



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH 1909

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

FOR THOSE WHO COME TO CHURCH ON CHRISTMAS

There is an ancient refrain,
an invitation to come and see.
And whether the call sounds
like a dare or directive,
it does not really matter.

Come and see the flames
dancing on your neighbor's face.

Come and see little children
squirming and curious, hearts
wide open to magic and mystery.

Come and see the wax
melting down your fingertips,
giving itself away to the light,
warm and changing.

Come and see a room
filled with hope for love
that catches us up and keeps us,
tonight and every night,
now until the end of time.

by Meta Herrick Carlson



Christmas Eve

12.24.2025 | 3:00 pm & 5:30 p.m. | trinitylutheran.ws

Welcome to Trinity!

A place of love, grace, and belonging, where all, without exception, are loved, honored, valued, affirmed, welcomed, and celebrated.

If we can make you feel more at home, please speak to an usher or greeter.

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

ADULTS & CHILDREN

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex for children. Bags for preschoolers are tied with a white ribbon. Bags for elementary age children have no ribbon. After worship, used bags may be placed in the baskets next to the stands.

A nursery hosted by a member of the Trinity staff, Beth Oswald, as well as a small group of rotating volunteers who have been trained in Trinity's Child Protection Policy are available today/this evening beginning at 2:45 pm and 5:15 pm to care for infants and toddlers who would prefer enjoying play time instead of attending worship. The nursery is located on the first floor of the Pence Building. Please reach out to a greeter or usher if you need assistance.

PRAYING WITH US

We encourage you to participate fully in our service, as you are comfortable. We invite you to read aloud the **bold text**. Wherever you see (+), you are invited to cross yourself. Other actions are indicated during the service, but none are required.

LET'S GET CONNECTED

If you are new to Trinity, we are thrilled to have you here. If you would like to know more about this congregation and our ministry please share your contact information with us by filling out a Connection Card which can be obtained from the pew racks or baskets. Thank you for your presence among us.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their children and their families, by Richard and Gail Moose.

Holly bouquets are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their granddaughter Lucie, by Chris and Charlie Castle.

Serving Today

Susan J. Crowell,
Presiding Minister and Preaching

Patrick D. Preacher,
Assisting Minister

**Jim Parham, Organist &
Choir Director**

Lector
3:00pm | Kellie Fontecchio
5:30pm | Dexter Brecht

Prayers
3:00pm | Grace Wessinger
5:30pm | Renee Heiliger

Cantors
Bob and Sheryl Schirmer

Guitar
Duke Barsody

Communion Assistants
3:00pm | Jeff Waddell and
Chris Barsody
5:30pm | Jess Thomas-Harewood
and Stoppy Stoppenhagen

Crucifer
3:00pm | Ella Matson
5:30pm | Adaline McCormack

Acolytes
3:00pm | Bonnie Whitworth,
Lauren Whitworth
5:30 | Parker Rose Sherwood,
Tyla Sherwood

Nursery
3:00pm | Karen Craig
5:30pm | Lara Wannemacher

Greeters
3:00pm | Mark Allen, Lisa Rehm,
Sharron Goodlett, Sarah Weeks
5:30pm | Mark Allen,
Dexter Brecht, Jack Heidt,
Jon Heiliger, Renee Heiliger,
Annika Stoppenhagen,
Stoppy Stoppenhagen

Ushers
3:00pm | David Potts,
Richard Delap, William Bryant,
Wesley Matson
5:30pm | Pattimarie Janssen,
Chris Wannemacher, Jack Wilcox,
Jerry Wesley

Video
Henry Wilcox

Audio
Gregg Alley



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

421 N. Main St. | Greenville, SC | (864) 242 5702 | fax (864) 242 6442 | info@trinitylutheran.ws



God Welcomes All

PRELUDE

Christmas Lullaby

by John Rutter

arranged for brass quintet by Doug Leadbitter

Mary, Did You Know?

by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene

arr. Roger Emerson, scored for brass by Doug Leadbitter

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

Please stand as you're able.

On this day/night we remember, that over two thousand years ago,
long after God created the heavens and the earth;
after God set the rainbow in the sky as a covenant;
after Abraham and Sarah received their promise;
after Moses led God's people to freedom;
after the time of Ruth and the Judges;
after the reign of King David;
seven hundred and fifty-two years after the founding of Rome;
in the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus:
God heard the cries of God's people,
and in great mercy and love,
God became one of us,
to share in our human joy and pain,
and to give us our salvation.
Today is the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2

Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Worshippers are invited to joyfully wave white streamers during the Processional Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain
Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

GREETING

Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.
And also with you.



HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain
Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol;
tr. H. F. Hemy, The
Crown of Jesus
Music, 1864

Music: GLORIA,
French carol: arr.
Edward S. Barnes.
1887-1958

The prayer of the day covers the wide variety of human longing and responsibilities of the church and humanity.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of holy disruption and tender mercy,
on this sacred night we remember that love entered the world
not in comfort, but in vulnerability.

You come to us as a child on the move —
born far from home, laid in a borrowed manger, soon to flee violence and fear.
In Jesus, we meet our Savior who knew exile before he knew home.

Open our hearts to the truth of this night:
that you are found among the displaced, the undocumented, the unhoused,
those crossing borders in search of safety and life.

As we welcome the Christ child, disrupt our false comforts, soften our hearts, and
overwhelm us with the beauty and mystery of the gift of your child, come to save
us, come to free us, come to liberate the whole world; through Jesus, our Savior
and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

God Speaks to Us Through a Living Word

We follow a three-year cycle of readings called a Lectionary. These are lessons being heard in congregations from many denominations throughout the world on this day.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child is born to us, an heir is given us,
upon whose shoulders dominion will rest. This One shall be called Wonderful
Counselor, the Strength of God, Eternal Protector, Champion of Peace.

⁷ This dominion, and this peace, will grow without end, with David's throne and
realm sustained with justice and fairness, now and forever. The zeal of God
Omnipotent will accomplish it!

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM

Psalm 96

The refrain is introduced by the cantor

Psalm Refrain

Let the heav - ens re - joice and the earth be glad.

Psalm Tone

The Psalm is a hymn or poem. The psalms cover the whole range of the relationship between God and God's people. The Book of Psalms, while a "book" of the Bible, consists of 150 hymns intended to be sung.

- ¹ Sing to the Lord | a new song;
sing to the Lord, | all the earth.
- ² **Sing to the Lord, bless the name | of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**
- ³ Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.
- ⁴ **For great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods. R**
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have | made the heavens.
- ⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**
- ⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord hon- | or and power.
- ⁸ **Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the Lord. R**
- ⁹ Worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, | all the earth.
- ¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The | Lord is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot
be moved will judge the peo- | ples with equity."**
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.
- ¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O Lord,
for you come to | judge the earth.**
- ¹³ You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth. **R**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

A Place at the Manger

Text: Charles Wesley,
1707-1788, alt.

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

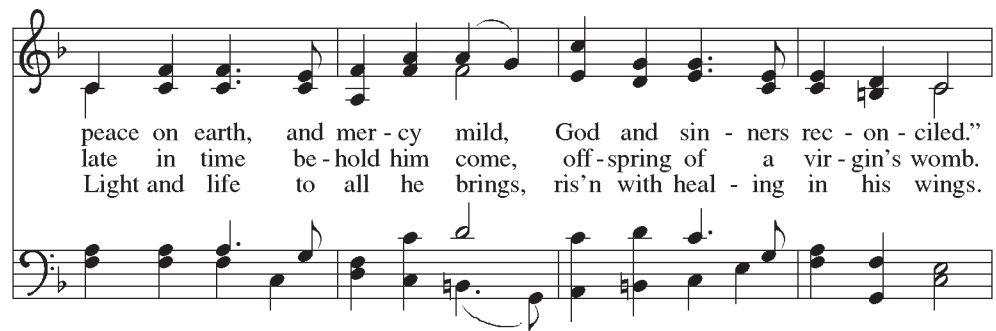
Music:
MENDELSSOHN,
Felix Mendelssohn,
1809-1847; arr.
William F. Cummings,
1831-1915.

Please stand as able. Verse 1.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



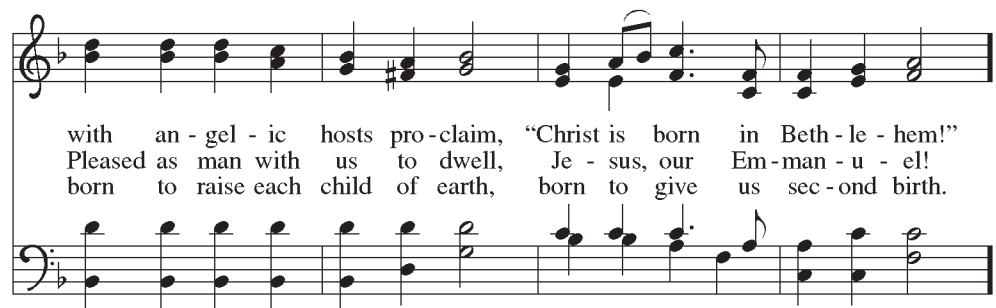
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"



GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. 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, the Lord. 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 whom 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #270, vs. 2, 3
Please see reverse.*

Please be seated.

SERMON

Is There Room Now?

During worship, there is always a reading from a Gospel. We stand to indicate the importance we place on Jesus' words and actions.

The sermon is meant to help us make the Word of God a living and transforming reality of our lives today.

Text: Phillips Brooks,
1835-1893

HYMN OF THE DAY

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis
H. Redner, 1831-1908

Please stand as able.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

CREED

God has made us God's people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,**



**maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled with good news of great joy, we pray for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

For unto us is born a Holy One. Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. Accept the praises of your Church as we celebrate and remember your birth on earth this night. Warm our hearts with the gift of your love. May Christ be born anew in your people this day and every day. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

For unto us you have given the gift of creation, and so the whole earth sings with joy this holy night. Renew the splendor of creation from the smallest and dimmest star to the widest of galaxies. Inspire us to renewed care for all that fills the fields, sky, and seas. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of generations to come. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The Prayers of Intercession are always responsive, because everyone gives voice to the supplications. We include prayers for others throughout the world, in our Synod, and those connected to our congregation.

For unto us you give freedom and justice. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear. Bring peace where there is war, especially in Gaza and Israel, Ukraine and Russia. Bestow your compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

For unto us you have given the gift of your love so extraordinary. You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Surround infants and children with love, and bless those who care for them. Protect the rights of those who identify as Queer, Transgender, and/or female. Watch over ones giving birth and safeguard expectant mothers. As the world celebrates the birth of a baby, bless the newly born babies and strengthen those spending time in the NICU. Shelter and protect migrant families and those who have no home, just as you did for the Holy Family that glorious night. Bring an end to ICE raids, helping the US Government to see your image in the faces of immigrants. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

For unto us you grant comfort and hope. Help any for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort all who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or grieving. Attend the dying, and relieve any who are in pain, especially those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Be with your beloved children who face bigotry, homophobia, sexism, transphobia, and ignorance at family gatherings. Guide us to share your boundless love with all who breathe the breath of life. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

For unto us you have given the gift of life. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.
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.

The Peace has been exchanged in worship since the time of the first Christians. It is a profound act to offer the miraculous peace of God to one another before we join in communion with God and each other.

God Invites Us to the Table

OFFERING

All Praise to Thee

Adult Choir

Music: Elaine Hagenberg

Text: adapted from Martin Luther's hymn, Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ



All praise to Thee, eternal God, who clothed in garb of flesh and blood,
Dost take a manger for Thy throne, while worlds on worlds are Thine alone.
Alleluia

Thou comest in the darksome night to make us children of the light,
To make us in the realms divine, like Thine own angels, round Thee shine.
Alleluia

A little child, Thou art are our Guest that weary ones in Thee may rest;
Forlorn and lowly is Thy birth that we may rise, to heaven from earth
Alleluia.

OFFERING HYMN

What Child Is This

Verse 3.

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

The Offertory is when we bring our gifts of bread, wine, money, and our very selves to present to God as our initial act of thanksgiving. This collection is a visible reminder that our whole lives are God's, and a part of what God has given us we give back in thanksgiving for all that we have and all that we are. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to our website trinitylutheran.ws, by scanning the QR code, or texting TLCGIVE to 73256.



Let us pray, God of heaven and earth,
**from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.**
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
**Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.**
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

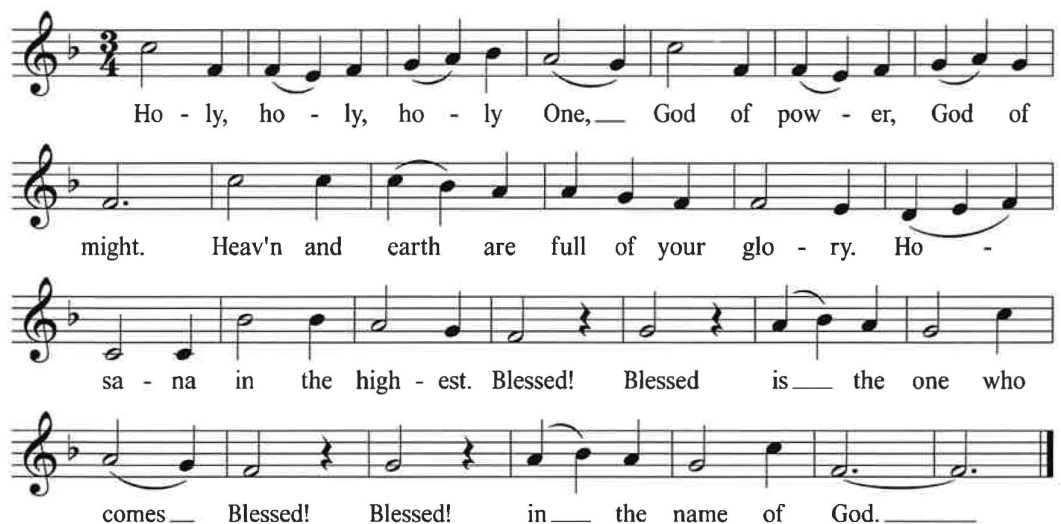
The Lord is with you.
And also with you.

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 glo - ry. Ho -
sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed is — the one who
comes — Blessed! Blessed! in — the name of God. —

The Sanctus (holy, holy, holy) recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, overwhelmed by the presence of God in the sanctuary, and these words were sung by the people as Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The Sanctus reminds us that this is an offering of the whole creation, which joins in singing these praises.



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 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 be seated.

COMMUNION

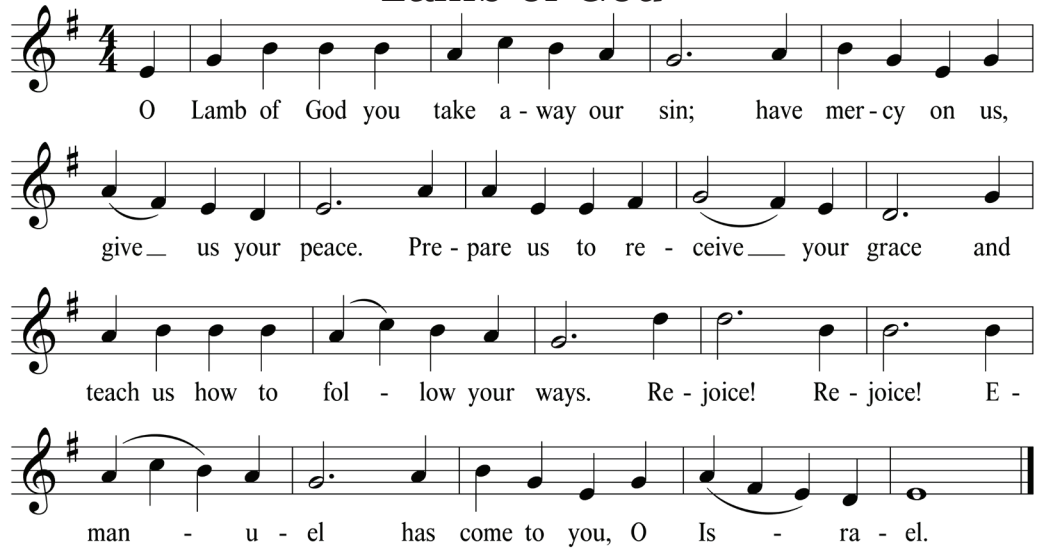
All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Both wine and grape juice are available in the split chalice— wine in the larger section and grape juice in the smaller section. Christ's grace and forgiveness is found in the bread, wine, and grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available.

At the direction of the ushers, worshippers are invited to move to the front of the center aisle to dip the wafer into the chalice to receive Communion by intinction.

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus gave to his followers when they asked him to teach them to pray. It links our daily bread to the spiritual food we receive in Communion.

In an effort to further embrace Trinity's mission of welcome, affirmation, and hospitality, both wine and grape juice are available in the split chalice. Wine can be found in the larger section of the chalice and grape juice in the smaller section of the chalice.

Lamb of God



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.

CHOIR ANTHEM

What is this Lovely Fragrance?

Adult Choir

Setting: Gerald Near

Tune and text: French Traditional

What is this lovely fragrance wafting like to the scents of flowers in spring!
Shepherds, O tell us, whence such beauty, Hear you not heavenly caroling?
What is this lovely fragrance wafting like to the scents of spring!

Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps Seek the Savior, born today.
Low at his feet we lay our treasure. Heart's adoration, love for aye.
Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps Seek the Savior, born today.



HYMNS

Away in a Manger

1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841-1905

Text: African
American spiritual,
refrain;
John W. Work Jr.,
1872-1925,
stanzas, alt.

Music: GO TELL IT,
African American
spiritual

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain




Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.





Once in Royal David's City

Text: Cecil Frances
Alexander,
1818-1895

Music: IRBY,
Henry J. Gauntlett,
1805-1876



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.



Please stand as able.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

After Communion, we give thanks for being part of the communion of God's life and for being fed so that we may go out to feed and serve others in our world.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Incarnate God,
you are among us at this table.

May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

Amen.

We gather on this holy night to rejoice in the light that dispels the darkness.

We light candles as a sign of God's light, filling our lives with hope, joy, love, and peace.

CANDLE LIGHTING

The acolytes give light to worshipers who pass it on.

The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.

Silent Night, Holy Night

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Text: Joseph Mohr,
1792-1849; tr. John F.
Young, 1820-1885

Music: STILLE NACHT,
Franz Gruber,
1787-1863



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

God Sends Us to Love and Serve the World

BLESSING

The Triune God—
holy Mystery beyond all knowing,
Word made flesh for the life of the world,
Breath who abides and never departs—
(+) bless you with grace without end,
peace born this night, and joy that no darkness can overcome. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts,
1674-1748

Music: ANTIOCH,
George F. Handel,
1685-1759, adapt.;
arr. Lowell Mason,
1792-1872

DISMISSAL

Beloved Community:

Go into the night carrying the light of Christ –
the child who knew displacement,
the family who sought refuge,
the love that crossed every border.

As you leave this place,
may your hearts be open to the stranger,
your homes make room for the vulnerable,
and your lives bear witness to a peace born in justice and compassion.
Go in hope, go in courage, go in solidarity with all who are seeking safety tonight.
And as you go, remember:
Christ is born among us, again and again.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare on Hark the Herald Angels Sing
Capital City Brass Quintet

arr. Clarke Cothern

Having heard the Gospel and having been fed at communion, the final act of our common worship is the Dismissal. It is not an afterthought, but an integral part of the service. Jesus' final action on earth was to send his followers into the world to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them to obey all he had commanded. And so we are sent out into the world to proclaim the Good News and be Christ's hands and feet on earth.

Church Staff

Susan J. Crowell

Senior Pastor

Kay M. Cook

Office Manager

James C. Parham, III

Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Henry W. Wilcox

Accountant and Digital Media Manager

Patrick D. Preacher

Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator and Pastoral Associate

Karen M. Craig

Administrative Assistant

Angie H. McCormack

Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

Roy L. Cook

Facilities Manager

Jerry R. Wesley

Coordinator for Mental Health Wellness

Beth C. Oswald

Nursery Attendant

Congregation Council

Lani Wise, *Vice-President*

Jaime Fivecoat

Jeff Rehm

Mike Boliek, *Treasurer*

Angie Hager

Margaret Roth

Donna Potts, *Secretary*

Deirdre Hixson

Kerry Sease

Lexi Thomas-Harewood, *Youth*

Dean Hybl

Chris Sorenson

Carl Brune

Patrick Morgan

Chris Wannemacher

Danny Fagala

Richard Moose



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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POINSETTIAS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN HONOR OF



Jennifer Burke, Ginny Banister, and Donna Webb by Al Banister

their grandchildren by John and Barbara Beckford

their daughters and son-in-law by John and Barbara Beckford

Trinity's Pastors and Staff by Becky Boland

Trinity's Pastors and Staff by Luther and Sally Boliek

Pastor Jim Parham and the Church Choir by Luther and Sally Boliek

their grandchildren, Addison and Grayson, by Mike and Maggie Boliek

his grandma by Dexter Brecht

Kim Woodward by Vicki Charlotte

David and Donna Potts by the Circle of Welcome

Her parents, Roy and Kay Cook, by Amanda Cook

Adam, Jillian, Brooke, and Christian by Amanda Cook

Charlie and Beth Oswald and Heather Chapman by Amanda Cook

Amanda, Adam, Jillian, Brooke and Christian by Roy and Kay Cook

Amanda, Jason, Hunter, Maverick, and Cameron Hewitt by Brian and Karen Craig

Emily, Josh, Knox, and Liam Newton by Brian and Karen Craig

Barbara Augustine and Jerry Ciarpelli by Brian and Karen Craig

their nine grandchildren by Richard and Mary Margaret Delap

her parents, Richard and Mary Margaret Delap, by Suzanne Delap

her great-granddaughter, Cora Dianne Frances, by Jo Glymph

their children by Calvin and Anne Harmon

their grandchildren by Calvin and Anne Harmon

the Trinity Staff by Calvin and Anne Harmon

his mother, Sabina, by Jack Heidt

Rowan & Amber Brown Magnuson and Roger Brown by Deirdre Hixson

Judy Williams by Darlene and Heather Kleckley

24 years of marriage to Roberto Bautista by Lani Ludian

their family by Keith and Heidie Miller

her mother, Mary Hembree, by Richard and Gail Moose

the Trinity Pastors by Joe and Merry Mulcahy

the Trinity Staff by Joe and Merry Mulcahy

his children, Andy and Gretchen, by Ed Ninestein

the Trinity Staff by Pat and Cathy O'Neill

their children, Luke, Anna Wesley, and Grace, by Sonny and Valerie Patrick

their children by David and Donna Potts

their grandchildren by David and Donna Potts

Adult Faith Exploration leaders and participants by Patrick Preacher

Children's Worship Opportunity leaders by Patrick Preacher

Queer-led Worship leaders by Patrick Preacher

their siblings by Jeff and Lisa Rehm

her family, Don, Connor, Raena, Mason, and Preston, by Vicki Rubenstein

their grandchildren, Gabriel and Wyatt Sullivan and Ella Stewart, by Chris and Terri Sullivan

her parents, David and Donna Potts, by Jerry and Jamie Wesley

POINSETTIAS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF

his mother, Doris Cook Anderson, by Craig and Kathleen Anderson

his brother, Erik Fred Anderson, by Craig and Kathleen Anderson

Mary Fleet Banister, Joe Banister, John and Wanda Umlauf, and Josh Webb by Al Banister

Pat and Stan Robinson by Caron, Jonathan, and Connor Bell

Bob Berlam, Lee and Madeline Elmore, and Mickie Elmore by Ann Berlam

her husband, Tad Boland, by Becky Boland

her parents, John and Marion Koppen, by Luther and Sally Boliek

his parents, Pastor Wynne Boliek and Miss Polly, by Luther and Sally Boliek

Tad Boland by Luther and Sally Boliek

Cathy, Margaret, and Charles Wyatt by Mike and Maggie Boliek

her sister, Sylvia Brown Franklin, by Mary Brown

her parents, Sam and June Brown, by Mary Brown

Buddy, Barbara, and Gary Almers by Carl and Debbie Brune

Ed, Kathryn, and Fred Brune by Carl and Debbie Brune

Eddie Woodward by Kim, Adyson, Layten, and Giggi

her grandparents, Jack and Caroline Massey, by Amanda Cook

her grandmother, Bertha Cook and her great-grandmother, Annie Page, by Amanda Cook

Will Landreth by Amanda Cook

Andrew Sullivan by Amanda Cook

their parents by Roy and Kay Cook

her aunt, Ann Cuthbert Daniel, by Roy and Kay Cook

Will Landreth by Roy and Kay Cook

Andrew Sullivan by Roy and Kay Cook

her parents, Fred and Edith Bragg, by Brian and Karen Craig

his parents, Bob and Naomi Craig, by Brian and Karen Craig

their parents, Micky, Mary Doug, Jake, and Jack, by Richard and Mary Margaret Delap

Allan Downen by Erin Carroll and Maggie Downen

Jake and Mary Alice Griffeth by James Ellis Griffeth and Elizabeth Thompson

Emily and Tommy Thompson by James Ellis Griffeth and Elizabeth Thompson

their grandson, Benjamin Lee, by Dale and Sandra Hamann

their parents by Calvin and Anne Harmon

her parents and sister by Deirdre Hixson

Ed, Kathryn, and Fred Brune by Brad, Kathy, Jake and Maggie Keller

Alma Barkshadt by Brad, Kathy, Jake, and Maggie Keller

Bill Kleckley by Darlene and Heather Kleckley

their son, Will Landreth, by Wayne and Cathie Landreth

Kenneth Lanier, Sr. by Ken and Vicki Lanier

Carol Ranschau by Ken and Vicki Lanier

Amy Render Harris by Ken and Vicki Lanier

Kenneth and Wilma Miller by Keith and Heidie Miller

her father, Dan Hembree, and his parents, Harry and Carolyn Moose, by Richard and Gail Moose

Henry (Bud) Moseley by the Moseley Family

Jaby (Bill) Sandel by the Moseley Family

Margaret Wyatt by Joe and Merry Mulcahy

Charles Wyatt by Joe and Merry Mulcahy

Cathy Wyatt by Joe and Merry Mulcahy

her son, Geoff Dietz and her daughter and son-in-law, Kelly and Tim Crowe, by Pat Newman

Mr. and Mrs. Walton Nichols by David and Karen Nichols

The Rev. and Mrs. Finn Hansen by David and Karen Nichols

Jane Ninestein by Ed Ninestein

his parents, Elmer and Audrey Oswald, by Charlie and Beth Oswald

her grandmother and mother, Annie Page and Bertha Cook, by Charlie and Beth Oswald

their parents, Floyd, Elise, Paul, and Donna, by Sonny and Valerie Patrick

their parents, Don and Jo Millar and Bill and Carolyn Potts, by David and Donna Potts

her sister, Tina Boatner, by David and Donna Potts

Tina Preacher by Patrick, Jonathan, and Grayson Preacher

their son, Andrew Sullivan, by Chris and Terri Sullivan

her grandparents, Don and Jo Millar, by Jerry and Jamie Wesley





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