



THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
December 24, 2025 - 4:00pm

# Inspired by Christ, Trinity Episcopal Church strives to love our neighbors, do justice, and walk humbly with God.

#### All are welcome.

If you are a guest today, welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church. Please help us to connect by signing our online guestbook (scan the QR code) or visit with one of our greeters and clergy. For more information, visit us online or call the church office at (504) 522-0276.



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**f** Trinity Episcopal Church New Orleans



trinityepiscopalnola



www.trinitynola.com

#### Children in Church

**Changing tables** are located in the accessible stalls of both bathrooms in the Undercroft and Bishops Hall foyer.

**Nursery Care** is available from beginning at 3:30pm for children age 3 and under. A Safe Church, Safe Communities certified adult is supported by our Nursery Team to welcome our littlest church members with joy and excitement. Contact: abond@trinitynola.com.

**The Pray Ground** is located at the front left of the church and serves as a place where young children can experience worship while being physically comfortable. Spirit Bags, soft materials, and books are available in this place. Please help your child enjoy this space quietly and peacefully.

**To Parents:** Relax! God put the wiggle in children. Don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome.

**To the Members of our Parish:** The presence of children is a gift to the Church! They are members of our community and a reminder that our parish is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to the parents.

<sup>\*</sup>Cover art is a gift from Tim Trapolin.

# The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2025 - 4:00pm

# The Eve of the Nativity of our Lord The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude, Prelude in C Major, EWV 547

J.S. BACH

### Hymn in Procession

O come all ye faithful (verses 1-3 and 6) Please stand as you are able.

ADESTE FIDELIS





6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

#### ∞ The Acclamation

Remain standing as you are able.

Celebrant The people who walked in darkness,

People have seen a great light.

Celebrant For to us a Child is born,

People to us a Son is given.

Celebrant His Name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

People the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

# ∞ The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *People Amen.* 



# The Word of God

∞ The First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

Please be seated.

he people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. 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. 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Gradual, Good King Wenceslas

CLAIRE SHORE

Remain seated.

Good King Wenceslas looked out on the Feast of Stephen, When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even. Brightly shone the moon that night, though the frost was cruel, When a poor man came in sight, gathering winter fuel.

"Hither page and stand by me, if you know it telling Yonder peasant who is he? Where and what his dwelling?" "Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain, right again the forest fence, by Saint Agnes' fountain."

"Bring me food and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hither, You and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither." Page and monarch forth they went, forth they went together, Through the cold wind's wild lament, and the bitter weather.

"Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger, Fails my heart, I know not how; I can go no longer."
"Mark my footsteps my good page, tread now in them boldly, You shall find the winter's rage freeze your blood less coldly."

In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted; Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed, Therefore, Christian men be sure, wealth or rank possessing, You who now will bless the poor, shall yourselves find blessing.

he grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are selfcontrolled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 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. Reader Thanks be to God. People

#### The Sequence Hymn

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed

**CRADLE SONG** Please stand as you are able.



Luke 2:1-14

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

n those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

∞ The Sermon

THE REVEREND LEX BRECKINRIDGE

Silence follows the sermon.

### ∞ The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able and say together

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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

∞ The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

On this holy night your Son our Savior was born in human flesh; renew this Church as the Body of Christ that we may serve others as you have served us. Holy God, hear our prayer.

On this holy night you were born a King of kings and Lord of lords; inspire those with power and authority to work toward your kingdom on earth as in heaven. Holy God, hear our prayer.

On this holy night you were born in a stable; open our doors and hearts to those who have no home and those who struggle in poverty. Holy God, hear our prayer.

On this holy night the angels sang, "Peace to God's people on earth!"; strengthen those who work for peace and justice in New Orleans and in all the world. Holy God, hear our prayer.

On this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy; give us grace to bring the gospel of Christ's joy to the sick, the naked, prisoners, and those who are hungry. Holy God, hear our prayer.

On this holy night heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven; hold in your hand all those who have died in the hope of your closer presence. Holy God, hear our prayer.

On this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth; open our hearts that the Word made flesh may be born in us today. Holy God, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

#### ∞ The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The People greet one another.

∞ Welcome and Announcements

# The Holy Communion

## The Offertory Anthem, The Seven Joys of Mary

PAUL WEBER

The first good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of one: It was the joy of her dear Son when he was born so young. Glory may he be, and blessed now is she, and those who sing the sevenlong verses in honor of our Lady.

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of two: It was the joy of her dear Son when he was sent to school: Glory may he be...

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of three: It was the joy of her dear Son when he led the blind to see. Glory may he be...

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of four: It was the joy of her dear Son to read the Prophets o'er. Glory may he be...

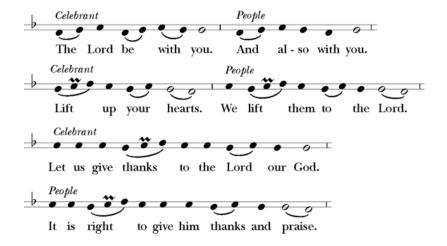
The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of five: It was the joy of her dear Son to raise the dead to life. The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of six: It was the joy of her dear Son to bear the Crucifix. The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of seven: It was the joy of her dear Son to conquer hell and heaven. Glory may he be...

## ∞ The Doxology

Please stand as you are able.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

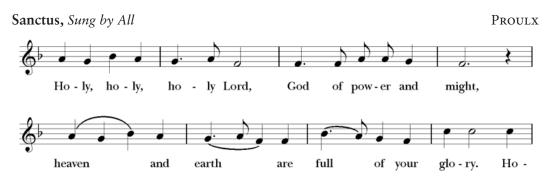
# ∞ The Great Thanksgiving

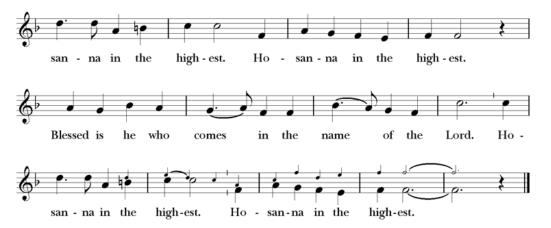


*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



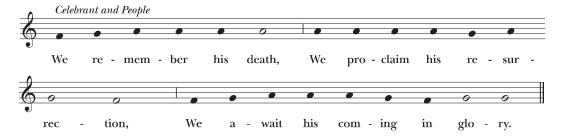


Please stand or kneel as you feel called.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,



And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



## ∞ The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

# ∞ The Breaking of the Bread The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.



#### ∞ The Invitation

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ was born this night in the city of David, our Savior, Christ the Lord.

# ∞ The Communion of the People

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing; please indicate this to the Priest by crossing your arms over your chest.

#### The Communion Anthem, Spotless Rose

Ola Gjeilo

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

A Spotless Rose is blowing, Sprung from a tender root, Of ancient seers' foreshowing, Of Jesse promised fruit; Its fairest bud unfolds to light Amid the cold, cold winter, And in the dark midnight.

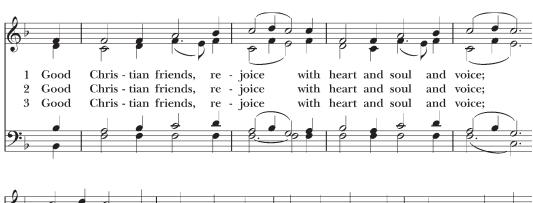
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Rose which I am singing, Whereof Isaiah said, Is from its sweet root springing In Mary, purest Maid; Through God's great love and might The Blessed Babe she bare us, In a cold, cold winter's night.

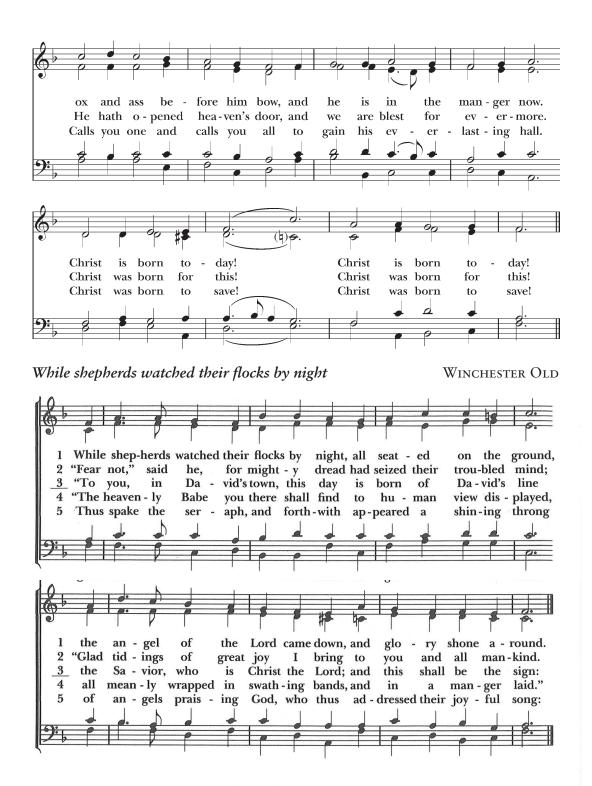
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

#### Communion Hymns, Good Christian friends, rejoice

In dulci jubilo







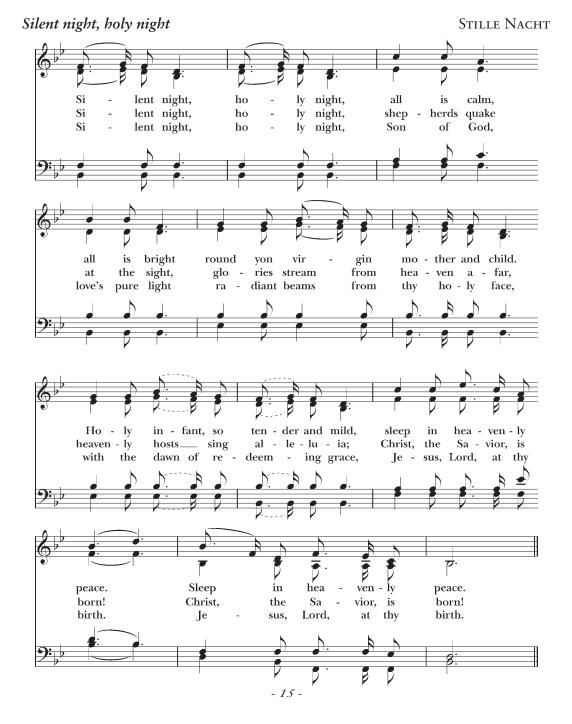
6 "All glory be to God on high and on the earth be peace; good will henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease."



# ∞ The Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand as able and say together.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.





### ∞ The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude, In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J.S. BACH

## Today's Worship Leaders

Preacher: The Reverend Lex Breckinridge

CELEBRANT: The Reverend John M. Pitzer

DEACON: The Reverend Carol Borne Spencer

Organist: Dr. Paul Weber

#### CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

The flowers in the narthex are given in loving memory of:
Mr. and Mrs. F. Evans Farwell
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Hecht

The flowers on the lectern are given in loving memory of:

Mary Alpaugh McIlhenny, Douglas McIlhenny, Paul Westfeldt McIlhenny,
Gustaf Westfeldt McIlhenny, Barbara McIlhenny Nixon,
Paul Carr Polk McIlhenny, Edmund McIlhenny,
and Virginia Smart McIlhenny.

The garland is given in loving memory of: Mary and William B. Wisdom and Edward B. Benjamin, Jr.

The Chapel flowers are given in loving memory of:

Mr. Lawrence Noel Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Macdiarmid

Dr. and Mrs. William N. Adams

Mr. and Mrs. George Macdiarmid

Dr. and Mrs. Chapman Gordon Johnson

Mr. Charles Kerr Rhodes

The star that shines in the church is a reminder that the wise men followed a star and brought gifts to the Christ Child. It is a gift from Jane Fox, whom we lovingly remember.

# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND MUSIC MEMORIALS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lyle Aschaffenburg

Eleanor Joy Atkinson

Andrew Baker Cecille Ballard

The Rev. William H. Barnwell

Cheryl Hovis Bass Jules Durel Black Margie Moss Black

Mr. and Mrs. George William Blair

David & Peggy Bourgeois Betty Ball Bowman

Beverly and Alec Breckinridge

Melanie Britt

Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin T. Brown

Louisette T. Brown Ranell Brown

Kimberly Bourgeois Brun Mr. James M. Burlingame, III Albert Peyton Bush, Jr. Lorraine and Don Caffery

The Rev. Michael E. "Corky" Carlisle

Mary Jane Chamberlain Edward Bryan Chenault

Capt. & Mrs. Samuel Chesser, U.S.N.

Mary Christie

Mr & Mrs. Gordon Edward Clay

Gordon E. Clay, Jr.

Sally and Walter Cockerham Lanie and Stewart Collenberg

William Barret Conway

Pat Corderman Barbara Rita Cox Madeline Rose Cox Dennis Cannon Crawford

Weston Crowdus Marli Davis Joanna Diboll Peter Dodge

Mr. and Mrs. Leo A. Dumas Karen Cooney Duncan Kitty and Brooke Duncan

Leola Ellis

Dr. M. Bonner Engelhardt Virginia McCall Engelhardt Daisy & Norris Fant

Ernestine Kealer Franks

John R. Fitz-Hugh

Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Flower, II Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Flower, III Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Fox

Cres "Pops" Gardner

Ellen Geffen

Mr. and Mrs. Edward George Tudie and Harvey Gleason

Robert Gonce

Mrs. Charles W. Goodyear, Jr. Mr. Andrew Thompson Goodyear

Molly Gorman

Mr. & Mrs. Herschel L. Haag, III

Mary Ashley Hall Sara Larson Harper Dr. Judith A. Harris Mary Lou Hevron Harris

Peck Hayne Bunky Healy

Alice and John Hevron

Mrs. Doris Engelhardt Hinckley

W. E. Hobson, III Dorothy Rita Hotard Virginia Houston Larry Hovis

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pike Howard Mr. and Mrs. Killian L. Huger, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Davis Lee Jahncke Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Jahncke Mr. and Mrs. William B Kelly

Robert James Khoury

Dorothy and James Kilgallon

Matt Kirkwood

Helen Hebrank Kitzman John Peter Labouisse, III

Carmen and Lorenzo Lamadrid

Pilar Lamadrid

Mr & Mrs. Harry Merritt Lane

H. Merritt Lane, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Marcel Livaudais, Sr. Judge and Mrs. Marcel Livaudais, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Bradford Lusk

E. Thomas Mackie, Jr. Mona Anna Mailhes

Carol Marsh

Frances Bell McCool

Mrs. Marguerite Davis McCoy Frank & Vita Monachino Henriette and Peter Monrose

Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Montgomery, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Dallas H. Moorhead, Jr.

Harriet Murrell

Mr. & Mrs. George A. Nicholson

James William Nunn James Wilson Nunn

Edward Meriwether Ordemann Christos S. Papastavros, M.D.

David Papastavros Steven Papastavros

Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Ross Parkerson

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Parkerson Mr. and Mrs. Stirling Parkerson Mr. W. Stirling Parkerson Marlis Wicker Perlis Alan Howard Philipson André Reuben Philipson Arlene Cherry Philipson Eric Stephen Philipson

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Lane Plauché Mrs. Doucie Henderson Porter Barbara and LeDoux Provosty James "Jimbo" Weaks Reily

Karen Baltar Reily Molly Ferrell Reily Timothy Sean Reily

The Rev. and Mrs. Hill Riddle Mr. and Mrs. Victor Ray Rose

John Kenneth Saer, M.D. Phyllis Emling Saer Carol Scherer Leila Schumacher

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Poynter Schwing, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Poynter Schwing, III

Mr. Alva B. See, Jr. Ms. Elizabeth Bailey See

Larry Smart

Mr. and Mrs. John C Spradley Mr & Mrs. Charles O. Stilwell Mrs. Elizabeth Jones Thorne

Mr. Samuel Thorne

Capt. & Mrs. F. Winter Trapolin, U.S.N.

Joanne Arnett Tutschek Augusta P. Vaughey Robert Preston Wailes

David Francis and Helen Vajda Waller

Joy and Arthur Waters Mr & Mrs. Arthur C. Waters

Arthur Waters, III

Mr. & Mrs. H. Harcourt Waters

Warren Watters Julie and Bob Webb Betsy and Burton White Charles L. Whited, Jr.

Mary Lou and Esmar Williamson

Elizabeth Suthon Woods

Mr. and Mrs. Simeon F. Wooten Randolph Symonds Wrighton Mathilde Villere Young

# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND MUSIC MEMORIALS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN HONOR OF:

Leslie Airth Elizabeth Diaz

The Rt. Rev. Shannon Duckworth

DeJah Gaulden

Keith Jordan and Richard Walker

Sara Allen Harper Brenda Higgins Lizzie Keene Beverly Lamb Vicki Moran Sofia Roberts
Alan Stowell
Virginia Weinmann
Carter Williamson
Cecilia Williamson
Holland Williamson
Parker Williamson

John E. Roberts, III

Melissa and Bryant York Sarah and George Young

