# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

GATHERING MUSIC

Gloria Dei Handbell Choir

**Christmas Bell Suite** 

arr. John A. Behnke

## **RINGING OF THE TOWER BELL**

You are invited to stand as you are able.

# GATHERING

#### WELCOME

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation. Amen.

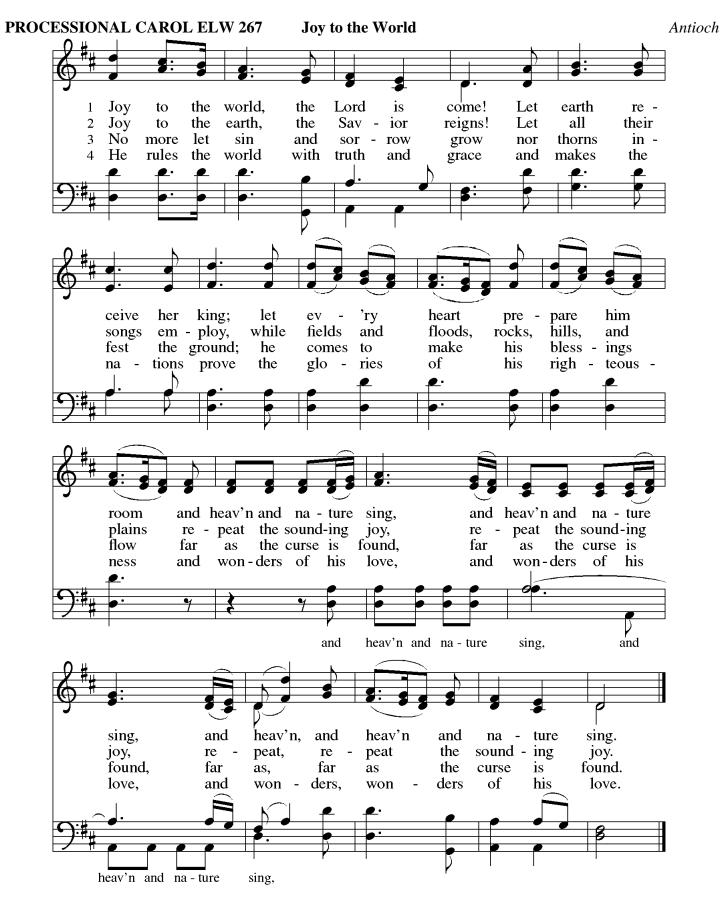
Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

#### Silence is kept for reflection.

#### God of life,

you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.** 



#### 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.** 

## **KYRIE**



**CANTICLE OF PRAISE** 





## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:

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.

Amen.

# THE WORD

#### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 9:2-7** 

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darknesson them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

**Do You Hear What I Hear?** Shannon Schubert, soloist Noel Regney and Gloria Shayne

## THE PSALM

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

## <sup>2</sup>Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

# <sup>4</sup>For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

## <sup>6</sup>Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

## <sup>8</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

## <sup>10</sup>Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

# <sup>12</sup>Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

## SECOND READING

## Titus 2:11-14

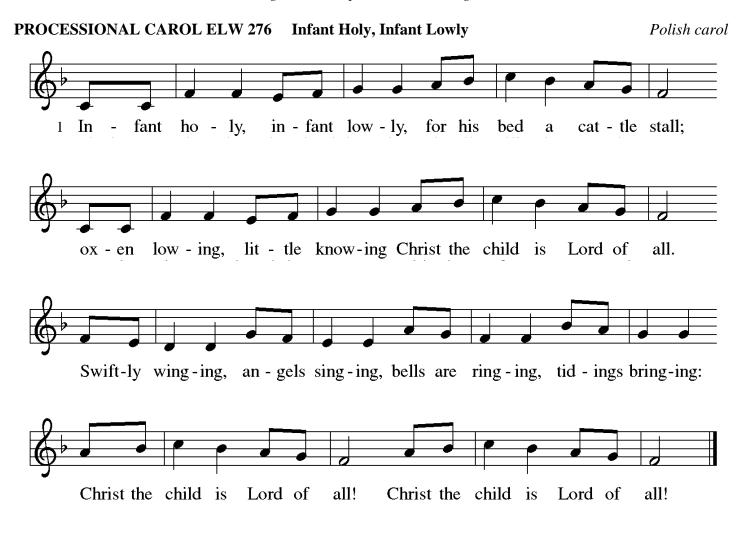
<sup>11</sup>The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

## **GOSPEL PROCESSION**

Please stand and face the Processional Cross as the Gospel Procession proceeds down the center aisle. The light of Christ is in our midst! Congregation is invited to sing verse 1 as the procession enters the nave and verse 2 as the procession returns to the chancel.

We sing as the Gospel Procession begins:



## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

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

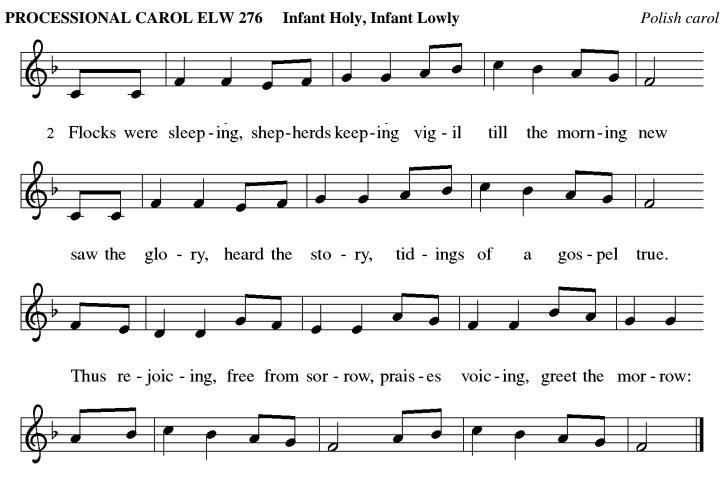
<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>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.** 



Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

**SERMON** Silence for Reflection Pastor Dave

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn



## 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 Holv 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. \*Lower case "c" means universal.

## THE PRAYERS

You are invited to either sit or kneel.

The response to each prayer will be God of grace, hear our prayer.

# THE MEAL

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

## **OFFERING** (Sit)

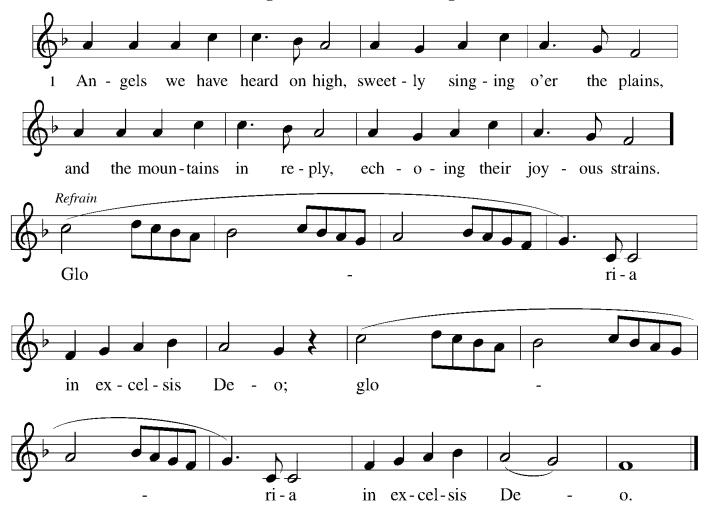
Support the mission and ministry of Gloria Dei by giving your financial tithes and offerings by:

- placing your offering envelope into the offering plate as it is passed.
- mailing to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 250 Fox Hill Road, Hampton, Virginia 23669.
- using the Tithe.ly app: https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app.
- using the Kiosk in the lobby.
- using online bill pay with your own banking institution, use your envelope number as your account number.

For electronic offerings, see back page for QR codes.

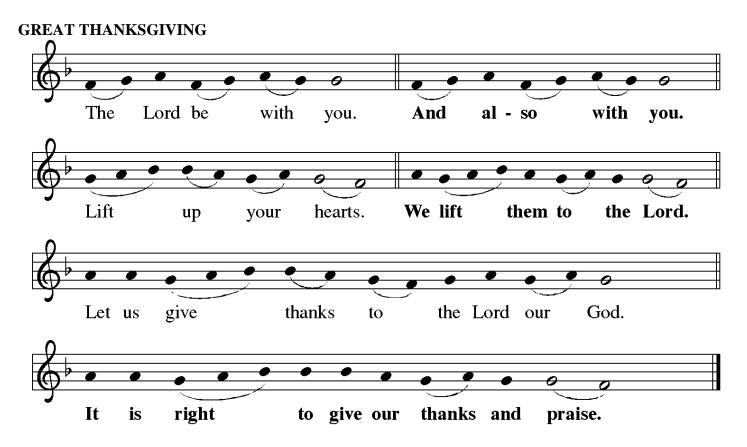
## CHOIR CAROL

## Gesu Bambino



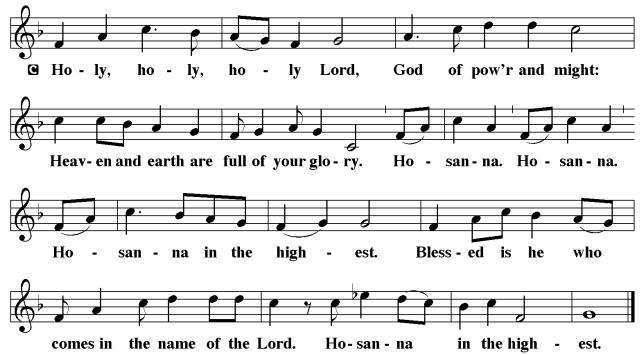
## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together: Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.



## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

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.

Remembering, then, his birth, life, death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth. **Amen.** 

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! And peace to God's people on Earth. Come to the table of peace.

We believe that in the Eucharist our Lord Jesus Christ offers us His gifts of love and forgiveness. All are welcome to share in Communion. If you would like to receive communion by common cup instead of individual cups of wine or grape juice, after you consume your wafer, hold your hands out (palms up), just like you did for your wafer.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

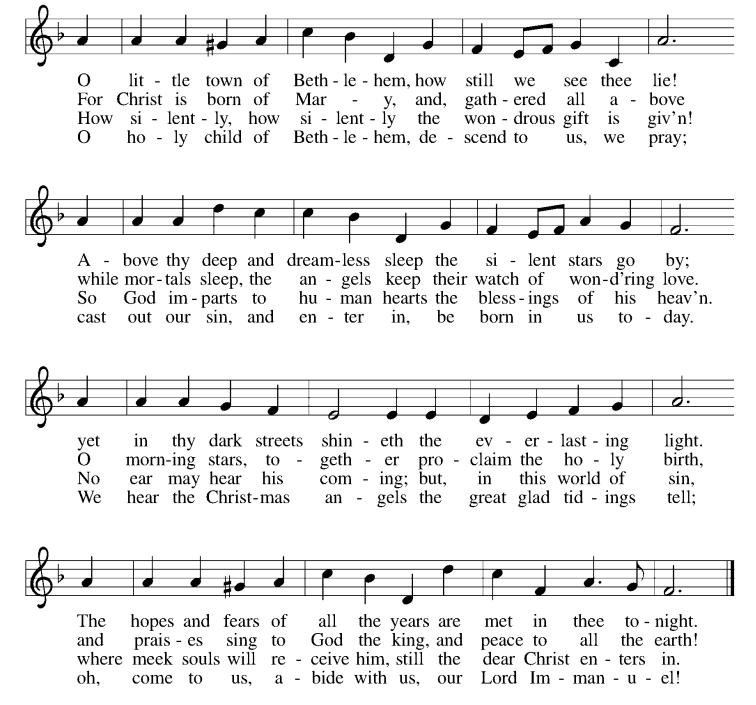
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.** 

**COMMUNION MEDITATION** 

**O Holy Night** Sandy Dunn and Cassy Todd, duet Adolphe Adam

COMMUNION CAROL ELW 279 O Little Town of Bethlehem







COMMUNION CAROL ELW 282 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



Carol

COMMUNION CAROL ELW 296 What Child Is This

Greensleeves



# SENDING

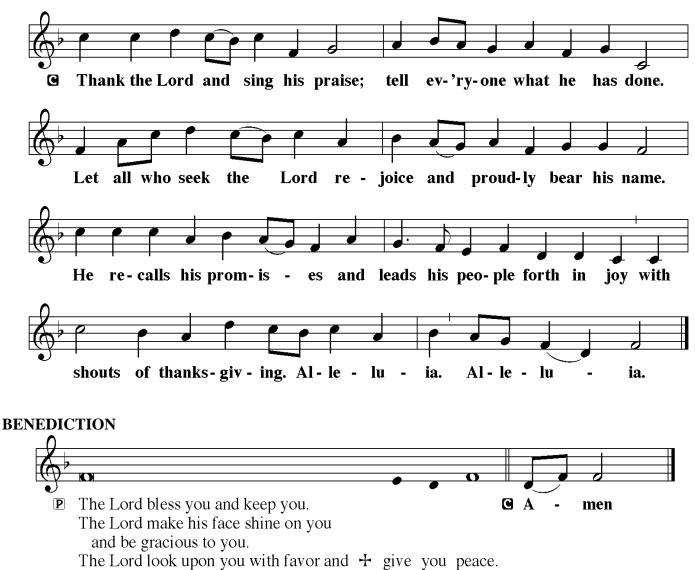
## BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL (Stand as you are able.)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.** 

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray together: God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



## **GOSPEL OF LIGHT**

#### John 1:1-14

The torches will pass down the center aisle. Those who are seated closest to the center will need to move toward the torch and light your candle, turn and share your light with others in your pew. \*\*\*Important\*\*\* **Tip the unlit candle into the lit candle.** 

#### **SENDING CAROL ELW 281**

Silent Night, Holy Night

Stille Nacht



**EXTINGUISH CANDLES** 

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. Thanks be to God.

Please take this time to ponder what Christ may be calling you/us to do through today's prayers, readings, sermons, and hymns as we listen to the postlude. \*\*If you are particularly moved by the Postlude, please hold your applause and congratulate the musician in person after worship.\*\*

## POSTLUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Flor Peeters



To the Glory of God

Tad and Ri Rick and L Vivian Grie	ynn Graves	Craig Peterson Mike and Ann Riley
Jack Adams		In memory of Marie L. Adams
In honor of Ashley,	Emily, Spencer, M	ichael, Micaela, Jacob, Isabella, Aaliyah, Lochlan, and Lincoln
Tom Clasen		In memory of his parents, Lois and Walter Clasen
Don and Sandi Glenn		In memory of Don's parents, Don and Annamarie Glenn
		Sandi's parents, Richard and Helen Hoppe
Jim and Jeane Fullen		In honor of our children
		In honor of our grandchildren
Vivian Griese		In honor of Richard, Stephanie, Sophia, and James Williams
		In honor of Nicholas, Sarah, Harper, and Luke Griese
Bob and Nancy Haberman		In memory of Henry and Ruth Jurgens, Henry Jurgens, Jr.
		Miles and Bessie Haberman, and William Schulze
Tom and Cheryl Hooks		In memory of our parents
Joy Hough		In memory of Pastor Stowe
Chip and Dawn Lomax, III		In honor of Chip's mom, Suzie Marcucci
In h	nonor of their child	ren and grandchildren—Rachel, Bo, Amiee, Rhodes, and Royce
Derry and Mary Mace		In memory of Betty and Bill Mace
		In memory of Charles and Michael Bobb
Russ and Joann Morrison		In memory of Steve Morrison
Debbi Ortiz		In memory of Lou and Eleanor Frasca
Ron and Sharon Rose	In memory of Alio	ce and Harwood Robins, Earnie Robins, Ronald and Betty Rose
		In honor of Victoria Rose, Emily, Tommy, Brooke Boehm
Dorie Scherer		In memory of George H. Scherer and F. R. Nartowicz
The Wells family		In memory of Al and Arlene Scherrer



## **Cross and Crown**

Wade Brown Jeremiah Green Dakota Jenkins Thomas Kipper Hayley O'Neill Micaela Ruhl

**Greeter** Linda Sutherland

## Handbell Choir

Carolyn Campbell Sandy Dunn Mary Jane Leckrone Rachel Lomax Mary Mace Mary Beth Mace Ashley Zamora Lay Assistant Josh Lowman

**Reader** Rita Foringer

**Technical Team** Barry Hutchison, Derry Mace, Mike Riley, Aaron Sutherland, Jenny Sutherland

## Ushers

John Campbell Jason Green Don Padula Peggy Todd

The flowers this evening are given to the glory of God by John and Carolyn Campbell in celebration of Sammie Campbell's birthday.

*Permission to print today's music is obtained through Augsburg, #SAS028379, One License, #A-730790 and CCLI, #11514371.* 

If you would like to give electronically to the church, you can do so by scanning one of the QR codes below.









