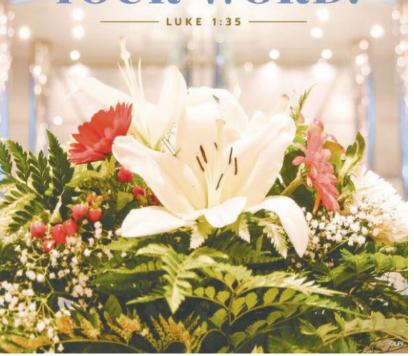
DEC 24 2023

ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT MAY IT BE DONE TO ME ACCORDING TO **YOUR WORD.**



OUR MISSION

We, the parish of St. Monica, work to create a Christlike family, welcoming all people where one encounters a loving God, by serving the spiritual, educational and social needs of the community.

13623 Rockside Road, Garfield Heights, OH Office: (216) 662-8685 | Fax: (216) 662-1245 Website: saintmonicachurch.net



Masses

Saturday | 4:00pm Sunday | 9:00 and 10:45am Monday - Friday | 8:00am

Confession

Saturday | 3:15pm

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday | 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Friday | 8:00 am - Noon Saturday & Sunday | Closed

Parish Clergy

Rev. John J. Mullee, **Pastor** Rev. Theodore Marszal **Retired, in Residence** Stan Drozell, Deacon

Pastoral Staff

Sister Helene Skrzyniarz SSJ-TOSF Parish Catechetical Leader srhelene@saintmonicachurch.net Molly Grunau, Director of Liturgy and Music Diane O'Neill, Business Manager Susan Shepka, Office Manager Joseph Ungarsky, Pastoral Council Chairman Bill Simon, Finance Council Chairman Bob Soeder, Web Master

Bulletin Announcements

Email: srjoyce@saintmonicachurch.net by NOON on Friday the week before

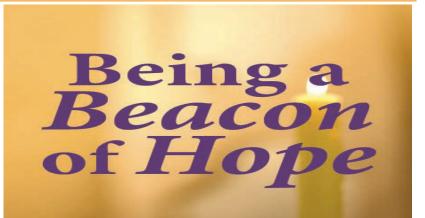
Additional Contacts

St. Benedict | (216) 662-9380 **Early Learning Center** | (216) 475-3633 **OCFCU** | (216) 663-6800

PASTORAL SCENE

Dear Friends in Christ,

Words are not adequate to express our appreciation for all those who have been so generous in serving God's Kingdom here at St Monica and St Benedict school and the surrounding communities. We have witnessed so much illuminating work in serving our human family in need, both materially and spiritually. The list of all the ministries and benefactors would require a much larger bulletin. In summary, we can say, with the spirit of humility,



that we have come before the table of the Lord in thanksgiving for the Most Holy Eucharist. This is a time to celebrate, as well as to find time for silence in our lives, to allow God's Light to enter and strengthen us on our journey, centered on the Cross. Christmas Blessings and Happy New Year from our church and school staff.

One of the theological reflections a professor at the seminary shared with our class is something I reflect on every year: Please enjoy this excerpt from the late German Jesuit priest, Karl Rahner

"Have the courage to be alone. Only once you have really managed to do this, and have achieved it in a Christian way, can you hope to give the present of a heart filled with the Christmas spirit – in other words, a gently patient, courageously collected, softly tender heart – So: Stop, be silent, wait.

But, all this is merely the beginning, the preparation for your celebration of Christmas. If you manage to stay alone with yourself and to let the silence speak to you of the true God, then this loudly calling silence will become strangely ambiguous. This infinity, which silently surrounds you, does it ...drive you back into your limited day life?...Does it fall upon you with the merciless loneliness of death so as to make you run away from it into the more familiar sectors of your life...Or is it that which waits until you are open to its very self as something coming, the promised beatitude? If it said nothing, then we would find it quite impossible to celebrate Christmas from our heart. It tells us something, even quite exact: the message of Christmas told from within...this message is told to us by God at that point of the heart to which we should return; it is told to us by the light of the Christmas grace which enlightens everyone who comes into the world.

"... Christmas tells you in the experience of solitude to trust the nearness, it is not emptiness; let go and then you will find; give up and then you will be rich. For in your interior experience, you are no longer dependent on the hard tangible phenomena... you possess much more than any such phenomena, for the infinite has become nearness. This is how you interpret your interior experience; you must experience it in this way as the most solemn feast and celebration of the divine descent of eternity into time – of the infinite into the finite. This feast takes place within you, even within your very self. It takes place within you when you are silent, when you wait and when in faith, hope and love, you interpret correctly (that is, in the light of Christmas) what you experience... If we accept the silent immensity that surrounds us as something distant and yet at the same time near and overpowering – as a protecting nearness and a tender love which does not make any reservations; if we have the courage to understand ourselves in this way, which is possible only with grace and in faith, then we have had the Christmas experience of grace in faith. This experience is very simple; yet it is the peace promised to men of good will who are pleasing to God."

Rahner, Karl. "Thoughts on the Theology of Christmas." Theological Investigations, Vol. 3, 1974. 24-34.

Father John Mullee

STEWARDSHIP FOR DEC 10, 2023

Not available due to early bulletin deadlines,

Will be in next weeks bulletin

Please continue to mail in your donations, donate online or drop off at the office. You can also drop your donation in the baskets in church.

Thank you for your continued support

Please note our average weekly expenses are \$13,546.00



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 24 4th Sunday of Advent

9:00am Living & deceased of Fr. Tom Haren Family 10:45am Sam & Agnes Poplar

Christmas Eve

4:00pm Priest Intention 10:00pm Priest intention

Monday, December 25 Nativity of the Lord, Christmas

9:00am Priest Intention 10:45am Priest Intention

Tuesday, December 26 St Stephen, The First Martyr

8:00am Ramey & Ramatowski Families

Wednesday, December 27 St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

8:00am Terry & Vivian Budd (Wedding Anniversary) Thursday, December 28 Holy Innocents, Martyrs 8:00am Antonia & August Supan

Friday, December 29 5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00am In Thanksgiving Hanzlick & Foster Families

Saturday, December 30 6th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

4:00pm Donna & Terry Zak & Family

Sunday, December 31 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9:00am Richard Krawczyk 10:45am Marissa Kovach



Our sincere sympathy and prayers are extended for the family and friends of: Edward Mayausky, Robert Marszal and Laura Triska Who were recently buried. May they and all of our dearly departed rest in peace

SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS

Please pray for the Seminarians of the Cleveland Diocese Please join us in praying for the following seminarians this week: Mon: Dc. William Wainio Tuesday: Ryan Arto Wed: Christopher Cotone Thu: Anthony Donatelli Friday: Jon Hawkins Saturday: Jeff Lindholm Sunday: Pray for Peace and Goodwill Among All

Please Pray For the Parishioners Listed Below

Marie Yakich, Dolores Kocik, Joan Fischer, Wally Voyten, Maryann DiEgidio, Gaylene Bielawski, Lisa Bielawski, Ron Smith Jr., Nikki Avalon, Annie Runyeon, Anthony Lupica, Tommie Ferrante, Joanne Reddinger, Katie Medvetz

Please call the parish office if you would like to add a name to this list. If you have a special intention you would like remembered in **prayer**, **please call Lillian Naptune** (216)662-5464

4th Sunday of Advent | December 24. 2023

PRAYER

THIS WEEK

Activities CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 27

4:00pm Winter Sports Practice (g) 6:30pm G.A. Meeting (+) Thursday, December 28 4:00pm Winter Sports Practice (g) 7:00 D.H.N. Meeting (c) Friday, December 29 4:00pm Winter Sports Practice (g) Sunday, December 31 7:30pm A.A. Meeting (c)



Liturgical Ministers Schedule



The deadline for any special requests for the *February/March/April* schedule needs to be turned into the Parish Office no later than Tuesday, January 9.

Please remember that this will include Lent, Holy Week and Easter so please make note of what you would like to serve for. We appreciate your help with this request. Thank you.



Holiday Office Schedule

The Parish Office will be **closed** as follows.

Christmas

Friday, December 23rd Thru Tuesday, December 26th Reopening Wednesday, December 27th

> New Years Monday, January 1st New Years Day

Memorial Bricks

Memorial bricks ordered in October have arrived and been installed.





COLORING CONTEST WINNERS



THANK YOU FOR ALL THOSE WHO TOOK THE TIME TO ENTER OUR 1ST COLORING CONTEST.

WE APPRECIATE ALL YOUR EFFORTS. ALL ENTRIES WILL BE DISPLAYED IN CHURCH.

NOW FOR THE WINNERS:

ADULT COLORING PAGE:

CHILD COLORING PAGE:

1ST PLACE – RAY GOLEMBEZYK 2ND PLACE – PAUL LYSOBEY 3RD PLACE – KATHY ROWINSKI 1ST ANTONIO HOWARD GAYLENE BIELAWSKI—SPECIAL RECOGNITION

ALL PARTICIPANTS CAN STOP BY THE PARISH OFFICE FOR A GIFT OF OUR APPRECIATION. WINNERS CAN ALSO PICK UP THEIR PRIZES.

OTHER INFORMATION

Entrance Chant 279 O Come, Divine Messiah

First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12

When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant

David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'

"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies

before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first

appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

The Responsorial Psalm Psalm 89:2-5, 27, 29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

The promises of the LORD I will sing forever; through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness. For you have said, "My kindness is established forever"; in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant: Forever will I confirm your posterity and establish your throne for all generations."

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

"He shall say of me, 'You are my father, my God, the Rock, my savior.' Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him, and my covenant with him stands firm."

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading Romans 16:25-27

Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

OTHER INFORMATION

Gospel Luke 1:26-38

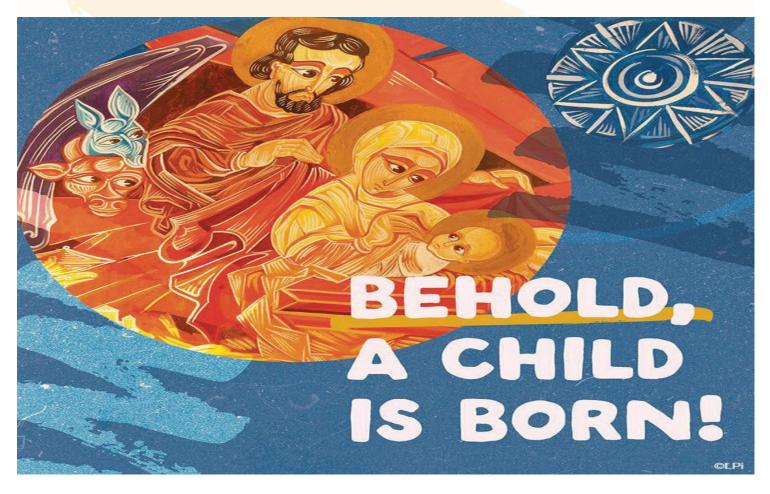
The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

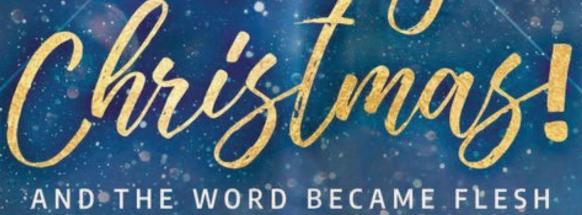
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

Offertory Chant 481 Hail Mary: Gentle Woman

Communion Chant 836 Panis Angelicus

The Concluding Rites 274 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel





Nerry

JOHN 1:14



Special Offering For Christmas Flowers & Decoration In Memory of the following



Veronica Aini Maria & Samuel Angello Anita Angello Joseph & Mary Antal James R Baker James M Baker Deceased of Banner Family Edna & Irene Barath Basha Family Chester & Helen Basiewicz Mary Lou Basiewicz **Battistone Family** Andrew Bennett Eileen Bennett **Bodnar Family** Mrs Rose Boglino & Family Mr & Mrs Emanuel Befline **Boleyn Family** Deceased of Boyle Family John & Irene Brasdovich **Ronald Brasdovich** Richard Brikowski Jim Brulinski Don & Anne Buchwald Richard Budzinski Dolores Budzinski Glenn Budzinski Andy & Anna Burik Family **Burik Family** Mr & Mrs Stanley Bykiewicz Mr & Mrs Frank Bykiewicz Judy & Paul Callighan Mr & Mrs William Cameron Raymond Canzoni Dave Carruozzo Thomas J Casadonte Mary J Casadonte Rose Ann Casadonte John A Casadonte John J Castelucci Sonta Cattano Jake Cermak Mildred Cermak Mr & Mrs Stephen Chervenak Veronica Chervenak Sweet Elizabeth Chervenak Mr & Mrs Marion Chrzczonowski Anthony Ciarelli Mary Ciarelli Matthew Corcoran Rose & Eleanor Cordiak Sean Cowley **Cowley Family** Kathleen & Harold Crow Jack Crow Robert (Bob) Cummins Don Dahlhausen Anthony D'Angelo Verne & Ted Danszczak Rosemarie Dietrich **Richard Y Dolnicek Downey Family** Louis & Horence Drozd Timothy P Dorzd Joseph & Margaret Dubas Deceasd of Eppele Family

Geraldine Erney Oliver Erney John & Ang Fabjancic Marion Farinacci Grandma & Grandpa Fedinets William Fedinets Sr Mitchel Fischer Ethel & Edward Fischer Edward Fischer Rose & Sam Foliano Mary Ann Foliano Sharon & Robert Frajter Albert Franzolino Charles Gall The Gall Family Joseph Gall Sr Rose & Dominic Gelsomino Deborah Giordano Mr & Mrs Richard Glasko **Taylor Gliesman** Golembczyk Family Rubin & Marcia Greenfield Russell & Ruth Grunau Deceased of Grzybowski Family Danial J & Rita Gulcin Steve Gurecki Rudy & Ceil Gurgol Audrey Gusky Thomas & Irene Hamuz Lawrence Harubin Sr Rose A Heineman Hesley Family Mary Ann Hlad Erin Hohman Mr & Mrs Edward Hojnowski Clara Holderman Mary Holub Amelia & Jean Holub Angle Horvath **Eugene Horvath** Margaret Hurtack Helen lalodi John Iglodi Tom Ineman Jacob Family Jeric Family Deceased of Johnson Family Judson Family George Thomas Kaczmarek Marie & Joseph Kahli Mr & Mrs Kaminski Francine & Donald Karpowicz Eileon Keane Catherine & Patrick Keane Austin J Kemski Irene B Kemski James V Kemski Marie & Mitchell Kijanski Carolyn Kisielewicz Randolph G Klosowski Harry F & Adeline M Klosowski Dick Kocik Joe & Anna Kollar & Family Andrea Kolo Donna Kolo Gene & Florence Kolo

Margaret Konkowski Konkowski Family Terry Kosmata Mr & Mrs Joseph Koziol Samuel & Elizabeth Kravetz Mr & Mrs Samuel Kravetz Rcihard Krawczyk Rose & Michael Keaynag Joseph & Marie Kroll Deceased of Kubinski Family Nell & Joseph Kudasick Maureen Kuzminski Veronica & Thomas Kvasnok Laba Family Sue & Steve Lapsonsky Reuben "Jerry" Lemons George C Linderman Sam & Rose LoCastro James & Ann Loczko Michael Lubinski Frank & Beatrice Lucek Eugene L Makowski Jr Andrew Marec Chris Marec Edward & Helen Marec Ron Marec Joseph & Mary Maremberga Vedo D Marotta Mary V Marotta Ryan Matchisen Matovich Family Stephen R Mazer Darryl F McCreery Deceased of McGorray Family Eileen McManus John & Helen Medved George & Olga Medvetz Mildred Smith Mehr Mr & Mrs Edward Merold Cynthia Messina Mika Family Timorhy Mikes John & Rita Mileti Victor & Mary Miller Daniel A Miller Judith Miller Daniel G Miller Harry & Mary Mirous Raymond G Mizer Raymond J Mizer Nancy Moczulski Deceased of Moczulski Family Robert & Olga Mohorcic Nick & Eleonar Mollica John Motyka Anna & Antoni Motyka Mary Lou Mullins James S Murolosky Murowsky Family Patricia Myers Raymond Nadolcki Edward Nawrocki Barry F Neer Barney Nowicki Therese Nowicki

John & Rose Konkowski Family David Nowicki Fred R. Obreza Marie & Fred J Obreza Fred R Obreza Henry & Mary Okurowski Viola Opalko Catherine Opalko Michael Opalko Edward & Agnes Ostrosky Carl Panko Mary & James Pastor Andrew C Paul Mary Petras Lida Smith Petrella Joseph & Irene Petrulis Mr Peter J Phillips Deceased of Piatkowski Family Kendra Piggford Poltz Family Deceased of Pocta Ben & Cecilia Powell Kathy Powell Michele Powell Alphonse & Alice Prusinski Irene Natran Przybys Chester & Elizabeth Przybys Allan Przybys Margaret A Rapsik Mr & Mrs Cyril L Rapsik Joann Rapsik Mr & Mrs Stephen Rapsik Mr Joseph M Relovsky Edward & Elsie Rompala Gus & Mary Rossi Rick Rossi Marlene Rossi Kevin Rowinski Henry & Wanda Rowinski Steve & Irene Ruszkiewicz Fred & Mary Ruszkiewicz Mellony Salsgiver Mike Salsgiver Becky Savarda Linda Motyka Savol William & Lillian Schaefer Raymond & Lillian Scharf Mary & John Schmidt Mr & Mrs Schofield Fred & Regina Schrembeck The Schrembeck Family George & Marie Schwarz George A Schwarz Blanche Sedivy Elisa & Frank Shipta John & Anna Shipta Fred & Dorothy Shisila Robert & Eleanor Sillasen Sillasen Family James & Carmella Smith **Daniel Smolik** Pearl Smolik Sobonya Family Lori Soltis Casmir & Florence Sopinski Sopko Family Leo J Stepp

Rob Stilwell Deceased of Stocky Family John & Margaret Stofko Daniel Stossel Jeannie Strong John & Helen Stupek Ernest Suhoza August & Antonia Supan James Svejkovsky & Family Paul & Frances Svoboda Leo Szczepanski Walter & Julia Tabaj Anne & Joe Tadel Andrew & Mildred Thomas Carl & Mildred Thomas Helen & James Triptow Charles & Marie Triska Mr & Mrs Stefan Trzeciak Joseph & Marie Ungarsky Paul Varrati Mr & Mrs Frank Varrati Pete Walchanowicz Winnie Walchanowicz Tammy Walchanowicz War Veterans Enda Webber Emma Welich Allen Wertz Joe & Marilyn Westenkirchner Tom Wilhelm Karl & Mary Wilhelm Mary Wisniewski Dennis Woloszynek Edmund & Marguertte Wozniak Melissa Wysocki Allen Yakich & Family Mary A Yaro John M Yaro Deceased of Yuhasz Family Louis & Angela Zakrajsek Albert & Sr Mary Ann Zakrajsek Donald J Zarko Patricia J Zarko Leo & Ann Zgrabik **Dorothy Zukauckas** Rafael Vilchis Zuniga Thomas Zurava



READINGS & SONGS

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD [CHRISTMAS] At the Vigil Mass

December 24, 2023, Mass 4:00P.M.

Entrance Chant 300 O Come, All Ye Faithful

First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5

The Responsorial PsalmPsalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

Second Reading Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

Gospel Matthew 1:1-25

Offertory Chant 324 Away in a Manger (MUELLER)

Communion Chant308Angels We Have Heard on High309Silent Night

The Concluding Rites 303 Joy to the World

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THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD [CHRISTMAS] At the Mass during the Night

December 24, 2023 Mass 10:00 P. M.

Entrance Chant 300 O Come, All Ye Faithful

First Reading Isaiah 9:1-6

The Responsorial Psalm Psalm 96:1-3, 11-13

Second Reading Titus 2:11-14

Gospel Luke 2:1-14

Offertory Chant 324 Away in a Manger (MUELLER)

Communion Chant308Angels We Have Heard on High309Silent Night



READINGS & SONGS

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD [CHRISTMAS] At the Mass at Dawn

December 25, 2023, Mass 9:00A.M.

Entrance Chant 300 O Come, All Ye Faithful

First Reading Isaiah 62:11-12

The Responsorial PsalmPsalm 97:1, 6, 11-12

Second Reading Titus 3:4-7

Gospel Luke 2:15-20

Offertory Chant 324 Away in a Manger (MUELLER)

Communion Chant308Angels We Have Heard on High309Silent Night

The Concluding Rites 303 Joy to the World

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD [CHRISTMAS] At the Mass during the Day December 25, 2023, Mass 10:45A.M.

Entrance Chant 300 O Come, All Ye Faithful

First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

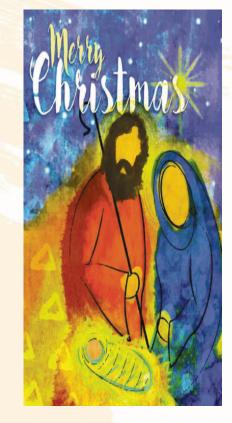
The Responsorial Psalm Psalm 98:1-6

Second Reading Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel John 1:1-18

Offertory Chant 324 Away in a Manger (MUELLER)

Communion Chant308Angels We Have Heard on High309Silent Night





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