

### TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520 717-569-1632

Website: www.trinityeastpete.org

E-Mail:secretary@trinityeastpete.org

The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor

The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Carolyne Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music and SOT Choir Director

Mrs. Christine Oetama, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

# CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00 A.M.

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion. *Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.* 

**Prayer As You Enter:** Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE:** Originating at England's Truro Cathedral in 1878, the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus in nine short scripture lessons from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels. Interspersed between the readings are hymns and carols that reflect the reading.

Today's service is an adaptation of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College in Cambridge, England. The first festival service was held on Christmas Eve 1918. The service was planned by Eric Milner-White, who had just been appointed Dean of King's College after service as an military chaplain. He was convinced that the Church of England needed more imaginative worship.

Since 1919, the service has always begun with the hymn *Once in Royal David's City.* The scriptures always stay the same, but the choice of carols varies. This service has been broadcast annually around the world on Christmas Eve since 1928. Wherever the service is heard or however it has been adapted, the pattern and strength of the service, as Dean Milner-White pointed out, derive from the lessons and not the music.

The main theme of this service is the development and loving purposes of God as seen through the windows and words of the Bible.

**PRELUDE** 

In Dulci Jubilo (BWV 729)

J. S. Bach/Edouard Nies-Berger and Dr. Albert Schweitzer

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

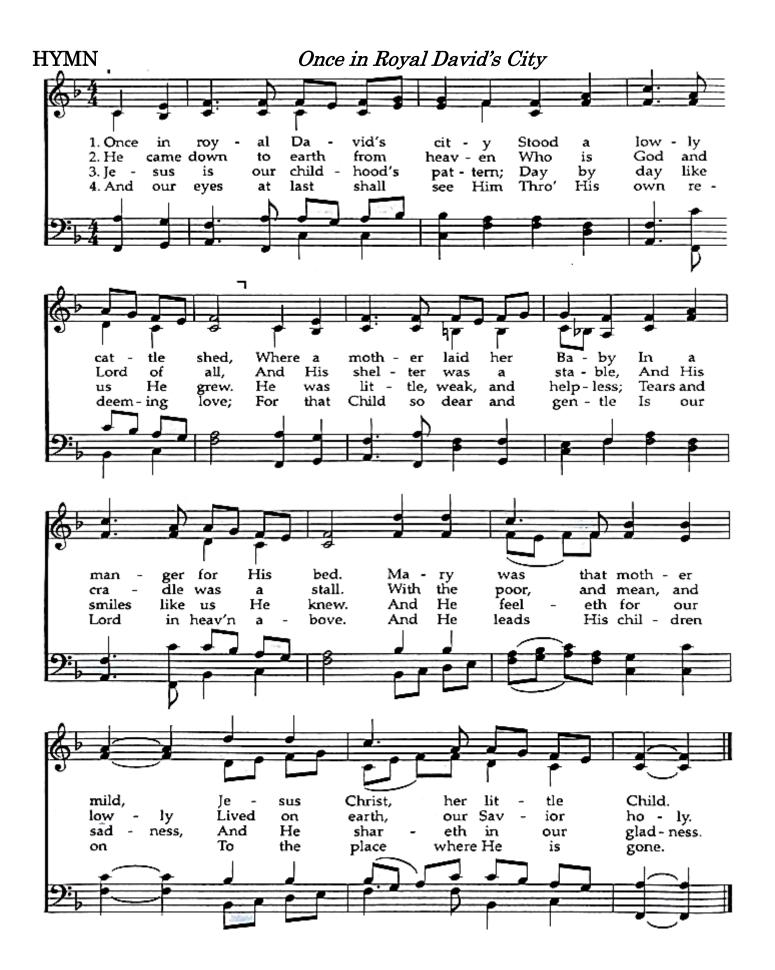
# **CALL TO WORSHIP**

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM and THE BIDDING PRAYER

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (sung)

## THE COLLECT

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. Amen.



# **CONFESSION OF SINS**

### CALL TO CONFESSION

What a rare gift this season brings. God loves us so much that God came to us in Jesus. Let us humble ourselves and confess our sins before the God of love.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

#### SILENT CONFESSION

#### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Let us confess in the presence of God and one another.

Holy God, we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our heart with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.

### **KYRIE**

Lord, have mercy upon us.	Lord, have mercy upon us. (sung)
Christ, have mercy upon us.	Christ, have mercy upon us. (sung)
Lord, have mercy upon us.	Lord, have mercy upon us. (sung)

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

# ADORATION AND PRAISE

PRAISE VERSICLE and RESPONSE

Praise the Lord!

The Lord be praised!

Let us sing praise to God!



# LET THE CHILDREN COME

# LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON HYMN NO. 88

Genesis 3:8-19

Pastor Rankin

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verse 1)

SECOND LESSON HYMN NO. 13

Genesis 22:15-18

Dan Otthofer

Of the Father's Love Begotten (verse 1)

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Anne & Andrew Rankin

#### All of You Who Walked in Darkness

MENDELSSOHN 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.7 with refrain ("Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")



Biblical Reference: Isaiah 9:2-7

Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, Festgesang an die Künstler, 1840.
Arrangement by William H. Cummings, 1856.
Text: Copyright © 2012 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

# FOURTH LESSON HYMN NO. 113

### Isaiah 11:1-9

Tim Geiger

## Behold a Branch is Growing (verses 1 & 2)

### FIFTH LESSON HYMN

St. Luke 1:26-38

Diane Rice

# When Gabriel Brought the News

Luke 1:26-38 Charles Hambrick-Stowe, 2021 George Frederick Handel, 1728 Arr. Lowell Mason, 1821



Text ©2021 Charles Hambrick-Stowe. All rights reserved. Music in the public domain.

#### USED BY PERMISSION

SIXTH LESSON HYMN NO. 108 St. Luke 2:1-7

Rev. Elizabeth Hambrick-Stowe

O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1 & 2)

SEVENTH LESSON HYMN NO. 111 St. Luke 2:8-16 *Come, All Ye Shepherds* 

Sally Rodenberger

EIGHTH LESSON **HYMN NO. 118** 

St. Matthew 2:1-12 The First Nowell (verse 5) Karen Olley

NINTH LESSON HYMN NO. 112

Rev. Dr. Charles Hambrick-Stowe St. John 1:1-14 O Come, All Ye Faithful

(Stand if you are able for the hymn)

# PEOPLE'S OFFERING

### CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Susani

German carol /arr. R. Powell



Music: 16th Century English Melody

Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website http://www.umcworship.org. Email address: music@gbod.org. Text and tune are public domain.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

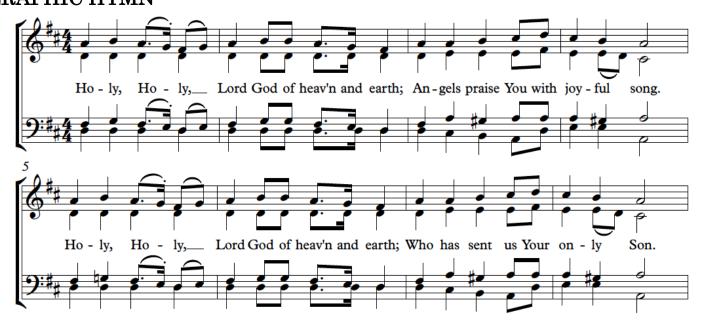
We lift them up to the Lord!

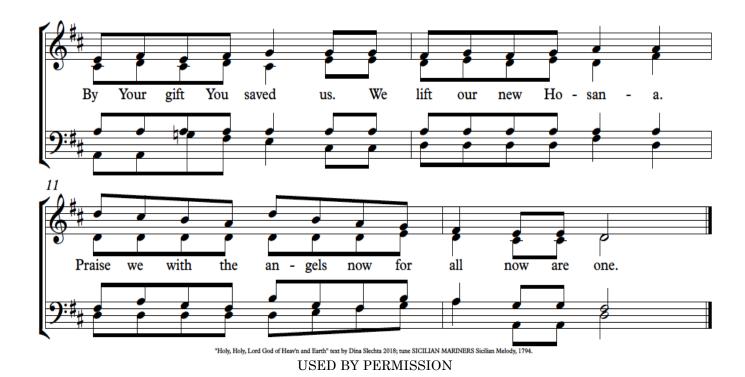
Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. In ancient days, you created us in your image to be reflections of your glory. When we fell short and dimmed the brilliance of your light shining through us, you held our hands and walked with us out of the garden into all the corners of the earth. When we are afraid to look upon your glory, you came as a quiet traveler, as a burning bush, and as a pillar of light. You called us to be people of light, to walk no longer in darkness, and always, you light our way. Even when we walk in darkness, you shine your light and offer your grace, awaiting our return to you. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reveal your glory and grace. And so, with your people on earth and all the angels in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their unending hymn.

### SERAPHIC HYMN





(PLEASE BE SEATED)

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

### THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

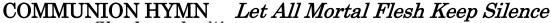
### BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

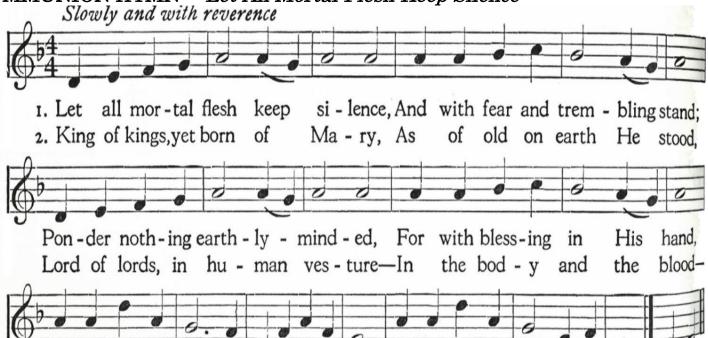
As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

# The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.





Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth, Our full hom-age to de - mand. He will give to all the faith - ful His own self for heavenly food.

(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements in the narthex and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.)

### PRAYERS OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray together.

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**HYMN** 

Joy to the World!

No. 120

### BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

**POSTLUDE** 

From Heaven Above (Vom Himmel hoch)



# CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



arr. W. Held

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chancel Flowers are given by Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman in celebration of Judy's birthday and in honor of our military.

The Worship Aids are given by Pastor Rankin in memory of his grandmother, Dorothy Rankin, who died on December 25, 2009.

The Baptismal Font Flowers are given by Gary, Harry, Brenda & Ronald Himelwright in loving memory of Lou Ann Himelwright.

Money Counters: Bud & Kathy McCarty, Scott Owens, Jeff Hackenberger, John Shelsky

Building Trustee: Nevin Cooley

Greeters: Denise Huggins, Bob Bistline, Dottie Schadt

**Ushers: Don Miller,** Jane Starr, John Bailey, Denise Huggins, Dottie Schadt, Tim Geiger, Lon Wible, Dan Otthofer

Altar Guild: Nancy Enders Trinity Bread: Denise Huggins

Attendance for Sun., Dec. 18 7:45–21 10:30–58 TOTAL – 79
Sunday School Attendance 18

## Happy Birthday!

Monday – Judy Chapman Thursday – Kathleen(Sensenig) Adams

Saturday – Rev. Jack Esbenshade

### This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Monday OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday 10:30 AM—Funeral for Rev. Frank Lantz (viewing is at 9:30 a.m.)

5:00 PM – Community Meal @ First Reformed

Saturday 7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 10:00 AM – Eucharist

THE JANUARY PARISH POST is available on both floors of the church building.

### NEWS FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Sunday School classes will not be held on December 25 and January 1.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on December 26.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE:** We will begin 2023 and the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Trinity U.C.C. with a Service of Word & Sacrament on January 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Rankin will preach the sermon "Praising God 175 Years and Beyond".

# **Community Grab 'N Go Meal:** Tuesday, December 27 at First Reformed U.C.C. (40 E. Orange St., Lancaster)

Trinity has another opportunity to feed the underserved on December 27. A few volunteers will be needed to pack and distribute 120 to-go dinner bags. The sign-up sheet for volunteers and food donations is on the table in across from the church office. The food items needed for this meal are: fruit cups, hamburger rolls, water, individually wrapped desserts and baby carrots. Donations can be placed in the basket on the table.

Contact Kathy Cooley for more information! Thanks for your continuing support!

PRAYER CONCERNS: The family of Rev. Frank Lantz, the family of Hilma Slechta (mother of Michael Slechta), the family of Dolly Rebuck (great-aunt of Kayla Brennan), the family of Rev. John Smeltzer (seminary classmate of Rev. Bob Hunsicker), Deb Lichtenwalner, Jodi Keller, George DeLong, Dave Trostle, Summerlyn Burger (granddaughter of Marge Burger), Danielle Huggins Holbein, Janet Owens (sister-in-law of Scott & Jane Owens), Joann Peck, Mary Lou Shaab, Stan & Pat Seachrist, Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley, Donna Nesbitt (neighbor of John & Sarah Paulukow), Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel), Jane Portser, Tom Wolf (son of Donna Wolf), Judie Bistline, Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig), Laura Jean Watson (sister of Carol Kratz), David and Brenda Haverstick (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Jeannie & Bill Toy (sister & brother-in-law of Lainie Christensen) Carmen Richards, Donna Zirkel, Don & Pat Miller, Sam Minder III, Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser, Dick & Tillie King (friends of Stan & Pat Seachrist), Robin McComsey (neighbor of Himelwrights), Rylan Brent (relative of Chuck & Sue Husted), Hank Fox, Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman, Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner), Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer), Bob Kilgore, the Lehman family, Judy Barr (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Joann Garvin, Rev. Phyllis Baum, Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer), Rev. Paul Eyer (former pastor of St. Luke's), Mary Witmer, the Martin family, Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards), Monica Williams (friend of Sandy DeLong), Ronald Himelwright (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright), Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards), Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio), Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer), Nancy Patton, Mike & Judy Barr (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner), Phyllis Zimmerman, Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards), John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law), Carl Roth (Gretchen Leinbach's brother), Lainie Christensen, Sandra Englert (niece of Betty Tyndall), Charles & Betty Booraem, Betty Tyndall and family, Dorothy Fasnacht, Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law), Bob & Marlyn Wible, Barry Moore (Donna & Ron Denlinger's brother-in-law), Judy Wisniewski (sister of Chuck Husted), and the Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church)

THE CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE NORTH WINDOW is given in memory of Leon L. & Ethel Gruber by son Greg, daughter Sharon Armstrong, and granddaughter Jessica.

THE CHRISMON TREE: The Chrismons on the small tree in the stairwell were made by the late Edythe Geib. Several people have asked about the Chrismon tree. The term "Chrismon" comes from the Latin "Christi monnogramma" which simply means "monogram of Christ". Therefore, a Chrismon is a Christian symbol that represents Christ. There is a descriptive list of the various Chrismons next to the tree.

THE ADVENT CANDLES AND CHRIST CANDLE are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Grace M. Dodson (mother) and Dolores A. Dodson (aunt) of Donna Wolf, given by the family and friends. The candle stand and wreath are in memory of S. Leona Wolf, mother of the late John Wolf.

**THE PEW CANDLE HOLDERS,** made by John Barr, were given by John and Dolly Barr.

THE NATIVTY SCENE ON THE FRONT LAWN was made by Mike Wagner.

THE CRECHE ON THE LOWER LEVEL BY THE ELEVATOR was made by Mike Wagner.

**DEVOTIONALS:** The January-March edition of *These Days* are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

2023 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: January 15 & 22. Upcoming dates for worship aids are: January 1, 15 & 22. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Contact Carol and look for charts for 2023 dates.

**MEN OF TRINITY BREAKFAST:** The monthly breakfast will be held at the Family Fare Restaurant on January 14 at 8:00 a.m. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.

**2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available on the table across from the church office. Please help us by delivering envelopes to some of our homebound members!

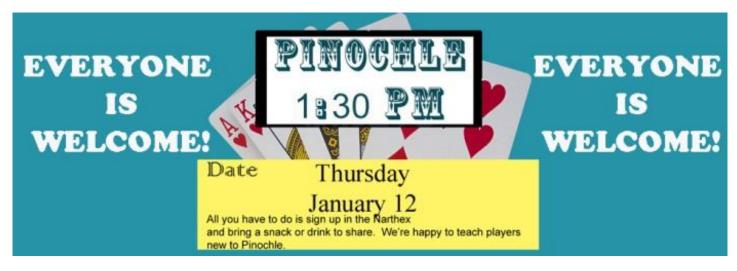
**WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS:** We are looking for worship volunteers on Sunday mornings. Contact the church office to sign-up!

**Greeters:** To welcome worshippers at the door for the second service.

**Ushers:** We have returned to passing the offering plate during the second service. We especially need ushers because some people have stepped down!

**Lectors:** Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 7:45 a.m. and/or 10:30 a.m. services.







# Christmas Poinsettias

Thank you to everyone who purchased poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary!!

Name	# of	In Honor /In memory of
	flowers	
John & Betsy Bailey	2	In memory of our daughter, Glenna Bishop
		In memory of dear friend, Ken Geib
Roger & Mary Ann Bradley	1	In memory of our parents
Joan Cash	2	In memory of C. L. Fountain
		In memory of Joan Hammer Yohe
Nancy Crawford	2	In memory of Keith G. Rankin, Jackie Meisky & John Meisky
		In honor of Chris, Anne, Nikki, Heather, Tara, Zach, Rachel,
D 1 D	-	Andrew, Quinn
Paula Dennes	1	In memory of parents & grandparents
Mark & Chris Eyer	2	In memory of our parents
Donna Geisler	1	In memory of my father, The Rev. George R. Geisler, Pastor
		Emeritus, Trinity UCC 1964-1989, and my mother, Janice "Danny" Geisler
Caron Caraban	0	
Greg Gruber	2	In memory of Leon & Ethel Gruber
Gary, Harry, Brenda & Ronald Himelwright	4	In loving memory of Lou Ann Himelwright
Jackey Hoover	2	In memory of Nowell Hoover
Denise Huggins & Danielle	3	In memory of Nowell Hoover In memory of Scott Huggins, Dan & Ardie Huggins
Holbein	0	In memory of Scott Huggins, Dan & Artie Huggins
		In memory of Marguerite & Walter Yost
		In memory of Norman Zeigler
Robert & Hedwig Hunsicker	2	In memory of our parents
Chuck & Sue Husted	7	In memory of Gail Boettger
		In memory of our friends-Elaine, Cinny, Nicky, Sam & George
		In honor of grandchildren & great grandchildren
		In memory of their son, Christopher Husted
		In memory of their grandson, Gabryl Husted
		In memory of our parents
		In honor of our grandchildren & great grandchildren
Miyah, Hannah		In honor of Stan & Pat Seachrist
The Leaman family	1	In memory of Charles & Doris Leaman
Members of Trinity(white)	1	In honor of Rev. Dr. Chris, Rankin, Pastor
Members of Trinity(white)	1	In honor of Michael Slechta, Director of Music & SOT Choir
		Director
Members of Trinity(white)	1	In honor of Christine Oetama, Organist
Members of Trinity(white)	1	In honor of Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant
Members of Trinity(white)	1	In honor of Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director
John & Sarah Paulukow	2	In thankfulness for our church family
		In memory of those who are not here to celebrate Christmas 2022

Donald & Denise Pfeiffer	2	In honor of our children & grandchildren
		In memory of our parents & grandparents
Pastor Chris & Anne	3	In honor of Zachary, Rachel, and Andrew
Rankin		
Jerry & Carmen Richards	1	In honor of our family
Rev. Harry G. Royer	4	In honor of Donna Zirkel
		In memory of our parents
		In memory of Harriet Confair
		In memory of Sister Theresa Joseph
Stan & Pat Seachrist	2	In honor of our grandchildren & great grandchildren
		In memory of our parents, Mr. & Mrs. William Seachrist & Mr. &
		Mrs. Harry Garner
Dottie Schadt & family	2	In memory of Jere Schadt
		In memory of Kevin Schadt
Bob & Marlyn Wible	3	In memory of our parents & grandparents



