



“Gloria in
Excelsis
Deo!”

- Luke 2:14

*Christmas Eve
Candlelight
Communion Service
11:00 PM*

Merry Christmas

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH



www.hopelutheranwf.org

A WARM WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!

Merry Christmas! The joy of our Savior's birth fills our church tonight, and our hearts rejoice at the love God has for his people. Jesus Christ is the incomparable gift of God that we celebrate on this holy night. We are happy to welcome you tonight, and hope that you find peace and comfort in the Christmas story.

Please take a moment to check in online tonight, on the homepage of Hope's website (www.hopelutheranwf.org). You are invited to worship with us again on Saturdays at 5:30PM, or Sundays at 8:30 & 11:00AM.

SPECIAL THANKS to all the musicians from the Praise Team, Children's Choir, Adult Handbell Choir, Senior Choir, Brass Ensemble, and Soloists assisting with all the Christmas Eve services.

OFFERINGS & TITHES. All are invited to make an offering tonight, as a worshipful expression of thanksgiving to God, and in support of the ministries of Hope Lutheran Church. You may place your gift in the offering plate next to the sanctuary exit doors as you leave. May God bless our offerings and tithes, and bless the ministry that these gifts enable!

LEADING WORSHIP TONIGHT

Rev. Wayne Puls
Rev. Devin Murphy

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor



Christmas Eve

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE DECEMBER 24, 2023 ~ 11:00PM



VOLUNTARY

"Christmas Medley"
Brass Ensemble

PRE-SERVICE CHRISTMAS MUSIC

"I Wonder as I Wander"
Adult Handbell Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregation stands

TIME OF GREETING

Congregation turns to face the processional cross

CHRISTMAS CALL TO WORSHIP (from John 1)

P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

C: He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

P: In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

C: And we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: We worship on this holy night in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, our Father, we confess our sins to you. We admit that we are imperfect and unfaithful. We have failed to love you with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are blessed to be your children, but often we rebel against you or ignore you. Please forgive our sins, dear Father, not for our sake, but for the sake of your perfect Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P: "Behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2:10). Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God offers you his pardon and mercy. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Glory to God in the highest!

P: And peace to his people on earth!

C: Amen.

Congregation turns as the processional cross passes



PROCESSIONAL CAROL

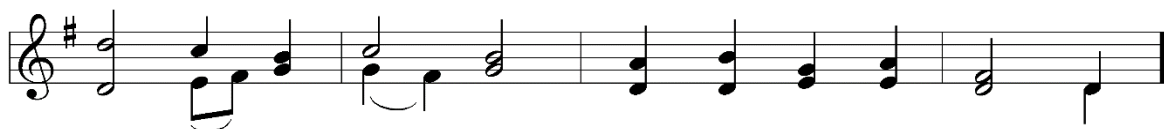
"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" (LBW45)



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! Oh,
2 The 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, oh, 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!

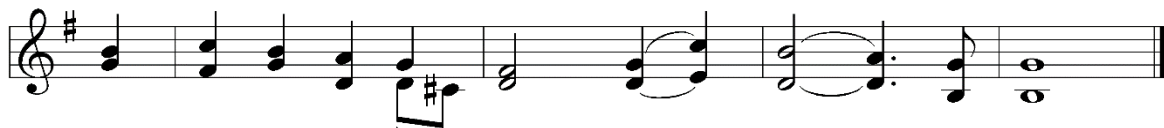


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, oh, come, let us a - dore him,



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

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CHRISTMAS CANDLE PRAYER

O God, as light comes from this candle, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us, warming our hearts and brightening our way. May Christ our Savior bring light into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming. Amen.

★ *The Savior Is Born* ★

Congregation is seated

PROPHECY OF THE CHRIST CHILD

Isaiah 7:10-14

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." ¹³ And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

CHORAL ANTHEM

"The Beautiful Impossible"

Senior Choir

EPISTLE LESSON

1 John 4:7-16

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Congregation stands and turns to face the processional cross

GOSPEL PROCESSION

Luke 2:1-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.



In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And 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, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And 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.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



CAROL

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (LBW60)



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 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.

Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Congregation is seated

CHRISTMAS EVE SERMON

"Gloria in Excelsis Deo!"

Pastor Wayne Puls

ANTHEM

"Gloria Hodie"

Adult Handbell Choir

Congregation stands

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P: Lord, in your mercy ...

C: Hear our prayer.

★ *The Lord's Supper* ★

Communion Participation: As Lutheran Christians, we believe Christ's body and blood are truly present with the bread and wine, offering forgiveness of sins to all who believe in Jesus Christ. We ask those who commune to share this unity of faith in Christ and understanding of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Since the Scripture teaches that we are to examine ourselves before eating of the bread and drinking of the cup (1 Corinthians 11:28), if you are not certain of the meaning of Holy Communion or have not been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith, please speak with the Pastor before communing.

Communion Distribution Process: Please form two lines in the main center aisle, proceeding to the altar. After you have received communion, you may return to your pew via the side aisles.



White grape juice is provided in the center of the trays. Individual cups may be placed in the baskets provided by the acolyte. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.

Communion and Children: First communion is ordinarily offered at Hope to youth after instruction classes in the 5th grade. Children and youth who have not been confirmed may come to the altar to receive a blessing. Children and non-confirmed youth should fold their arms over their chest to acknowledge they are receiving the blessing.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

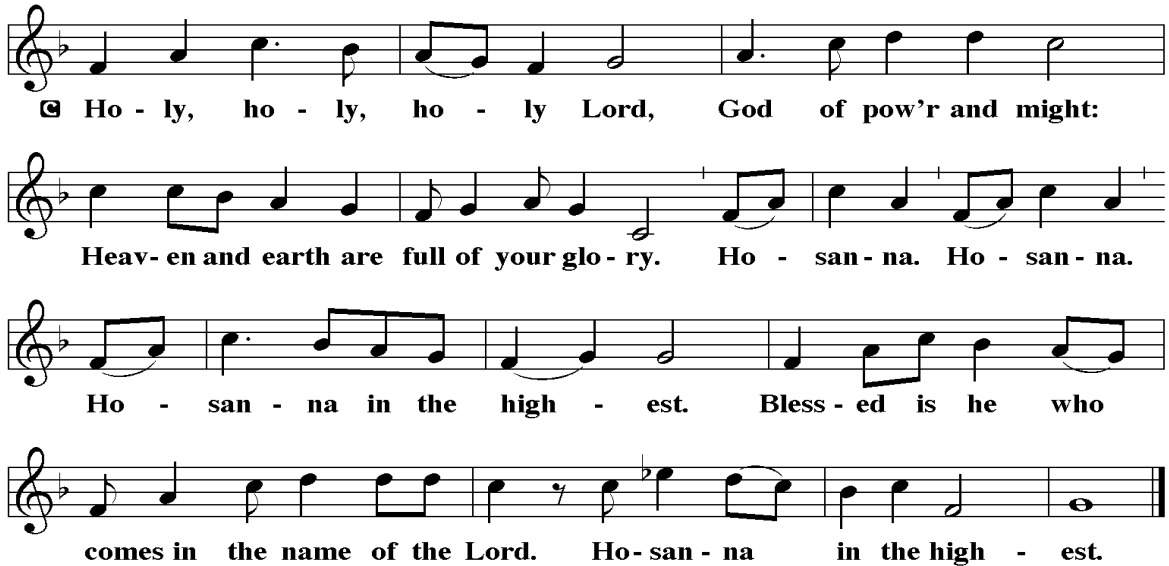
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P: God of love and mercy, we give you thanks and praise on this holy night for the Incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ and for his birth in Bethlehem. We join with the angel chorus, and with all the company of heaven, to joyfully praise your name:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 in 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

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.

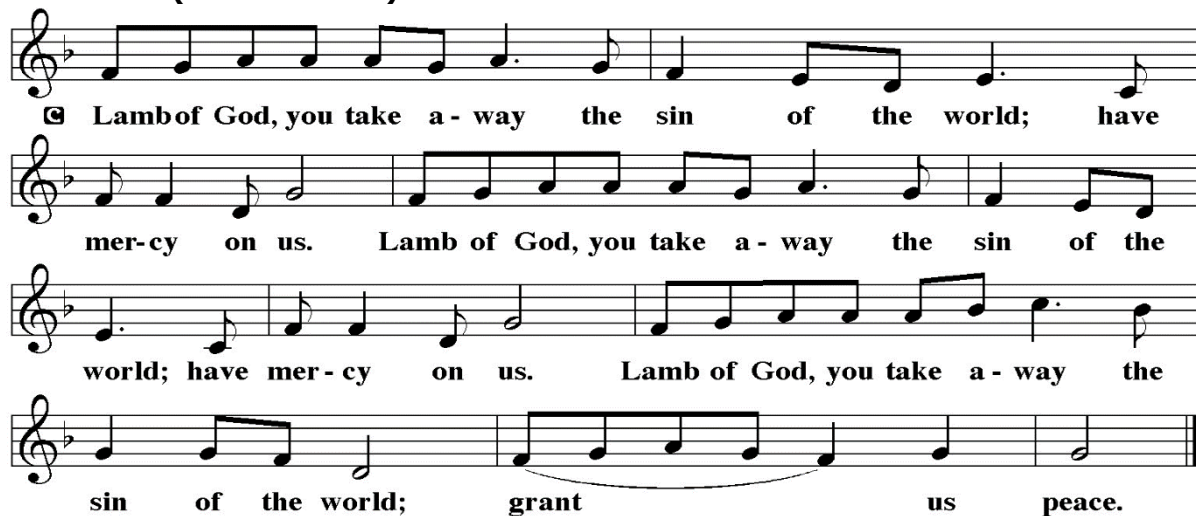
CHRISTMAS PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God)

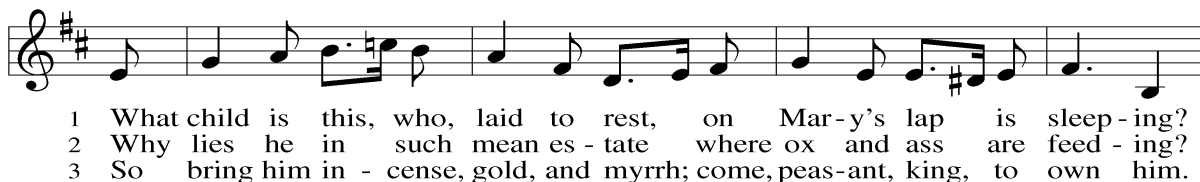


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

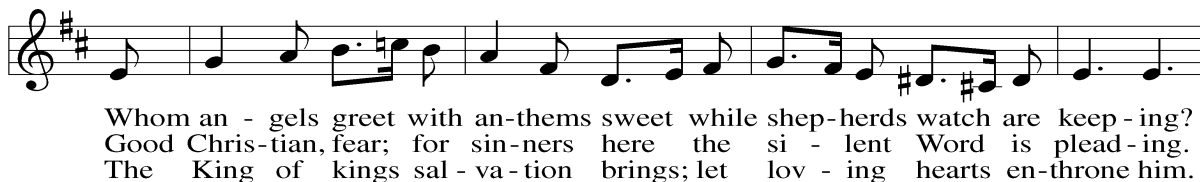
Congregation is seated

COMMUNION CAROLS

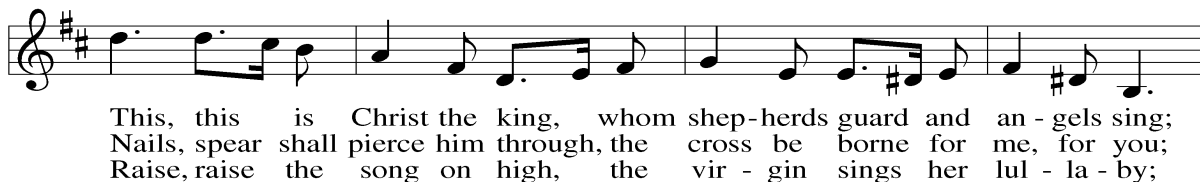
"What Child Is This" (LBW40)



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

"The First Noel" (LBW65)



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin-ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



cer-tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and



night that was so deep.
 tin - ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Congregation stands

PRAYER OF THANKS

P: Holy God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal have feasted on your grace.

C: **May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

★ *The Light Of Christmas* ★

Please tip unlit candles to receive the flame from those already lit.

Parents of small children, please share a candle with your child.

P: From the dawn of creation,

C: **God has brought us light:**

P: The sun to rule the day,

C: **The moon and stars to rule the night.**

P: But now he has brought us the One who is the Light of the world,

C: **Jesus Christ the Lord.**

P: From this day on, O Jesus,

C: **Enlighten us with your love.**

P: From this day on, O Savior,

C: **Enlighten us with your peace.**

P: From this day on, O Christ,

C: **Enlighten us with your hope.**

P: From this day on, O Son of God,

C: **Brighten our lives with your presence.**

CAROL

"Silent Night, Holy Night" (LBW65)



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 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.

BENEDICTION

After extinguishing candles, please hold upright and allow wax to cool.

RECESSIONAL CAROL

"Joy to the World" (LBW39)



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive its King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions 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.

CHRISTMAS DISMISSAL

P: Christ, the Savior, is born!

C: Joy to the world!

P: Go in peace, and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"Fantasy of Joy"



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: Selected hymns from [Lutheran Book of Worship](#), © 1978 by Augsburg Fortress, Used by permission. Onelicense.net#A701721.

Christmas Poinsettias

The poinsettias were given to the glory of God and to honor and remember loved ones. Poinsettias may be taken following the 11:00PM Christmas Eve service.

★ Paul & Rene Hieter in honor of loved ones ★

★ Sandee & Jim Kosmar in memory of their parents, Ann & John Kosmar & Agnes & John Miller ★

★ Bill & Sue Seaman in memory of Luke Edwards ★

★ Bill & Sue Seaman in memory of their parents ★

★ Bob & Vickie Herring in memory of their parents ★

★ Bob & Vickie Herring in honor of Carol Lippard and Barbara Gundersen ★

★ The Repak Family in memory of John & Josie Repak & Edward, Mary, & June Galusha ★

★ Bill & Darlene McKenney in memory of Keith McKenney ★

★ Beth & Michael Webb in memory of Joe Beatty ★

★ Jerry & Liz Garlington to the glory of God ★

★ Dick Faucher & Diane Ryals in memory of their parents, Janice Faucher and Gene Ryals ★

★ Bryan & Heather Weitzel in memory of their grandparents & Heidi Christine Ziegler ★

★ Barbara & Ken Newcomer in memory of Ted Fleagle ★

★ David & Lisa Rummel In honor of our children Bryce, Stephanie, & Connor ★

★ Cynthia Tench in memory of James "Jim" Tench Jr ★

★ Pam & Mike Montgomery in honor of our grandchildren, Hudson & Emelia Thieme ★

★ Phillip Sebastian in memory of Linda J. Sebastian ★

★ Victoria Morales in honor of their beloved mother who turned 80, Happy Birthday ★

★ Linda Hutson in loving memory of Ilga Rady-Pentek & Helen Hutson ★

★ Pam Harrell in memory of Warren Harrell ★

★ Julie & Barry Bowling in memory of Joseph & Shirley Bowling ★

★ Julie & Barry Bowling in memory of Samuel Harvey ★

★ Julie & Barry Bowling in honor of the wonderful staff at Hope ★

