



Incarnation Lutheran Church



Christmas  
EVE WORSHIP

Saturday 24 December

5:00 PM

3005 DEVINE STREET,  
COLUMBIA, SC 29205



# INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

✝ Christmas Eve • December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 ✝

## **Worship Notes:**

• Our Lector for today is Mimi Fisher • Our Crucifer for today is Teresa Boykin • Our Banner Bearer is Bill Williamson • Our Bible Bearer is John Sawicki • We are in Setting 2 of the LBW • Our flutist is Cynthia Hopkins • Our guest soprano is Katie Ruth West-Neubaum •

## **THE ORGAN PRELUDE:**

Sonata in F

Vivace

Largo

Allegro

A Medley of Carols

Georg P. Telemann

(1681-1767)

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** Go Tell It On the Mountain

Incarnation Childrens Choir

*Please stand as able.*

Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**Declare his glory among the nations, his wonders among all the peoples.**

Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

**Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.**

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad, let the sea roar, let the field be joyful!

**All the trees of the forest, shout for joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth with righteousness and the peoples with truth.**

**CAROL:** ELW 283

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*ADESTE FIDELES*

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**GLORIA:** ELW 289

Angels We Have Heard on High

*GLORIA*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### FIRST READING: 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.

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

#### PSALM: Psalm 96

Robert Hobby



<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD | a new song;

sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;**  
**proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations  
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,**  
**more to be feared | than all gods. R**

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>**Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;**  
**power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;**  
**bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD. R**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!**

**The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the**

peo- | ples with equity.”

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.

<sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O LORD,  
for you come to | judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peoples | with your truth. **R**

**SECOND READING:** Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup>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.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**



**GOSPEL:** Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

*Before the Reading:* The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **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:* The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**CAROL:** ELW 275 (v. 1-2)

Angels, from the Realms of Glory  
*REGENT SQUARE*

**SERMON**

Pastor Emily Willhide

**CAROL:** ELW 274

On Christmas Night  
*SUSSEX CAROL*

### **NICENE 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

Each petition concludes “Hear us, O God.” We respond: “Your mercy is great.”

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

### ANTHEM:

Jesus Christ our Saviour is Born

Lithuanian Carol

*Arr. Philip Gordon*

### OFFERTORY CAROL: ELW 296

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

### OFFERING PRAYER

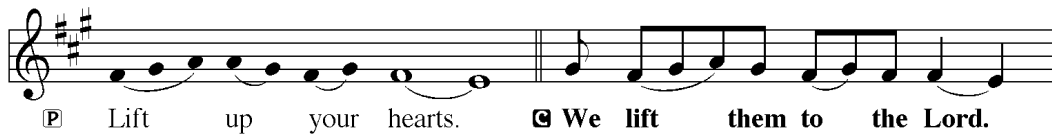
God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

**Amen.**

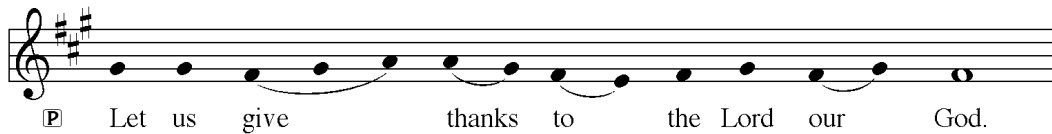
### GREAT THANKSGIVING:



♩ 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.

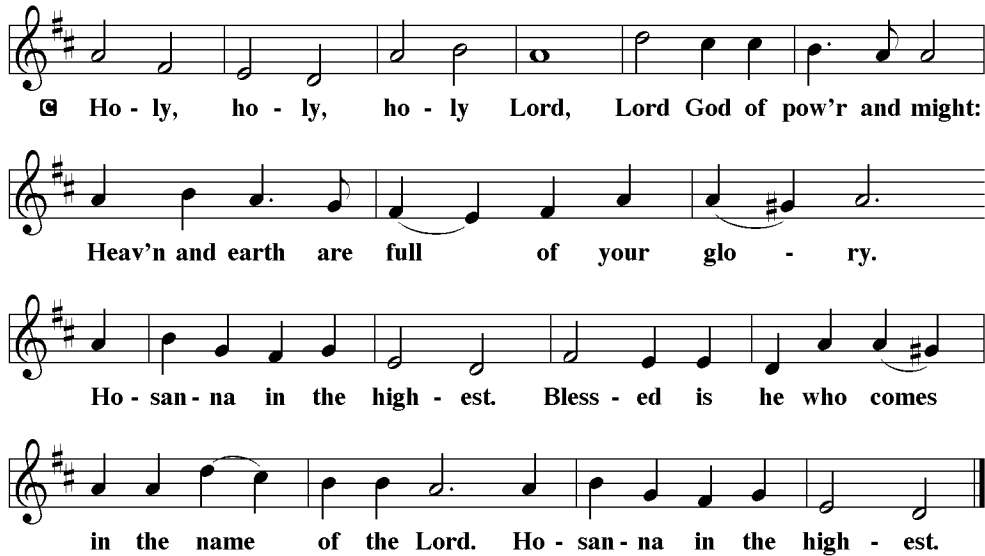


♪ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

### PREFACE:

It is indeed right and salutary... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.  
You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise;  
and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,  
who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom  
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup  
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.

And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.

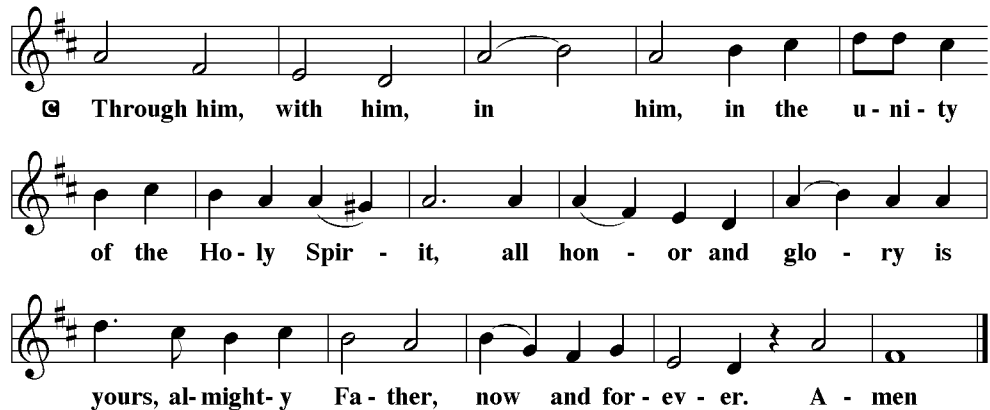
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection,

that we who receive the Lord's body and blood  
may live to the praise of your glory  
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,  
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest  
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.



☪ Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty  
of the Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is  
yours, al - might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

**LORD'S PRAYER:** Katie Ruth West-Neubaum, mezzo soprano

A. Malotte

*Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.*

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Welcome to the table of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**COMMUNION** - *We invite you to join with us in the sacrament of Holy Communion, as Jesus invites us all to the table. Please take an empty communion glass from the trays at the front of the church. The innermost ring of glasses are pre-filled with grape juice for those who prefer juice to wine. There are discard trays by the side aisles. Please follow the directions of the Ushers.*



## LAMB OF GOD:



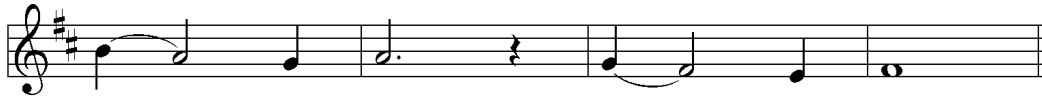
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.

## ARIA:

“Ave Maria”

Franz Schubert

## COMMUNION HYMNS: ELW 268

From Heaven Above  
*VOM HIMMEL L HOCH*

## COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 269

Once in Royal David’s City  
*IRBY*

## COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 270

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
*MENDELSSOHN*

## PRAYER FOR PEACE

O God, you sent your son to dwell among us and to show us the way of peace. You call us out of complacency and into your holy work of establishing peace and justice for all people. Let the grace and hope of this silent holy night spill out into the world and give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

## BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

**LIGHTING OF CANDLES: "Night of Silence - Silent Night"** Dan Kantor, arr. John Ferguson  
*The congregation will join the choir in singing all 3 verses of Silent Night cued by the Cantors. The Ushers will come down the center aisle to pass the light through the congregation.*

v.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.

*STILLE NACHT*

v.2 Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ the Saviour is born!  
Christ the Saviour is born

v.3 Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from your holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

**DISMISSAL**

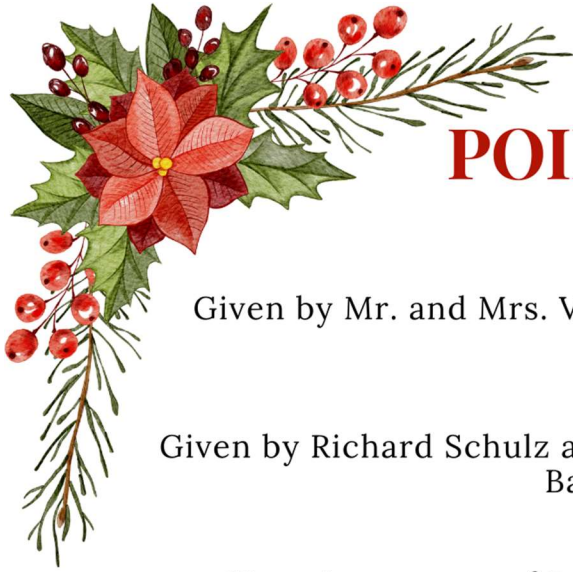
Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news. **Amen.**

*As the lights come up, please carefully extinguish your candle. Please leave your candle in baskets in the narthex.*

**POSTLUDE:**

A Noel

Jean-Francois Dandrieu



## POINSETTIAS

Given by Mr. and Mrs. Von Boozer in memory of friends and loved ones.

Given by Richard Schulz and Marcy Coster-Schulz in memory of Barbara C. Valle.

Given in memory of James T. and Betty M. Wilds by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Given by Kimberly Yerrick and Randy Yaussy in memory of their fathers, Robert W. Zimpfer and P.J. Yaussy.

Given by Ashley Crocker in memory of Lathene McLemore and Jack McLemore, Sr.

Given by Dick and Connie Hinson in memory of our parents, Irene and Bob Hinson, and Florence and Ed White.

Given by Maureen O'Neill in memory of Robert and Agnes Kelly, and Paul O'Neill.

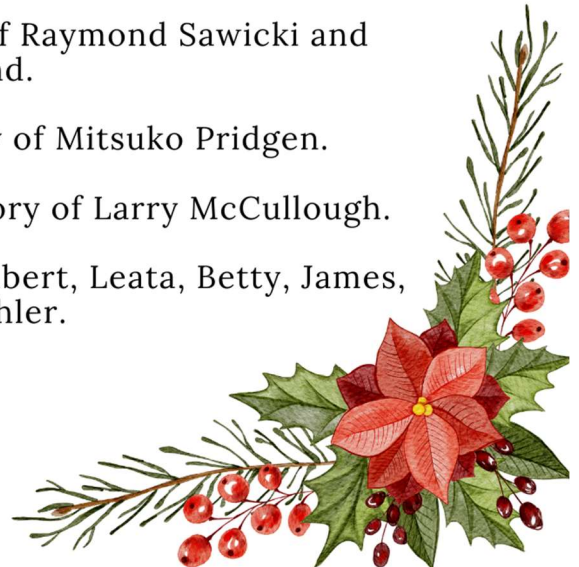
Given by Mimi Fisher in memory of beloved loved ones.

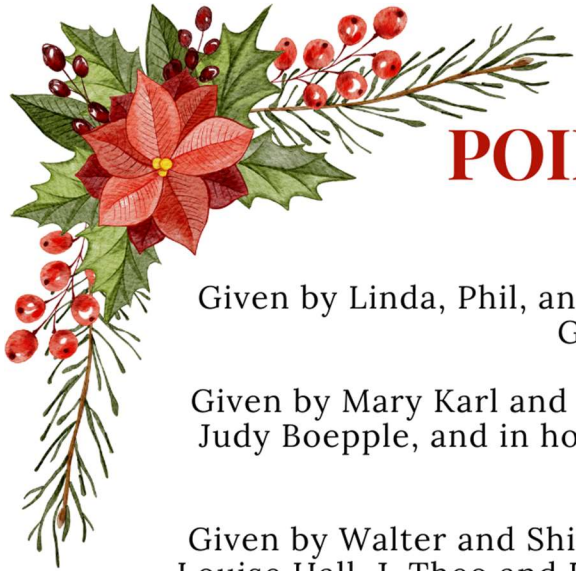
Given by the Sawicki's in memory of Raymond Sawicki and Laurie Copeland.

Given by Susan Burris in memory of Mitsuko Pridgen.

Given by Welda McCullough in memory of Larry McCullough.

Given by Ken Gehler in memory of Gilbert, Leata, Betty, James, Bill, and Stan Gehler.





## POINSETTIAS

Given by Linda, Phil, and Ashley Crocker in memory of Mrs. Gwen Crocker.

Given by Mary Karl and Mark Boepple in memory of Bob and Judy Boepple, and in honor of our children, Memi, Pop, and Amy.

Given by Walter and Shirley Lindler in memory of Curtis and Louise Hall, J. Theo and Ruth Hipp, Natalie Kennedy, Grady O. Sr. and Phebe Lindler, Floyd J. and Elizabeth Justice, and Eloise Justice and Kevin Justice.

Given by the Johnsons in memory of Cal's parents, Mary and Robert Johnson, and Larry Morton, Elizabeth's father and Luke and Ethan's grandfather, and in honor of the leadership and caregivers of Incarnation Child Development Center, and the musicians of Incarnation.

Given by Porter and Memi Kinard in memory of our parents, The Rev. Karl W. Kinard and Mrs. Kinard, Mr. and Mrs. Gustave Speth, Memi's sister, Claire S. Bowie, and in honor of their children, Mark and Mary Karl Boepple, and their granddaughter, Porter.

Given by Kay and Russ Rushe in memory of Mary Ellen and Clyde Powell, George Marion Rushe, and in honor of Daphne Shepherd Rushe.

Given by Mary Kehl in honor of Dr. Patrick Hawkins.

Given by Bill and Christel Lamb in honor of our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Given by Amanda Bundrick and Jennie Temple in honor of our mothers.

