



CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



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WELCOME!

? Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church! Whether you are a valued member or an honored guest, we're glad to share God's Word with you today. Here at Trinity we are reminded of our sin—of how we have disobeyed God's holy will—but more importantly, we are reminded of God's grace—of how He sent Jesus to take our sins away through dying on the cross and rising again. Today He gives us believing hearts through His Word and Sacraments.

PARENTS' ROOM

? Our Sanctuary includes a Gathering Room where parents can take small children when they become loud enough to disturb the worship of others. The room is designed to allow families to still participate in the worship service because the service is displayed live on a screen. Ask the Ushers for directions.

LUTHERAN "BRAND"

? This congregation is "Lutheran" in the classical sense, meaning we still hold to the Lutheran Confessions, or statements of faith, as the correct summary of God's Word. To strengthen this resolve, we are also a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), a national church body headquartered in Mankato, Minnesota. We are brothers and sisters with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) because they teach the same as we do. Find out more about the ELS at www.els.org.

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

-All are invited to Stand during the singing of this processional hymn-

Processional Hymn • “Once in Royal David’s City”

[ELH 139]

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| <p>1. 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.</p> | <p>2. 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 mean and lowly
 Lived on earth our Savior holy.</p> |
| <p>3. Jesus is our childhood’s pattern;
 Day by day like us He grew;
 He was little, weak, and helpless;
 Tears and smiles like us He knew;
 And He feeleth for our sadness,
 And He shareth in our gladness.</p> | |

Exhortation and Prayer

☒ASTOR *Dear fellow souls bought in the blood of Christ, in this Christmas season it is our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, to go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us—the Christ-Child lying in a manger.*

Let us read and learn in Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God from the first days after our fall into sin to the glorious redemption brought to us by this holy Child.

But first, let us pray for people all over the world who would delight with us to know the good news of Jesus Christ, and who would join with us in singing His praises. Let us pray for the people of this place and for all those in our own congregation. And let us also remember, in His name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who are sad. We especially remember all those who do not know the Lord Jesus, or who do not love Him, or who by sin have grieved His heart of love.

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us in heaven, who live in greater light than we, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, who died in faith, and who live before the throne of God and praise Him each day in His temple. We confess that we are united with them as we are united with one another.

To sum up all these petitions, let us pray as Christ Himself taught us:

CONGREGATION **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.**

-Be Seated-

First Lesson

Genesis 3:8–15, “The Seed of the woman will crush the serpent’s head”

Hymn • “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

[ELH 125]

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| <p>1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
 “Glory to the newborn King!
 Peace on earth and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled!”
 Joyful, all ye nations rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With th’angelic host proclaim,
 “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 “Glory to the newborn King!”</p> | <p>2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
 Christ, the everlasting Lord,
 Late in time behold Him come,
 Offspring of a Virgin’s womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
 Hail th’incarnate Deity!
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell;
 Jesus, our Immanuel!
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 “Glory to the newborn King!”</p> |
| <p>3. Hail, the heav’nly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His wings.
 Mild He leaves His throne on high, Born that man no more may die;
 Born to raise the sons of earth; Born to give them second birth,
 Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”</p> | |

Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15–18, “God’s promise to Abraham”

Hymn • “Of The Father’s Love Begotten”

[CW 35]

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| <p>1. Of the Father’s love begotten
 Ere the worlds began to be,
 He is Alpha and Omega,
 He the Source, the Ending He,
 Of the things that are, that have been,</p> | <p>2. O that birth forever blessed,
 When the Virgin, full of grace,
 By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
 Bore the Savior of our race,
 And the Babe, the world’s Redeemer,</p> |
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And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.

First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.

Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6–7, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a Great Light”

Hymn • “The People That in Darkness Sat”

[ELH 153]

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| <p>1. The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.</p> | <p>2. To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is giv'n,
And on His shoulders ever rests
All pow'r in earth and heav'n,
All pow'r in earth and heav'n.</p> |
| <p>3. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored,
The God by all adored.</p> | |

Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1–9, “A Branch from the stem of Jesse”

Hymn • “Behold a Branch is Growing”

[ELH 121]

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| <p>1. Behold, a Branch is growing
Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sung, foreknowing;
It springs from Jesse’s race
And bears one little Flow’r
In midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.</p> | <p>2. Isaiah hath foretold It
In words of promise sure,
And Mary’s arms enfold It,
A Virgin meek and pure.
Through God’s eternal will
This Child to her is given
At midnight calm and still.</p> |
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Fifth Lesson

Isaiah 7:10–14, “A virgin shall call Her Son ‘Immanuel’”

Hymn • “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

[ELH 137]

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| <p>1. O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.</p> | <p>2. For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond’ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to all on earth.</p> |
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Sixth Lesson

Luke 1:26–38, "The angel Gabriel visits Mary"

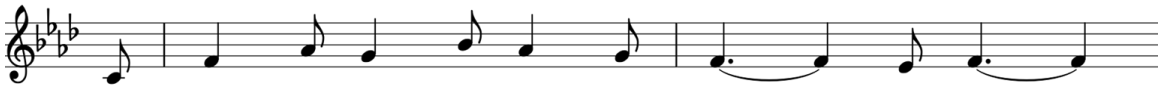
-Stand-

Hymn • "The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came"

[cw 24, alt]



1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2. "I come from heav'n to tell the Lord's de - cree:
3. Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;



His wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 A bless - ed vir - gin moth - er thou shalt be.
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.



He came to greet the meek and low - ly Mar - y,
 Thy Son shall be Im-man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "My soul shall praise and mag - ni - fy His ho - ly name."



"Most high - ly fa - vored mai - den." Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored mai - den." Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored mai - den, Glo - ri - a!"

-Be seated-

Seventh Lesson

Luke 2:1–7, “The birth of Jesus”

Hymn • *“Thy Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We”*

[ELH 144]

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| <p>1. Thy little ones, dear Lord, are we,
And come Thy lowly bed to see;
Enlighten every soul and mind,
That we the way to Thee may find.</p> | <p>2. Now welcome! From Thy heav’nly home
Thou to our vale of tears art come;
Man hath no off’ring for Thee save
The stable, manger, cross, and grave.</p> |
| <p>3. O draw us wholly to Thee, Lord,
Do Thou to us Thy grace accord,
True faith and love to us impart,
That we may hold Thee in our heart.</p> | |

Eighth Lesson

Luke 2:8–20, “The shepherds visit the manger”

DEVOTION: “The Shepherds Worship their Messiah-King!”

Hymn • *“To Shepherds As They Watched By Night”*

[CW 53]

MEN: 1. To shepherds as they watched by night

Appeared a host of angels bright;
“Behold the tender Babe,” they said,
“In yonder lowly manger laid,

ALL: 3. O then rejoice that through His Son

God is with sinners now at one;
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,
Your Brother is th’eternal God.

WOMEN: 2. “At Bethlehem, in David’s town,

As Micah did of old make known.
’Tis Jesus Christ, your Lord and King,
Who doth to all salvation bring.”

ALL: 4. What harm can sin and death then do?

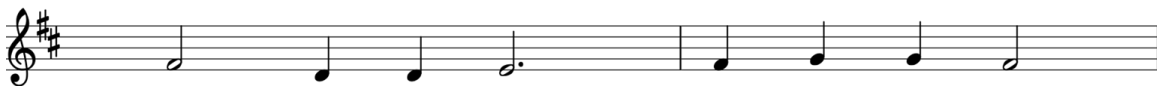
The true God now abides with you.
Let hell and Satan rage and chafe,
Christ is your Brother—ye are safe.

Ninth Lesson

John 1:1–14, “The mystery of the incarnation”

Hymn • *“O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is”*

[ELH 161]



1. O Je - sus Christ, Thy man - ger is
 2. He whom the sea And wind o - bey
 4. Thou Christ - ian heart, Who - e'er thou art,
 6. The world may hold Her wealth and gold;



My par - a - dise at which my soul re - clin - eth.
 Doth come to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.
 Be of good cheer and let no sor - row move thee.
 But thou, my heart, keep Christ as Thy true Trea - sure.



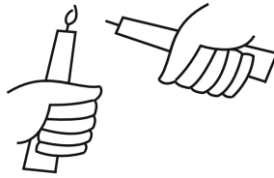
For there, O Lord, Doth lie the Word Made flesh for us--
 Thou, God's own Son, With us art one, Dost join us and
 For God's own Child, In mer - cy mild, Joins thee to Him--
 To Him hold fast, Un - til at last A crown be thine



here - in Thy grace forth shin - eth.
 our child - ren in our weak - ness.
 How great - ly God must love thee!
 and hon - or in full meas - ure.

Lighting of the Candles

When individual candles are to be lighted, do not tip a lit candle, or the hot wax may spill. Tip only unlit candles to receive the flame from those already lit.



Hymn • *“Silent Night, Holy Night”*

[ELH 140]

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| <p>1. Silent night! Holy night!
 All is calm, all is bright,
 Round yon Virgin mother and Child.
 Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
 Sleep in heavenly peace,
 Sleep in heavenly peace.</p> | <p>2. Silent night! Holy night!
 Shepherds quake at the sight.
 Glories stream from heaven afar;
 Heav’nly hosts sing, Alleluia;
 Christ the Savior is born!
 Christ the Savior is born!</p> |
| <p>3. Silent night! Holy night!
 Son of God, love’s pure light
 Radiant beams from Thy holy face
 With the dawn of redeeming grace,
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.</p> | |

Remember: Do not put your candles down until the wax is completely dry!

-Be seated-

Reception of Offerings

-Stand-

Christmas Eve Prayer

☒ *O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold Him when He shall come to be our Judge. We thank You for coming here and sharing our human nature, for You did this that we might share Your glory and immortality in heaven. We thank You for Your marvelous love, which made You willing to sacrifice Your sinless life on the cross for us and rise again to declare us not guilty of sin.*

[Special intercessions may follow]

Through Your Word and Sacrament, keep us ever trusting in You as our Savior and serving You as our loving Master. To You, O Lord, we raise our voices this night in thanks and praise for the miracle of You coming in flesh to be our dear Redeemer.

☒ **Amen.**

Blessing

☒ *May He who by His incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into one, fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life.*

*And the blessing of God almighty
the Father,
the Son, “ and
the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.*

☒ **Amen.**

-Be Seated-

Announcements

-Stand for Recessional Hymn-

Recessional Hymn • “Joy To The World”

[ELH 138]

1. 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.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the
sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows 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.
4. 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.

-The congregation may be seated at the conclusion of the hymn to await dismissal by the ushers-

The faculty and staff of

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

would like to wish you a very

BLESSED CHRISTMAS!