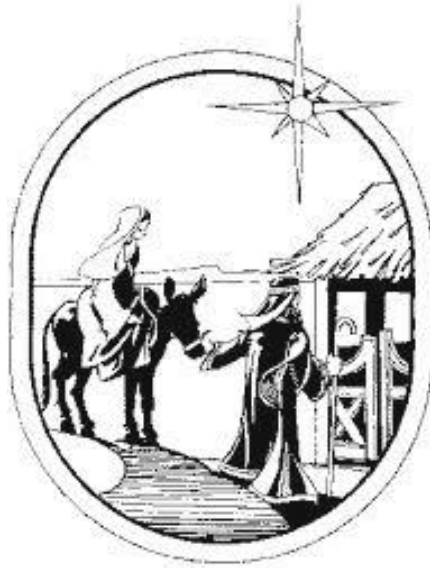


FAITH
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve



Traditional Worship Service

DECEMBER 24, 2023
7pm

Faith Lutheran Church
225 Jamestowne Boulevard
Knoxville, Tennessee

www.faitlloves.org
[Facebook.com/FaithLutheranKnoxville](https://www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranKnoxville)

PRELUDE

*Silent Night; What Child Is This?
In the Bleak Midwinter; What Child Is This?*

Fenton Rognsvoog, Pianist
Handbell Choir

CHRISTMAS EVE CALL TO WORSHIP FROM THE BAPTISMAL FONT *stand*

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

P: The Word became flesh and lived among us. We have seen His glory.

C: Oh, come let us worship Him.

P: The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.

P: Those who live in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have seen Christ's glory, full of grace and truth.

P: For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.

C: What has come into being in Him is life and the life is the light of all people.

P: Christ is born. Salvation has appeared.

C: Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

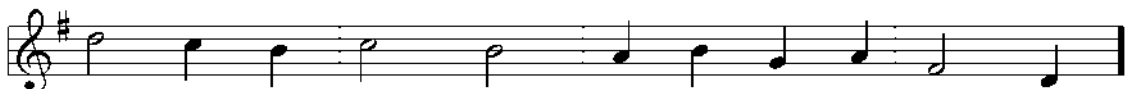
Oh, Come All Ye Faithful *hymnal #283*



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 he - 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!

PRAYER OF THE EVENING

Pastor: Let us pray,

All: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TALK

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Emily Wright, Lector

OLD TESTAMENT READING Pew Bible pg. #624

ISAIAH 9:2-7

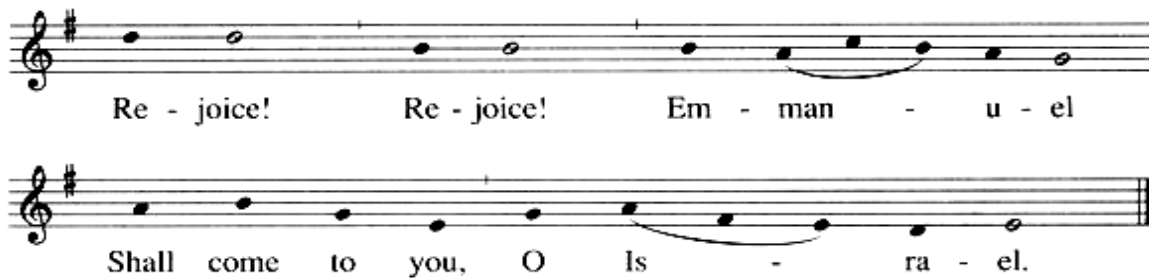
²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For 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. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Pew Bible pg. #1089

TITUS 3:4-7

⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy. ⁶This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING Pew Bible pg. #935, *stand*

LUKE 2:1-20

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

Congregation: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

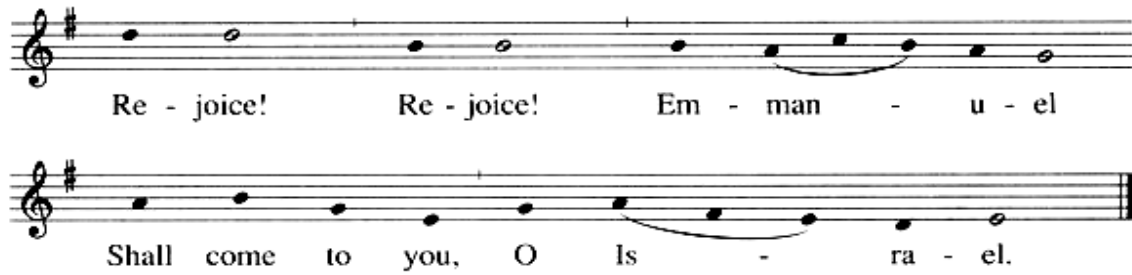
⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

SERMON

Pastor Bob Stelter

Have Yourself a Messy Little Christmas

HYMN OF THE EVENING *stand*

O Little Town of Bethlehem *hymnal #279*



- 1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
- 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
- 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.
So God im-parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.

THE PROCLAMATION OF FAITH / NICENE CREED

Pastor: We proclaim the faith within us:

All: 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Aynsleigh Martin, Assisting Minister

Assistant: Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

Assistant: Glory to you, God, for the song of the angels, proclaiming to the world Christ's holy birth. Give your church a joyful song to sing, that we bring the good news of peace and salvation to all people.
Hear us, O God.

Congregation: Your mercy is great.

A: Glory to you, God, for the stars that shine in the depth of the night. Provoke awe in our hearts at the expansive mystery of the cosmos. Open us to find beauty in the clear darkness of night and in the first glimmers of dawn.
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Glory to you, God, for the child born to us who establishes a kingdom of justice and righteousness. Break bonds of oppression, bring reconciliation to warring lands, and establish peace from this time onward and forevermore.
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Glory to you, God, for Mary's loving care. Lead us to tend to one another in time of need. Share the comfort of your presence with all people tonight who are alone or separated from loved ones due to estrangement, incarceration, or illness. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: Glory to you, God, for the faithfulness of the shepherds in their vocation. Grant rest to any who feel exhausted from their work during this season: retail and restaurant workers, church musicians, administrative staff, and clergy, organizers of charitable-giving events, and service workers doing essential tasks. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: Glory to you, God, for the multitude of the heavenly host. We rejoice in the zeal of all your saints who have witnessed the appearing of your grace, and who reveal to us your salvation for all. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

Silence for individual prayer petitions.

Pastor: Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

All: Amen.

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

Congregation: And also with you.

Exchange greetings in the name of the Lord.

OFFERINGS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERING ANTHEM

10,000 Joys

Marti Poole & Collin Kasefang, duet

OFFERTORY HYMN *stand*

What Child Is This? *hymnal, #296*



- 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 he 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!

OFFERING PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray. Merciful God,

Congregation: In the mystery of the Light in the darkness, we see your glory,
full of grace and truth. On this night of gift giving, we thank you
for the greatest gift of all, Lord Jesus Christ. With joy and gladness
we dedicate ourselves, our time and our possessions to you.
In the wonder of the Word made flesh, you have opened
our eyes to a new and radiant vision of giving, serving, loving,
and caring. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor : *Congregation:*
The — Lord be with you. And — al - so with
Pastor : *Congregation:*
you. Lift up your hearts. We
Pastor :
lift them to the Lord. Let us give
Congregation:
thanks to the Lord our God. It is
right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: We pray,

All: 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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Pastor: Christ is the true bread that has come down from heaven,

Congregation: Emmanuel, God with us.

HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *sit*

We practice Eucharistic hospitality, where all people are welcome to partake in the Lord's Supper because we believe and trust that the gifts of God are free. Holy Communion is served by intinction: the worship assistant will give you a piece of bread and you can either dip that in the wine (chalice) or in the grape juice (clear glass). Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You may also come forward to receive a blessing.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Tallis Canon

Marti Poole, Violin; Faith Rognsvoog Cello; Liezel Rognsvoog, Cello

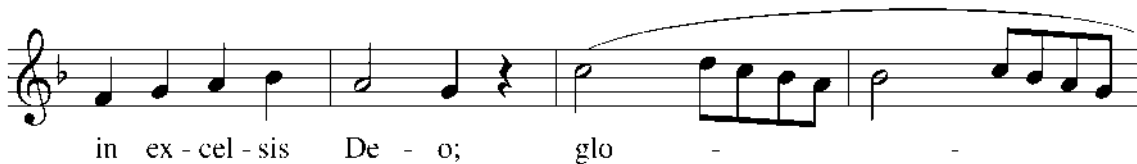
Angels We Have Heard on High *hymnal, #289*



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.



Away in a Manger *hymnal, #277*



1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by 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 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.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel *hymnal, #257*



1. Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2. O Wis - dom, word of God most high, em - brac - ing all things
3. O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4. O come, O Branch of Jes se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beaut - y come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - y: from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em-man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

COMMUNION BLESSING *stand*

Pastor: May the body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ keep us in his light and love.

Congregation: Amen.

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

HYMN OF LIGHT

Silent Night, Holy Night *hymnal, #281*



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. *Repeat verse 1*

THE BLESSING *Make the sign of the cross with your candle with Pastor Bob.*

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless us this holy night.

All: Amen.

Candles may be extinguished.

HYMN OF JOY

Joy to the World *hymnal, #267*



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.

THE DISMISSAL

Assistant: Go into the darkness as the people of light to love God,
love others, serve.

Congregation: We go in peace! Amen.

POSTLUDE

Gigue on "In Dulce Jubilo"

*Join us for one worship service on Sunday, December 31, 2023
New Year's Eve, at 10:00am.
Brunch is served following the service.*

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CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Minister</i>	Pastor Bob Stelter
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	Aynsleigh Martin
<i>Lector</i>	Emily Wright
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Lois Simmons
<i>Communion Ministers</i>	Pastor Bob Stelter Greg Bohlken Aynsleigh Martin Emily Wright Mary Bales Doug Bales Lois Simmons Lisa Stelter Pat Lyman
<i>Greeters</i>	Mary Beth Halahan Carol Schaefer Mildred Fenske Lois Simmons
<i>Ushers</i>	Jim Hallahan Gary Mount Randy Schaefer
<i>Nursery Caregiver</i>	Tiffany Bryson



1st Sunday of Christmas, New Year's Sunday, December 31, 2023

One service, 10am.

New Year's Brunch follows the Worship Service.



*Join us for favorite carols and Communion
with a message that will help us keep Christmas all year.*

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

225 Jamestowne Boulevard, Farragut, TN 37934 ▪ 865.966.9626 ▪ www.faithloves.org

Evangelical Lutheran Churches in America

Founding Congregation of Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church, Tellico Village

Founding Congregation of Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry ▪ Stephen Ministry Congregation

Traditional Worship, 9am ♦ Contemporary Worship, 11:11am

((())) Faith Guest WiFi Password: beblessed

Dr. Bob Stelter — Pastor
Greg Bohlken — Ministry Associate
Lynn Rognsvog — Organist
Collin Kasefang — Choir Director
Lisa Stelter — Worship Graphics

Members of Faith Lutheran Church — Ministers
Sandra Bohlken — Contemporary Worship Leader
Trace Taylor — Sound Technician
Tiffany Bryson — Nursery Caregiver
Kim Frasch — Quiet Music Ministry

Mary Boring — Office Manager
Phylis Garrison — Publications
Barbara Birkholz — Financial Secretary
Mildred Fenske — Prayer Chain Coordinator
Alicia & David Brondos — Missionaries

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS



ALTAR ARRANGEMENTS

In honor of the Birth of Our Savior

Faith Lutheran Church

In memory of Joe, our son

Alice & Joe Pigott



POINSETTIAS

In loving memory of my late husband, Jim
Marj West

In memory of Lisa a& Carol
Vicki Adams

In memory of Adam Dean, our son
Nancy & Steve Dean

In memory of Myrtle & Wilbur Dean
Nancy & Steve Dean

In memory of Adelaide & Sterling Wigren
Nancy & Steve Dean

In memory of Robert Blackburn
Rhonda & Rob Blackburn

In memory of Wayne Smith
Rhonda & Rob Blackburn

In memory of Catherine Blackburn
Rhonda & Rob Blackburn

In honor of Donna Smith
Rhonda & Rob Blackburn

In honor of Mary Blackburn
Rhonda & Rob Blackburn

In honor of Ian, Nicole, Myles & Nathan
Rhonda & Rob Blackburn

In memory of our parents & Susie Campbell
Shirley & Ben Campbell

In memory of my husband, Ron
Gloria Fife

In memory of Debbie Moore
Barbara & Gene Bird



In memory of Edna & Dick Pigott
Alice & Joe Pigott

In memory of Cheryl Kripas
Earl Kripas & family

In memory of Milton Creighton
Teensy & Frank Weldon

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Weldon
Teensy & Frank Weldon

In memory of AP Beardsley, my father
Laura Beardsley

In memory of Austin Montgomery Herbold
Mary & George Herbold

In memory of Louise & CB Wright
Mary & George Herbold

In memory of Arlene & George Herbold
Mary & George Herbold

In memory of Leonard, Jeff & Jill Johnson
Debbie & Anthony Ragucci

In honor of our families
Debbie & Anthony Ragucci

In memory of our mothers,
Gayle Stewart & Lorene French
Ann & Randy Stewart

In memory of my husband, Buddy
Ann Stelter

In memory of our parents,
Virginia & Arthur Mabry & Nita & Paul Hoover
Patricia & David Mabry