



CHRISTMAS DAY

*God Gives Himself
as One of Us*



ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN
Church, School & Preschool
www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com

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920-238-5777 | Pastor Michael Kampman

920-809-7237 | Pastor Elijah Ehlert

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we—the pastors and members of St. Paul's! For centuries on Christmas Day the Church has read chapter one of St. John's Gospel. There, in just a few simple words, Scripture describes the indescribable: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14). The word God had spoken in the Garden, promising to send a Savior who was part of mankind, came true. God himself became flesh and blood—to be born under law, to suffer, and to die that he might redeem us.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

If you are in need of restrooms, they are located at the back of the Church to your right as you exit through the doors.

Also on the right is our Child Training Room, where the sound from the service is fed into, as well as dimmable lights and a privacy shade.

Large Print Service Folders and Hearing Loop Listeners are provided should you need them. They are located on the information center nearest the sanctuary in the Narthex. Should hearing aid have a t-coil, please turn it on, and they should receive sound directly without a loop listener.

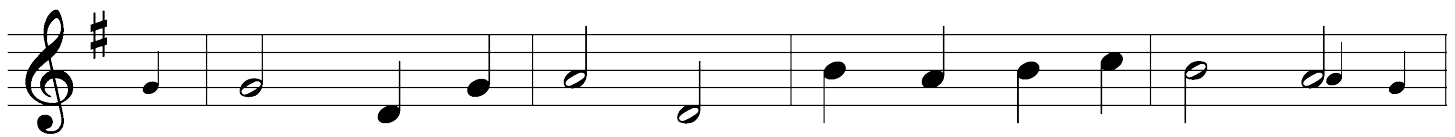
SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister	Pastor Michael Kampman
Preaching Minister	Pastor Elijah Ehlert
Choir Director	Kathy Thurow
Chime Choir Director	Becky Miller
Organist	Will Hinn
Instrumentalists	Wendy Holmes Josh Hintz

OPENING HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful—354

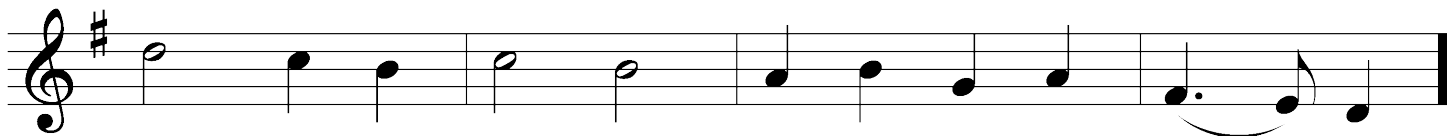
Please stand for the singing of the final stanza



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 God from true God, and Light from 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;

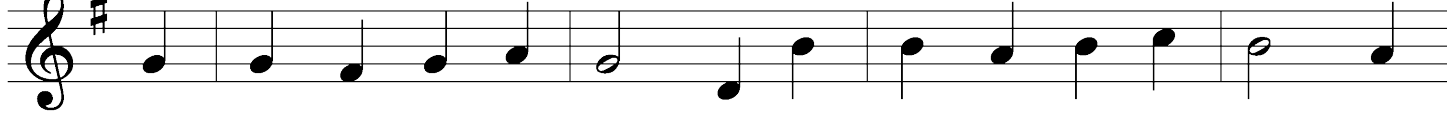


come ye, O come_ ye to Beth - le - hem!
 born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes!
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee_ be all glo - ry giv'n!

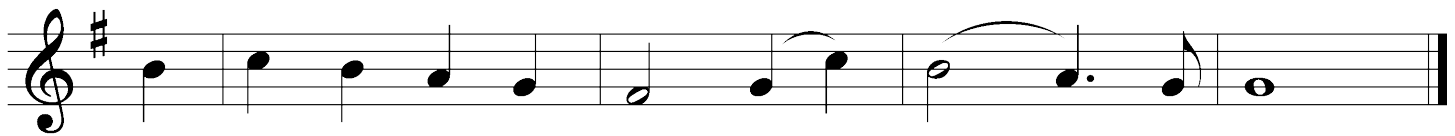


Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:
 On - ly - be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther:
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

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!

DIALOGUE OF PRAISE

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.

Our eyes have seen his salvation, which he prepared in the sight of all nations.

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord, **and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

Being in very nature God, he did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we through his poverty might become rich.

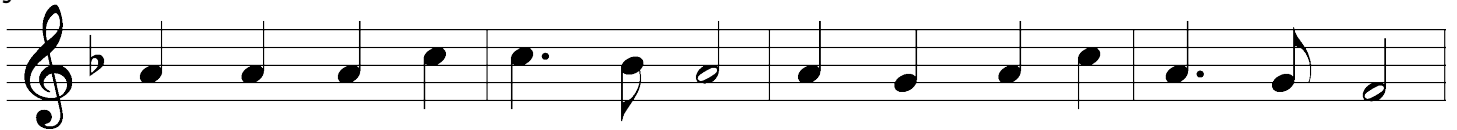
God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

GLORIA

Angels we Have Heard on High—346

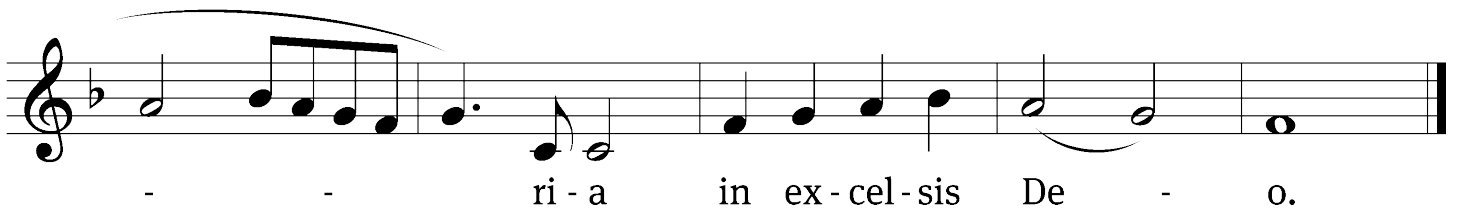
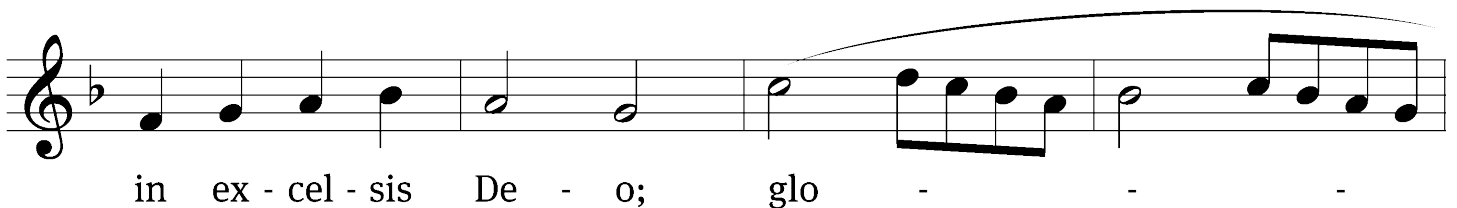
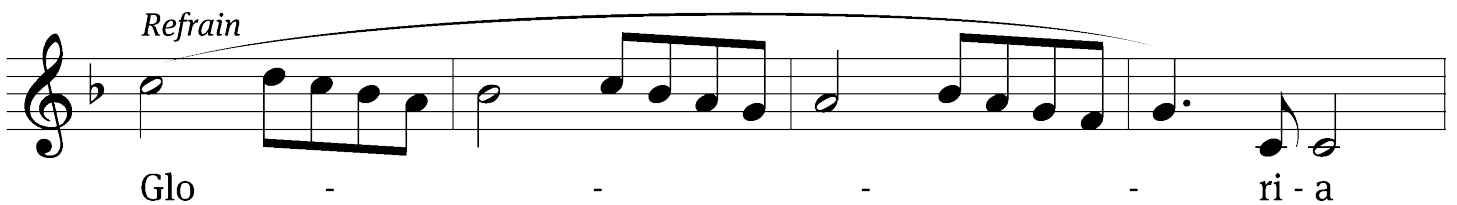
The Gloria in Excelsis (Latin for “Glory [to God] in the highest”) has been the traditional song of praise sung at the beginning of Christian services for centuries. The following hymn quotes the opening words of the Gloria, the same words that the angels first sang on the first Christmas.



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 ti - dings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be Seated

FIRST READING

Exodus 33:18-23; 34:5-7

¹⁸Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.” ¹⁹And the Lord said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

²¹Then the Lord said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²²When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the Lord. ⁶And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM OF PRAISE

Good Christian Men Rejoice
Sung by the St. Paul's Choir

SECOND READING

Romans 8:31-32

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

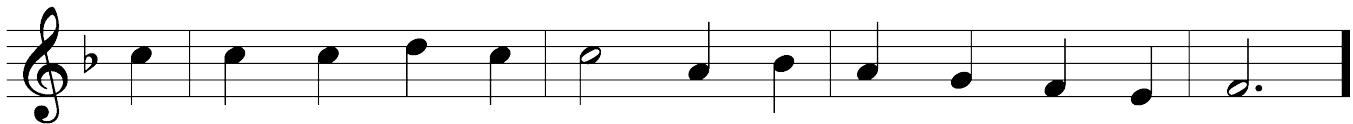
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

A Great and Mighty Wonder—**349:1**

This hymn incorporates the truth of the verse of the day, Galatians 4:4-5



1 A great and mighty wonder, a glorious mystery:



a vir - gin bears an in - fant who veils his de - i - ty.

Refrain



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry and peace to all the earth!"

GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'")

¹⁶Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

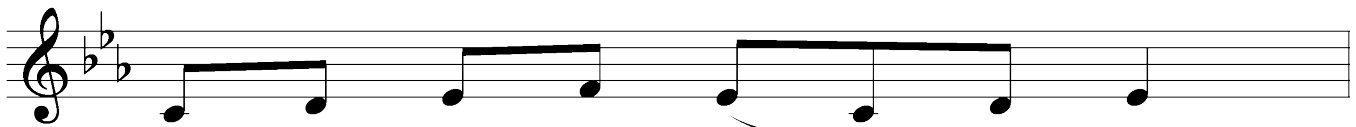
Of the Father's Love Begotten—358



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers and sa - ges sang of old with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him, an - gel hosts his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing, pow'rs, do - min - ions bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he,
 bore the Sav - ior of our race,
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word.
 and ex - tol our God and King.
 and un - end - ing prais - es be,



of the things that are, that have been,
 and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er,
 Now he shines, the long - ex - spect - ed;
 Let no tongue on earth be si - lent,
 hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion



and that fu - ture years shall see ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 first re - vealed his sa - cred face ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 let cre - a - tion praise its Lord ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

“Imperishable Christmas”

CONFESSION

Selections from the Athanasian Creed

²⁹**Now this is the true Christian faith:**
We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is both God and man.

³⁰**He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother,**

³¹**fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh;**

³²**equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity;**

³³**and though he is both God and man, Christ is not two persons but one:**

³⁴**one, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God;**

³⁵**one, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person;**

³⁶**for just as the rational soul and flesh is one human being, so God and man is one Christ.**

³⁷**He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead.**

³⁸**He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and from there will come to judge the living and the dead.**

³⁹**At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds.**

Be Seated

OFFERING

The Herald Angels Sing
Played by the St. Paul’s Chime Choir

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Brief intercessory prayers may be added

Eternal Father, we give you thanks and praise on this holy day for sending your one and only Son to share our humanity, carry our guilt, and become for us the perfect Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

Lord, we praise you.

Keep our faith in your Son alive and strong. Nourish us with your Word and sacraments and by your Holy Spirit give us strength to overcome Satan's power and empty promises. Help us to withstand the temptations the world and our sinful nature put on our path. Fest

Give us faith and courage.

Remember ministers of the gospel throughout the world who on this day are proclaiming that a Savior has been born. We especially commend to your care the missionaries we have called as members of the Wisconsin Synod. Since they cannot enjoy the fellowship of their extended families this Christmas, grant to them the inner joy that comes with service in your kingdom.

Protect all those who proclaim the gospel in our place.

We pray for our city and countryside, for our neighborhoods and subdivisions, and for all who live and work and find delight here. Give to the leaders of government wisdom to make and uphold laws that promote the good of society. Grant our nation peace, health, and prosperity that we may have the opportunity and resources to spread the good news to all people.

Govern and prosper your people.

Fill us with kindness and arouse us to do good to all people, especially those who are less fortunate than we. Bring your healing to those who are sick or diseased in body or mind and comfort those who are mourning the death of someone they love. We especially pray for brothers and sisters who are setting aside their celebration today to care for the sick and stand at the side of the dying.

Sustain those who endure the troubles of life.

Be a source of strength to all your people and fill them with your power and peace. If any are among us today who have lost the true meaning of this festival, let them rediscover the joy that comes from Christ alone.

Let your peace reign in the hearts of all.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

As you sent your Son to bring peace to all people on earth, so we pray for all people, those known and those unknown to us.

We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

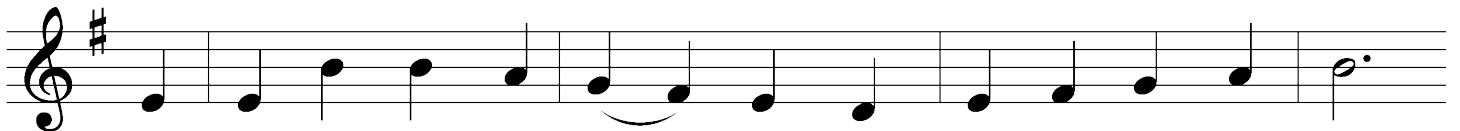
Be Seated

HYMN

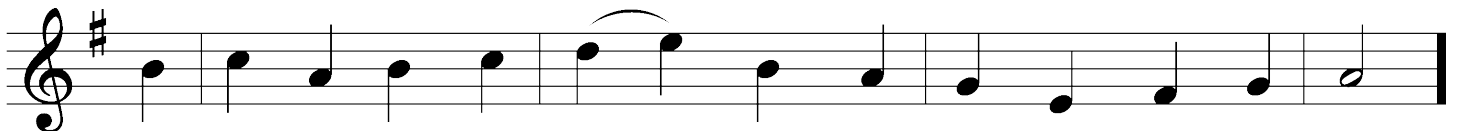
God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen—356



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
2 From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3 "Fear not," then said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;
4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,

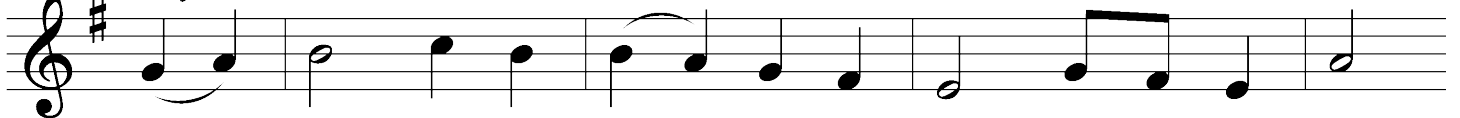


re - mem - ber Christ, our Sav - ior, was born on Christ - mas Day
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings of the same,
this day is born a Sav - ior, the true and ra - diant light,
and in true love and fel - low - ship each oth - er now em - brace;

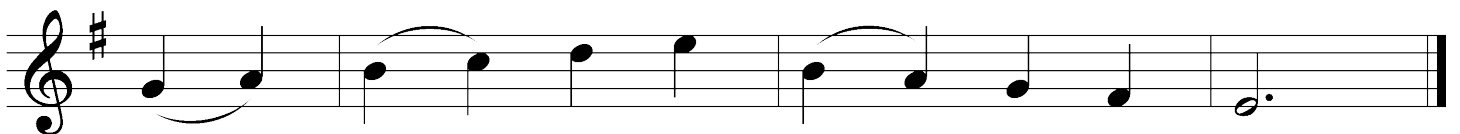


to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas is filled with heav'n - ly grace.

Refrain



O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,



O ti - dings of com - fort and joy.

Stand

BLESSING

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Hark the Herald Angels Sing—350



- 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 - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right - eous - 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 th' in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th' 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!"

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

Patricia Brennand	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Michael Brennand</i>	
Robert Kresal	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Laurie Kresal</i>	
Mark & Susie Peachy	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Madonna Peachy</i>	
Don & Kathy Thurow	2 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Ed & Alila Kionka</i>	
<i>In Memory of Paul & Loretta Thurow</i>	
Bob & Becky Grace	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Nathan Grace</i>	
Larry & Sharon Wodack	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Honor of their 56th Wedding Anniversary</i>	
Gary, Gail & Matt Miller	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Harry & Marcella Miller; Eugene Miller;</i>	
<i>Bill Miller; Waren Miller</i>	
James Laudolf	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Roman & Alice</i>	
Pam, Jena, Jake & Amber Rupert	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Todd Rupert and Dolly Rupert</i>	
David, Tyler & Carly Babler	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Trisha Babler</i>	
Rachael & Glenn Sweet	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Rosemarie Thompson</i>	
Bortner Family	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Rosemarie Thompson</i>	
Sharon Adams	1 - 6.5"
<i>In Memory of Pastor Raymond & Lois Cox</i>	
Jeff White Family	2 - 7.5"
<i>In Memory of Jerry White</i>	
<i>In Memory of Engman & Mabel Gilbertson</i>	
Lori Fink & Jonathon Fink	1 - 7.5"
<i>In Memory of Robert & Edith Hinn</i>	

Anna Reitz & Family1 - 7.5"
In Memory of Terry Reitz

Surian Family & Charla Murtha1 - 7.5"
In Memory of Scott Murtha

Gary Schumacher 1 - 7.5"
In Memory of Vicki Schumacher

John Brinkman, Jeff Brinkman,1 - 7.5"
Christine Roedl, Melissa Cleland
In Memory of Raymond Brinkman & Renate Brinkman

Carol Boehning.....1 - 7.5"
In Memory of Ron Boehning, Sandy Kitz and Quinn Boehning

Joel & Laura Mathwig.....2 - 7.5"
In Memory of Joshua Mathwig
In Memory of Francis & Dorothy Wiener;
Robert & LaVerne Zemke;
Leroy & Shirley Harbach; Jerry Mathwig

Will Hinn & Amelia Wiener1 - 7.5"
In Memory of Robert & Edith Hinn

Dennis Abraham Family2 - 7.5"
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Sylvester Abraham;
Joann Albrecht; Mr. & Mrs. Sylvester Huck;
Sharlyn Lueck; Terri Timblin

Donna Kollmann1 - 7.5"
In Memory of Frank Kollmann

George & Sharon Tomczyk1 - 7.5"
In Memory of Barb Krumm

Mark & Bonnie Wiener.....1 - 7.5"
In Memory of Robert & LaVerne Zemke;
Francis, Dorothy & David Wiener