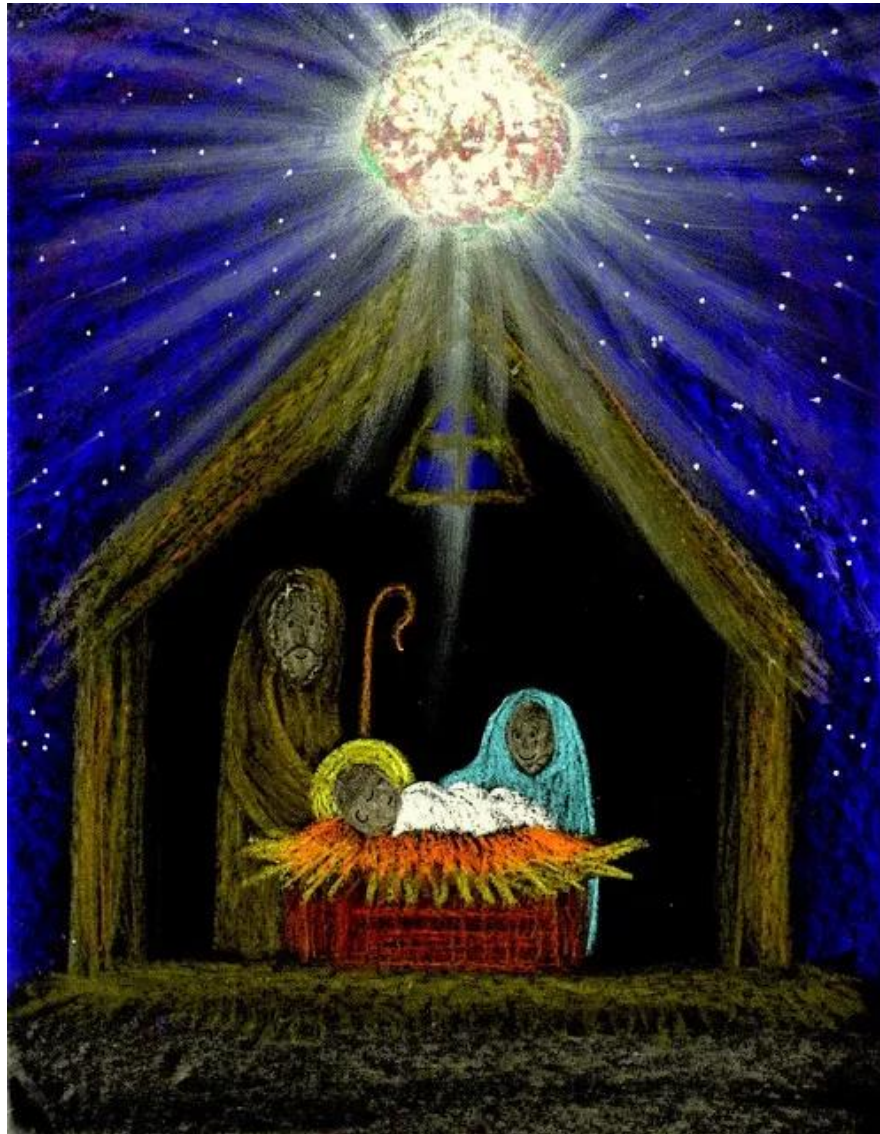


THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023  
7 AND 9 PM



SAINT MARTIN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*Annapolis, Maryland*

**PRELUDE MUSIC**

*Bach: Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heavenly Light, from Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248*

*Bach: Puer natus in Bethlehem (A Child is Born in Bethlehem), BWV 65/2*

*Bach: Gottes Sohn ist kommen (God's Son has come, BWV 318)*

*Traditional: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Mozart: Ave Verum Corpus*

*Adolphe Adam: "O Holy Night"*

*Aurora Martin, Solo Soprano*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

**O Come All Ye Faithful**

**ELW 283**

*The congregation stands and faces the processional cross*

1. O come all ye faith - ful joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2. Sing. choirs of an - gels. sing in ex - ul - ta - tion.  
 3. Yea. Lord. we greet thee. born this hap - py morn - ing:

come ye. O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 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: O  
 Glo - ry to God ... In ... the ... high - est: O  
 Word of the Fa - ther. now in flesh ap - pear - ing: O

come. let us a - dore him. O come let us a - dore him. O

come. let us a - dore him. Christ the Lord!

**GREETING**

*Pastor* Good news and great joy to all the world: today our savior is born in Bethlehem.

*Congregation* **O come let us adore him!**

*Pastor* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*Congregation* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

**SONG OF PRAISE**

**Angels We Have Heard On High**

ELW 289

*The congregation is invited to ring a bell when we sing "Gloria in excelsis Deo"*

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.

*Refrain*  
 Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Pastor* The Lord be with you.

*Congregation* **And also with you.**

*Pastor* Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; wherewith you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

*Congregation* **Amen.**

## ▪ SERVICE OF THE WORD ▪

*The congregation is seated at the invitation of the Minister.*

### THE FIRST LESSON

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>His 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.

*After the Reading*

*Lector* Here ends the lesson.

### RESPONSORIAL

*Mozart: Allelujah, from Exsultate, Jubilate, K. 165*

*Aurora Martin, Solo Soprano and String Quartet*

### THE SECOND LESSON

**Titus 2:11-14**

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>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.

*After the Reading*

*Lector* Here ends the lesson.

### THE GOSPEL

#### Love Has Come

**ELW 292**

*The congregation stands, as able, to sing the hymn and remain standing for the Reading of the Gospel.*

**Please sing Verses 1-2 before the Gospel and Verse 3 following the Gospel.**



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high,  
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
 gift of Christ - mas, Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

**THE GOSPEL LESSON**

**Luke 2:1-20**

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

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

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>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: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When 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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*After the Reading*

*Pastor* The Gospel of The Lord.

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

**THE HOMILY**

**Pastor Dave**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**  
*(The Next Page)*

**ELW 270**

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!"

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.

\*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

To the words "Lord in your mercy," the congregation responds "Hear our prayer."

\*THE PEACE

Pastor The peace of our Lord be with you always.

Congregation **And also with you.**

The congregation greets one another with a sign of God's peace.

THE OFFERTORY

The congregation is to remain seated while an offering is received to support St. Martin's work of sharing God's love.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM 7 PM

In the Bleak Midwinter

Choir, String Quartet, Patsy Mattingley (flute), and Aurora Martin (solo soprano)

9 PM Edward Elgar's "A Christmas Greeting"

Aurora Martin (solo soprano), Paula Thistle & Pam Stewart (soloists), Yu Xie & Kailai Zhang (violins)

THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Once In Royal David's City

ELW 269



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,  
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;  
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed;  
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;  
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child,  
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you!**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **We give our thanks and praise.**

Father most holy...and so we sing the song of the Church and all the angels



1 What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?



What food of ev-er-last-ing life, what gra-cious gift is giv-en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav-en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man-na giv-en!

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Malotte: "The Lord's Prayer"*

*Choir, Piano, and Aurora Martin, Solo Soprano*

*Mozart: Mass in C, K. 317 - Agnus Dei*

*Aurora Martin, Solo Soprano; String Quartet; Patsy Mattingley, Flute*

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.



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!  
4 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

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - `ry - where;  
 go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain: John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.  
 Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night

*Sung by all, standing as able, as soon as everyone's candle is lit.*

*Please tip **your** unlighted candle to light it from your neighbor's lighted candle.  
 During "Silent Night" we will sing the German verse first, then verses 1 - 3, as written.  
 Please raise candle during "sleep in heavenly peace."*

*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
 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,

*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
 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,

*Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
 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

*Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

## BENEDICTION

*Pastor* May Almighty God, who sent Jesus to take our nature upon himself, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of holiness.

*Congregation* **Amen.**

*Pastor* May God, who sent the angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Gospel.

*Congregation* **Amen.**

*Pastor* May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you the peace and favor of this holy feast.

*Congregation* **Amen.**

*Pastor* And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

*Congregation* **Amen.**

As the lights are turned on you may extinguish your candles.

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN

Joy to the World  
Sung by all, standing as able.

ELW 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 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

and heav'n and na - ture sing. and

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.

heav'n and na - ture sing.





# Junghoon Park / Piano Recital

January 7th at 3PM, featuring music from the Nutcracker

No tickets required

St. Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1120 Spa Rd, Annapolis, MD 21403



**INSTAGRAM**

@smlcannapolis  
@smlc\_youth\_group



**WEBSITE**

[www.stmartinsannapolis.org](http://www.stmartinsannapolis.org)



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**YOUTUBE**

St. Martin's Lutheran  
Church Annapolis

## Christmas Flower Dedications

<p>In thanksgiving for the wonderful people of St. Martin's <i>Pastor Dave and Sandy</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>To: Jackie with love <i>Bob</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In loving memory of Rick, Carly and Meredith Ruhf <i>Rosa and Davis Ruhf</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>For wonderful memories of husband and father Karl <i>Peg Kamp</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>To the glory of God for the blessings of family and our dear friends at St. Martin's <i>Gene and Anna Marie Humphrey</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>Merry Christmas Moms and Dads <i>Alton and Doreen Chavis</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>Love to family and friends past and present <i>Anthony and Carolyn Anzalone</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>To our parents and grandparents <i>The Raabe Family</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>To the glory of God and in loving memory of Thomas Barnard Doyle <i>Jane and Tim Doyle</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>A gift for others in loving memory of my daughter, Deborah <i>Ray Blanset</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In loving memory of Bill Glaser, Tom Hardman and Bob Downey <i>Janet Downey</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of Doug Stazer <i>Linda Stazer</i></p>	<p>A gift in loving memory of my wife, Betty Blanset <i>Ray Blanset</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of our dear mothers who loved Christmas, Margaret Dakin &amp; Anne Campbell <i>Carol Campbell</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>Dedicated in memory of Marianne Drumm <i>Nicki and Dave Parrish</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of Betty Liller and Marianne Drumm, two amazing women who are dearly missed <i>Mary Rosekrans</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>To honor Marianne Drumm <i>Bob Drumm</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of our loved ones <i>Ion Azzola</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of The Kessler Family <i>Carole and David Ehemann</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of The Ehemann Family <i>Carole and David Ehemann</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In loving honor of Julie, Mary, Hannah, and Ben <i>Kim Rosekrans</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of our (grand)parents, Jim Spain and Marcia Lovejoy <i>Brad, Kathleen, Tyler, Elliott &amp; Emily</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of Arthur K. Lohsen, loving husband <i>JoAnn Lohsen</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory of Paul Gunther, loving husband <i>Claudia Gunther</i></p>	<p>To the glory of God in memory of Daniel C. Tidcomb <i>Dean and Andrea Titcomb</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In lieu of cards to our St. Marin's friends, a blessed Christmas! <i>Sandy and Phil Ourisson</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>With thanks to God for endless blessings, and in loving memory of Mick Thistle <i>Paula Thistle</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>Joy to the World! <i>Dave and Patsy Mattingley</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In loving memory of Shirley Ann Bachmann <i>Jay and Mary Simmons &amp; Family</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In loving memory of George and Anna Bachmann <i>Jay and Mary Simmons &amp; Family</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In memory/honor of our parents <i>Wendy Whitney</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>To the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Ted and Marie Freeman and Howard and Joyce French <i>Tom and Barb Freeman</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>To Paul and Pat Tomiczek, Ron Fiehrer, and Mark Johnson, making Christmas brighter from heaven <i>The Johnsons</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In loving memory of our parents, Rosa &amp; Paul Davis and Charlotte &amp; Charles Day <i>Louisa and Larry Day</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p>In loving memory of our granddaughters, Carly Elizabeth &amp; Meredith Louise and their father, Richard (Rick) Ruhf <i>Louisa and Larry Day</i></p>
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