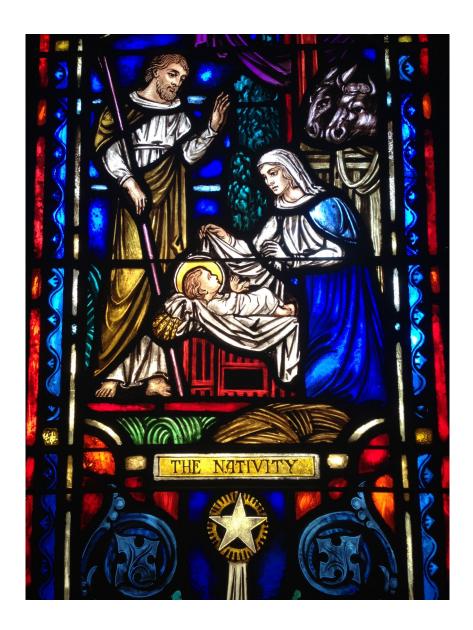
Christmas Day Festival Service

December 25, 2020, 10:00 am



Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School 9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore!



Gathering

Prelude

Chorale Prelude on 'In dulci jubilo'

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \(\mathbf{\Psi}\) one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of goodness and lovingkindness,

we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Hear the good news of peace and salvation!
God forgives us all our sins,
not through our own work,
but through ♣ Jesus Christ, made known to all people.
With all who come to the manger,
rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.
Amen.

Opening Hymn 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.



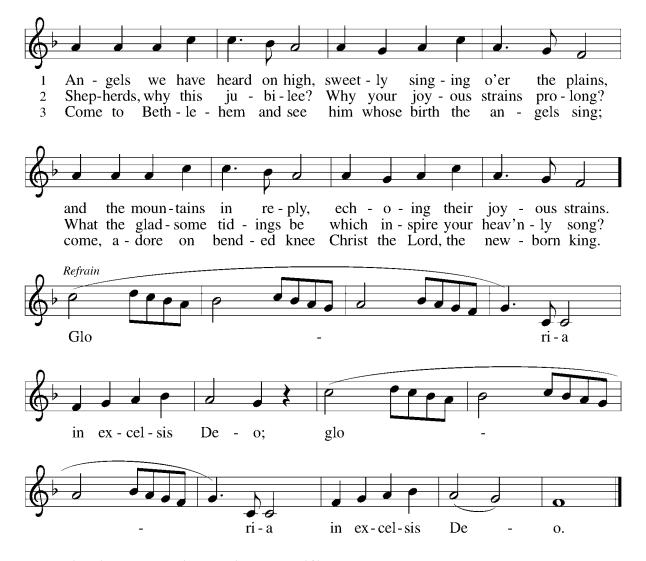
Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

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.**

Hymn of Praise



Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864 Music: GLORIA, French carol

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Word

First Reading Isaiah 62:6-12

The prophet invites the people to give God no rest until God reestablishes Jerusalem. In turn, they will receive names full of promise: The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord, A City Not Forsaken.

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.

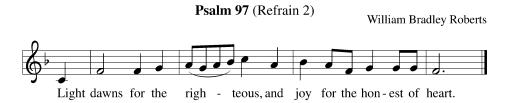
Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 97

The cantor introduces the refrain; the congregation repeats it. The cantor then sings the verses. Subsequent refrains are sung only once by all, at the places indicated by \mathbf{R} .



Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

¹The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;

let the multitude of the isles be glad.

²Clouds and darkness surround the LORD,

righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.

³Fire goes before the LORD,

burning up enemies on every side.

⁴Lightnings light up the world;

the earth sees and trembles. R

⁵The mountains melt like wax

before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD, and all the peoples see your glory.



Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!

Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.

⁸Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD. **R**

⁹For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;

you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰You who love the Lord, hate evil!

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

¹¹Light dawns for the righteous,

and joy for the honest of heart.

12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,

and give thanks to God's holy name. **R**

Second Reading Titus 3:4-7

God saves us not because of what we do. Rather, God is a God of mercy and salvation who graciously cleanses us in baptism and renews our lives through the Holy Spirit.

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



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Cantor Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Choir A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, and adore the Lord. For today a great light

has come upon the earth.

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The world's deep night is shattered by the light of God's new day. The glory of God is revealed to poor shepherds, who share the good news with others.

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,

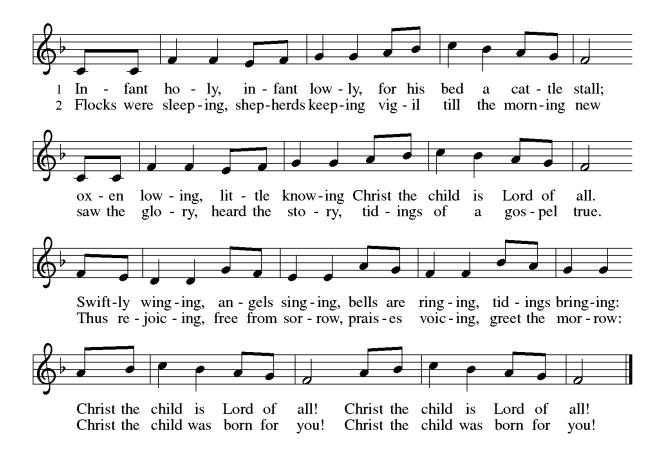
"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

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. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

Sermon Pastor Miller



Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt. Music: W ZŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

Amen

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**



Thanksgiving

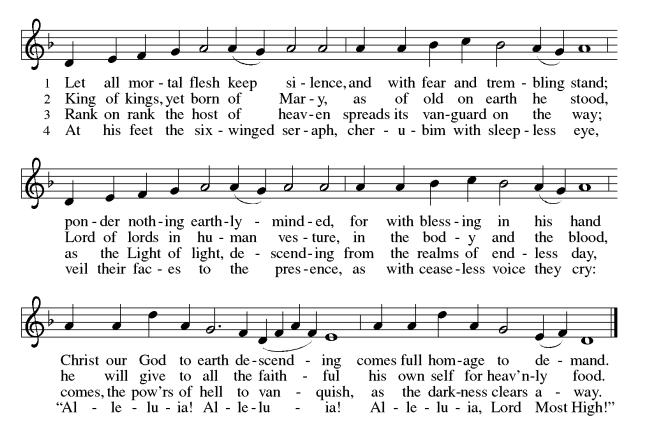
Offering

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> then click *Giving* or on the Give Plus app. You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church 9100 Colesville Road Silver Spring, MD 20910

Music at the offering
The Holly and the Ivy

Reformation Bells arr. Patricia Cota



Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt. Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please pray in your own preferred language. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Padre Nuestro Que estas en los cielos Santificado sea tu Nombre Venga a nosostros tu Reino Hagase tu voluntad asi en la tierra como en el cielo Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia Perdona nuestras ofensas Como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden Y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion mas libranos del mal Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la Gloria Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen



Sending

Blessing

Jesus is the promised Savior, born of Mary. May his birth among us renew our hope.

Amen

Almighty God, Father, ★ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn ELW 270



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

Dismissal

Filled with the joy of Christ's birth, go in peace! Love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Postlude on 'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing'

David Willcocks (1919-2015)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, Senior Pastor

ASSISTING MINISTERS

The Rev. Franklin Morales, Associate Pastor

Deacon Kyle Warfield, Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, Director of Music and Organist

Edie Venit, Director of Reformation Bells

Deacon Kyle Warfield, Cantor

Members of the Reformation Bells

Cas Campagna, Cynthia Campagna, Jeff Jox, Bill Leader, Kelly Smith, Edie Venit

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Christmas Poinsettia Food Bag Dedications

Robert Barnes in honor of Lynne Perri, in honor of Abby Barnes, in honor of Grace Barnes, in honor of Scott Kaczmarek

Denyse Baker in honor of Up For Discussion adult Sunday school class, in honor of vaccine researchers and scientists, in remembrance of Jane Dohler

Bassein-Roy family in remembrance of Rhoda Mahler, in remembrance of Ken Mahler, in honor of clergy/staff/volunteers who are keeping Saint Luke going in the time of covid, in honor of all frontline/essential workers who attend Saint Luke

Martin and Martha Bell in remembrance of Grason & Loretta Bell, in remembrance of Adrian & Lucile Propst, in remembrance of Bessie Basham, in remembrance of Asa Basham

Carol Bennet in remembrance of Margarea Bennett, in remembrance of H.H. Bennett, in remembrance of Bessie Basham, in remembrance of Asa Basham

James and Lorraine Bentley in honor of Kim Bentley and Kyle Van Horn, in honor of Eloise and Maya Van Horn, in honor of Andrew Bentley, in honor of Pastor Miller and Saint Luke Staff

Kathleen Bergeron in remembrance of Carol Chambers, in honor of Robert Chambers

Clinton Britt in remembrance of our grandparents

Diane and Nichols Castle in remembrance of Anita Ward, in honor of Gordon Ward, in honor of Lucy Lindgren, in remembrance of Virginia Regas

Chris Cedar in remembrance of her husband Robert Ceder, in remembrance of her parents Isabelle and Samuel Mohr, and in honor of all nurses, medical, and ancillary staff

Carol Crawford in remembrance of Charles and Lillian Crawford, in honor of Chris Crawford-Franklin

Jane Curtin in honor of all of our front line workers

Carol and Tom Darnell in remembrance of their parents and families

Susan DeHart in honor of Eleanor McIntyre and Thelma Fricks, in remembrance of Ken, Dorothy and Tom DeHart and Ball and Chain Members

Alma Edgerly in honor of Thoma Petersen, in honor of Ruth Manchester, in remembrance of Marie Edgerly, and in remembrance of Rod Petersen

Ron and Jan Eisenbarth in remembrance of members of the Kitchener and Eisenbarth families.

Karen L. Evans in remembrance of James Evans, in honor of her children and their families

Carol Farrar in honor of Amy Farrar, in honor of Jennifer Farrar, in honor of Andrew Farrar, in honor of Abigail Farrar, in honor of Matthew Farrar

Jenny Farrar in remembrance of Lois McCabe and Winnie Mercer

Ed Fenstermacher in honor of Erica, Thomas, and Alex Fenstermacher, in remembrance of Cassel and Marion Jacobson, in remembrance of Harvey and Margaret Fenstermacher, in remembrance of Michael and Cathy Pine

Bev and Amos Gardiner in remembrance of James and Margaret Shaffer

Kate Glenn in honor of Daniel Thomas, in honor of Charles Bond, in remembrance of Robert and Patricia Thomas, in remembrance of John & Janet Gilson, in remembrance of Suzanne Bond

Benjamin Gray in remembrance of George Gray, in remembrance of Viola and E.J. Gallus, in remembrance of Andrew Letcher, in remembrance of Mark and Jesse Hatcher, in remembrance of Anna Marie and Bonnie Gallus

Melissa Groen in honor of medical staff and other frontline workers, in honor of educators and school administrators, in honor of the Sunday School teachers who touch lives every Sunday morning sharing God's love with the children of Saint Luke, in honor of all those who are part of leading Saint Luke's worship services each Sunday

Matthew Grussing in remembrance of Wayne and Fern Anderson, in remembrance of James and Lorraine Grussing

The Gurganus family in remembrance of David and Alma Hudgel and Bonnie Bowles Hudgel

Claudette Hamerski in remembrance of Emily & Claude Myers, and in remembrance of Cleo and Hugh Hamerski

Sarah Hanson in remembrance of Lawrence Larson and in remembrance of Mary Ann Larson

Emily and Brian Horick in remembrance of Luther and Phyllis Horick, in remembrance of Philip and Jacqueline Brunschwyler, and in remembrance of Conrad Brunschwyler

Carol Howell in remembrance of Karen Howell, in remembrance of Robert and Ann Custer, in remembrance of Dana Osterndorf, in remembrance of Mary Jane Lusby, and in honor of the dedicated staff of Saint Luke Lutheran Church

Joni Jacobs in remembrance of Jerry Packard, in remembrance of Steve Spencer, in remembrance of Betina Adams, in remembrance of Jason Rush, and in remembrance of Mark Willard

Charles Kirk in remembrance of Dorothy and Charles Agee, in remembrance of Edward and Ann Kirk, in honor of Edward and Mary Kirk, and in honor of James, Maria, and Diana Kirk

Mary Kirk in honor of Charles and Elisabeth, in honor of Kathleen and David, and in honor of Jennifer and George

Charles LaDuca in remembrance of Brenda Joyce Martin, in remembrance of Marie Louise LaDuca, in honor of Julia LaDuca, and in honor of Alexandra

Jennifer MacLaughlin in remembrance of Grace Pancallo, and in remembrance of Suellen MacLaughlin

Martha, Betsy, and Jonathan McIntyre in honor of Eleanor McIntyre, in remembrance of Albert McIntyre, in remembrance of Ken and Dorothy DeHart, and in remembrance of Eleanor Emch

Lauri and Scott McKay in remembrance of Paul Karpiscak, in honor and thanksgiving of Paul and Ann's 65 years of marriage

Ruth Manchester in honor of the Saint Luke Staff, in remembrance of Helen Gertrude and Gilbert F. Garbisch, and in remembrance of Eleanor Elizabeth and Elbert Grant Manchester

Mary Ellen Meagher in remembrance of Mary and Michael Wanchick

Elinita Mhando in remembrance of Baby Jesus, in honor of all who need help

Ellen and Gary Miller in remembrance of Edythe and Robert Miller and Virginia and Harry Griggs, in honor of James, Katie, Robert, Alexander, and Ellamaija Miller

Pastor Miller in honor of all who worship virtually at Saint Luke and in remembrance of all who have died from covid-19.

Shirley Moore in remembrance of her mother, Mary Sylvia

Ruth Moorman in remembrance of Arthur Moorman, in honor of The Gilbertsons, and Abby Moorman, in honor of all of my wonderful Tellers throughout my tenure

Kerry Moose in honor of the hungry

Tia Nelis in remembrance of Maryjo Talsma

Laura and Bradley Nichols in honor of Confirmation Ministry Leaders for their persistence, patience and kindness

Jack and Sally Niermann in remembrance of Renata Niermann-Meier

Gary and Ann Nuss in honor of Pastor Miller, Pastor Morales, Deacon Warfield and Dr. Truche.

Kay Paide in remembrance of Tonis Paide, and in honor of Ruth Manchester

Connie Peters in remembrance of Don and Virginia Baker, and in remembrance of Carol Widen

Gary Pettit in honor of all essential workers

Sarah Province in remembrance of Philip Province, beloved husband, father and grandfather, in honor of daughters, Bonnie Nay, Rose Azalde and Susan Phillips, in honor of grandchildren, Nick, Kennedy, Cecelia Phillips, Philip, Mark, Naman Nay, Claudia and Antonio Azalde, in honor of the ministry of Saint Luke in serving our Silver Spring community.

Alysha Rajnarine in remembrance of Mary Inez Ishmael

Saint Luke Women of the ELCA in honor of Pastor Platz for her leadership and guidance with WELCA, and in celebration of the 50th anniversary of her ordination

Barbara Sanders in remembrance of my husband, Harry Lee, and all the dearly departed of the Sanders and Vaught families, in remembrance of my parents, Edwin and Roberta Marsh, and all the dearly departed of the Marsh, Pearson, Giessman and Spiker families, in honor of the dedicated Pastors, Deacon and staff of Saint Luke, who sustain this congregation and our community through their exemplary service in these extraordinary times

Carolyn Schick in remembrance of Irvin and Marjorie Schick

Ed and Jane Schrantz in remembrance of Joe and Jean Schrantz, and Tom & Clare Finlayson

Bill and Joyce Schultz in remembrance of her father, Richard Braithwaite, in remembrance of her mother, Eleanore Braithwaite, and in remembrance of her grandmother, Sigrid Braithwaite

Wilson and Nancy Shaffer in remembrance of W. Earl and Dorothy D. Bricker, in remembrance of Albert W. and Natalie Shaffer, and in honor of Michael, Katie, Brigid, Thomas, Thaddeus, and Brendan Shaffer

Mary Ann Shepherd in remembrance of William Shepherd and in honor of Saint Luke IT team

Linda Sherwood in honor of our frontline workers, and in honor of our educators and students

Traude Smith in remembrance of Rudolf and Minnie Stamm

Carin Sprick in remembrance of Lisa Elg, in honor of Ingrid and Patrick David, in honor of Christina and John Romiza, and in honor of grandchildren Jack, Isabella and Finlay Romiza

George Stecklein in remembrance of Sharon Louise Stecklein, in remembrance of John Lawrence and Nettie Catherine Stecklein, in remembrance of Reuel and Arlys Thompson, and in remembrance of Eugene Franklin Allder

Frances Troxler in honor of Roney Shawe

Willard and Becky Unkenholz in remembrance of Clarence and Elizabeth Keiper and Willard L. and Marlys Unkenholz, and in honor of Tim, Chris, and Luda Unkenholz and Rachael Maddox

Debbie Van Buskirk in remembrance of the Rev. Engebret Olaf Midboe, in remembrance of Helen Midboe, in honor of James Van Buskirk and family, in honor of Thomas Van Buskirk and family, and in honor of the Midboe sisters and families

Diane Van Lonkhuyzen in remembrance of John Van Lonkhuyzen, and in remembrance of Robert and Doris Cross

Gordon Ward in remembrance of beloved wife Anita Ward

Deacon Warfield in remembrance of Robert Warfield and in remembrance of Justin Warfield.

Edward Wetzlar In remembrance of Robert Buchler

Christmas Blessings!