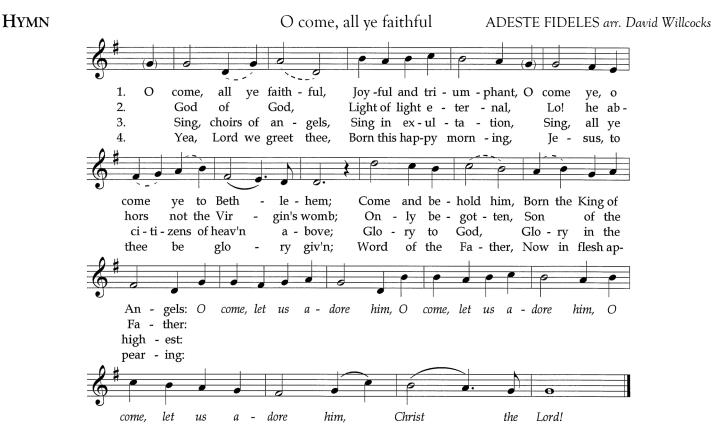
Paul J. Sticha

#### St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

The People stand as able and sing the Hymn.



#### PEACE

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

The People greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# HOLY COMMUNION

The People remain seated while offertory music is sung, and bread and wine are brought to the altar. An offering of gifts is collected, and along with the bread and wine, they are presented to God as thanksgiving for the blessings poured out onto us. Our gifts: bread, wine, music, and money, become sacramental in God's economy. To give through your cell phone, text *GIVESMC* to *73256*.

OFFERTORY CAROL

#### The stars looked down

Mark Schweizer

The Christ-child lay on Mary's lap, His hair was like a light. O weary, weary were the world, but here is all aright. The Christ-child lay on Mary's breast, His hair was like a star. O stern and cunning are the kings, but here the true hearts are. The Christ-child lay on Mary's heart, His hair was like a fire. O weary, weary is the world, but here the world's desire. The Christ-child stood at Mary's knee, His hair was like a crown. And all the flowers looked up at Him, and all the stars looked down.

The People stand as able at the direction of the Clergy.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Eucharistic Prayer B

#### **SANCTUS**



#### Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

#### Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

#### The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, Margaret, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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

#### Celebrant and People

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

CelebrantGod of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.PeopleHappy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

#### The People are seated.

All are welcome to receive bread and wine during Communion, including children. To receive bread, place your hands palmsup at the Communion rail. To receive wine, assist the Eucharistic Minister in guiding the chalice to your lips, or you may intinct by dipping the bread in the wine. If you do not wish to receive the bread or wine, place your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available. Indicate your wish for a gluten-free wafer by first extending your hands palms-down when at the Communion rail. These wafers are kept in a separate holder from which you are invited to take one.

COMMUNION MUSIC	Pastoral Symphony 'Pifa' (from Messiah HWV 56)	George Frederic Handel	
	Unto us a child is born	Healey Willan	
	Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.		
	Interlude (from Ceremony of Carols)	Benjamin Britten	
The People stand as directed af	ter Communion.		
POSTCOMMUNION PRAY	The Church of England		
Celebrant Let us pray.			

Celebrant and People

Loving God. whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen.

The People remain standing as they are able and sing the Hymn.



#### CHRISTMAS BLESSING

- Celebrant And now, O Lord, may the light of your life be kindled in us, and lead us to the shining truth, of God with us, God for us, and God in us.
- People Amen.

The People remain standing and sing the Hymn. As the Clergy depart, they will asperge the People with Holy Water.

#### Hymn

Hark! the herald angels sing

MENDELSSOHN arr. David Willcocks

1 Hardd the he weld an asle since	
1. Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing,	"Glo - ry to the new-born King:
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a-dored,	Christ, the e - ver - last - ing Lord,
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace!	Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!
	0
	• 0
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild,	God and sin - ners re - con-ciled!"
late in time be - hold him come,	off-spring of the Vir - gin's womb:
Light and life to all he brings,	ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.
	nis ni white near - nig ni - nis whites.
Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise,	join the tri-umph of the skies;
veiled in flesh the God-head see;	hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
	5
Mild he lays his glo-ry by,	born that we no more may die,
with th'an -gel - ic hosts pro -claim,	"Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,	Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el.
born to raise us from the earth,	born to give us sec - ond birth.
Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing,	"Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

#### DISMISSAL

PriestAlleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the newborn King.PeopleThanks be to God! Alleluia. Alleluia!

Postlude

Sussex Carol

Traditional English Carol arr. John Van Gulik



# St. Margaret's Church

### Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector The Rev. Patti Sachs, Associate Rector Jim Douglas, Director of Music Elizabeth Radley, Director of Operations Emily DelSordo, Children's Formation Coordinator Jeff Conover, Youth Ministries Leader Judy Hall, Administrative Assistant & Churchyard Administrator Teresa McCorkle, Bookkeeper Aleshia Marshall, Day School Director Christine Feldmann, Grants Administrator

#### Lay Officers

Kristen Berthelotte, Senior Warden Paul Schurke, Junior Warden Kathy Wiernicki, Treasurer Jim Barnett, Clerk

#### **Vestry Members**

David Boyce Austin Canuel Matt Chasse Alden Gross Janice John Lana Keelty Kathy Lang Chris Prender Susan Roberts Dan Tootle Ernie Tucker Carol Williams



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