



CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2023

4:00 P.M.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINNEAPOLIS

WELCOME TO ALL

The people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church wish to extend a special welcome to all visitors!

Please leave your name and phone number on the visitor card found in the pew.

*We are committed to the inclusion of all people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice **open communion**, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.*

Children are full participants in this congregation's worship, educational, and community life! The Mary Martha Room is a quiet space for infants needing to nurse or to nap. For active toddlers, the Community Room has a Children's Corner with books and a table at which to play. Our ushers are ready to assist you in finding the place that best fits your family's needs.

***Accessible and all-gender restrooms** are located in the basement.*

***Single-use, all-gender restrooms** are located on the 1st floor.*

*For over forty years, this congregation has advocated for the **full welcome, inclusion, and equity** of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the church and the community. We invite all people into lives of authenticity, integrity, and wholeness.*

***Hearing assist devices and large-print bulletins** are available. Ask an usher if you are interested.*

*Our **services are livestreamed** on Vimeo and Facebook every week. The live shot includes the main floor of the sanctuary. Our members who watch from home love to see their friends at church! If for privacy reasons you prefer not to be on camera, the balcony is outside of the camera's range.*

*If you are seeking **pastoral care**, please speak to a pastor today.*

+invites the congregation to stand

The cover art for today's bulletin is provided by Bea Martin. Thank you, Bea!

GATHER

PRELUDE

Noël Grand Jeu et Duo
Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen
Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her

Louis-Claude Daquin
Johannes Brahms
J. S. Bach

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

At the conclusion of the introduction, please stand and face the cross at the rear of the sanctuary.

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

come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him,
vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; Son of the Fa - ther
cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove! Glo - ry to God . . .
thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n! Word of the Fa - ther,

born the king of an - gels:
now in flesh ap - pear - ing! O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
in . . . the . . . high - est:
now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

+GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of rough hands and hardened feet, giving spirit to the people of earth: in agony of birth and gentleness of newborn skin, may we discover your ordinary beauty in the heart of our longing world; through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh — God's divine embrace.
Amen.

Please be seated.

WELCOME

WORD

READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

A Maiden Most Gentle
Pop-Up Choir

Andrew Carter

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing:
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.
Ave Maria.

How blessed is the birth of her heavenly child,
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.
Ave Maria.

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call
The Lord of creation, and Savior of all.
Ave Maria.

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare,
And marveled in awe at the babe in her care.
Ave Maria.

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray;
Sing praise to the Savior, sing endless 'Ave'.
Ave Maria.

READING

Luke 2:1-7

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Candlelight Carol
Drew Lindorfer, soloist

John Rutter

How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How can you measure the love of a mother,
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and starglow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!
Angels are singing; the Christchild is born

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him,
Seraphim round him their vigil will keep;
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Savior,
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger:
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay,
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation:
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.

READING

Luke 2:8-14

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

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.

Glo - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o;

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

READING

Luke 2:15-20

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

+HYMN OF THE DAY

Love Has Come



- 1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

+PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Randy A. Nelson

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

(silence)

God of the Incarnation, we come before you tonight, O God, knowing we need to be fed with the promise of hope that was the gift of Isaiah to his heavens and that is the promise embodied in the birth of a baby in Bethlehem. Give us the eyes to see what the shepherds saw and the ears to hear once again the angels' song. Compassionate God,

Hear our prayer.

God of the Incarnation, we need tonight to be fed with the courage of the angels' song—"Do not be afraid." Instill in us the awareness of your overwhelming love for us that casts out fear and brings your continuing presence. Compassionate God,

Hear our prayer.

God of the Incarnation, we need to be fed tonight with the faith to see in the Bethlehem birth the new beginning that Jesus embodies. We need an injection of courage so that we do not lose heart, succumb to hopelessness, or become overwhelmed with despair in these distressing times. Compassionate God,

Hear our prayer.

God of the Incarnation, we cry out to you amid the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land, the birthplace of Jesus. Be with all your beloved children suffering under the weight of war and bring your peace. Compassionate God,

Hear our prayer.

God of the Incarnation, above all we need to remember that a little child will lead us, both the child born in Bethlehem and the children among us whose eyes can approach the manger with the awe, the wonder, and the excitement that it invites. Compassionate God,

Hear our prayer.

God of the Incarnation, we lift up before you this night the members and friends of this congregation whose personal situations are challenging. Be with Gerry Berglin; Mary Heltsley's nephew Michael Frey; Caren Hiatt's sister-in-law, Shannon; Annie Hines's son Nick; Joyce Hanson; Arnie Johanson; Katie Schroeder's mom, Diane; Dorothy Kelly; Cori Gershon; and those we name now, either silently or aloud (*the congregation may name loved ones in need of God's care*). Compassionate God,

Hear our prayer.

Abide with us, O Immanuel, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.
Amen.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
Pop-up Choir

14th century German carol
arr. Trevor Manor

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice,
give ye heed to what we say: News, news! Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now hear of endless bliss: Joy, joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Peace, peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

+OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

Electric candles can be lit by turning the flame. Worship leaders will come to the aisles to light your wax candles. When lighting wax candles, please tip only the unlit candle.

+HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night!



Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 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,

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.

Please take care when extinguishing your candles.

+PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

You are invited to exchange words and signs of friendship and love with those around you.

+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, we raise our voices with saints and angels and all creation in joyful praise to your holy name:

+SANCTUS

Joy to the World

Communion servers are invited to come forward at this time.

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is and come! Let earth re -
4. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the
ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -
room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together:

**Our Creator, Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION INVITATION

All are welcome at the table. This is Christ's table where no one is a stranger.

For those worshipping at home, hear these words spoken for you: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion is served by intinction.

*Upon receiving the bread, dip it into the divided chalice which contains
both red wine and white grape juice.*

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the server.

All are welcome at the table.

If you wish to receive communion from a pastor in your pew, please let an usher know.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

Solo, stanza 1



1 Where shep-herds late - ly knelt and kept the an - gel's word,
2 In that un - like - ly place I find him as they said:
3 How should I not have known I - sa - iah would be there,
4 Can I, will I for - get how Love was born, and burned



I come in half - be - lief, a pil - grim strange - ly stirred.
sweet new - born babe, how frail! and in a man - ger bed:
his proph - e - cies ful - filled? With pound - ing heart I stare:
its way in - to my heart— un - asked, un - forced, un - earned,



But there is room and wel - come there for me;
a still, small voice to cry one day for me;
a child, a son, the Prince of peace for me;
to die, to live, and not a - lone for me;



but there is room and wel - come there for me.
a still, small voice to cry one day for me.
a child, a son, the Prince of peace for me.
to die, to live, and not a - lone for me?

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Angels, from the Realms of Glory



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla - tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon-der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

+BLESSING

The body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's 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

+HYMN

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!"

+BENEDICTION

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

On Christmas, Rejoice

P. Radtke

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" 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

"Angels We Have Heard on High" Text: French carol; tr. H.F.Hemy, "The Crown of Jesus Music," 1864,

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

"Love Has Come" Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950. Music: UN FLAMBEAU, G. Seguin, 'Recueil de Noël composés en langue provençale', 1856

Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), % Integrity Media, Inc.

"Silent Night, Holy Night!" Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885, Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787-1863

"Joy to the World" Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

"Where Shepherds Lately Knelt" Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008. Music: MANGER SONG, Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021

Text © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, Music © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory" Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; 'Salisbury Hymn Book', 1857, st. 4

Music: Regent Square, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847;

arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915 Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704054

Artwork: Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. Nativity with Children, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

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HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

4:00 PM

Preacher	Doug Mork
Presiding Ministers	Ingrid Rasmussen, David Larson-Martínez
Crucifer	
Assisting Minister	Bea Martin
Readers	Francis Kelly, Wilson Murray, Carter Murray, Jackson Murray
Ushers	Ginny and Chuck Jordan, Chris Engen
Altar Guild	Mary Engen, Ginny Jordan
Communion	Libby and Keith Olstad

STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen, *Lead Pastor*

David Larson-Martínez, *Associate Pastor*

Doug Mork, *Part-time Associate Pastor*

Kathy Ekwall, *Communications &
Congregational Coordinator*

Nolan Gusdal, *Building Maintenance*

Phil Radtke, *Cantor*

Kaia Ellis, *Financial Administrator*

STAFF, CONTINUED

Sue Roberts, *Publications Coordinator*

Erik Gerhardt, *Accompanist*

Dennis Nordholm, *Custodian*

Dana Simms, *Custodian*

Logan Olson, *Gloria Ringers Director*

LEADERSHIP

Allison Johnson Heist, *Council President*

Gretchen Lund, *Council Vice President*

Erin Henry, *Council Secretary*

Katie Schroeder, *Treasurer*

P A R I S H I N F O R M A T I O N

MAKE YOUR YEAR-END GIFTS

We invite you to plan for and make your final contributions for the current fiscal year at this time. Please allow for additional processing time with consideration to the holiday season if you are anticipating requesting funds from retirement accounts. This will give us all adequate time to deposit and post gifts before the close of the tax year and also get year-end statements out to you in a timely manner. Thank you so much for all you share with Holy Trinity!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH WEDNESDAY CHOIR FAMILY MEALS

Volunteers should plan to make enough food for at least 12 children and 8 adults. Usually 4-8 people request vegetarian options. You may use the church kitchen if you prefer. Please be ready to serve by 5:00 p.m. Supper starts at 5:00 p.m. and wraps up at 6:30 p.m. We are happy to reimburse you for everything! Simply submit your receipts to Pastor David. A sign-up sheet with more information is available in the Community Room.

SAVE THE DATE FOR MICRO-AGGRESSION/INCLUSION WORKSHOP JANUARY 13

On Saturday, January 13, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., there will be one more workshop on micro-aggressions and micro-inclusions at Holy Trinity led by Joe Davis and David Scherer. This event is both for those who attended the workshops in the fall of 2022 and 2023 and for those who are new participants. There will be a brief review of the earlier workshops and then new material that explores racial microaggressions. As in the past, Joe and David make this learning event both deeply meaningful and fun. Sign-up in the Community Room or email your interest to Libby Olstad (libbyolstad@icloud.com).

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 11:00 A.M.

On Sunday, January 28, 2024, we will have one service only at 10:00 a.m., followed by lunch and the Annual Meeting at 11:00 a.m. All are invited to the gym as we celebrate the 120th year of God's ministry through Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We will review committee goals, elect new council members, and approve the 2024 budget. The annual meeting is also an opportunity for us to check on our progress made toward congregational goals.

CHANGES TO UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

- Sunday, December 31, we will have one service only at 10:00 a.m.
- Sunday, January 28, we will have one service only at 10:00 a.m., followed by lunch and the Annual Meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Poinsettias in the chancel area were given in loving memory or honor of

Parents, by David & Carol Berg

Loved ones, by Joyce Peterson

Paul Eid, who spent many Christmas seasons producing beautiful church choir concerts,

by Lois Eid

Loved ones, by Pat Lundquist

Violet Wells, by the Wells Family

John Kelly, by Carol Kelly

Pamela, by David Rediger

Ralph and Joyce Schenk, by Carol Johnson

Hugh Parks, Ron Peterson, and Bud & Sylvia Dixen, by Sally Parks

Cathy Skalnican, Ed and Helen Opila, Alice Opila, Rita and Jim Higgins, Mike Higgins,
and Cindy Malm, by Mary Opila and Marge Higgins

All the children suffering from war, by Michael and Marilyn Miller

Lila Meyer, by Anna Brelje

Nathalie Johnson, by Tony Parsons

Steve Padgitt, by Noelle, Shaun, and Simon Morrell

Parents, by Bev and Bob Peschiutta

Sister, Marlyce, by Bev Peschiutta

Los abuelos and Los padres, by the Martinez family

Linda Gawthrop, by Rosemary Foley

Kathy Morgen, by Barbara and Steven Benson

Husband Del Anderson and sister & brother-in-law Marge and Shelly Torgerson,
by Betty Anderson

Jason SantaAna-White, by Ann White