



CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2023

4:00 P.M.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

MINNEAPOLIS

WELCOME TO ALL

*The people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church wish to extend a special welcome to all visitors!
Please leave your name and phone number on the visitor card found in the pew.*

*We are committed to the inclusion of all people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice **open communion**, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.*

Children are full participants in this congregation's worship, educational, and community life! The Mary Martha Room is a quiet space for infants needing to nurse or to nap. For active toddlers, the Community Room has a Children's Corner with books and a table at which to play. Our ushers are ready to assist you in finding the place that best fits your family's needs.

***Accessible and all-gender restrooms** are located in the nursery on the 2nd floor and in the basement.
Single-use, all gender restrooms are located on the 1st floor.*

*For over forty years, this congregation has advocated for the **full welcome, inclusion, and equity** of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the church and the community. We invite all people into lives of authenticity, integrity, and wholeness.*

***Hearing assist devices and large-print bulletins** are available. Ask an usher if you are interested.*

*Our **services are livestreamed** on Vimeo and Facebook every week. The live shot includes the main floor of the sanctuary. Our members who watch from home love to see their friends at church! If for privacy reasons you prefer not to be on camera, the balcony is outside of the camera's range.*

*We continue to monitor case counts, vaccination rates, and updated research on **COVID-19** to inform our precautions and are especially aware of changing patterns with regards to new variants. We are deeply grateful for this community's care for and attentiveness to one another, especially for the vulnerable in our midst. The most important thing you can do to care for the community is **stay home if you feel any symptoms**, regardless of vaccination status. If you need help finding a vaccine, speak to a pastor today.*

*If you are seeking **pastoral care**, please speak to a pastor today.*

GATHER

+invites the congregation to stand

PRELUDE

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime
À la Venue de Noël*

*arr. John Ferguson
arr. Paul Manz
Claude Balbastre*

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

At the conclusion of the introduction, please stand and face the cross at the rear of the sanctuary.



O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O come, ye, O
The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal, born of a
Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye
Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je - sus, to



come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him,
vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; Son of the Fa - ther
cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove! Glo - ry to God ...
thee be ... glo - ry giv'n! Word of the Fa - ther,



born the king of an - gels;
now in flesh ap - pear - ing! O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
in ... the ... high - est:
now in flesh ap - pear - ing;



dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

+GREETING

The grace of 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

God of rough hands and hardened feet, giving spirit to the people of earth: in agony of birth and gentleness of newborn skin, may we discover your ordinary beauty in the heart of our longing world; through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh — God's divine embrace.
Amen.

Please be seated.

WELCOME

WORD

READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Go, Tell It on the Mountain
Children's and Young Adults Choirs

arr. Victor C. Johnson

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

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

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

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

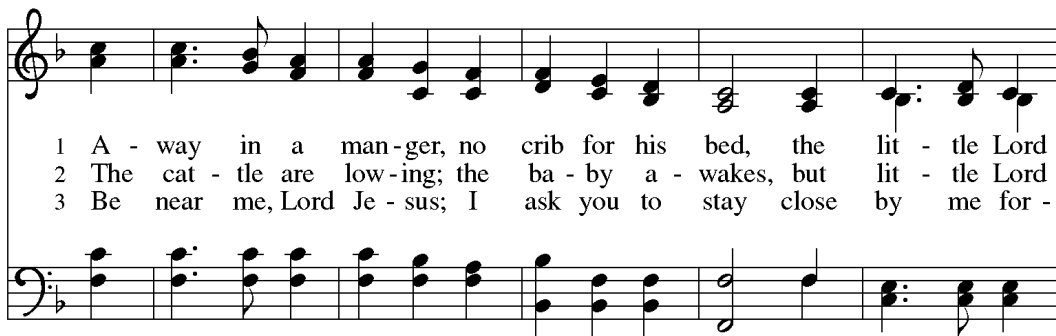
READING

Luke 2:1-7

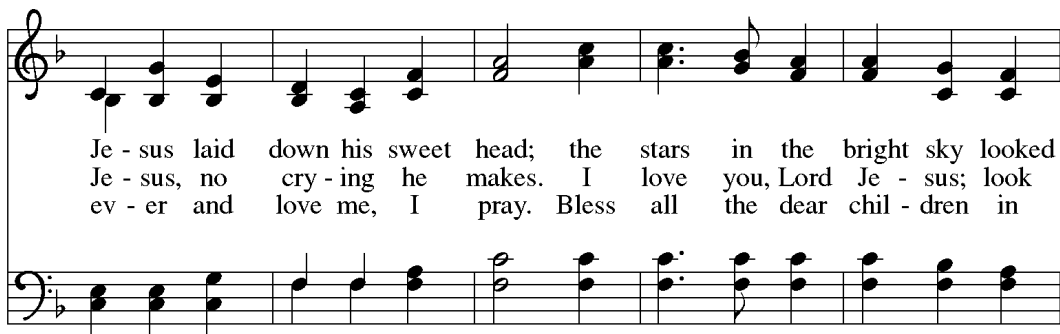
Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

READING

Luke 2:8-14

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

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.

Refrain



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



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

READING

Luke 2:15-20

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

He Came Down

Cameroon Traditional

The choirs will sing the first verse. All are invited to join on the remaining verses.

He came down that we may have LOVE,

He came down that we may have LOVE,

He came down that we may have LOVE,

Hallelujah forevermore!

(HOPE, PEACE, and JOY are inserted with each new verse)

SERMON

+HYMN OF THE DAY

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!

+PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lynda Nordholm

Emmanuel, child of God, be with us this night. Emmanuel, child of Mary, come to us this night. Born out of beautiful darkness comes your beloved life – a life of expectant joy and hope and peace and love to our barren hearts, to our weary world. Make mangers from our earthly lives, we pray,

Come to us, abide in us.

Emmanuel, all nature sings this night. Winter frost sparkles, ice creaks and crackles, the moon shoots amber glow, evergreens and birch offer connective moan, fuzzy mammals chatter, a far-off birdsong trills. Help us to be mindful, to keep watch over your creative realm. Especially in the stillness and long nights of winter, help us to experience wonder, to sense awe, we pray,

Come to us, abide in us.

Emmanuel, you most holy, came to overturn systems of injustice and oppression. Your life brought down the mighty and raised up the least among us. We embrace your way of truth and justice that releases all held captive. Find the refugia in our lives from which new energy and life might emerge to strengthen our voices and work for equity. Guide us toward a time when all will know your mercy, we pray,

Come to us, abide in us.

Emmanuel, you know human pain and suffering. Come to all who are struggling with deep loss and are living in the shadow of grief. Be with all who are shrouded in fear. Be with all who are distressed and dejected from want of home or food. Be with all whose bodies or minds are barriers to fullness of health. Be with all who feel unloved or alone. Impart to our human hearts your healing and peace, we pray,

Come to us, abide in us.

Emmanuel, on this holiest of nights, we hear the ancient story – that you are born among us, that you are given for us. You come to us this night in the bread and wine. We remember. We yearn to make the story real. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. For such a wondrous gift, we pray,

Come to us, abide in us.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

OFFERING

See Amid the Winter's Snow
Young Adult Choir

Susan Brumfield

See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below.
See the tender lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the starry skies.
He who, throned in height sublime sits amid the cherubim.

Hail, thou ever blessed morn. Hail, redemption's happy dawn.
Sing through all Jerusalem. Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Say, ye holy shepherds say "What your joyous news today?"
"Wherefore have you left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?"

As we watched at dead of night, Lo, we saw a wondrous light.
Angels singing "Peace on earth" told us of the Savior's birth.

Teach us to resemble Thee, in Thy sweet humility.
See amid the winter's snow.

+OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Electric candles can be lit by turning the flame. Worship leaders will come to the aisles to light your wax candles. When lighting wax candles, please tip only the unlit candle.

+HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night!

Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds, quake
 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.

Please take care when extinguishing your candles.

MEAL

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

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, we raise our voices with saints and angels and all creation in joyful praise to your holy name:

+SANCTUS

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re-
4. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the
ceive her king; let ev-'ry heart pre-pare him
na-tions prove the glo-ries of his righ-teous-
ness and heav'n and na-ture sing, and heav'n and na-ture
sing, and won-ders of his love, and won-ders of his
sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na-ture sing.
love, and won-ders, won-ders of his love.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together:

**Our Creator, Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

COMMUNION INVITATION

The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. All are welcome at the table. For those worshiping at home and those who prefer during Covid-time to commune with individual packets in your pews, hear these words spoken for you: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion is served by intinction.

*Upon receiving the bread, dip it into the divided chalice which contains
both red wine and white grape juice.*

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the server.

All are welcome at the table.

If you wish to receive communion from a pastor in your pew, please let an usher know.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime



- 1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time when all the birds had fled, that
- 2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a
- 3 The ear - liest moon of win - ter - time is not so round and fair as
- 4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel - song is true; the



*God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -
rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but
was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The
ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan - d'ring hunt - ers heard the hymn:
as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:
chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.
kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Love Has Come



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

+BLESSING

The body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

+HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
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!"

+BENEDICTION

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

P. Radtke

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406

612-729-8358 ☒ htlcmpls.org

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

4:00 PM

Preacher	Deacon David Rojas Martinez
Crucifer	Wayne Vetter
Assisting Minister	Melanie Townsend
Ushers	Chris Engen, DeWayne Townsend, Julie & Tom Cahoy
Altar Guild	Kathryn Howe
Closer	Roberta Shaw

STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen, *Lead Pastor*
Angela Khabeb, *Senior Associate Pastor*
Doug Mork, *Part-time Associate Pastor*
Pam Wetterlund, *Communications &
Congregational Coordinator*
Nolan Gusdal, *Building Maintenance*
David Rojas Martinez, *Community
Engagement & Education Coordinator*
Phil Radtke, *Cantor*
Kaia Ellis, *Financial Administrator*

STAFF, CONTINUED

Sue Roberts, *Publications Coordinator*
Erik Gerhardt, *Accompanist*
Kathy Ekwall, *Custodian*
Dennis Nordholm, *Custodian*
Logan Olson, *Gloria Ringers Director*

LEADERSHIP

David Broberg, *Council President*
Gretchen Lund, *Council Vice President*
Connie Adams, *Council Secretary*
Scott Cole, *Treasurer*

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts.1,3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

"Away in a Manger" Text: North American, 19th cent., Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841-1905

"Angels We Have Heard on High" Text: French carol; tr. H.F.Hemy, "The Crown of Jesus Music," 1864,
Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866. Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German Carol, 14th cent.

"Silent Night, Holy Night!" Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885. Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787-1863

"Joy to the World" Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893. Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

"Love Has Come" Text: Den Bible, b. 1950. Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, 'Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale, 1856
Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP). % Integrity Media, Inc.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847;
arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915 Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704054

Artwork: Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. *Nativity with Children*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Original source: Estate of Frank Wesley,

P A R I S H I N F O R M A T I O N

PASTOR ANGELA ON LEAVE

Pastor Angela is on leave. To honor this time of rest, we ask you to refrain from emails, phone calls, and text messages (even the most kind and loving ones!). Your prayers are, of course, welcome and appreciated.

YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

The Financial Stewardship Committee met on Tuesday evening. They would like to invite each household to consider a year-end gift. We are currently behind approximately \$23,000 in regular member giving. If you able to complete your pledge or share a little extra before December 31, church leadership would greatly appreciate it. To donate online, go to www.htlcmpls.org/donate. *Contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2022, to be counted as a 2022 donation. Thank you!*

YOUTH RECITAL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 10:00 A.M.

We celebrate the musical gifts of several of Holy Trinity's young people during our annual music recital in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. This will serve as our adult forum for the day.

ADULT FORUM JANUARY 8 SPONSORED BY THE PALESTINE/ISRAEL WORKING GROUP

"Personal Journey and Perspective on Water Rights in Palestine" with speaker Ashraf Ashkar

Sunday, January 8, 10:00 a.m. in the Library and on Zoom

Ashraf Ashkar was born and raised in Palestine in a village near Tulkarm. He did his undergraduate work in Palestine outside of the city of Jenin. He also worked there on water rights with OCHA, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and with Oxfam UK. Ashraf will bring his story of growing up in Palestine, highlighting some of the economic and political struggles related to water rights.

SAVE THE DATE FOR WINTER FAMILY RETREAT, FEBRUARY 17-19, 2023

Join other families for a weekend of rest and renewal as well as family-friendly fun with church members of all ages at the YMCA Camp St. Croix in Hudson, Wisconsin, from Friday, February 17, to Sunday, February 19. Watch for more information, in January.

Poinsettias in the chancel area were given in loving memory of

Parents, by David & Carol Berg

Harry Heltsley, by Mary Heltsley

Loved ones, by Joyce Peterson

Pamela, by David Rediger

Husband Paul and brothers Nathan Schiotz and J. Paul Schiotz, by Lois Eid

Rose, Paul, and Viola Lundquist, by Pat Lundquist

Marion & Robert Anderson, by Vicki Bergman

Loved ones, by Carol Masters

Violet Wells, by the Wells Family

Parents Helen and Charles Cotton and Doug and Lola Cole, by Stephanie & Scott Cole

Tove Ann Kjeseth, by Karla Elmberg & Peder Kjeseth

George Lewis, by Pam Kildahl

John Kelly, by Carol Kelly

Nathalie Joy Johnson, by Tony Parsons

Hugh Parks, Ron Peterson, and Bud & Sylvia Dixen, by Sally Parks

Loved ones, by Margaret Peterson

David & Joann Goodlaxson and Robert & Adoria Brose, by Bob Brose & Donna Goodlaxson

Katie's brother Scott and Steve's dad Steve ("Boochie Bob"), by the Murray family

Parents Earl & Vivian Anderson and Chet & Peggy Englund, by Sharon & Rob Englund

Gene Petersen, by Mary Petersen

The 5 people killed at an LGBTQ nightclub in Colorado Springs,

by Michael and Marilyn Miller

Robert, Olaf, and Blanche Kelly, by Dorothy Kelly

Loved ones by Carole Ann Schneiders

Ronald G. Peterson by Jim & Marcia Sheldon

Jason SantaAna-White by Ann White

Nancy Wiberg by Joel Wiberg

and in honor of

Grandmother Lila Meyer, by Anna Brelje

With thanksgiving for the fellowship and all of you at Holy Trinity, by Linda and Dean Simpson

In appreciation and love for the Khabebe family: Angela, Benhi, Konami, Khenna, and Khonni

by Dennis, Marika, and Lydia

With gratitude to the staff of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church by Bob Hulteen