

100 E Water Street Abbottstown, PA 17301 717-259-0796 www.stjohnsatown.com



#### Introduction

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

### **About Holy Communion**

St. John's practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are invited to join us for Holy Communion, to receive the Lord's body and blood for forgiveness of sin and renewal of life. The church provides pre-filled communion elements ready to use at home and you are also welcome to share your own bread and wine or grape juice with your family to use during the service as you watch at home.

1

# March 31, 2024

**PRELUDE** 

8:00am "Song of Easter" 10:00am "This Day of Gladness"

Paxton St. John's Ringers

### THE EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ has Risen!

He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

### THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

THE GATHERING

### \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

#### Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

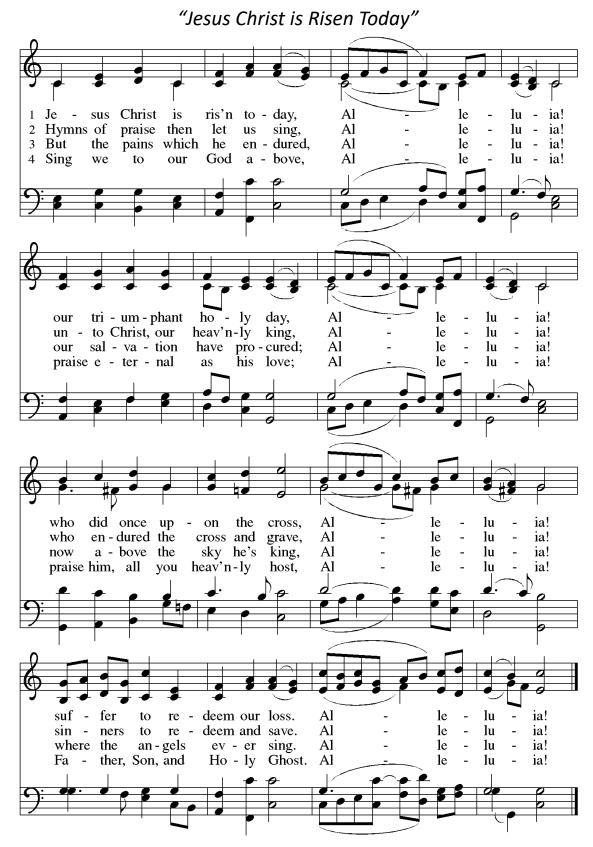
#### Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

#### Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

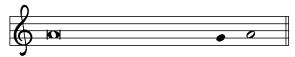


### \*THE GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.** 

### \*THE KYRIE

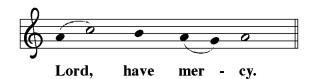


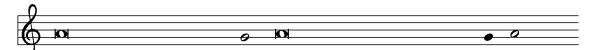
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



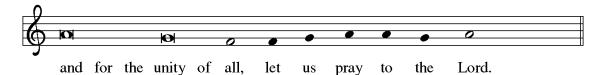


For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,





Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE (8:00am)



### \*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray... God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

**JUNIOR CHOIR ANTHEM** (10:00am)

"Children of the Risen King"

THE WORD

#### FIRST READING: ACTS 10:34-43

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to the people: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

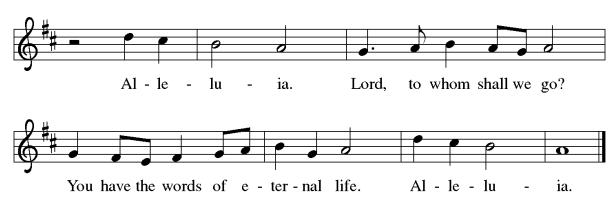
<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. *(continued)* 

<sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



### \*GOSPEL READING: Mark 16:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark the 16th Chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **SERMON**

#### **Pastor Shawn Berkebile**



#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

**ELW 366** 

"The Strife is O'er, The Battle Done" vs. 1, 3, & 5





- 1 The strife is o'er, the bat tle done; now is the vic tor's 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je sus their le gions
- 3 The three sad days have quick ly sped, Christ ris es glo rious
- 4 Christ closed the yawn ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun.
has dis-persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst.
from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head!
por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell.
ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you.

Al-le - lu - ia!



Text: Symphonia Sirenum, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909

Music: VICTORY, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525-1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823-1889

#### \*THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

(a brief silence)

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.** 

## \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those in your household.

If you are watching on Facebook offer a message of peace in the comment section.

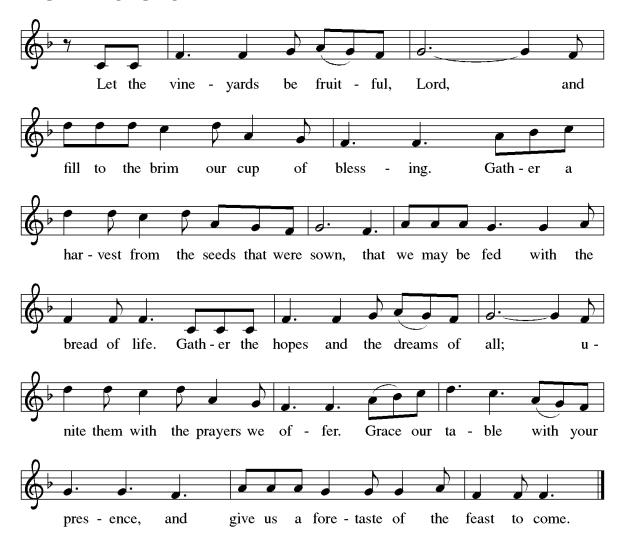
### THE MEAL

### THE OFFERING

Follow the QR Code, (click here) or go to www.stjohnsatown.com to make your gift. You will have the option to make a one time donation or a recurring donation. This website is easy, quick and very secure.

Thank you for your support!



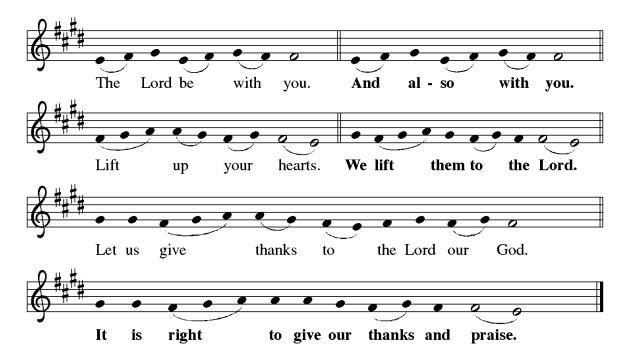


### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray... Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

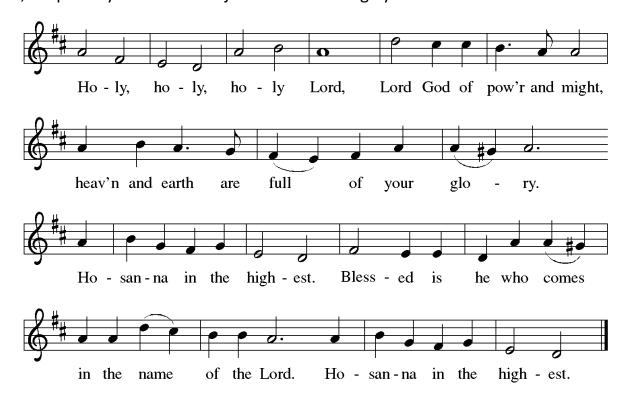
The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Bern and Marg Anthony; and Bud and Betty Sharrer, by Barbe, Dick, Kristi, Joe, Josh, Luke, Matt, Angie, Annie and Matty.

### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING



### \*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

And now, let us pray together using the words our Lord has taught us...

#### \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## **About Holy Communion**

St. John's practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are invited to join us for Holy Communion, to receive the Lord's body and blood for forgiveness of sin and renewal of life. The church provides pre-filled communion elements ready to use at home and you are also welcome to share your own bread and wine or grape juice with your family to use during the service as you watch at home.

### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

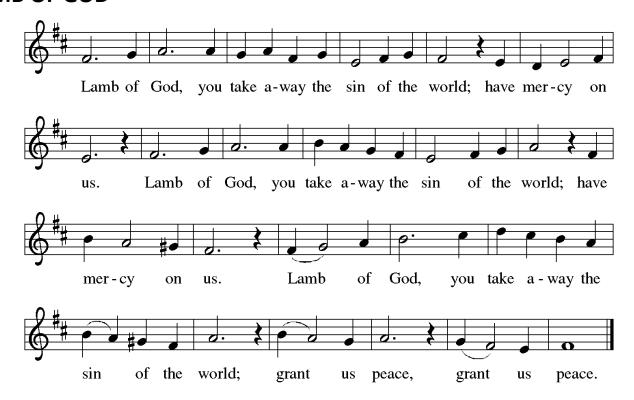
The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.



#### \*LAMB OF GOD



#### \*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

### \*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray...Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

# THE SENDING

#### \*THE BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

#### Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope 

→ bless you now and always. **Amen.** 

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### "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen" vs. 1, 4, & 5



### \*THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in Peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! We Will!

#### **POSTLUDE**

"Thine is the Glory"

(8:00am) Piano and Organ Duet - Jen Laughman and Donna Renaut

(10:00am) Piano and Organ Duet - Tim Bupp and Donna Renaut

### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

The Chancel Choir, Junior Choir, Cherub Choir, St. John's Ringers, and the Youth Chime Choir, as well as Max Bupp, Tim Bupp, Nick Laughman, Jen Laughman, Pastor Shawn, Matty Sharrer, Deacon Amy, Norbert Mamet, and Donna Renaut for sharing their musical gifts with us throughout this Lenten season and today!

Also, St. John's extends a special thank you to Jim Hoff for baking our communion bread for today!



## Serving St. John's - March 31 - Easter

Head Usher	8AM - Jim Hoff		10AM - Barb Colandreo
Communion Assistant	8AM - Barb Colandrec	)	10AM - Norbert Mamet
Acolyte	8AM -		10AM - Kylie Slothour
Greeters	8AM - Miller Family		10AM - Slothour Family
Lector	8AM - Autumn Cole		10AM - Keith Shively

# Serving St. John's - April 7

Head Usher	Joe Rickrode
Communion Assistant	Shannon McEvers
Acolyte	Kenley McEvers
Greeters	McEvers Family
Lector	Shannon McEvers

We are looking for worship assistant volunteers. Please see the sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall. There is a blue notebook with listings for acolytes, communion assistants, greeters and lectors. We also need congregation council members to be the head usher. Thanks!

Sign-up sheets through
May 26 are now available

# Happening soon:

Laundry Love - Tuesday, April 2 - 5:30-7:00pm - Spring Forge Plaza

Chancel Choir rehearsal - Wednesday, April 3 - 7:00pm

Abbottstown Food Pantry - Thursday, April 4 - 3:00-5:00pm

**PAL Lunch Team service** - Friday, April 5 - 9:00am-noon - Hanover Area Council of Churches

## Music Notes:

**The Junior Choir** will rehearse at 8:30am on April 28. All singers in 3rd grade and up are welcome to join! Please contact Donna Renaut at (717) 451-0959 with any questions.



**The Chancel Choir** will be rehearsing at 8:30am on Sunday mornings, and then singing at 10:00am worship. We will also rehearse on Wednesday, April 3 at 7:00pm.

**The Cherub Choir** will rehearse at 8:45am on April 21, May 5 and 12 in the choir room. We welcome and encourage all children age 3 through 2nd grade to join our Cherub Choir. Please contact Barbe Sharrer at (717) 752-5737 with any questions.

Music Sunday will be on Sunday, May 12.

### JOIN OUR PAL LUNCH TEAM



### (Sharing God's love through food and community)

The Hanover Area Council of Churches serves a hot meal 365 days a year to approximately 130 to 200 people. These meals are lovingly made by member congregations from all across the area.

St. John's PAL Team is scheduled to serve our next meal on Friday, April 5, from 9AM-Noon

If you are interested in joining our PAL team, please give Larry Welty a call at (717) 253-4744.

Matthew 25:35 - ...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.





Thursday, April 4, 3:00-5:00pm



Laundry Love is our March Special Offering Designation. Join our team and help spread the love!



Please inform the church office of any changes that can be made to the "Prayer Concerns" list: let us know if someone can be removed from the list, or if their status has changed.

Also, please contact us with additions to the list.

Thank you for faithfully praying for our community.

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

#### For homebound members:

Erma Becker, Gloria Breighner, Dorothy Hoffheins, Esther Swope, and Tom Baker

### For those serving the larger church:

Dr. Stephan J. Swanson and Jodi Lynn Swanson, RN - our missionaries in Tanzania

#### For persons who are ill or hospitalized:

Sarah Dutrow - in need of healing

Ruth Edwards - having heart problems

James Gallagher—in need of healing

Fran Luellon—preparing for surgery

Christine Uhercik - preparing for surgery

Dr. Anne Quinn - receiving care for ALS

Bobbie Bevas - recovering from abdominal surgery

Linda Utz - receiving care for pneumonia and kidneys

Scarlette (great granddaughter of Bonnie Staub) - recvng. care from home

Michael Stein (Ruth's Harvest volunteer) - receiving hospice care

Minnie Lawrence (Iva Breighner's sister) - recovering from neck surgery

Jack Leib - undergoing tests at Hershey Medical Center

### For persons undergoing treatment for Cancer:

Jane Miller (mother of Corey Miller) - receiving care for cancer

Polly Stein (Ruth's Harvest volunteer) - receiving care for breast cancer

Rev. Julie Beall (Zwingli UCC) - receiving care for cancer that has returned

Kim H. - receiving care for lymphoma

Carol Brown - receiving care for cancer

Audrey Watts - receiving care for cancer

Larry LaRue - receiving care for prostate cancer

Patsy Leese - receiving care for cancer

Doug Balko - receiving care for colon cancer

Chuck Gabrielson—receiving care for lung cancer

Janet Heflin (friend of Lorna Runk) - receiving care for cancer

Daniel Bowers (nephew of Lorna Runk) - receiving care for prostate cancer

Wesley Beam is 4 yrs. old and battling DPIG brain cancer



Thanks to everyone who has made gifts to world hunger or sponsored flowers for today's Easter festival.

#### **GIFTS TO ELCA WORLD HUNGER**

### Presented to the Glory of God and in memory of...

Phyllis and Clair Emig by Deb, Bob and Family My loving husband Ron Hoke by Jeanne Hoke Darlene Rodgers by The Rodgers Family Loved Ones by Linda Rohrbaugh Loved Ones by Norma Rohrbaugh



Mr and Mrs George Hoffman; and Mr and Mrs Richard Hoke by Jeanne Hoke Loved Ones by Deb and Bill Sowers Morgan and Ruthetta Ruth by the Family

### Presented to the Glory of God and in honor of...

Kenley, Ireland, and Noah by Shannon and Jennifer McEvers Our parents and grandparents by Pastor Shawn, Rachel, Andrew, Elizabeth and Clara

### **LILIES**

### Presented to the Glory of God and in memory of...

George and Viola Meckley by Robert and Linda Meckley Darlene Rodgers by The Rodgers Family Bud and Lorraine Wildasin by Bev, Dan, and Families Leslee and Bill Sowers by the Sowers Family Doris Hoff by Jim Hoff





#### **TULIPS**

#### Presented to the Glory of God and in memory of...

Loved Ones by Dave and Donna Renaut and Family
Linda Nelson (Jennifer's mother), and Barbara Staub
(Shannon's Aunt) by the McEvers Family
John and Betty Goulden by the Banda Family
Jeff and Zack Topper by the Banda Family

Carlotta Grim by Ken

Hilly and Becky Rife by Hilly and Sally

Spickerman and Smith by Moms, Dads, Aunts, Uncles, and Brother (2)

Pappy and Baba by the Sowers Family

Bern and Marg Anthony; and Bud and Betty Sharrer by Barbe, Dick, Kristi, Joe, Josh, Luke, Matt, Angie, Annie, and Matty (2)



Our Family by Bob and Julie Grim (2)

Mamaw and Papaw; and Grandpa and Cheryl by the Sowers Family (2)

Amy, Dan, and Zoey; and Katie and Frederik by Deb and Bill Sowers (2)

Oma and Pappy by Zoey Mambu

#### **HYACINTHS**

### Presented to the Glory of God and in memory of...

Anthony Colandreo by Barbra Colandreo (2)

J. Faber and Edith Wildasin; and Dan and Mary Leib by Bev, Dan, and Families (2)

Doris Hoff by Jim Hoff

Louise, Vincent Breighner and Evenly and Ivan Bream by Iva and Rickie Breighner

Pappy and Baba by their grandchildren

Ray and Virginia Topper by the Banda Family

**Donald Ruth** 

Morgan and Ruthetta Ruth

Merle and Janet Grim by Hilly and Sally

### Presented to the Glory of God and in honor of...

Rickie, Amy, Jada, and Anthony Breighner, Jr. by Iva and Rickie Breighner Emma Lewis; Henry Osvath; and Owen Lewis by Grandma and Grandpa (3) Dorothy Hoffheins, and memory of Gerald Hoffheins, by Deb, Bob, and Family

