

The Nativity of Our Lord
December 25, 2024 10:30 A.M.
Holy Communion



Adoration of the Magi, oil on panel, 1504, Albrecht Durer

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155

www.stpaulsyork.org

Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net

www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, York PA on Springettsbury & George

YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church - South George St. York

WELCOME

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 188 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

RESTROOMS are available off of the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury Ave) and the narthex (George St). Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms as well as in the nursery.

THE NURSERY, which is accessed from the double doors, front right, is available for any family needing a space away. You may view the service via live-stream.

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Our Communion is “open” to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist. Directions on the procedure for distribution are provided in the body of the service folder.

CHOIRS AT ST. PAUL’S

Enquiries are welcome at any time. If you are interested in singing with a choir or ringing handbells with an ensemble please contact a music staff member; Mr. Victor Fields (Chancel Choir), Mrs. Leah McComas (Handbells), or Mrs. Julianna Jones (Children’s Choirs) at 717-843-8155.

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry operates each Tuesday morning from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. The weekly distribution is staffed with more than 40 volunteers. If you are in need of food or would like to provide assistance with one of the many aspects of this ministry simply contact the church office for further details. We are always in need of volunteers who are bilingual Spanish/English.

ST. PAUL’S PRESCHOOL

Early childhood education is a major part of child development. St. Paul’s preschool is celebrating its 60th Anniversary in 2024. Classes are available for children ages 2, 3 & 4. For additional information please contact the Director of Preschool, Mrs. Deborah Becker 717-854-1996.
www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS AT ST. PAUL’S

St. Paul’s hosts AA Fellowship groups on Sunday evening 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room located on the Lower Level.

STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Children’s Music Director	Julianna Jones	Jjones.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Bell Choirs Director	Leah McComas	lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Secretary	Patee Pizzirusso	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Sexton	Ted Weikert	tweikert.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Preschool Director	Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

The Nativity of Our Lord

December 25, 2024

Holy Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting 1

PRELUDE

There's a Star in the East

Karl Osterland

Stand

ENTRANCE HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory (ELW 275)

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

GREETING

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit it be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

Sit

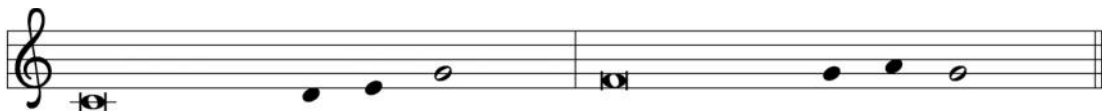
FIRST READING

Isaiah 52-7-10 *back page*

PSALM

Psalm 98

The organ introduces the tone, then the Psalm is sung unaccompanied by Cantor/Congregation



- ¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song,*
for he has done | marvelous things.
- ² **With his right hand and his | holy arm***
has he won for him- | self the victory.
- ³ The LORD has made | known his victory;*,
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight | of the nations.
- ⁴ **He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the | house of Israel,***
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.
- ⁵ Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;*,
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.
- ⁶ **Sing to the LORD | with the harp,***
with the harp and the | voice of song.
- ⁷ With trumpets and the sound | of the horn*
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.
- ⁸ **Let the sea make a noise and all | that is in it,***
the lands and those who | dwell therein.
- ⁹ Let the rivers | clap their hands;*,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to | judge the earth.
- ¹⁰ **In righteousness shall he | judge the world***
and the peo- | ples with equity.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 1: 1-4

back cover

Stand

VERSE





Repeat alleluia



GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

back cover

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the second chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the reading

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

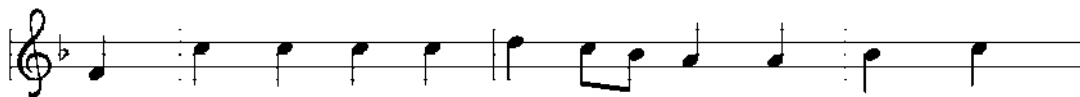
Sit

SERMON

Pastor Reep

HYMN OF THE DAY

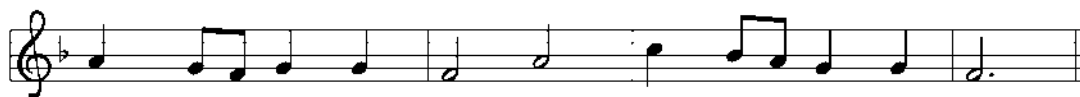
Let All Together Praise Our God (ELW287)



- 1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore the
- 2 From God's right hand the Son de - scends, is born an
- 3 O ten - der Child, you veil in flesh the splen - dor
- 4 Your moth - er feeds you ten - der - ly, sings you a



high - est throne: to - day God o - pens heav'n a - gain and
in - fant small, and lies in pov - er - ty, his bed a
of your might; a ser - vant's garb now wraps the one who
lul - la - by, while an - gels, hail - ing Da - vid's heir, your



sends the on - ly Son, and sends the on - ly Son.
man - ger in a stall, a man - ger in a stall.
clothed the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.
glo - ry mag - ni - fy, your glo - ry mag - ni - fy.

- 5 A wonderful exchange you make:
you take our flesh and blood,
and in return give us to share
the shining realm of God,
the shining realm of God.

- 6 Unlock the door again today
that leads to paradise;
the angel bars the way no more.
To God let praises rise,
to God let praises rise!

Stand

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of
the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and
was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

Amen

THE PRAYERS

We offer our prayers for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

O God, by the water of rebirth in Baptism, you claim us as your own. Renew all the baptized by your Spirit of grace and truth, and embolden us to announce your salvation to all. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

By your Word, all things have come into being. Protect coastlands and waters (*local bodies of water may be named*). Awaken in us a heightened care for habitats threatened by rising sea levels. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Sustain the work of diplomats, relief agencies, and all who strive for peace in places of conflict and violence (*especially*). God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Heed the cries of all who are afraid. Comfort the grieving and despairing, the lonely and forgotten, and those who are ill (*especially*). God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Voices and instruments ring out with melodies of praise to you. congregation and all who lead us in making a joyful noise in worship (*local musicians or ensembles may be named*). God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks for our ancestors in faith. As their lives bear witness to your light and love, inspire us to testify to the hope we share in you. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (ELW 276)



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful Father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us; ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

Detailed description: This block contains a musical score for the hymn 'GREAT THANKSGIVING'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has two measures: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has two measures: 'It is right' and 'to give our thanks and praise.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style with eighth and quarter notes.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Detailed description: This block contains a musical score for the hymn 'SANCTUS'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of'. The second staff has two measures: 'pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third staff has two measures: 'san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style with eighth and quarter notes.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises. In 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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly [on this day] we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

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.

FRACTION RITE *A brief silence is kept.*

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Holy Communion at St. Paul's Church is "open" to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist.

Procedure for receiving Communion:

- 1. Come to communion using the center aisle.*
- 2. Take a communion glass from the tray of glasses.*
- 3. Take your place along the chancel step.*
- 4. The ministers will bring the host and wine to you.*
- 5. Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.*
- 6. Return to your pew using the side aisle.*

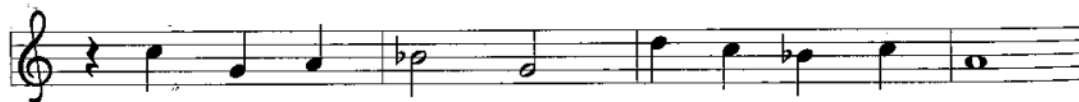
HYMN

Peace Came to Earth (ELW #285)

1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night
 2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held
 3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,
 4 How else could I have known you, O my God!



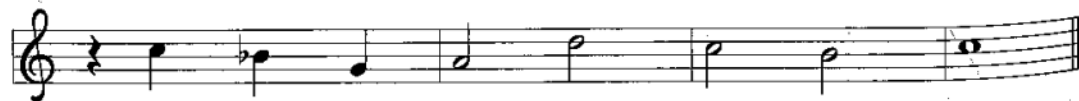
when an - gels clove the sky with song and light
 the in - fant in their arms, and lat - er felt
 in flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pains,
 How else could I have loved you, O my God!



and God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might—
 the wound - ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled—
 in bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain—
 How else could I em - brace you, O my God!



Who could but gasp: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but sigh: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but see Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but pray: Im - man - u - el!



Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but praise Im - man - u - el!

Stand

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Almighty, God, in the incarnation of your Son you began the work of our deliverance from sin and death. Through the grace given us in your Son, strengthen us in spirit and renew in us the New Birth we have through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

HYMN *Good Christian Friends Rejoice (ELW 288) next page*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

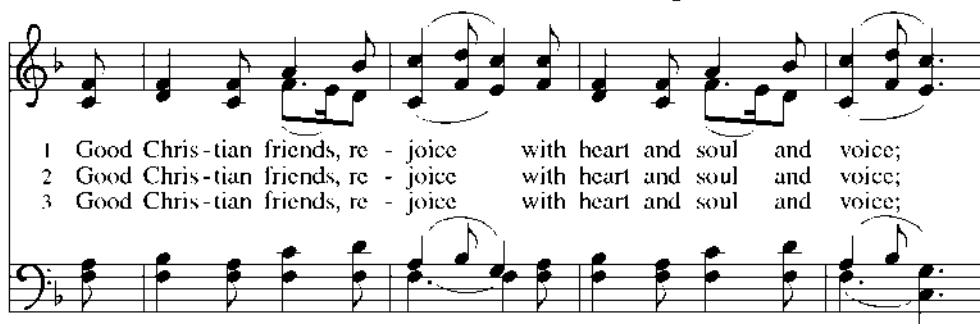
POSTLUDE *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* Raymond Weidner

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THE ENTIRE ST. PAUL'S STAFF WISH YOU THE JOYS
AND BLESSINGS OF THIS HOLY SEASON.
MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM:
VICTOR, TED, PATEE, KELLY, LEAH, JULIANNA, DEB, ALLISON, AND PASTOR STAN.

DATE	TIME	Assisting Minister	Crucifer	Lector	Live Stream	Greeters	Ushers -	Altar Guild
12/25 Christ- mas Day	10:30 AM	Larry Moore	Kirsten Barnes	Janet Moore	Allen Reep	Patty Snyder, George & Janet Fitch	Team 2L: Kem Vaught, Gail Kerchner, Sandy Dickensheets	Larry & Janet Moore

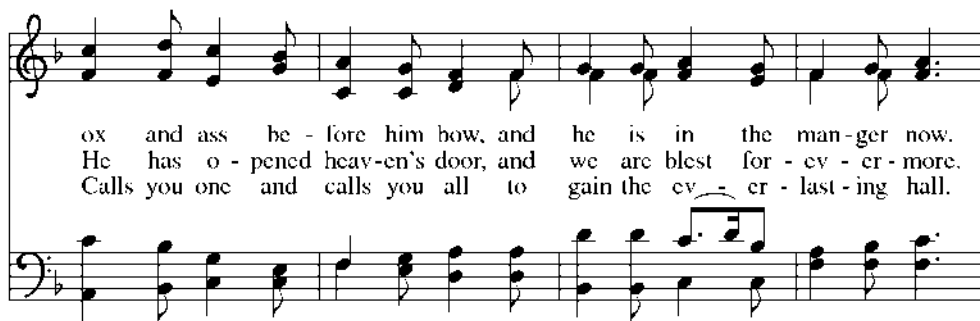
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to-day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!



Poinsettias



In Loving Memory of . . .

My Husband, Henry Anstadt by Ann Anstadt
Margaret Griffin; Jim, Paul & Mildred Blake; Glen, Ruth & Mark Moyer; Mike & Alice
Vinik; Catherine & Farell Becker by Kirsten & Sammy Barnes
Our Fathers, Ronald Becker & David Boyer & our Mother, Gloria Becker by Larry &
Deb Becker
Marion & Hedwig Bloss by Ann & Dean Becker
Our Fathers, David Boyer and Ronald Becker by Larry & Deb Becker
Our Parents by Mike & Becky Bingham
Josephine M. Cushner, John J. Cushner, M.D., & Mary R. Maxwell by Jo Anne
Cushner Debes & Family
John J. Boulanger, Sr., by James & Heather Eaton
Henry Guarriello, Sr. by Joe & Jennifer Guarriello
Our Fathers; Francis Ports & Kenneth Hinkle, Our Mothers; Delores Ports & Ruth
Hinkle, Our Sisters; Sandra Hinkle, Dorinda Hinkle, & Susan Holtry by Ken
Hinkle and Jenifer Ports
John Herdson by Scott & Nicki Herdson
Paula Kassolis by Scott & Nicki Herdson
Our Loved Ones by Frank & Earline Jones
Paul & Ann Moyer and Cynthia Dotzel by Paula Kottcamp
Those I've lost by Tina Llorente
Richard & Margie Martin, Michael T. Martin, Dale & Sandy Shellenberger, Wilfert &
Viola Wildasin, James & Julia Martin by Tom Martin
Frank & Helen Morgan; Carl & Thelma Simon by Sarah Morgan & Geoffrey Simon
Elaine Potter Mummert, & Pat Powers Mummert, by Jim Mummert
Husband Clarence & Daughter Elise by Irmgarde Nicolaysen
Our Parents, by Ronald & Norma Riese
Our Parents, K.F. Ralph Rochow & Phyllis E. Rochow by K.W. James Rochow &
Susan Rochow Flook
Our Parents Harold & Grace Sargeant, Donald & Bertha Spencer and our Grandson
Dalton Walburn by Donita & Harold Sargeant
My Parents, Frank and Annamarie Polk by Pat Scarborough
My Parents, Norman & Isabella Rohrbaugh by Norma Shue
My Husband, Don, my Son, Alan, our Parents Loyd Mc Dowell, Chester & Larua Ely
and my Sisters, Evelyn Loyd & Lois McDowell by Norma Ely Spencer
My Husband, John D. Uffelman and by Martina Uffelman

In Honor of . . .

My Children and Grandchildren and the Reep Family by Ann Anstadt
Shelton & Lisa Barnes, Dale & Donna Moyer, Donna & Ken Copeland by Kirsten & Sammy Barnes
Our Mother, Miriam Becker by Larry & Deb Becker
Our Family by Mike & Becky Bingham
Our Family by George & Janet Fitch
My Grandchildren, Alexis & Thomas Heistand, and Daniel, Ryan, & Brynn Butler by June Heistand
Anna, Drew, and Paula Herdson by Scott & Nicki Herdson
Our Family; Rob, Jana, Robbie, Riley, Lindsay, Tyler, Shydae & Ma'sai by Earline & Frank Jones
Our Children and Grandchildren by Kathy and John Monk
Our Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren by Donita & Harold Sargeant
My 7 Great-grandchildren, Sam , Olivia, & Kaiden Shue; Maya, Jacye, Neilson & Liena Ember Lambert by Norma Shue
The Choir and Victor Fields by Geoffrey Simon & Sarah Morgan
My Great-grandchildren; Jordan, Spencer & Eli Nicoll, Nicholas & Emily Roedersheimer by Norma Ely Spencer
My Family by Linda Turner
My Children and Grandchildren by Martina Uffelman

Dedicated to the Glory Of God. . .

Ann Anstadt Norma Spencer Kirsten & Sammy Barnes Mike & Becky Bingham



***The Altar Flowers** are presented to the Glory of God in memory of Josephine M. Cushner, John Cushner, M.D. & Mary R. Maxwell by JoAnne Cushner Debes & Family and in Thanksgiving for the birth of Jesus Christ in remembrance of Margaret Barnes by Kirsten and Sammy Barnes*

***The Christmas Bulletins** are sponsored by Mim Boyer in loving memory of her husband, David Boyer.*

Nativity of Our Lord / Christmas Day

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces
peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
⁹Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

PSALM 98

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

[⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son;
today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son"?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

⁷Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,

and his servants flames of fire."

⁸But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of
your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated
wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your
companions."

¹⁰And,

"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;

¹²like a cloak you will roll them up,
and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same,
and your years will never end."]

GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.

¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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.

