



Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at 5pm  
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
West Des Moines, Iowa

# Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Welcome

*Please stand as you are able.*

Opening Carol

*Once in Royal David's City*

*Hymnal 102*

1. *Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.*
2. *He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly,  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.*
3. *We, like Mary, rest confounded  
That a stable should display  
heaven's Word the world's creator,  
cradled there on Christmas Day,  
Yet this child, our Lord and brother,  
Brought us love for one another.*
4. *And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
For that child who seemed so helpless  
Is our Lord in heav'n above:  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he has gone.*

Liturgical Greeting

Priest      Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
People      **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Gloria

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Gather 361, v.1*

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
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; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

The First Reading

**Titus 3:4-7**

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior was revealed, he saved us. It was not because of any good deeds that we ourselves had done, but because of his own mercy that he saved us, through the Holy Spirit, who gives us new birth and new life by washing us. God poured out the Holy Spirit abundantly on us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that by his grace we might be put right with God and come into possession of the eternal life we hope for.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 97

- <sup>1</sup> The Lord is king! Earth, be glad!  
**Rejoice, you islands of the seas!**
- <sup>2</sup> Clouds and darkness surround him;  
**he rules with righteousness and justice.**
- <sup>3</sup> Fire goes in front of him  
**and burns up his enemies around him.**
- <sup>4</sup> His lightning lights up the world;  
**the earth sees it and trembles.**
- <sup>5</sup> The hills melt like wax before the Lord,  
**before the Lord of all the earth.**
- <sup>6</sup> The heavens proclaim his righteousness,  
**and all the nations see his glory.**
- <sup>7</sup> Everyone who worships idols is put to shame;  
**all the gods bow down before the Lord.**

- <sup>8</sup> The people of Zion are glad,  
and the cities of Judah rejoice  
**because of your judgments, O Lord.**
- <sup>9</sup> Lord Almighty, you are ruler of all the earth;  
**you are much greater than all the gods.**
- <sup>10</sup> The Lord loves those who hate evil;  
he protects the lives of his people;  
**he rescues them from the power of the wicked.**
- <sup>11</sup> Light shines on the righteous,  
**and gladness on the good.**
- <sup>12</sup> All you that are righteous be glad because of what the Lord has done!  
**Remember what the holy God has done, and give thanks to him.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Gospel Carol

### **Angels from the Realms of Glory**

**Hymnal 93**

*v. 1-2 before the Gospel; v. 3-4 following*

1. **Angels, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye, who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

*Refrain: come and worship,  
come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

2. **Shepherds in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with you is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant Light:**

*Refrain*

3. **Sages, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar:  
seek the great desire of nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:**

*Refrain*

4. **Saints before the altar bending,  
watching long in hope and fear,  
suddenly the Lord, descending,  
in his temple shall appear:**

*Refrain*

## Gospel

**Luke 2:1-20**

Deacon            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
People            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At that time Emperor Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire. When this first census took place, Quirinius was the governor of Syria. Everyone, then, went to register himself, each to his own hometown.

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David. He went to register with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him. She was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger—there was no room for them to stay in the inn.

There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid, but the angel said to them, “Don't be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town your Savior was born—Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great army of heaven's angels appeared with the angel, singing praises to God:

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!”

When the angels went away from them back into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us.”

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. When the shepherds saw him, they told them what the angel had said about the child. All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said. Mary remembered all these things and thought deeply about them. The shepherds went back, singing praises to God for all they had heard and seen; it had been just as the angel had told them.

Deacon        The Gospel of the Lord.  
People        Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### Children's Message

### Sermon

“The Power of the Story”  
The Rev. Kyle Carswell

### Carol of Response

### O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymnal 78

- O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.*
- For Christ is born of Mary;  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth!  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.*
- How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him,  
still the dear Christ enters in.*
- O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel!*

### The Prayers of the People

On this holy night in which God joins heaven and earth, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those in need.

For the church around the world, as it celebrates the birth of Christ. Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

For the nations of the earth, that as kings were drawn by a star to worship the infant Jesus, all peoples may stream to your light. Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

For those who live surrounded by conflict and violence, that the angels' proclamation of peace on earth among all people might be realized among us today. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For the weak and the vulnerable, the sick and the suffering, the homeless, the cold, the hungry; for all who, like Mary and Joseph, find no room to spend the night. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For all those who travel this Christmas season, that you would watch over them as you watched over the Holy Family as they traveled to Bethlehem, and to foreign lands. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For all the departed, and for those who grieve, that they may experience the loving presence of Emmanuel, "God with us." Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

*Deacon*

O God, we bring before you this night our prayers for those who are close and whom we love; we also bring before you this night our prayers for those far from us whom we don't know and don't love. As we celebrate the birth of your son, help us to be ever more like him, to learn to love as he loves, and to do our work to bring about your kingdom. **Amen.**

## The Peace

Priest     The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People     **And also with you.**

# Liturgy of the Table

Offertory

**Gesu Bambino**

*Soloist, Dan Montgomery*

**Martens**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Doxology

**Good Christian Friends Rejoice**

**Gather 367, v. 1**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
O give heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!  
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

## The Great Thanksgiving

Priest     The Lord be with you.

People     **And also with you.**

Priest     Lift up your hearts.

People     **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest     Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People     **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Sanctus

*Hymnal S125*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one Body, for we all share in the one bread.**

## Communion

*You do not need to be a member of this church or of any church to receive communion.*

*To receive the sacrament, come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The wine is received by intinction, by dipping the wafer into the chalice. Please let the clergy know if you require a **gluten-free wafer**; to indicate that you would prefer a  **blessing only**, cross your arms across your chest.*

*If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and the sacrament will be brought to you.*

## Carol at Communion

### Love Came Down at Christmas

Hymnal 84

1 Love came down at Christ-mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;  
2 Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate, love di - vine;  
3 Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine,

love was born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign.  
wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where-with for sa - cred sign?  
love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894), alt. Music: *Gairan*, melody from *Patrie Collection of Irish Melodies, Part II*, 1902; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Prayer after Communion

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The candles will be lit along the aisles. Please pass on the light to your neighbor.

1. *Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,  
Holy Infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.*
2. *Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!*
3. *Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

### Blessing

#### Closing Carol

#### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#### Gather 356

1. *Hark! the herald angels sing!  
"Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all you nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"*
2. *Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord:  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see:  
Hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"*
3. *Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"*

### Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! As we once again welcome Christ into our lives, let us remember that we are his hands and feet and voice in this world.

**People We will with God's help. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### Postlude

Readings taken from the Good News Translation



# MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

## Presider/Preacher

The Rev. Kyle Carswell

## Deacon

The Rev. Jeanie Smith

## Music Director

Don Agee

## Acolytes

Lillie McManus, Neana Griffith Tierney,  
Nick Griffith Tierney

## Lector/Litanists

Elizabeth Slocum, Susan Leonard

## Chalice Bearer

Susan Leonard, McB McManus

## Oblation Bearers

Dick Leonard

## Ushers

Bill Smith, OPEN

## Altar Guild

Diana Morman, Lynn Pettit

## Livestream Coordinator

Joe Rounceville

## Vestry Representative

Jacob Nastruz

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*Merry Christmas!*

Whether you are a longtime parishioner at St. Timothy's, a newcomer, or a friend or family member visiting from out of town, we are delighted that you are celebrating the miracle of Christ's birth with us tonight.

Our worship tonight is full of joyous carols, familiar readings, and candles glowing in the night. All of it calls us to remember the incredible gift God has given us in the birth of Jesus, our Prince of Peace. And all is made that much more special by your presence.

I wish you a Merry Christmas from St. Timothy's, and may God bless you and keep you in the New Year.

Peace,



The Rev. Kyle Carswell, Rector

# COMING UP

## CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 25 THROUGH DECEMBER 30.

Calls and emails will be monitored for pastoral care needs.  
All others will be returned when the office re-opens on December 31.



## CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 | 10 AM

We will not hold a Christmas Day service at St. Timothy's this year. Instead, we encourage those interested in attending a service on the 25th to attend worship at St. Paul's, Des Moines (815 High Street).

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## FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28 | 5 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 | 10:15 AM

On the weekend after Christmas, we will conduct our service using the Book of Common Prayer rather than a bulletin.

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## THE COMING WEEK

### Friday, January 3

10 am BBB

### Saturday, January 4

9 am Centering Prayer

5 pm Holy Eucharist

### Sunday, January 5

#### 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY BREAKFAST

8:45 am Childcare Available

9 am Breakfast

9:15 am Epiphany Activities

10:15 am Holy Eucharist

10:15 am Children Living the Word

11:30 am Coffee Hour

## REMEMBERING THE INNOCENTS



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 | 2 PM**  
**DES MOINES INTENTIONAL EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY**  
**3306 UNIVERSITY, DES MOINES**

St. Timothy's is a proud sponsor of this prayer service, remembering the slaughter of the innocents in Herod's time and raising prayers to stop violence against innocents everywhere in our own time.

The Service is planned by the Des Moines Faith Committee for Peace, with over 40 co-sponsors. Please join us as we are reminded of this important part of the Christmas story!

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## EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 | 9 AM**

Kick off 2025 by celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany! At 9 am we will gather for our First Sunday Breakfast and in place of our regular Children's Formation, there will be Epiphany-related activities for kids! Count on crafts, cookie decorating, and chalking the door!

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## ST. TIMOTHY'S DAY & ANNUAL GATHERING

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29**

St. Timothy's Day is our yearly chance to celebrate our patron saint and gather as a parish to look back on the previous year and ahead to what's to come.

Following our service, there will be a potluck meal in the Parish Hall, reports from ministry leaders, and the election of our newest vestry members. We hope to see you there!

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# Thank You



**To all who donated to support our Christmas flowers and greens!**

**Roger Kunz** in memory of Sheree Kunz

**Jean Lane** in memory of Roger Lane

**Lyndy & Marty Wells** in thanksgiving for family

**Mary Sheldahl** in memory of Tom Sheldahl, Mary & Carl Cacciatore, and Faye & Everett Sheldahl and in thanksgiving for her grandchildren & great grandchildren

**Steve A. Halbrook** in memory of Diane Christine Ronning Halbrook

**Mark and Kathy Larson** in thanksgiving for all their family and friends

**Paul and Lee D'Anna** in memory of our parents: Elmo & Joan Guelph and Al & BJ D'Anna and in thanksgiving for our children & grandchildren

**Jennie, Mark, Matt, and Mike McKinney** in memory of Marilyn & Lyle McKinney, Mildred & Jay McKinney, Larry McKinney, Norma & Ted Hansen, Trudy Peel, and Rod Peel and in thanksgiving for Henry, Louis, Eloise, Margaret, each other and our families

**cont'd on next page**

**Bill Wolff** in memory of Lu Wolff

**John and Julie McKinney** in memory of Shirley Hamrick and Jean McKinney and in thanksgiving for John McKinney, Jr. and Tom & Janet Hansen

**Sandra & Mark Marshall** in memory of Harvey Seyb, Marvin Marshall, and Raymond Swenson and in thanksgiving for the Marshall/Hall children and grandsons

**Mel Rambo** in memory of Jacquelyn Rambo

**Priscilla Sayeed** in memory of Tom Dickinson, Peter Dickinson and Feisal Sayeed, in honor of Janice Dickinson, and in thanksgiving for Hana, Kalen, and Ella Sayeed

**Larry Anderson** in memory of Linda Anderson, Bob & Dorothy Anderson and Ron & Phylis Hallock and in thanksgiving for Jeff, Jill, Nick and Lauren Anderson, Steve Anderson, and Kelly Brookhart and Mandy Prokupek

**Dorothy Wilson** in memory of Ed Wilson and Ed & Evelyn Meyers

**Dan and Jana Montgomery** in memory of Ralph Lee & Lucy Lee-Petersen, Janice Allison, Kay Montgomery, Patricia Montgomery and Earl & Dorothy Montgomery and in thanksgiving for Ned, Lucy, and Lena

**Jeanie & Bill Smith** in memory of Betty & Jack Douglas, Jeannie & Bill Smith, Mary D. Macy, Susan Macy Jarvinen, and Nola Matthews Douglas Thole and in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren – Tyson, McB, Marcy, TD, Luke, Gwen, Lillie, Lucy, Eleanor, Caitlin, Maggie, Millie and a new player to be named in June 2025, our children-in-law, Marty Luft, John McManus, Alison Werner Smith, and Juliana Vadala-Smith, the St. Timothys Congregation, and the Ministries of Women at the Well

**Bob and Lea Hollwager** in thanksgiving for a healthy family

**Bev Donnelly** in memory of John Donnelly

**Barbara Beach** in memory of beloved husbands & fathers Robert Vance Blosser and Robert A. Shannon

**Diana Morman** in memory of Denny – a loving dad and husband – and in thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren

**Elizabeth & Mark Slocum** in memory of Jerry Harden, Gary Slocum, and Marlene & John Cowles and in thanksgiving for our children, their spouses, our grandchildren Ryan and Carter Johnson and Easton Slocum and extended family

**Annie Waskom** in memory of and in thanksgiving for the life of Dan Waskom

**Ryan & Kelly Pettit** in memory of Jeanette & Bob Zeisman, Mary & Jason Cupp, and Frankie & Jack Kirkwood

**Dennis & Laurie Mitchell** in memory of Gary & Sharon Homan

**Colin & Sandy Kavanagh** in memory of Mary Lee Upton and Bev Goldman

**McB & John McManus** in memory of Bill & Jeannie, Jack & Betty, John & Doris, Janet, and Truman and in thanksgiving for Lillie, Caitlin, Luke, Lucy, Maggie, Millie, Gwen, Eleanor, Teddy, Eleanor, and Helena

**Mary and H. Milton Cole-Duvall** in memory of Earl Frederick Smith, Verona Anne Cole, Floyd Michael Cole, Susan Cole Webb, Nancy Cole Hairfield, Mark Carlton Cole, David Newton Cole, Peter Duvall, Velma Chettle Duvall, Harmon Duvall, Ann Duvall, Diane Duvall Wallweber, Lorraine Duvall Mueller, Pete Pederson, Richard Donlan, David Bond Dwyer, David Eugene Loomis, Howard Milton Cole, Sr., Susie Elizabeth Tucker Cole, Jacqueline Rambo, Mark Bartusek, Lonnie Lashley, Adeline Savage, and Alex Patch and in honor of Jeanie Douglas Smith, Kyle Carswell, Pat Genereux, Bill Wolff, Jennie McKinney, Don Agee, Amy Wachter, Betsey Lockwood Hawley Monnot, Audrey Kennis, Renee Hardman, and Horace Savage

**Susan & Art Wittmack** in memory of Deacon Muffy Wittmack Harmon, Charles & Elsa Wittmack, and Irva Sullivan

**Pat & Sue Genereux** in memory of George & Winifred Debenham and Arthur & Bernice Genereux