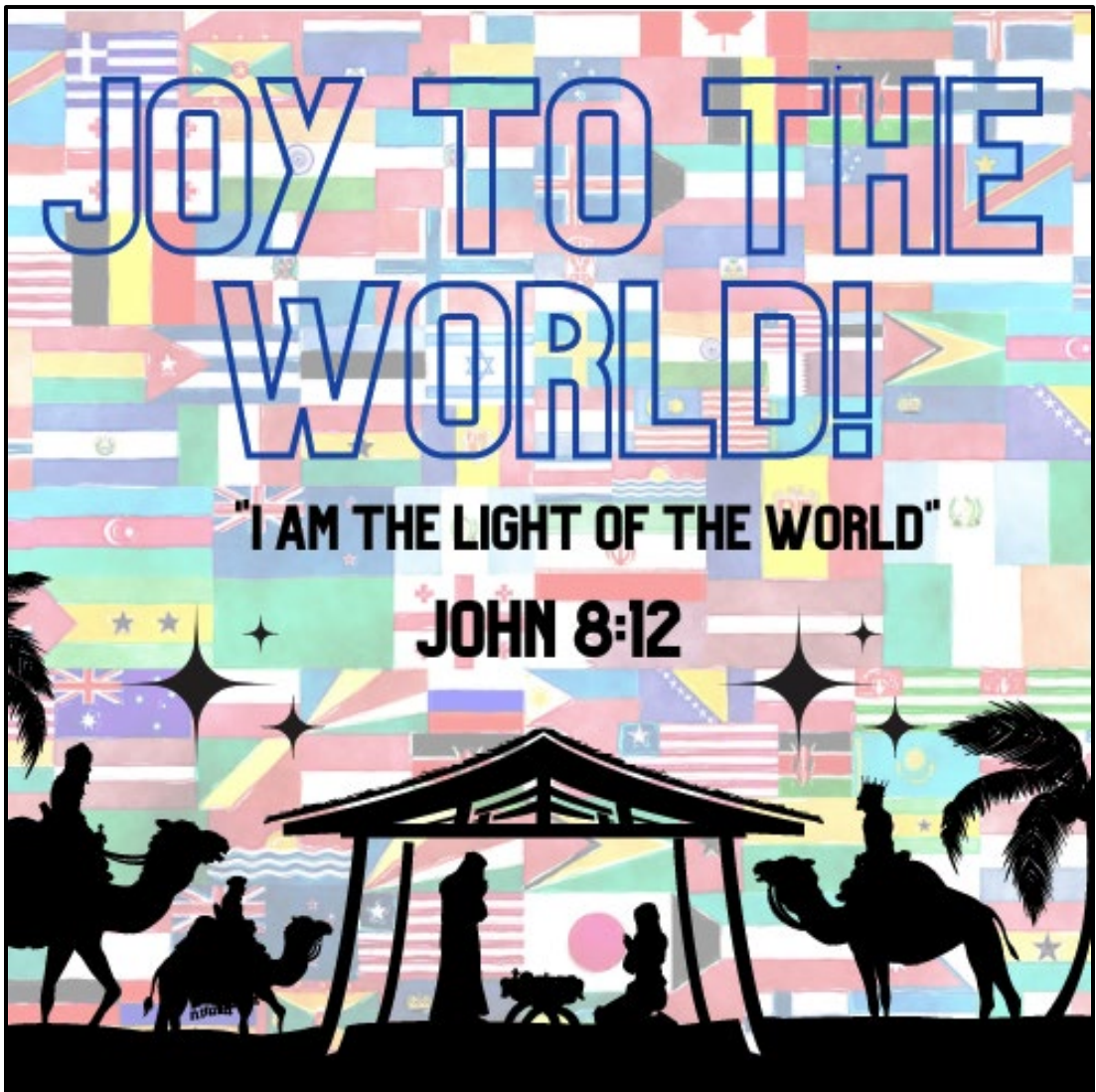


First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (PCUSA)

14391 Minnieville Road Woodbridge, VA 22193

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<https://www.youtube.com/c/FUPCDC>



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Joy to the World! - Christmas Cantata

December 18, 2022

10:00 AM

The Reverend Adam C. Bowling - Pastor

[Adam.Bowling@fupcdc.org](mailto:Adam.Bowling@fupcdc.org)

828.448.8914

**WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME****WELCOME****BELLS**

*The three tolls call us to worship and symbolize our belief in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In quiet reverence, we prepare for worship.*

**PRELUDE**

*And the Glory of the Lord*  
Justin Streletz, Pianist

Handel, Arr. Jan Sanborn

+ **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Zephaniah 3:17*)

The prophet Zephaniah says: "The Lord, your God, is in your midst, He is mighty and will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will renew you in His love; He will exult over you with singing."

**Let it be known in all nations, God is our strength, God is our song and God is our salvation.**

So, let us praise God and rejoice with God in song.

+ **OPENING HYMN**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

119

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLE**

Pam Cox and Connie Cox

Today we light the candle of love. In 1st John 4:7 we read,

**"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God."**

+ **ADVENT PRAYER**+ **ADVENT RESPONSE**

*My Soul Cries out with a Joyful Shout (verse 1, Refrain)*

100

**My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,  
and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about to turn?**

Refrain:  
My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

In Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ to the world, full of grace and truth. Trusting in God's unfailing grace, let us tell the truth about ourselves, joining in our prayer of confession, as we pray together. . .

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, we are called to be a joyful people, giving thanks for you and your good gifts. There are times, however, when sin and sorrow grow, pushing joy to the side. We lose sight of your grace, and instead fall into despair. We are consumed by loss, distracted by stuff, and crippled with fear. We focus on our lack, rather than your love. Lift our eyes, Lord Jesus, and renew our joy in you. Remind us that: in your sacrifice is our forgiveness, in your death is our resurrection, in your coming is our joy! Hear us now, as we continue to confess in the silence of our hearts. . .

*(A Time of Silent Confession)*

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(based on Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11)*

The prophets of old have declared, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God. For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robes of righteousness.

Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

+ **RESPONSE**      *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (verse 1)*      582

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

### + **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*(Please share a sign of Christ's peace with those around you.)*

# WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

## 2022 Christmas Cantata: *Joy to the World!*

Words by Rev. Adam C. Bowling  
Music Selection by Dana Van Slyke

Accompanied by Justin Streletz  
Directed by Dana Van Slyke

Featuring the FUPCDC Chancel Choir  
and the FUPCDC Young People's Choir

+++++

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Carol Miller

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Deepen our understanding of the scriptures, and enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, that we may become heralds of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

### **GOSPEL LESSON**

John 12:44-50 NRSV

Carol Miller

Then Jesus cried aloud: "Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. <sup>45</sup> And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. <sup>46</sup> I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. <sup>47</sup> I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world but to save the world. <sup>48</sup> The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge, <sup>49</sup> for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. <sup>50</sup> And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Introduction**

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

### **+ OPENING HYMN**

*Joy to the World*  
The Congregation

134

**Argentina**

Mayra Drayer

**Cuba**

Mayra Drayer

**CUBA**

*Porque dios Ha Nacido*  
Chancel Choir

Tony Rubi, Vicente Chavarria

**France**

Morelle Fokwa

**FRANCE**

*Noel Nouvelet / God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*  
Youth Choir: Clara A., Oscar A., Ellie B., Parker B.

**Ukraine**

Kennedy W.

**United Kingdom**

Elizabeth Glyer

**ENGLAND**

*Coventry Carol*  
Chancel Choir

Arr. Mark Hayes

**Canada**

Bob Chamberlin

**CANADA**

*Huron Carol*

Arr. Mark Hayes

Ensemble: Chris Anderson, Rebecca Anderson, Ike Evans, Dana Van Slyke

Note: Written by a 17th century French missionary living among the indigenous Huron people of Canada.

**GOSPEL LESSON:**

Matthew 1:18-25 NRSV

Erin Bowling

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, “God is with us.” <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Ghana**

Regina G.

**Sierra Leone**

Emma Turay

**Cameroon**

Therese Same Ediage

***BABY PRESENTATION***

Eva-Laila Same Ediage

**Nigeria**

Nne Kalu

***NIGERIA***

***Betelehemu***

Chancel Choir

Wendell Whalum Arr. Barrington Brooks

**China**

Isabella Maxwell

**Australia**

Cathy Albrecht

**Closing**

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

***FINALE***

***Joy to the World!***

Chancel Choir

Arr. Mark Hayes

***INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP***

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

*(If you would like to speak with someone about becoming a Christian, about church membership, or about a special prayer need, please speak with Pastor Adam or someone at the Welcome Table right outside the sanctuary. For those worshiping online, please email Pastor Adam at [adam.bowling@fupcdc.org](mailto:adam.bowling@fupcdc.org). Know that ALL are welcome in this place!)*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+ **HYMN OF RESPONSE**      *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*      132

### **SERVICE OF GIVING**

Music at the Offering

*Mwouop*

Chorale Jericho de Byem-assi

*a traditional dance from Cameroon*

Dancers: Morelle Fokwa and Viclane Fokwa

+ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*Luke 3:7-18*)

Generous God, we thank you for bringing us to this season of faith, hope, and love. As we look at our lives, we see evidence of the countless ways that you have provided for our needs. Let gratitude well up in our hearts and overflow in generosity to others. Draw us outward to see ways that we can joyfully share what you have given. Let our acts of kindness as a church bear good fruit in the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

+ **HYMN**      *There's a Star in the East (Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow)*      135

+ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**      Rev. Adam C. Bowling

+ **BENEDICTION RESPONSE**      *He Came Down*      137

+ **POSTLUDE**      *Christmas Legends Medley*      Arr. Larry Shackley  
Justin Streletz, Pianist

+ *Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

### CHRISTMAS EVENTS AND SERVICES

Please join us as we celebrate Christmas.

- **December 24: Christmas Eve Services**
  - 4:00 PM      Christmas Eve Family Service
  - 7:30 PM      Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
- **December 25: Christmas Day - Carol Sing, 10 AM one service**
- **January 1: Epiphany Sunday, 10 AM one service - Star Words**

# Worship Notes

- \* **WELCOME!** Whether new in the area, a resident of the community, or visiting, we are delighted you joined us in worship. Please come to the Welcome Table right outside the sanctuary after the service to fill out an info card and to receive a special gift. To find out more about this church, please call the Church Office at 703-670-7834 or speak with Pastor Adam.
- \* **WORSHIP ASSISTANT:** Carol Miller

# Connect with Us

- \* **WE ARE ON FACEBOOK:** If you use Facebook, become a Facebook friend, and become a fan of First United Presbyterian. Make friends with others from the church.
- \* **WE ARE ON INSTAGRAM:** Find us on Instagram @fupcdc.
- \* **FUPCDC WEBSITE:** For detailed news and information, visit the church website at <https://fupcdc.org>.
- \* **FUPCDC YOUTUBE CHANNEL:** To view worship services and videos, visit the FUPCDC Youtube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/c/FUPCDC>. You can also find our channel by searching for "FUPCDC Video".
- \* **TEXT ALERTS:** Remind is a free text messaging service that will help our church communicate quickly and efficiently. On your cell phone, start a new message to **81010**. In the message, type @fupcdc and send. You can unsubscribe at any time.

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## Report on Offering: November 2022

	NOV 2022 Actual	NOV 2022 Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget
Offering Pledged	35,231	32,367	359,152	374,892
Offering Unpledged	9,479	4,292	71,537	49,712
<b>Total Offering</b>	<b>44,710</b>	<b>36,659</b>	<b>430,689</b>	<b>424,604</b>



# Ministry in Action

- ✚ **DISCOVER FIRST UNITED PROGRAM AND LUNCH:** We invite you to prayerfully consider attending our Discover First United lunch and program **Sunday, January 8, 2023** in Room 27 from **12:15 PM until 1:30 PM**. This event is designed to introduce you and your family to the church and is open to anyone interested in learning more about our worshiping community and/or membership. We also promise to honor your time and end the program by 1:30 PM. If you are new to FUPCDC, are interested in possibly joining the church, or becoming an official “Friend of the Church,” the Discover First United Program is for you! Please register for this event, <https://forms.gle/quBs1WzHwizwDrid9>. Email the church office at [office@fupcdc.org](mailto:office@fupcdc.org) if you have questions.
- ✚ **FLOWER SIGN UP FOR 2023:** **New dates have been added to the Flower Sign Up Genius for 2023. It filled up quickly last year!** To sign up, you may click on the link on the FUPCDC Thursday News or if you have signed up in the past, an email may be sent to you. When signing up, please indicate who the flowers are in honor or memory of in the comment section. In addition, after the service the flowers are used by the deacons for the Flower Ministry and are given to a congregational member who is in need of feeling some love from the congregation. If you wish to keep the flowers instead, just indicate this in the comment section or email me. The cost for purchasing flowers continues to be **\$40.00**. You may pay for them by sending a check into the office made out to FUPCDC. Please write flowers and the Sunday you signed up for in the memo section. You may also pay online on the church website. If you have any trouble signing up, please email me at [gailzcobb@gmail.com](mailto:gailzcobb@gmail.com) and I will be happy to help you!
- ✚ **PRESBYTERIAN GIVING CATALOG:** Are you looking for unique/nontraditional gifts for those special people in your life? The Mission team suggests you consider thumbing through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog and make a gift in someone’s honor. Your gifts are signs of gratitude: feeding the hungry, comforting the brokenhearted and sharing our faith with young and old. Copies of the Giving Catalog are in the Welcome Center.
- \* **CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERING:** These gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color and assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. Offering envelopes will be available on Christmas Eve. You can donate to the Christmas Joy offering in two other ways: (1) You can mail a check to the church with “Christmas Joy” or “Joy Offering” on the memo line. (2) You can go to our website, [www.fupcdc.org](http://www.fupcdc.org), and click “online collection plate” and use the “designated giving” to give - putting “Christmas Joy” or “Joy Offering” in the note field. If you would like to know even more about this special offering, check out this website: <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/christmas-joy/>. Thank you for your continued support of this important cause!
- \* **252 KIDS CHILDREN’S MINISTRY:** For more information contact Erin Bowling at [erinkbowling@gmail.com](mailto:erinkbowling@gmail.com). There will be no Sunday School on December 25<sup>th</sup>.
- \* **BLANKET AND SLEEPING BAG DRIVE:** The Mission team is collecting blankets and sleeping bags for the houseless. We are asking for heavy duty outdoor blankets and adult cold weather sleeping bags (20 degrees and below). To participate in this drive, simply put new or gently used

and clean items in the decorated collection box in the Welcome center before Christmas Day. These items will be distributed to the local houseless community who we serve each Sunday through our Spread the Bread ministry. Thank you so much!

- \* **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** There will be no class on December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>. Join us at 9:45 AM on January 8<sup>th</sup> for our new Bible study, “The Lord’s Prayer” by Adam Hamilton.

## *Student Ministry News*

- \* **YOUTH CALENDARS:** Youth calendars are now available online and in the Welcome Center.
- \* **STUDENT MINISTRY EMAILS:** Sign up to receive Student Ministry emails. Ask Pastor Adam how to do this, or go to the FUPCDC website.
- \* **TEXT MESSAGES:** Sign up for Text Messages: Text @youthfupc to 81010.

## *Joys and Concerns*

All those who are ill or facing difficulties, including:

- |                                |                         |                  |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| * Nathan Johnson, III          | * Bill and Laura Parris | * Cherie Sankey  | * Leigh Anderson  |
| * Leslie                       | * Amanda Peck           | * Mark Stewart   | * Linda Ford      |
| * Karen Gundel                 | * Pat Greenhalgh        | * Alex Martin    | * Norman Cox      |
| * Marieann R.                  | * Debbie Niederriter    | * Nancy Lanza    | * Nate Johnson    |
| * Jenny N.                     | * Tommy and Deb         | * Amanda         | * Ann Randles     |
| * R. Rizzo                     | * Sandra D’Imperio      | * Baby Raphael   | * Rick Bockes     |
| * Baby Louisa Wolstenholme     | * Frank Coniglio        | * Tanya          | * Norman Cobb     |
| * Jason, Azena, Mikhail Corbin | * Marjorie Lawrence     | * Kath Purcell   | * Jeannine Menzie |
| * Lee and Giselle Watenpaugh   | * Doug Godfrey          | * Nancy Hoagland | * Deborah Folly   |

✝ Prayers for the families of the 14 CBP agents, who have taken their own lives this year alone.

All those serving in our military who are stationed away from home, including from our church:

- ✝ Kelsey Gibson (Affiliate Member of FUPCDC)
- ✝ Elizabeth Batista (Ana Batista Caporaletti’s daughter)
- ✝ David Cornelius, Jr. (Debbie Cornelius’ son)

The churches of National Capital Presbytery, especially:

- ✝ Greenwich Presbyterian Church - Nokesville, VA
- ✝ Heritage Presbyterian Church - Alexandria, VA

# Calendar

## December 18 - 25, 2022

**SUNDAY, December 18**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**Christmas Cantata - Joy to the World!**  
 8:30 AM Breakfast  
 9:00 AM Bible Study (Adult/Youth)  
 9:00 AM 252 Kids Children's Ministry  
 10:00 AM Worship - one service

**MONDAY, December 19**  
 10:30 AM Holy Fitness  
 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 289 - Tiger Den  
 7:00 PM Bible Buddies  
 8:30 PM Production Meeting - Google Meet

**TUESDAY, December 20**  
 8:30 AM TOPS  
 1:00 PM Al-Anon  
 6:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 289 - Wolf Den  
 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 964 B  
 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 964 G  
 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 226  
 7:00 PM Session Meeting  
 7:30 PM AA  
 7:30 PM Bull Run Troubadours

**WEDNESDAY, December 21**  
 10:30 AM Holy Fitness  
 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 80115  
 7:00 PM Chancel Choir  
 8:00 PM FUPCDC Praise Team

**THURSDAY, December 22**  
 3:00 PM Prayer & Praise Small Group  
 8:00 PM AA Support Group

**FRIDAY, December 23**  
**Church Office Closed**  
 10:30 AM Holy Fitness


**SATURDAY, December 24**  
 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service  
 7:30 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight  
 Communion Service

**SUNDAY, December 25**  
**Merry Christmas!**  
 10:00 AM Worship - one service  
 2:30 PM Bereaved Parents of USA


**First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City, Woodbridge, VA**

Ministers.....People of the Church  
 Pastor.....Rev. Adam C. Bowling  
 Parish Assistant..... Pastor Michael Slayter  
 Chancel Choir Director..... Dana Van Slyke  
 Pianist/Organist.....Justin Streletz  
 Nursery Supervisor..... Joann Paige  
 Sexton..... Homer Detrich  
 Office Manager..... Kim Parker

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Church Office Hours: 10AM -2:30PM, weekdays, 703-670-7834  
 \*\*\*\*\*



*Poinsettias were given  
to the Glory of God . . .*



*Barbara Baker and Chic Milam, in memory of  
Donald Baker and Nellis Milam  
Bob and Sandy Chamberlin, in honor of  
our four daughters and their beautiful families  
Bob and Sandy Chamberlin, in memory of  
our parents, Joe and Ruth Chamberlin and Ed and Georgie Stratton  
Jeff and Kathy Cobb, in memory of Charles Irvin  
Jeff and Kathy Cobb, in honor of our family  
Pam Cox, in loving memory of Lisa Chrzan  
Claudia Cunningham, in memory of my parents,  
Florence and Sam Cunningham and my sister, Anne C. Woodfin  
Caroline Garrett Diaz, in loving memory of  
my dad, Robert and my sisters, Carol and Cathy  
Tom and Karen Elliott, in memory of  
Tom Elliott, Sr. and our son, Mark  
Brian and Diane Fulton, in memory of  
Jacob and Scott Fulton  
Sofie Garrett, in loving memory of  
my husband, Robert and my daughters, Carol and Cathy  
Bruce and Betsy Gilbert, in honor of our families  
Jeanette Gregory, in memory of my parents and John  
Kathy McNeely, in honor of  
Cathy Albrecht and Jeannie Scott  
(for helping me with my home infusions)  
Bob and Sara Porter, in memory of  
The Reverend William N. Clark, Jr. and Jane Clark  
Doug and Ann Randles, in honor of  
our children and their families  
Melissa Reidy Nordstrom, in loving memory of  
my parents, Carol and Pat Reidy  
Melissa Reidy Nordstrom, in loving memory of  
my father-in-law, Ron Glass  
Barbara Wilson, in memory of Lynn P. Wilson*

*Your poinsettias may be picked up after the 10 AM worship service on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!*

