

# THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Day 2024 -- Immanuel Lutheran Church, Schleswig, IA

*“The Good News of Christmas!”*

## AS WE GATHER

Every Christmas we celebrate the truth that our Father in heaven kept His promise to send a Savior to save and redeem a lost and rebellious world. Our joy is that He has sought us out when we separated ourselves from Him because of our sin. On this Christmas Day we celebrate that Jesus our Savior is born—this is God’s Christmas Good News for us! Everyone who believes in this Infant who came to buy us back from sin and Satan with His own blood has forgiveness, new life, even eternal life! How wonderful it is that we are not forsaken but that God has sought us out that we could live with Him forever!

*The coming of Christ in the flesh at Bethlehem was a concrete outward act of God in humble means that was despised by the world. The flesh and blood coming of Christ in the **Lord’s Supper** is also a concrete outward act of God in humble means that can be despised. Rather than despise it, however, God would have us delight in it! With deep thankfulness for His gift to us here we also express our deep desire to celebrate it according to God’s Will. As this includes oneness in the faith we confess (doctrine), **guests** who desire to commune are asked to speak with the pastor before the service.*

## THE WELCOME

*(please stand)*

## THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN #380 “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 ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



*Refrain*  
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King!”

## THE INVOCATION AND OPENING VERSES

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: In the beginning was the Word

**C: and the Word was with God and the Word was God.** (*John 1:1*)

P: In Him was life and that life was the light of men.

**C: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.** (*John 1:4-5*)

P: The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.

**C: We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.** (*John 1:14*)

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: O heavenly Father, on this day of great joy, we acknowledge before You our deep sorrow and grief.

**C: We are the reason Your Son came into this world darkened by our sin to suffer and die for our salvation.**

*(Silent reflection on God's Word and self-examination)*

P: O almighty God,

**C: Merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

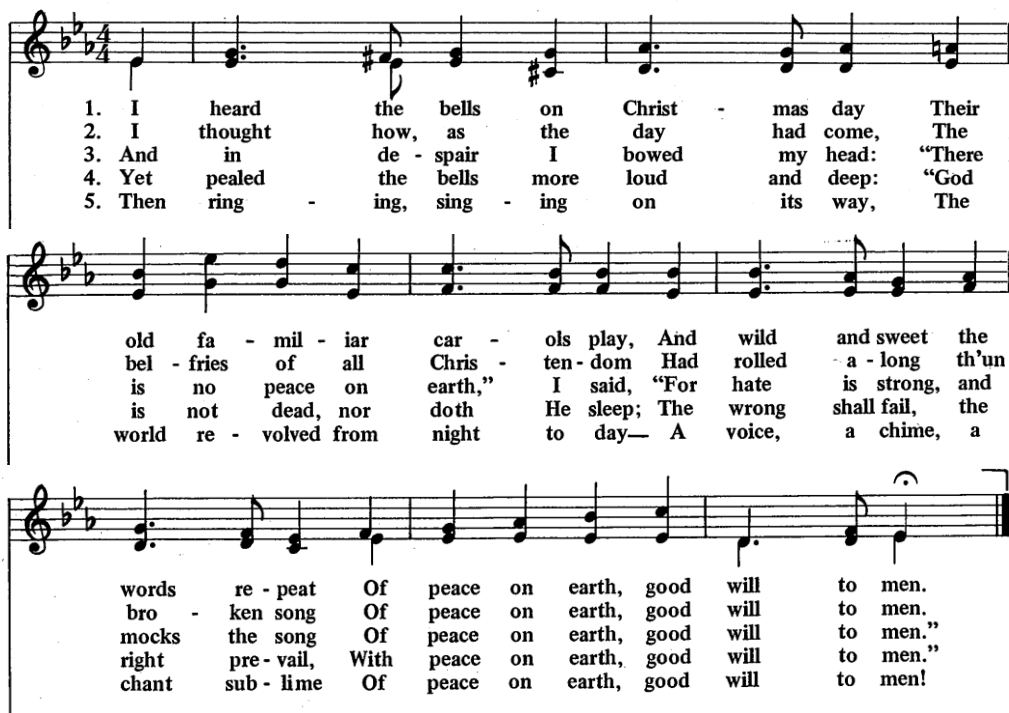
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*(John 20:19-23)*

*(please be seated)*

## THE HYMN "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"



1. I heard the bells on Christmas day Their  
 2. I thought how, as the day had come, The  
 3. And in despair I bowed my head: "There  
 4. Yet pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God  
 5. Then ring - ing, sing - ing on its way, The

old fa - mil - iar car - ols play, And wild and sweet the  
 bel - fies of all Chris - ten - dom Had rolled a - long th'un -  
 is no peace on earth," I said, "For hate is strong, and  
 is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The wrong shall fail, the  
 world re - volved from night to day— A voice, a chime, a

words re - peat Of peace on earth, good will to men.  
 bro - ken song Of peace on earth, good will to men.  
 mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to men."  
 right pre - vail, With peace on earth, good will to men."  
 chant sub - lime Of peace on earth, good will to men!

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 52:7-10 (ESV)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings good news of happiness, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted His people; He has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## THE HYMN #386 "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"



1 Now sing we, now re - joice,      Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
2 Come from on high to me;      I can - not rise to Thee.  
3 Now through His Son doth shine      The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.  
4 Oh, where shall joy be found?      Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth      Poor in a man - ger lies;  
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,      O pure and ho - ly Child;  
Death was reign - ing o'er us      Through sin and van - i - ty  
Where the an - gels sing - ing      With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth      The sun in yon - der skies.  
Through Thy grace and mer - it,      Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
Till He o - pened for us      A bright e - ter - ni - ty.  
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing      In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!      Thou my Sav - ior art!  
Draw me un - to Thee!      Draw me un - to Thee!  
May we praise Him there!      May we praise Him there!  
Oh, that we were there!      Oh, that we were there!

## THE EPISTLE Titus 2:11-14 (ESV)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*(please stand)*

## THE VERSE "Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn" (LSB 391)

**Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn, A Savior unto us is born,  
The Christ, the Lord of glory! His lowly birth in Bethlehem  
The angels from on high proclaim And sing redemption's story!  
My soul, extol God's great favor Bless Him ever For salvation;  
Give Him praise and adoration!**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



☐ Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn Son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a Baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise to You, O Christ.

## THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*(please be seated)*

## THE HYMN OF THE DAY #376 "Once in Royal David's City"



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a  
2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is  
3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by  
4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His  
5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her  
God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a  
day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and  
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and  
ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y  
sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the  
help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He  
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He  
heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.  
leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.  
stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

**THE SERMON** “*The Good News of Christmas*” Text: Isaiah 52:7-10

*(please stand)*

**THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS** “*What Child Is This*” (#370, verse 3)

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him.**

**The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.**

**Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;**

**Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!**

**THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P: O almighty God, we praise You and give You thanks for Your work of creation and, even more, for Your work of lovingly reclaiming and redeeming the world. You have dealt with us not as we deserve, but have saved us by the pure and perfect gift of Your grace alone. May the whole world and all creation acknowledge Your greatness and look to You for every good and perfect gift. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: This day we celebrate the birth of Your Word, Your Son, to take on our human flesh and blood in order to come to us and be our Savior. Bless the preaching of all pastors and the witness of all Christians, that many may be drawn to their Savior, hear Him, receive Him, believe in Him, and love Him as the source of their life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Bless this congregation with Your presence.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel! (*LSB 361:4*) Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, grant the calmness of Your peace to those in the authority of government in our nation and throughout the world. Make wars to end and justice to reign in defense of all people, especially those unable to defend themselves. Grant Your blessing to all who serve You by serving us, those in the military and those who guard and protect us from danger. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Come and abide with all who are in need of Your present help, those who are sick, the injured, the lonely, the homeless, the unemployed, those in prison, and all those who look to You for abundant mercy, especially those we name before You silently now in our hearts [*we pause for silent prayer*]. Comfort and heal them as You best know how and give them that inner peace and joy of faith that believes in the power of Your goodness and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: As we lay before You the offerings of ourselves and especially this bread and wine, the fruits of the earth, grant us Your blessing that we may receive the gift of our Lord's body and blood according to His command and testament for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: In the birth of Your Son, You have called people from all times and places into the Body of Christ, His Church. We give You thanks for all the believers who have gone before us, especially who have been with us during Christmases past and now live with You. Give us a sure confidence in Your promise of resurrection and eternal life, and bring us at last together with them into Your presence at the full coming of Your kingdom. Bless us with Your peace, comfort, and joy in Jesus our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT *(printed on page 160 in the hymnal)*

### THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#### #379 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come\_\_\_ ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to Thee\_\_\_ be\_\_\_ glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God\_\_\_ In\_\_\_ the\_\_\_ high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

#### *Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



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



### #387 "Joy To The World"



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
joy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
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.

*(please stand)*

### THE DISMISSAL

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Go in peace.

**C:** Amen.

## THE POSTCOMMUNION CANTICLE ~ *The Nunc Dimittis* ~ *The Song of Simeon*



**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

## THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P:** O merciful Lord, You came among us in our flesh and blood to fulfill the Law and to pay the price of our sin. We thank You for feeding us with Your body and blood for our forgiveness. Grant us the Holy Spirit that we may faithfully receive Your coming and live our lives to the praise of Your glory. Keep us from all temptations and trials and use us to boldly speak the Good News of Your birth to all people everywhere; for You live and reign with the Father and the Spirit one God, one Lord, both now and forevermore.

**C:** Amen.

## THE BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✕ give you peace.



**C** A - men.

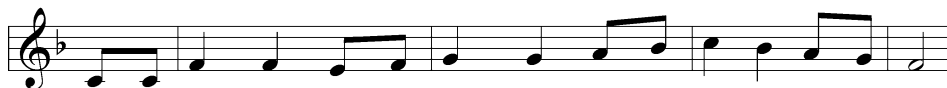
*(please be seated)*

## THE CLOSING HYMN #393 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;

2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new



Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.

Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:

Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

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

*Please greet one another as you leave.*

*Merry Christmas!*

**Acknowledgments** Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.  
Reprinted with permission. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

## 2024 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



- \* Loren & Janice Jepsen and family in memory of Leslie & Eileen Grell
- \* Loren & Janice Jepsen and family in memory of Ruth Jackson
- \* Daryl & Barb Pedersen in memory of loved ones
- \* JoAnn Riessen in memory of Erwin & Elfie Riessen
- \* Curtis & Angela Korner and family in memory of loved ones
- \* The Bruhn, Hargens, Korner, Paulsen & Wiebers families in memory of Cole Schneider
- \* JoAnn Clausen and family in memory of Larry Clausen and Colton Clausen
- \* JoAnn Clausen and family in memory of Leona & Theo Aldag and Bernice & Andrew Clausen
- \* Craig & K'Lynn Harm in memory of loved ones
- \* Craig & Val Teut in memory of Virgene Fredericks and Taylor Marie Teut
- \* Bruce & Cindi Paulsen in memory of loved ones
- \* Dave & Jac Friedrichsen in memory of Freddie & Elaine Friedrichsen
- \* Dave & Jac Friedrichsen in memory of Kent & Joan Johnson
- \* Lowell & Julie Teut in memory of Taylor Marie Teut and Tyler Banks (our grandchildren)
- \* Lowell & Julie Teut in memory of Lenhardt & Anna Teut and Fred & Viola Jess (our parents)
- \* Joel & Sandy Bubke in memory of our family & friends
- \* Richard & Becky Hanlin in memory of loved ones
- \* Kent & Nan Bornhoft in memory of parents Harold & Irma Bornhoft, Janice Allen & Gary Howard
- \* Bruce & Cathy Namanny and family in memory of loved ones
- \* Marie Peters and family in memory of Richard Peters
- \* Leroy Hight in memory of Marlene Hight and loved ones
- \* Dennis & Coleen Bruhn in memory of loved ones
- \* Nancy Bielenberg in memory of Herbert & Arlene Teut
- \* Darwin & Julie Petersen in memory of Dwight & Beverly Winquist and Jerry Winquist.
- \* Wayne & Joyce Miller in memory of Ken Miller
- \* Wayne & Joyce Miller in memory of our parents
- \* Richard Fredericks in memory of Virgene Fredericks and Taylor Marie Teut
- \* Mike & Tracy Beeck and family in memory of Marlene Hight and Larry & Jolene Beeck
- \* Donna Harm and family in memory of Roger Harm
- \* Josh & Ashley Beeck and family in memory of friends & loved ones
- \* Derick & Amanda Bruhn and family in memory of loved ones
- \* Eric & Renae Schneider and family in memory of Cole Schneider
- \* The Bruhn, Hargens, Korner, Paulsen & Schneider families in memory of Jason Wiebers
- \* Lodean & Sandra Voss and family in memory of Louis & Alice Aldag and Erwin & Marvella Voss
- \* Joyce Detlefsen in memory of Guenter Detlefsen
- \* Roger & Karin Schneider in memory of loved ones
- \* Harry & Kay Riessen in memory of loved ones
- \* Kristin Hennings & Andrew Palmersheim in memory of Warren Hennings and Jerry & Jenell Meseck
- \* Tim & Lila Bubke in memory of their parents, siblings, family & friends

Thank you for placing poinsettias to the Glory of God.  
You may take them home after the 9:00 Christmas Day worship service.