

**NARRATIVE LECTIONARY—YEAR 1—WEEK 15  
4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**



**“THE TITLE”**

**JOSEPH TRUSTS GOD  
MATTHEW 1:18-25**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022**

---

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

**Pastor Ben Squires**

Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: [pastor@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:pastor@bethelgurnee.org)

**Cindy Daluga, Disciple Care Coordinator**  
[Cindy.daluga@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:Cindy.daluga@bethelgurnee.org)

**Ben Sanders, Mission Facilitator**  
[office@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:office@bethelgurnee.org)

**Website:** [www.BethelGurnee.org](http://www.BethelGurnee.org)

---

# THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW SERVICE

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Matthew's Gospel.

Matthew is the focus of Year A Gospel readings in the Lectionary.

## Opening Hymn

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357 sts. 1, ref, 3-5



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from  
5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen

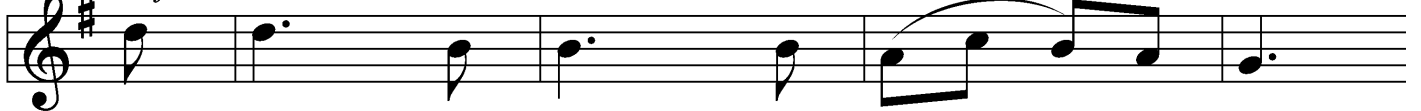


cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y  
wide our heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
leads on high, And close the path to mis - er - y.

### Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent.

***Invocation (Based on Matthew 11:28-30)***

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ***Amen.***

P: Jesus says, “Come to Me all who are weary, and I will give You rest.

Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me.

For I am gentle and lowly in heart.”

C: ***For You have promised we will find rest for our souls.***

P: For His yoke is easy, and His burden is light.

C: ***Amen.***

***Confession and Absolution (Matthew 22:34-40;19:16-26;18:13-14,19-20;20:28)***

P: When asked “Teacher, what is the great commandment in the Law?”, Jesus said,

C: ***You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart***

***and with all your soul and with all your mind.***

***And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.***

P: Jesus said, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

C: ***This brings us sorrow, Lord,***

***Because we treasure many things which are not focused on You.***

***Who then can be saved?***

P: Jesus declares, “With people this is impossible,

but with God all things are possible.”

He rejoices more over finding one lost sheep than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. It is not His will that one of you should perish.

C: ***For the Lord has promised:***

***Where two or three are gathered in His Name,***

***He is among us with His forgiveness.***

P: Indeed, He is here in the power of His forgiveness for you today.

He comes not to be served

but to serve, to give His life as a ransom for you.

Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ***Amen.***

**Gloria in Excelsis (based on Matthew 1:21)**

LSB 357, st. 6

6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us  
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y  
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
*Refrain*  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent.

**Anthem**

**O Come, O Come Immanuel**

**Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

O come, O come, Immanuel,  
Come now to earth and with Thy people dwell,  
The world awaits from heav'n a holy sign,  
O come and show to us the light divine.  
O come, O come, Immanuel,  
As age to age the prophets did foretell;  
Redeemer, come to save us one and all.  
Be born again in Beth'hem's manger stall.  
For Thy coming we prepare,  
Wisdom from on high,  
Gracious Spirit, Lord most fair;  
Now to us draw nigh.

O come, O come, Immanuel,  
And free Thy children, Israel,  
Be now our hope, our comfort from above,  
And bless us all with everlasting love;  
O bless us all with everlasting love.

**Today's Narrative Lectionary Reading**

**Matthew 1:18–25 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

<sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Companion Reading**

**John 1:1–5, 14, 16–18 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

<sup>16</sup>And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Song of Praise**

**Emmanuel**

Em-mam - u - el, - - Em-man - u - el, - - his name is called -

7

- Em - man - u - el. - - - God with us, - - - re - vealed in

12

us, - - - his name is called - - Em - man - u - el.

**Introit (Entrance Verses) for Today**

*John 1:16-17; antiphon (repeated verses): John 1:1,14*

P: In the beginning You created all things by Your Word,  
and in the fullness of time

C: **Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**

P: From his fullness we have all received

C: **grace upon grace.**

P: For the law was given through Moses;

C: **grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: In the beginning You created all things by Your Word,  
and in the fullness of time

C: **Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**

**Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**



**Collect (Prayer of the Day)**

P: O Emmanuel, our king and our Lord,  
the anointed for the nations and their Savior:

**C: Come and dwell among us, O Lord our God.**

P: O Emmanuel, our king and our Lord,  
the anointed for the nations and their Savior:

**C: Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

P: O Emmanuel, our king and our Lord,  
the anointed for the nations and their Savior:

**C: Come and return to us, O Lord our God. Amen.**

**Hymn of the Day**

**Immanuel, We Sing Thy Praise**

Tune: LSB 358



1 Im - man - u - el, we sing Thy praise, Thou Prince of  
2 E'er since the world be - gan to be, How many a  
3 Now art Thou here: we know Thee now: In low - ly  
4 Now fear - less - ly I come to Thee: From sin and



Life, Thou Fount of Grace, With all Thy saints, Thee,  
heart hath longed for Thee! And Thou, O long ex -  
man - ger lie - st Thou: A Child, yet make - est  
grief O set me free! Turn wrath a - way, dread



Lord, we sing; Praise, hon - or, thanks, to Thee we bring.  
pect - ed Guest, Hast come at last to make us blest!  
all things great: Poor, yet the earth Thy robe of state.  
death de - story, And turn my sor - row in - to joy.



***Confession of Faith from Matthew 11:2-6; 16:13-16***

P: When John the Baptist heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?”

C: ***Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”***

P: Jesus asked His disciples, using the title “Son of Man” to speak about Himself, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

And the disciples said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

Then He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?”

And I also ask you, disciples here today, “Who do you say that Jesus is?”

C: ***Simon Peter replied, and we also say, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Amen.***

***Offering & Prayer Requests***

*In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.*

**Offertory (Based on Matthew 19:28,12:18-21)**

LSB 920 sts.2,5; tune: 616

*(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)*



2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings; King - ship with  
 5 We are the Church: Christ bids us show That in His  
 Him His ser - vants gain; With Christ the Ser - vant  
 Church all na - tions find Their hearth and home where  
 - Lord of all, Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.  
 Christ re - stores True peace, true love to all man- kind.

© 1969, 1987 James Quinn; admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc. Used by permission.  
 © 2003 Kurt E. Reinhardt. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100013448.

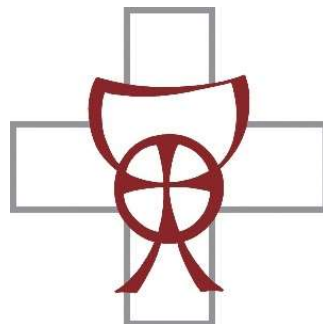
**Prayers**

**Preparation for the Lord's Supper**

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

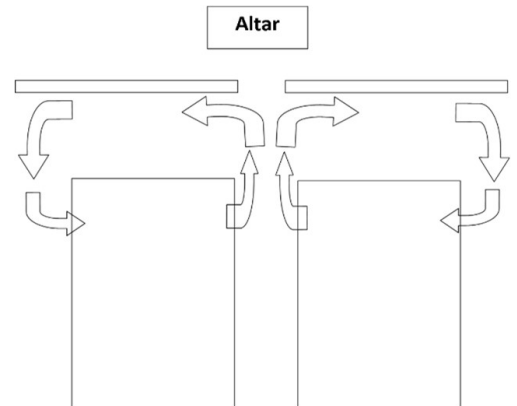


If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



## **Communion Distribution**

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



## **Preface of the Lord's Supper (based on Matthew 21:1-11; 26:2; 3:17; 17:15; 25:34)**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: The Lord sent His prophet to say to the people of Zion, Jerusalem,  
'Behold, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey.'"

And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people welcomed Him saying:

C: **"Hosanna to the Son of David!**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**Hosanna in the highest!"**

P: The whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said,

C: **"This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."**

P: But Jesus was not just another one of the prophets,  
as God the Father declared at His Baptism:

C: **"This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."**

P: And God the Father reminded the disciples again at His Transfiguration:

C: **"This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him."**

P: Then Jesus reminded the disciples in Jerusalem that "the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." By His crucifixion, and by His Supper, He extends this invitation: "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

## Proper Preface for Matthew

LSB "Apostles and Evangelists"

P: We pray: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Matthew, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus (based on Matthew 26:26–29)

LSB 445, st. 1 & 3, alt.



1 When You woke that Thurs - day morn - ing, Sav - ior,  
teach - er, faith - ful friend, What great gift that you would  
give them, What last will and tes - ta - ment?  
"Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me  
as the Lamb of God: Do this in re - mem - brance  
of Me, Eat this bod - y, drink this blood."

Tune: © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001267  
Text: © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001267

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

LSB "Apostles and Evangelists"

P: You once proclaimed Your saving promise through the prophets of Israel, and by the apostles and evangelists You published the good news of Your saving promise fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Grant that we, being instructed in the doctrine of the blessed apostles and evangelists, may faithfully eat His body and drink His blood and declare His salvation to all the world.

C: **Amen.**

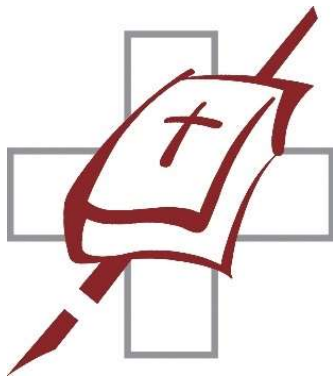
## **The Lord's Prayer**

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**All: 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.**

## **Words of Institution as in the Gospel of Matthew** Matthew 26:17a, 20–21, 26–30

P: <sup>17</sup>Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread,... <sup>20</sup>when it was evening, [Jesus] reclined at table with the twelve [to eat the Passover meal]. <sup>21</sup>And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." <sup>26</sup>[Then] Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." <sup>30</sup>And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.



**Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.     **C: And also with you.**

(We greet one another in peace saying “God’s peace” or “The Lord be with you.”)

**1st Distribution Hymn     Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love**

LSB 900



1 Je - sus! Name of won - drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,  
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid - en moth - er told,  
3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth  
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



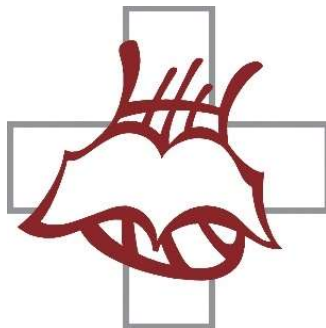
Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
Kneel - ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.  
For the prom - ise that it gave, “Je - sus shall His peo - ple save.”  
When the cup of hu - man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

5       Jesus! Only name that’s giv’n  
Under all the mighty heav’n  
Whereby those to sin enslaved  
Burst their fetters and are saved.

6       Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee  
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt.

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.



**2nd Distribution Hymn The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns** LSB 348



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.  
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.  
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.  
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth

**Post-Communion Prayer (Based on Matthew 1:22-23; 2:5-6; 3:17; 3:16)**

P: Let us pray. Lord, all this has taken place to fulfill what You had spoken by the prophet, “They shall call His Name Immanuel—God with us.” And it was also written, “From Bethlehem...shall come a ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.” Jesus came preaching, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,” and now we are the people dwelling in darkness who have seen a great light, those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, and on us a light has dawned in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in His body and blood given to us.

**C: Amen.**

**Benediction (Blessing) (Based on Matthew 28:18-20)**

P: As Jesus said to His disciples before He ascended into heaven, He says to you,  
“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,  
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.  
And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn      Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

LSB 338; tune: 700

Come, thou long ex - spect - ed Je - - sus,  
Born thy peo - ple to de - li - - ver,  
5  
born to set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re -  
born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us for -  
12  
- lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
- e - ver, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
17  
Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - - tion,  
By thine own e - ter - nal spi - rit  
21  
hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of ev - ery  
rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all suf - fi - cient  
28  
na - - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

**Announcements**

**Acknowledgements**

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires;  
with the assistance of the Pastors of Circuit 1 of the Northern Illinois District (LCMS).  
Portions used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 000013448.  
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.  
Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*,  
copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers.  
Used by permission. All rights reserved.  
Cover Design © 2022 BiCS Pics. [www.bicspics.com](http://www.bicspics.com)



## ***Thank You for Beautifying our Worship Areas with Poinsettias***

**Norm Balliet** – To the glory of God;

**Sheila Bunnell** – (2 plants) To the glory of God;

**Ralph & Donna Danielsen** – In memory of their parents;

**Jim Franz** – (3 plants) In memory of his mother, father, brother, sister and grandparents;

**Chris Mason** – (2 plants) In memory of mother-in-law Helen Mason and mother Christine Roberts;

**Ted & Margie Tatgenhorst** – To the glory of God;

**Tom Schultz** – (2 plants) In memory of Martha, Norman & Meri-Beth Schultz;

**Paul & Linda Groh** - (2 plants) To the glory of God;

**Wayne Henkel** – In memory of his mother Mavis Henkel;

**John & Karen Kozlik** – (2 plants) To the glory of God;

**Maria Kube** – (2 plants) In memory of husband Calvin and to the glory of God;

**Patty & Bob Livingston** (2 plants) – In appreciation of their granddaughters and in memory of Phillip F. Svehla;

**LeAnna Herstowski** – In memory of LeRoy Burandt;

**Holly Traynor** - (2 plants) To the glory of God;

**Lynda Oesterreich** – In memory of Bill Oesterreich;

**Nickolas Kazarian** – (2 plants) In memory of Grace Gibson and Patricia Rasmussen;

**Lance Rasmussen** – (3 plants) In memory of Patricia Rasmussen, Art & Evelyn Rasmussen, and to the glory of God;

**The Souza Family** – (2 plants) In memory of Bill & Alice Souza, Mark Souza and Patricia Souza-Rasmussen;

**Teresa Flowers** – (2 plants) In memory of her parents Norman & Patricia;

**Joan Blasko** – (3 plants) In memory of Elizabeth & Edward Yarusinsky, Michael Yarusinsky and to the glory of God;

**The Squires Family** - (2 plants) In memory of Susan's mother Sam Nicks Foster and Pastor's grandparents Palmer & Mary Mickelson;

**David & Cheryl Ross** – (4 plants) In memory of Gordon & Carol Gillings and George & Jean Ross;

**Dawn Werfelmann** – (2 plants) To the glory of God.

Your Poinsettia's will be available for pickup after the Christmas day worship service or arrange to pick them up with the church office the following week. Contact the church office at 847-244-9647 with any questions.