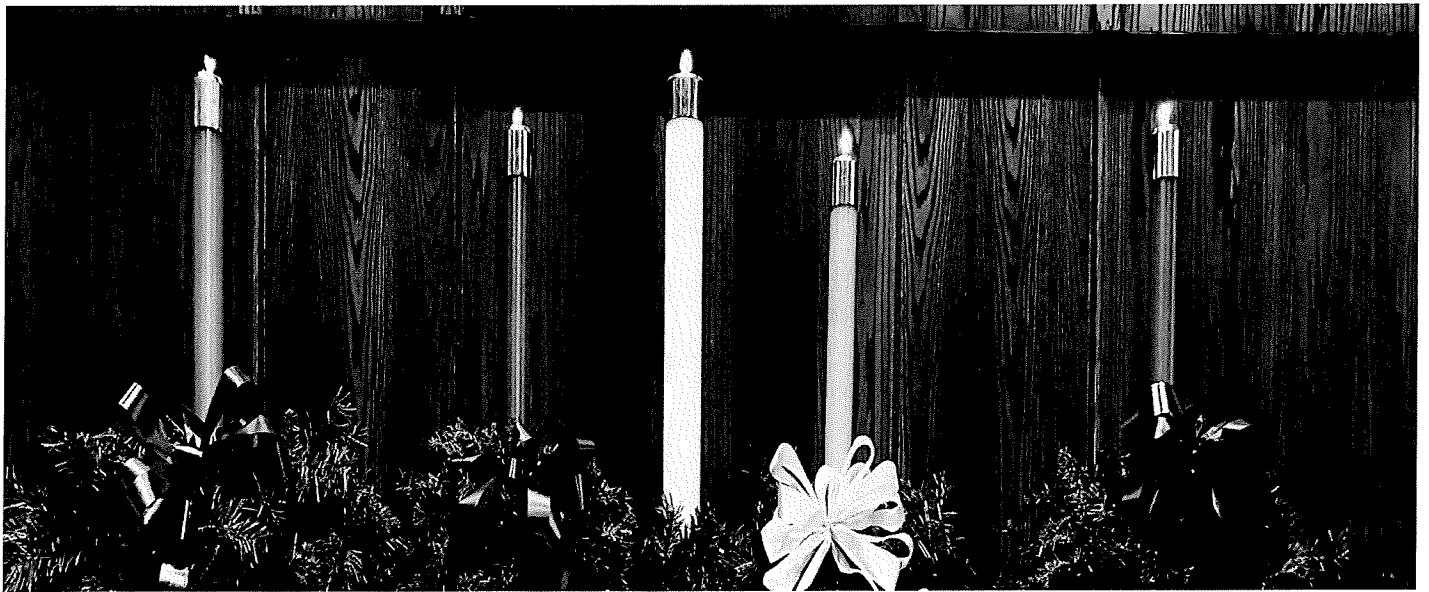

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.



PRELUDE

UN FLAMBEAU, JEANNETTE, ISABELLE
Prelude sur un Noël pour orgue
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

Denis Bédard

CHRISTMAS EVE LITANY

P: On this holiest of nights,
C: **we come, joining the shepherds
who are stunned by wonder.**

P: On this most silent night,
C: **we come, our hopes and dreams
joining those of Mary and Joseph.**

P: On this nights of carols and candlelight,
C: **we come, our glad songs joining
with the choirs of angels over us.**

GATHERING SONG

ELW # 275

Angels, from the Realms of Glory



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.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

P: In a little town, known for nothing much,
L: God's holy child was born.

C: Welcome the Light!

P: By the faint light of the moon,
L: Mary and Joseph found their way.

C: Welcome the Light!

P: In the shadowy stable stall,
L: Joseph kindled a lamp.

C: Welcome the Light!

P: There Mary gave birth to Jesus,
L: called God-With-Us.

C: Welcome the Light!

P: Angels opened the doors of heaven,
L: sang, "Glory to God in the heights!"

C: Welcome the Light!

P: Shepherds saw the sky ablaze,
L: left their sheep and came to see.

C: Welcome the Light!

P: In the darkest winter night,
L: God set a brilliant star.

C: Welcome the Light!

P: And on this Christmas Eve
L: with joy, we greet the Child.

C: Welcome the Light!



- P: The impossible is about to happen in a stable.
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
- C: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,
on them has the light shined!**
- P: This is the evening when creation stood still and held its breath,
for God was doing the most unbelievable, dangerous thing.
- C: This is the evening when God embraced humanity
from the inside, as one of us, from birth to death.**
- P: In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
- C: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth. Amen!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.**

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

ANTHEM

Come, Shepherds
Senior Choir

Joseph M. Martin

R: A reading from Isaiah, the 9th Chapter.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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 with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF THE ANGELS

Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad-some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

SECOND READING

TITUS 2:11-14

R: A reading from Titus, the 2nd chapter.

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all,

¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation

of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

R: Word of God, Word of Life!

C: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF THE ANGELS

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



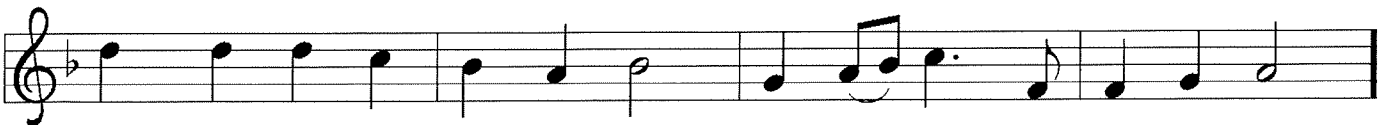
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



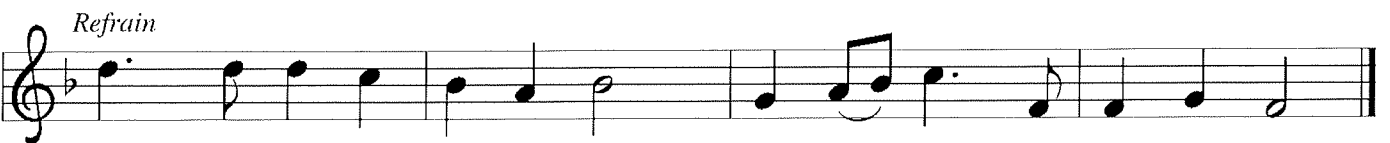
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

P: A reading from Saint Luke, beginning with the 2nd chapter.



¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ 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. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ 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.

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ 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: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made

known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the gospel of our Lord.



CHRISTMAS EVE MESSAGE ***REVEREND ROGER GIESE***

Joy to the World



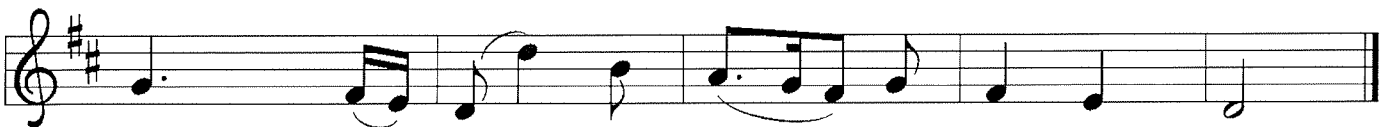
1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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,
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

We respond to each petition.

P: God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

C: God-with-us, we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

P: Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. I announce forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- L: Sisters and brothers, rejoice! Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace!
- P: May the peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: **And also with you.**

*You are welcome to share the Peace of Christ
with those around you as you feel comfortable.*

KIND REMINDER

As we prepare for the offering, please fill out a blue Fellowship card for you and your family. Cards are located in the pew rack. Once completed, place the card in the offering plate. This is a great way to let us know you are here, and to share any prayers concerns.

OFFERING AND MEDITATION

- I. It Came upon the Midnight Clear David M. Cherwien*
- II. Berceuse: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear Mary Gifford*
- Nathan Wise, euphonium

OFFERING SONG

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- L:** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- C:** 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.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

- C:** Oh God, your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure. We are grateful for the goodness you have shown us through the years, and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future. Bless our community of faith, bless our healing, bless the changes that are before us, bless our call process and the pastoral leaders who will shepherd us through this time of transition. We thank you now for the wisdom you will show us as we align with your will, and servant or servants you are already preparing to send us in your blessed time. Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry and our future. In his name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

BLESSING

- L:** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C:** Amen.

As the introduction is played, Reverend Giese, the Worship Assistant and acolytes will begin to light the assembly candles. Once your candle is lighted, share the Light of Christ with those around you. You are invited to keep your candle lighted for the remainder of the service.

SENDING SONG

Silent Night, Holy Night!



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 Harp Interlude
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,

love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts ... sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is

with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!

birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace.

P: The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANTIOCH

Craig Phillips

Three Prelude for Christmas

III. Toccata on ANTIOCH

Joy to the World!

Musicians:

FLC Senior Choir

Elijah Shiley, cantor

JoLynn Ferguson Rhodes, harp

Nathan Wise, euphonium

Curtis L. King, organ

Our Worship Leaders



Family Service

7pm

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Cantor:</i> | <i>Elijah Shiley</i> |
| <i>Facebook Camera:</i> | <i>Tim Ross</i> |
| <i>Host:</i> | <i>Brian & Judy Kimmel</i> |
| <i>Reader:</i> | <i>Shelley Ross</i> |
| <i>Worship Assistant:</i> | <i>Shelley Ross</i> |
| <i>Director of Music:</i> | <i>Curtis L. King</i> |
| <i>Pastor:</i> | <i>Pastor Roger Griese</i> |



Candlelight

Service

11pm

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Cantor:</i> | <i>Elijah Shiley</i> |
| <i>Facebook Camera:</i> | |
| <i>Host:</i> | |
| <i>Reader:</i> | <i>Rick Greene</i> |
| <i>Worship Assistant:</i> | <i>Jonathan Nominee</i> |
| <i>Director of Music:</i> | <i>Curtis L. King</i> |
| <i>Pastor:</i> | <i>Pastor Doug DeVos</i> |

Poinsettia Dedications 2024

In Loving Memory of

Frank & Marion Snyder

by Judy Kimmel, Jan, & Josi

Walter & Ann Binau

by Sharon Losey & Family

Cedella Oberlander

by The Oberlander Family

Wayne & Mary Shaferly

by The Oberlander Family

Paul, Kathleen, Sharon

by Dick & Deb Hohman & Family

& Tommy Winters

John Brueggemeier

by Donna Brueggemeier

C.W. & Jane Assenheimer

by Ann Koning

Mark Assenheimer

by Ann Koning

Kay Buckner

by Ann Koning

Jeannette Ruess

by Ruth Scott

Paula Guisinger

by Ruth Scott

Gerald Wheatley

by Ruth Scott

Bob & Bee Brill

by Daughters -

Sue, Sandy, Linda & Carol

Jeannette Ruess

by FLC Piece Corp.

Walter & Glenna Meyer

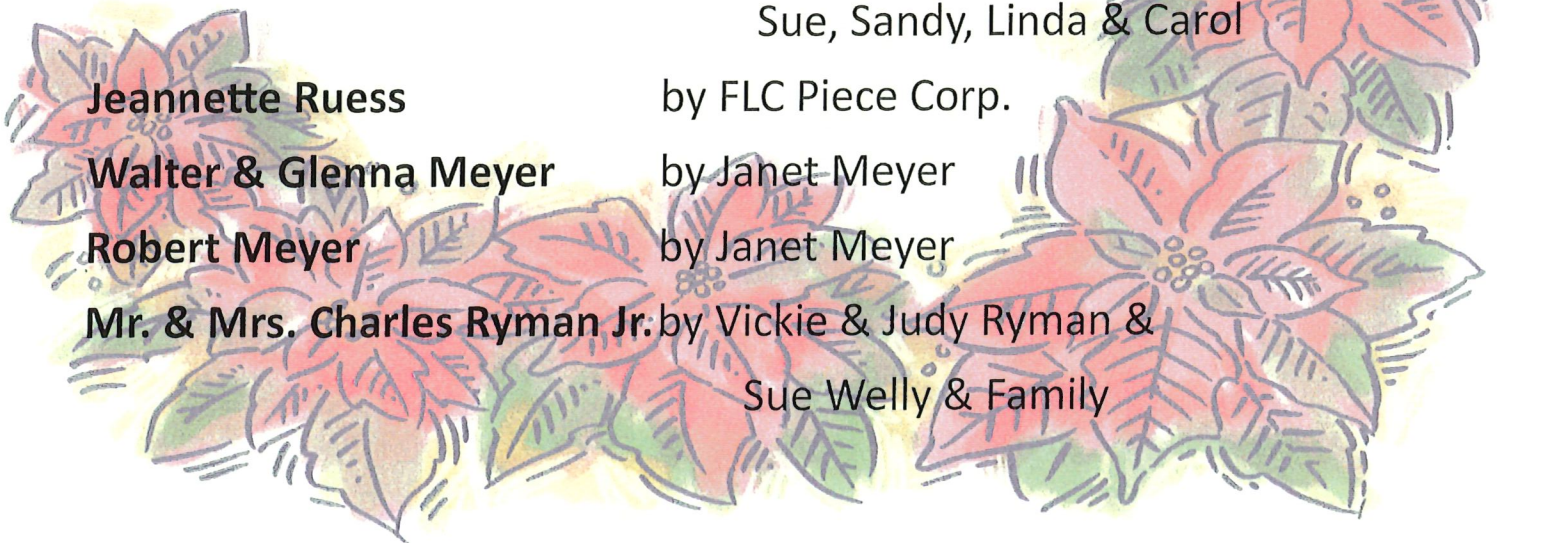
by Janet Meyer

Robert Meyer

by Janet Meyer

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ryman Jr. by Vickie & Judy Ryman &

Sue Welly & Family



Poinsettia Dedications 2024

In Loving Memory of

Wrenly & Emry Oney

John & Loretta Reis

Martha Willey

Charles Bell

Samantha Nominee

(daughter & sister)

Charles Digby

(husband, father & grandfather)

Jack Myers

Beth Meyers

Hugh Rathburn

Oliver Junior King

Lisa Trout King

Pearl & Edna Stine

Evelyn Heilman

Raymond Stine

Marguerite & Cecil King

Nina & Mark King

Donald Dewald

Pauline & Eldon Sherman

by Rodney & Char Reis

by Rodney & Char Reis

by Rodney & Char Reis

by Rodney & Char Reis

by Rick, Deb, Jonathon
& Angela Nominee

by Rick, Deb, Jonathon
& Angela Nominee

by Pete Myers & Family

by Pete Myers & Family

by Pat Rathburn & Family

by Curtis L. King

by Curtis L. King

by Curtis L. King

by Curtis L. King

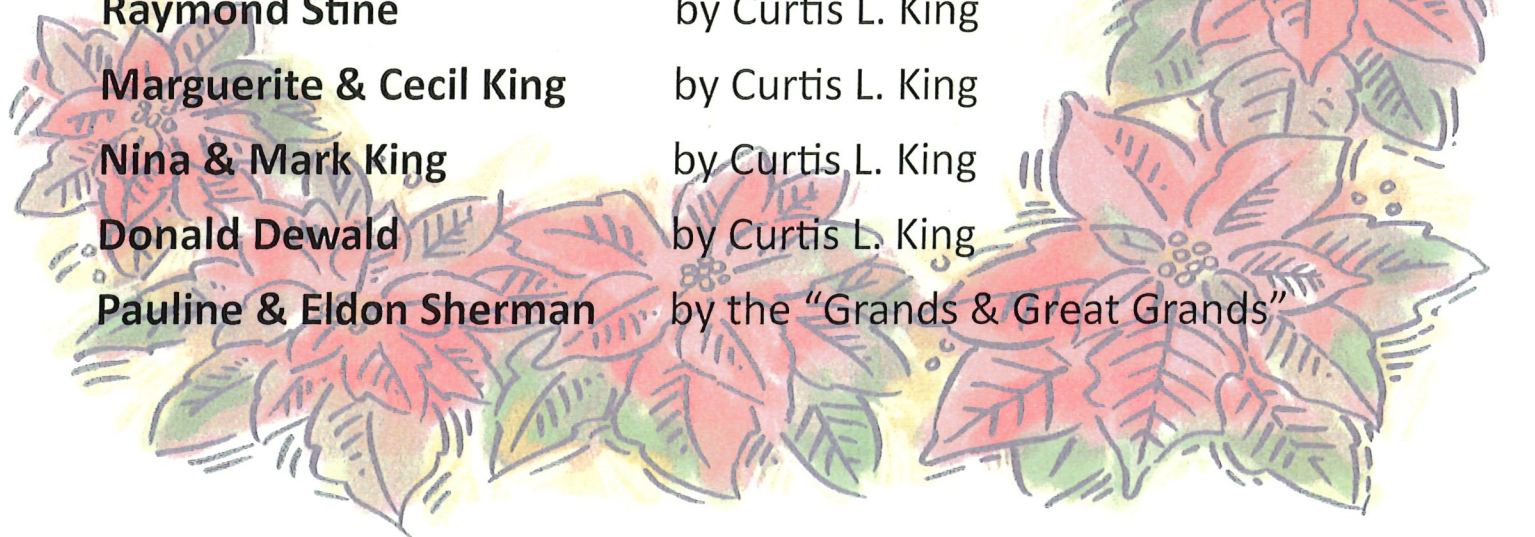
by Curtis L. King

by Curtis L. King

by Curtis L. King

by Curtis L. King

by the "Grands & Great Grands"



Poinsettia Dedications

In Honor of

Children, Grandchildren
& Great Grandchildren
by Rick & Diane Greene

Mr. & Mrs. Hemant Bhagat by Ray & Pat Wise

Ray Jr, Kelly, Nathan
& Morgan Wise
by Ray & Pat Wise

Pat Wise by Ray Wise

Ray Wise by Pat Wise

Paul Johnson by Sue Johnson

Barbara & Matt Mehling by Sue Johnson

Bob & Leslie Johnson by Sue Johnson

Susan Johnson by Sue Johnson

Elliana Strausbaugh by Rodney & Char Reis

Danial, Ashley, Claudia
by Parents

& Colt Myers Pete & Renee Myers

Luella F. King by Curtis L. King

Elijah Shiley, Cantor by Curtis L. King

Bells of Praise by Curtis L. King

Senior Choir by Curtis L. King

Ruth Scott by Curtis L. King

