

# HAINESVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH — E L C A



Sunday, December 17th, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

"The Little Church with a Big Heart"

Presiding Minister: Pastor Mary Lou Plummer

Keyboard: Peggy Odegaard

Liturgist: Jim Hanstad

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**WELCOME TO WORSHIP at HAINESVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH.** *We're glad you're here. If you are visiting with us, please sign a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. We thank you for joining us in worship and pray that our time together is a blessing to you. And.... please join us for our weekly fellowship brunch after worship. There's always plenty and you are very welcome. If you are looking for a faith community, we would be pleased to have you call HVLC your "church home".*

## **PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE BELL**

## **WELCOME AND STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

**R** The fourth candle is traditionally called the Angel Candle. The angels are God's messengers who announce the coming of the Lord. The angel, Gabriel, spoke to Mary and Joseph to announce the birth of Jesus. The angels sang out with joy to proclaim Jesus' birth to the shepherds. The angel Michael announces the coming of Christ again in the Revelation to John. We hear angels' voices even today and wait with joy for Jesus.

**R** Gracious Lord,

**C** **let your angels' voices call to us now that we may receive good news of great joy. May that joyful good news of Jesus and his coming to Bethlehem change our lives and give us hope for when he comes again in power. Amen.**

*(Four candles are lit.)*

**HYMN:** *"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"* **HYMN #240 verse 4 only**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Everlasting God,

**C** **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

**P** Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

**C** **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" HYMN #242

GREETING

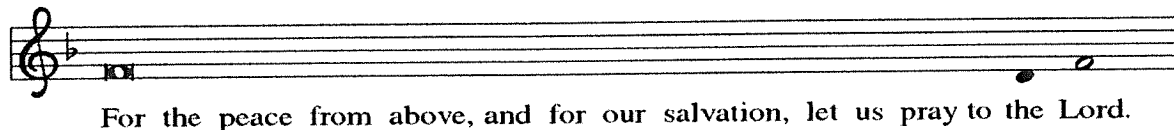
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

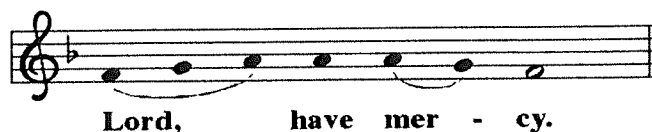
KYRIE (setting #3 pp139-140)



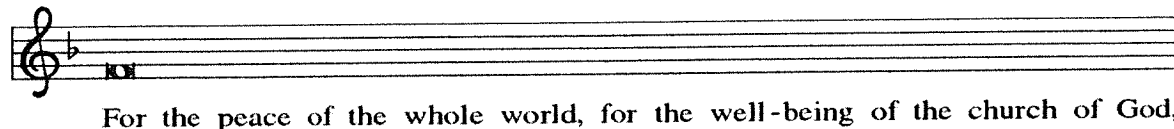
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



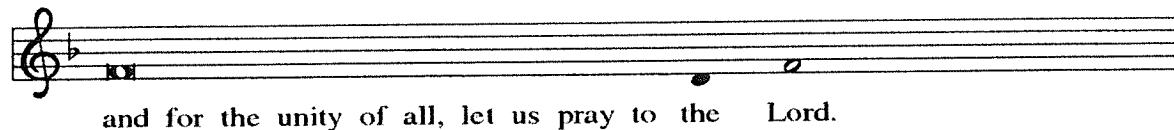
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.




Lord, have mer - cy.



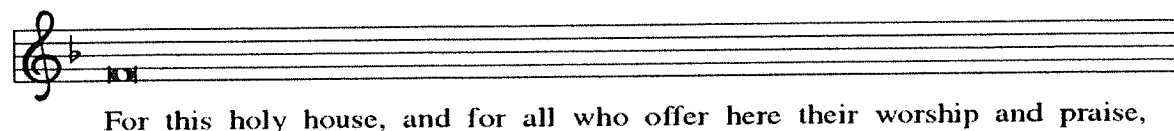
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



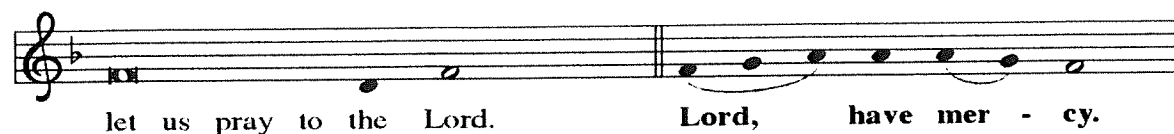
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



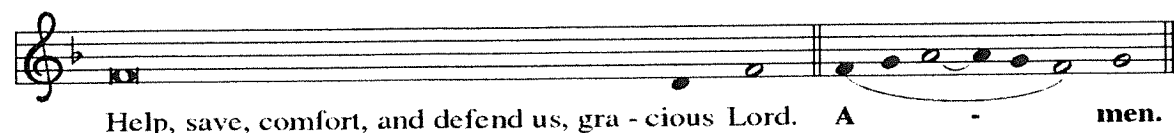
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

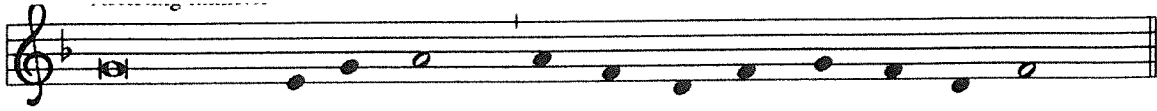


let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup>the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." <sup>3</sup>Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup>Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. <sup>7</sup>Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" <sup>8</sup>Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup>and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

R The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

## PSALM: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup>**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup>"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

<sup>4</sup>**‘I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.’”**  
<sup>19</sup>You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:  
 “I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.  
<sup>20</sup>**I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.**  
<sup>21</sup>My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong.  
<sup>22</sup>**No enemy shall deceive him, nor shall the wicked bring him down.**  
<sup>23</sup>I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.  
<sup>24</sup>**My faithfulness and steadfast love are with him,  
 and he shall be victorious through my name.**  
<sup>25</sup>I will set his hand on the sea, and his right hand on the rivers.  
<sup>26</sup>**He will say to me, ‘You are my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.’**

**SECOND READING: Romans 16:25-27**

<sup>25</sup>Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—<sup>27</sup>to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

R Word of God, Word of Life                      C Thanks be to God

**GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38**

*In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup>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. <sup>36</sup> And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> 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.

P      The Gospel of the Lord      C      **Praise to you O Christ.**  
*(please be seated)*

## **CHRISTMAS STORY**

**Congregation Youth**

*(please sing with the children at the correct time)*

### **Silent Night, Holy Night**

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!  
shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing, aleleuia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from your holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

### **Away in a Manger**

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;

the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lordss Jesus; look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.  
Be near me Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

### **Go Tell It on the Mountain**

#### *Refrain*

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

#### *Verse 1*

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens ther4e shone a holy light. *Refrain*

#### *Verse 2*

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

#### *Verse 3*

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

### **APOSTLES CREED** *(please stand as you are able)*

P Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles Creed  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the  
Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was  
crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose  
again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He**



will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

### RESPONSE TO PRAYERS

P *Merciful God*

C **Receive our prayer**

**Bill (Albert), Matt (Albert), Rusty (Allen), Tom (Angermeier), Devin (Bartos), Lyle (Berndt), Karen & Del (Brewer), Elaine & Jim (C), Eugene (Clark), Mike & Rina (Clumpner), Robert (Connrey), Allan & Betty (D), Danielle (Davis), Pat (Fenrich), Emery (Freiberg), Ruth (Grainger), Mathilde & Richard (Hannemann), Cindy (Knapp), Shari (Krueger), Ellie (Krull), Joe (May), Ken (Overland), Matthew (Rocque), Alice (Rocque-Angermeier), Lexi & Laci (S), Lori (Snyder), Eric (Thorson), Charlotte, Dave, Erik, Joe, and the family of Mary Bosben.**

C **Amen.**

### THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.** *(please share Christ's peace with one another)*  
*(you may be seated)*

### OFFERING

OFFERTORY *"Let the Vineyards" (please stand)*

HYMN #184

C **Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

### OFFERING PRAYER

P God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

## THE COMMUNION LITURGY *(sung — setting # 3 pp144)*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered in to 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**

P In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.

## COMMUNION HYMN

*"Here Is Bread"*

HYMN # 483

*"One Bread, One Body"*

HYMN # 496

### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION** *(you may be seated)*

*We welcome all believers in Christ to share in God's Holy meal. Please come to the front and receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available on the stand in the center. Children who have not received their first communion instruction are invited to come forward and receive a pastoral blessing.*

### **COMMUNION BLESSING** *(after the distribution has been completed - please stand)*

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

**C** Amen.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C** Amen.

### **BLESSING**

**P** The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### **TABLE BLESSING**

**P** Let us pray together the table blessing.

**C** Come Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed. Amen.

**SENDING HYMN**      *"He Came Down"*

**HYMN #253**

### **SENDING FORTH**

**P** Go in peace. Keep awake.

**C** Thanks be to God.... **AND WE WILL !!**

### **POSTLUDE**

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**Stewardship Opportunities Dec 17-24**

Today the fellowship meal is being provided by the folks whose last name begins A-K. December 31 the folks whose last name begins L-Z will be providing the meal.

**Week at a Glance Dec 17th-24th****Tuesday Noon**

WELCA Christmas Party

**Wednesday 8 AM**

Men's breakfast and Bible Study

**Wednesday at Noon**

Mid-week Advent Service at Tanum Forest

**Friday 9-12**

Office Hours for Lana

**NEXT SUNDAY at 4:00 PM**

Candlelight Christmas Eve worship

**Birthdays for December**

Dec 6th	Sandy Swagel
Dec 7th	Luke Brown
	Daylia Sund
Dec 11th	Jeff Gutschow
Dec 12th	David Grunwald
	Emily Hanson
Dec 13th	Bill Nusbaum
Dec 15th	Jeff Espe
Dec 16th	Lyle Berndt
	Becca Larson
Dec 18th	Bob Larson
Dec 20th	Colleen Melland
Dec 21st	Dave Freier
Dec 22nd	Bill Albert
Dec 27th	Rick Hannemann
Dec 30th	Dony Antholt
Dec 31st	William Markham

*Attendance last week: 55*

*Advent Concert: 100*

*Mid-week service: 29*

**Anniversaries for December**

Dec 3rd	MarJean & Jerry Gutschow
Dec 18th	Dianne & Merle Eskildsen

Because of the increasing number of new members, during the last annual meeting the idea of wearing name tags during Sunday church services was suggested. The positive response by the congregation caused us to pursue the idea.

Name tags for church members have been created and are found down in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick yours up and keep at home or in your car when not in use. We are requesting that they be worn each Sunday during the months of November and December. Starting in January, the first Sunday of the month will be name tag Sunday. Wearing name tags during the other Sundays is optional. We ask that name tags be also worn on Sundays when new members join the church. Ushers will also be expected to wear their name tags.

Any questions you may have can be directed to Ellen Klister or Jim Vogel.

Christ in our Home is now available for January—March. Copies at the front and back of the sanctuary.

Serving in worship today (December 17th)

Presiding minister: Pastor Mary Lou Plummer  
Liturgist: Jim Hanstad  
Ushers: Joanne Adlon & Evelyn Breider  
Reader: Joanne Adlon  
Communion Assist: Joanne Adlon  
Keyboard: Peggy Odegaard

Reader: Marie Weber  
Ushers: Ellen & Russ Klister  
Keyboard: Peggy Odegaard

Readings for next week (December 24th)

**Isaiah 9:2-7** *Light shines: a child is born for us*  
**Psalm 96** Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. (Ps. 96:11)  
**Titus 2:11-14** *The grace of God has appeared*  
**Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]** *God with us*

Serving in worship next week (December 24th)

Presiding minister: Pastor Mary Lou Plummer

Stained-Glass Windows

A HUGE thank you to Mama J and the Praise Hounds for the Christmas Concert last Sunday. It was an excellent concert with lots of beautiful music. There were many visitors here as well. We are happy to announce almost \$4,000.00 was raised that day.

IN ADDITION an anonymous couple has pledged to match up to \$5,000.00 in additional funds raised. If we can reach this goal we will be very close to the amount needed for the windows.

.Please sign up in the fellowship area for the Christmas Party meal for the WELCA. It will be a great time for fellowship. They will be exchanging a \$10.00 gift.

*In the event of weather related closings at church—  
please listen to WDOR for cancellation notices and check our Facebook page*

**The Poinsettias that bless our worship have been given by:**

**Tom & Alice Angermeier**

*In memory of Randy Hansen  
In memory of Lester & Lorraine Hansen  
In memory of Hank & Maralee Angermeier  
In memory of Tom Rocque*

**Evelyn Breider**

*In memory of John H. Breider  
In memory of Barbara Foster*

**Merle & Dianne Eskildsen (2)**

*In memory of Norbert & Esther Jeanquart  
In memory of Glenn & Lill Eskildsen*

**Roy Jilburg (2)**

*In memory of Joanna Jilburg  
In memory of Anna Lisa Jilburg*

**Russ & Ellen Klister**

*In memory of Rose & Ray Klister  
In honor of Marlene & Pete Larson*

**Joe Korte (2)**

*In memory of Kathy Korte*

**Pete & Marlene Larson**

*In memory of Eleanor & Emanuel Mueller  
In memory of Sophie & Thomas Larson*

**John & Carolyn Melland**

*In memory of Mary Bosben*

**Arne & Peggy Odegaard (4)**

*In memory of Ruth & Arne Odegaard  
In memory of Catherine, Cleo, & Linda Funk*

**Mary Lou Plummer (2)**

*In memory of Lloyd Berg  
In memory of John & Dorothy Curran*

**Kathy Schmitz & Rilynn (2)**

*In memory of Jim & Sandy  
In memory of Roy & Dorothy Schmitz*

**Jan Shusta**

*In memory of David Borchart*

**Jim & Marla Vogel**

*In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Vogel  
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Orman Strechert*

**Plants can be taken home after the service on Sunday, December 31st**