

The Nativity of Our Lord

25 December 2017



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
1900 ST. PAUL STREET – BALTIMORE, MD 21218
PHONE: 410.752.5804 – FAX: 410.752.4074

ON THE WEB AT: STMARKSBALTIMORE.ORG
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

STAFF

PASTOR REV. DR. JOSEPH A. DONNELLA II

ADMINISTRATOR STEPHEN E. KOHLER

CANTOR JAMES HARP

DEACONS CLIFFORD ANDERSSON, CONNIE LISCH, SUE ROMANIC
SEXTON JEFFRY SPANGLER

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF ST. MARK'S CHURCH IS TO EMBRACE DIVERSITY,
PRACTICE HOSPITALITY, AND MAKE KNOWN CHRIST'S PRESENCE IN WORD AND DEED.

All worshippers are invited and welcomed to receive the Body and Blood of Our Lord in the sacrament of Holy Eucharist. You may receive the wine from the common cup or by intinction.

PARTICIPATING IN THIS LITURGY:

Presider
Assisting Minister
Crucifer/Chalicer
Lector
Prayer Petitioner
Greeter

Rev. Paul Baglyos
Deacon Cliff Andersson
Louis Flake
Barbara Hanson
Stephen Kohler
Joan Hoyle



25 December 2017
Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day

VOLUNTARY

Johannes Brahms

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen

-The Assembly will please stand-

THE HYMN

Joy to the World



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 her 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.

GREETING

- P. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
C. Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome!
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C. And also with you!

PRAYERS AT THE CRECHE

- P. The glory of the Lord has been revealed.
C. And all flesh shall see the glory of our God!
P. Let us pray...through Christ our Lord.
C. Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Angels, from the Realms of Glory



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P. Let us pray.
Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C. Amen.

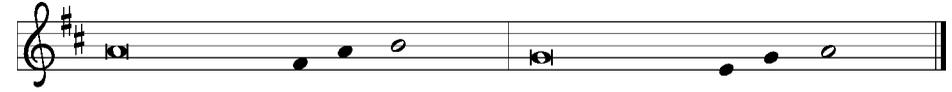
-The Assembly will please sit-

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10

- ⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
⁹Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰The 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.

Lector: The word of the Lord.
Assembly: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

- ¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.
²O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness
in the sight | of the nations.
³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness
to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.
⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.
⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.
⁶With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.
⁷Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.
⁸Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
who comes to | judge the earth.
⁹The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,
²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all
things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's
glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his

powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 'having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son;

today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,

and he will be my Son"?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

⁷Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,

and his servants flames of fire."

⁸But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,

and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has anointed you

with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

¹⁰And,

"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,

and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹they will perish, but you remain;

they will all wear out like clothing;

¹²like a cloak you will roll them up,

and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same,

and your years will never end."

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

THE HYMN

Please sing verse 1 before the Gospel; verses 2 & 3 after the Gospel.

Word of God, Come Down on Earth



1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, sr, b. 1919

Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673

Text © James Quinn, sr, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., North American Agent.

-The Assembly will please stand-

GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

SERMON

-The Assembly will please sit-

-The Assembly will please stand-

THE HYMN

Please refer to the following page.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

CREED

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Petition response: Hear our prayer.

PEACE

-The Assembly will please sit-

OFFERING SENTENCE

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

-The Assembly will please stand-

THE HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



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.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



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,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



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.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893
 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

OFFERING PRAYER

- A. Let us pray.
- C. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

-The Assembly may kneel-

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

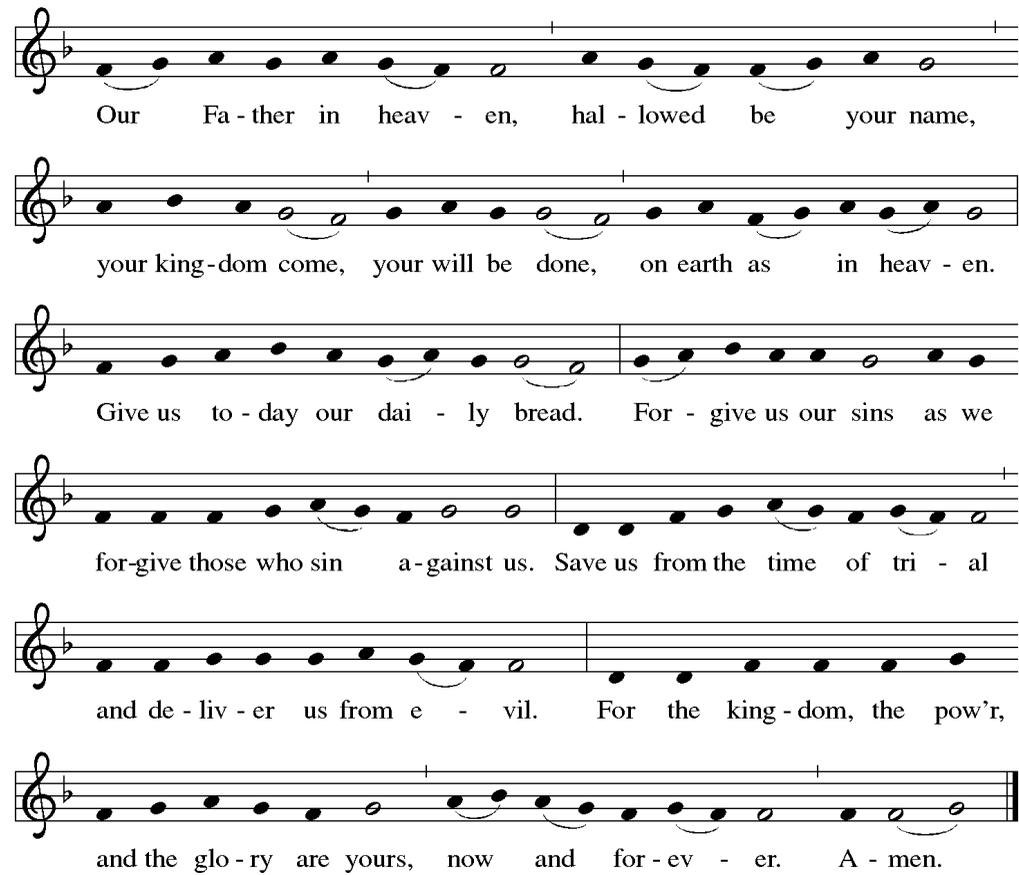
MYSTERY OF FAITH

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

CONCLUSION OF THE THANKSGIVING

A - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER



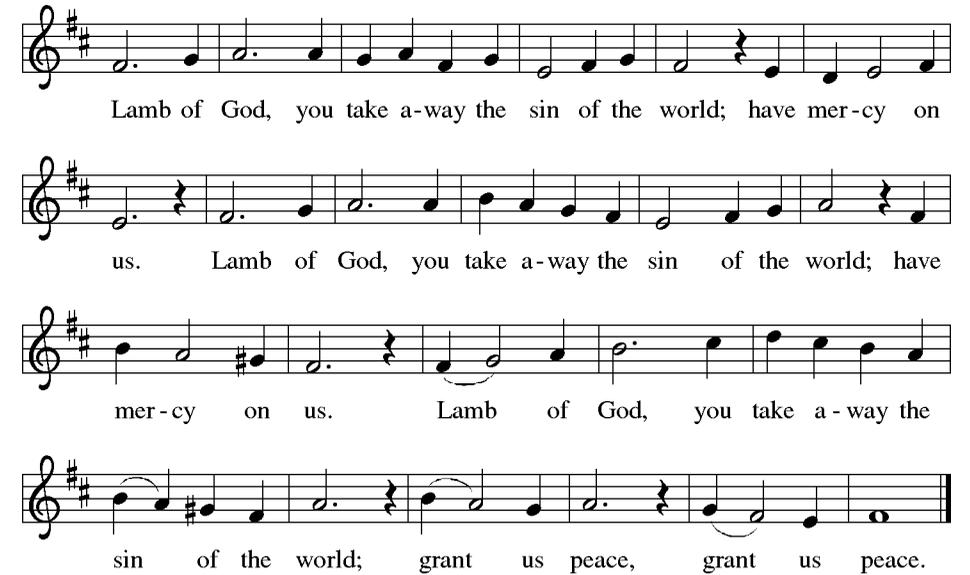
Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P. These are the gifts of God for the people of God
C. Holy things for a holy people.
P. When we eat this bread we share the Body of Christ;
when we drink this cup we share the Blood of Christ.
C. Reveal Yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
as once You revealed Yourself to Your disciples.

-The Assembly will please sit-

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, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

-The Assembly will please stand-

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A. Let us pray.
Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. 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.
C. Amen.

BLESSING

- P. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
 C. Amen.

THE HYMN

Please refer to the following page.

DISMISSAL

- A. Go in peace. Share the good news.
 C. Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Improvisation for Christmas Morning

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.



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!



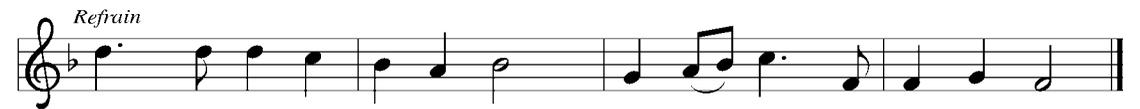
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all 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!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS & DONORARIA

The following persons have made contributions to the decoration of St. Mark's Church for the celebration of The Nativity of Our Lord.

IN MEMORY OF:

Herbert White, Marie & Samuel Landenberger, Janet & Garald Yaple, Bessie & Marshall Anzmann, Louise & Sherman Nevin, Carrie, Anna Katherine, Harry Sr., Raymond Sr., Ernest Sr., Edward D., Timothy, Larry Lehr; David Rittenhouse, George Brocato by Dorothy M. White.

David Lange, Pastor Beverly Donnella's father; Joseph & Jacqueline Donnella, Pastor Joseph Donnella's parents, by Pastor Joseph A. Donnella

Gilbert Jenkins by Charles Smith

Deacons Ernest Lehr and Richard Spies by Deacon Cliff Andersson

My mother, Helen Hanzelman, the Reese family, the Arrington family, Anna May Farrell, by Louise Ricketts

Wilfred, Julia, John, Gay, Hope Phillips by Joan Phillips Hoyle

Arthur Henshall by Caroline & David Bahr

Loved ones by Joseph Blout

Norman Luther Hanson, Mary Reed Hanson, Anna Adkins Reed, Nancy Hanson Mayer, Mary Hanson Jinns by Barbara Hanson

Loved ones by Becky & Sam McClellan

Jeremy L. Parker, Nancy Brouse by Sara Jane Parker

My parents, Ted & Eylene Surrey, Eiko Wolf, Jack Siegmund by Susan Surrey

Francis, George, & Ernest Colletta by Andrew Colletta

Ano Miller, Harold S. Miller, Eva Shepley, Donald E. Zimmerman, Don McBee by Gene Miller and Donald Zimmerman

Betty & Bill Schlegel, Brent Schlegel, Fallen Soldiers, Jack Siegmund by Brad Schlegel

My parents, my sister, and brother, P. Thomas Barry by Harold R. Sachs

Eiko Matsuhashi, Toshiko Kajita, Noel Wolf, Mildred Wolf, Louis Wolf, Sr. by Louis Wolf

My great-aunt, Kathryn Kaltreider by Jeremy Zuck

John & Dolores Romanic, Eunice LeBon by Sue Romanic

Edward Coles, Henry & Minnie Arnold, Marian Robb by Waetina Coles

Bobby, Nicky, Tony, Joey Williamson by Nancy Nedwell

My grandmother, Inez Comer by James Hicks

IN HONOR OF:

The Ricketts and Appler Families by Louise & Gil Ricketts

Our children: Leigh Ann Hamilton, Jocelyn Hammond, Andy Hammond by Henry & Leigh Hammond

James Harp, Stephen Kohler by Gene Miller and Donald Zimmerman

The Hammonds, The Ricketts, my St. Mark's Friends by Andrew Colletta

Jim Harp, Joseph Donnella, Gil Ricketts, our Choir by Brad Schlegel

My children & grandchildren, my sister, Jean and her husband, Jack, by Harold R. Sachs

Jennifer Day, Jason Wolf, Sophie Wolf, Catherine Waldt, Brandon Day, Justin Day, Peyton Day by Louis Wolf

My grandmother, Rae Zuck by Jeremy Zuck

John LeBon by Sue Romanic

My grandchildren by Waetina Coles

The Staff of St. Mark's by Nancy Nedwell

My mother, Brenda Hicks by James Hicks

IN THANKSGIVING:

By St. Mark's Estonian Congregation

By Bruce Brewer

By John, Connie, and Jesse Lisch

For the ministry of Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Donnella II, and for all who volunteer their time and talents at St. Mark's Church.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today – 25 December – The Nativity of Our Lord
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist for Christmas Morning
11:15 PM Fellowship Hour

Thursday – 28 December – The Holy Innocents

There will be no celebration of the Holy Eucharist or Dinner.

Sunday – 31 December – Sunday after Christmas
10:00 AM Adult Class
11:00 AM Holy Eucharist
12:15 PM Fellowship Hour: Gene Miller & Don Zimmerman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all this morning, and a very Merry Christmas! If you are visiting us, please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Slip (in the pew) and return it in the offering plate. We want to stay in touch! Please join us for Fellowship Hour in Lehr Hall.

Thank you to Pastor Paul Baglyos for your presence with us this Christmas morning. We are privileged to have you with us.

Shut-Ins... if you happen to live near a shut in and would like to take a poinsettia plant to them today, please speak with Stephen Kohler.

A very sincere and heartfelt Thank You to all who have put so much effort into making this Christmas celebration possible and joyful. Many persons have cooked, cleaned, hung garland and wreaths, put up and decorated trees, sung, and polished brass to make all of this possible. You have our deepest gratitude and best wishes!

Gifts to the Glory of God have been made for:

Altar Flowers with gratitude to my family for their support through my recent illness
by Betty Jensen.

Bread, Wine, Candles & Bulletins by Waetina Coles.

