



CHRISTMAS DAY LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 25, 2022 - 10:00 AM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of all church staff and volunteers by Richard and Gail Moose.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister

Susan Crowell

Assisting Minister

Patrick Preacher

Organist and Choir Director

Jim Parham

Reader

Ida Blalock

Penny Bostain

Mary Cannon-Spencer

Amanda Cook

Joe Mulcahy

Jonathan Propes

Lisa Rehm

Greeters

Anne Harmon

Lani Ludian

Dora Welch

Ushers

Richard Delap

Bonnie Farmer

Calvin Harmon

Video

Henry Wilcox

Audio

Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

Please stand as able

GATHERING HYMN

Joy to the World

#267

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth
receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him
room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their
songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns
infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the
nations prove the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

DIALOGUE

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

By day and night the Christ shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world.

Jesus is the light of our lives.

Sing to God a new song!

A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.**

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song?** *Refrain*

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. Refrain**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Congregation may be seated.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Reading:

Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness, Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

**'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled,
that God the Lord of all the earth sent angel choirs instead;
before their light the stars grew dim, and wand'ring hunters heard the hymn:**

Refrain

Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!

**Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe we found;
a ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round;
but as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high:** *Refrain*

**The earliest moon of winter time is not so round and fair
as was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there.**

The chiefs from far before him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt. *Refrain*

**O children of the forest free, the angel song is true;
the holy child of earth and heav'n is born today for you.**

Come kneel before the radiant boy, who brings you beauty, peace, and joy. *Refrain*

Second Reading:

Micah 5:2-5a

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,

from you will come a ruler for me over Israel, one whose going out are from times long
past, from ancient days.

³ But God will give them over to their enemies until the time when she who is in labor has
given birth; then the remnant of the ruler's siblings will return to the Children of Israel.

⁴ The ruler will rise up to shepherd them in the strength of the Lord,
by the power of the Name of the Lord their God. They will live in security,
for now the ruler's greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

⁵ They'll say, "This at last is the one who will be our peace! When Assyria invades
our land and tramples our fortresses, we will raise up again the invaders seven—no, eight!
- shepherds, leaders of the people."

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

**Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.**

Third Reading:

Luke 1:26-35, 38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸Upon arriving the angel said to Mary, "Rejoice, highly favored one! God is with you! Blessed are you among women!" ²⁹Mary was deeply troubled by these words and wondered what the angel's greeting meant. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³This child will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of this kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "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 holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame;
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!**

**"For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!**

**Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God', she said.
My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady. Gloria!**

**Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born,
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!**

Fourth Reading:

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸Now 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 with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, who was righteous, was unwilling to expose Mary to public disgrace, so planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Joseph, heir of David, do not be afraid to wed Mary, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save the people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by God through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a child, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴Joseph awoke from sleep and did as the angel of God commanded: they were married, but had no marital relations until Mary had borne a son; and they named him Jesus.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Let Our Gladness Have No End

#291

**Let our gladness have no end, Hallelujah!
for to earth did Christ descend, Hallelujah!**

Refrain

**On this day God gave us,
Christ, the Son, to save us;
Christ, the Son, to save us**

**Prophesied in days of old, Hallelujah!
God has sent the one foretold. Hallelujah! *Refrain***

**See the loveliest blooming rose, Hallelujah!
from the branch of Jesse grows. Hallelujah! *Refrain***

**Into flesh is made the Word, Hallelujah!
our true refuge and our Lord. Hallelujah! *Refrain***

Fifth Reading:

Luke 2:8-20

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those God favors!"

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Away in a Manger

#278

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

Sixth Reading:

Matthew 2:1-11

¹After Jesus' birth—which happened in Bethlehem of Judea, during the reign of Herod—magi from the East arrived in Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the newborn ruler of the Jews? We observed his star at its rising and have come to pay homage." ³When Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the leaders of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:
⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."
⁷Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the ruler, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered the child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

What Child Is This

#296

**What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**So bring him incense, gold and myrrh; come, peasant, king to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

Seventh Reading

John 1:1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word; the Word was in God's presence, and the Word was God. ²The Word was with God from the beginning. ³Through the Word all things came into being, and apart from the Word nothing came into being that has come into being. ⁴In the Word was life, and that life was the light of humanity— ⁵and the Light shines in the darkness, but the darkness did not grasp it. ⁶Then came one named John, sent from God with a testimony, ⁷to testify about the Light, so that through this testimony everyone might believe. ⁸John himself was not the Light; but came only to testify about the Light—the true Light that enlightens all people. ⁹The Word was coming into the world— ¹⁰was in the world— but was not recognized by the world even though the world was made through the Word. ¹¹The Word was rejected by those who were the Word's very own people. ¹²Yet any who did accept the Word, who believed in that Name, were empowered to become children of God— ¹³children born not of blood, nor urge of flesh nor human will— but born of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelled among us; we saw the Word's glory— the glory of a parent's only child— full of grace, full of truth.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Love Has Come

#292

**Love has come--a light in the darkness! Loves shines forth in the
Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises: Love! Love! Born unto
you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.**

**Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now
asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love! Love is the
name she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.**

**Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life
everlasting and free. Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love! Love is the
gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**

Please stand as able

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

In the light of Jesus, draw all to the manger
to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

In the light of Jesus, draw all to the manger
to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

In the light of Jesus, draw all to the manger
to sing for joy with the angels.

In the brightness of Christ's life
cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated

ANTHEM

I Saw Three Ships
arr. by Carl J. Nygard

Adult Choir

Please stand as able

OFFERING HYMN

Let All Together Praise our God
(verses 1, 2, 3, 5)

#287

**Let all together praise our God
before the highest throne;
Today God opens heav'n again
and sends the only Son,
And sends the only Son.**

**From God's right hand the Son descends,
is born as infant small,
And lies in poverty,
his bed a manger in a stall,
a manger in a stall.**

**O tender child, you veil in flesh
the splendor of your might;
A servant's garb now wraps the one
who clothed the sky in light,
who clothed the sky in light.**

**A wonderful exchange you make:
you take our flesh and blood,
And in return give us to share
the shining realm of God,
The shining realm of God.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God,
**your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these
your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and
renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.**
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

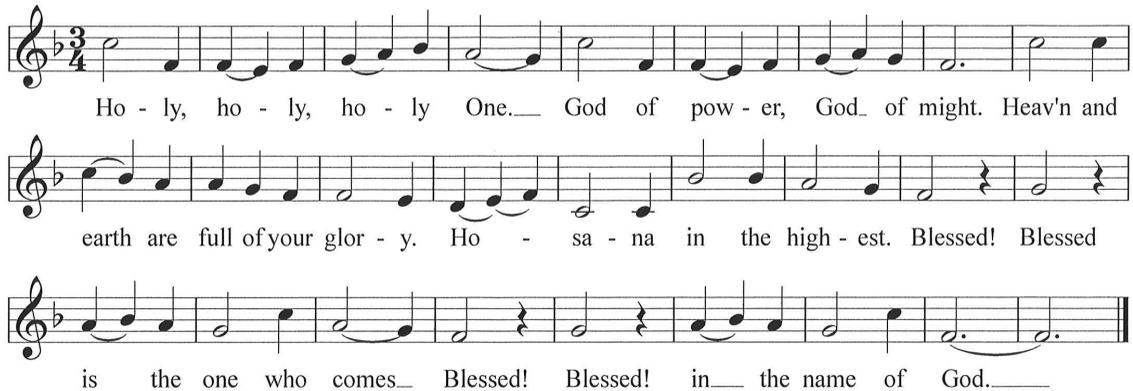
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One... God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and
earth are full of your glor - y. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed
is the one who comes... Blessed! Blessed! in the name of God.

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.

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.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

Please sit

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

Worshippers will come forward to receive the bread and wine and then return to their seats to consume the elements.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION



O Lamb of God you take a-way our sin; have mer-cy on us, give_ us your
peace. Pre -pare us to re - ceive_ your grace and teach us how to fol - low your ways. Re-
joice! Re- joice! E - man - u - el has come to you, O Is - ra - el.

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

#282

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov’ring wing,
and ever o’er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.**

**And you, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!**

**For lo! The days are hast’ning on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow'r so bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.**

**Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.**

**This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fill the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
and lightens ev'ry load.**

**O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;
O Savior, king of glory, who dost our weakness know:
bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven
and into endless day.**

Stand as able

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May God, who gathers us in love,
lead you in pathways of righteousness and peace.
May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves,
lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom.
May God, who fills us with good things,
lead you in pathways of equity and justice.
The blessing of the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

The First Noel

#300

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

**They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.** *Refrain*

**And by the light of that same star wise magi came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.** *Refrain*

**This star drew near to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay.** *Refrain*

**Then entered in so joyfully, those magi bowed upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.** *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

May the light of Christ shine brightly in your hearts and homes this Christmas.
Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Love Has Come

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