



GOD *with Us*

The Greatest
Gift of All

December 24, 2025
6:30pm at Trinity

WELCOME

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child.

♩ = 105

OPENING LITANY

Come! Look upon the baby Jesus,
cradled in the arms of his mother.

**Seeing this wondrous sight,
may our hearts be comforted
and our spirits filled with peace.**

Come! Listen to choirs of angels
announcing good news to all people.

Hearing this marvelous song, may we too sing:
Glory to God in the highest!

Come! Receive this ancient story in your heart,
not as history but as a gift.

**Opening our hearts to this great mystery,
may Christ be born in us today.**

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace.

Amen.

Reconciling God,
**we yearn for your presence to transform
our grief, pain, and despair.**

We confess that we have not always prepared
room in our hearts for your love;
we have not always recognized
your presence among us;
we have not always embraced your message of peace.

**Be born in us today
and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.**
Amen.

God's grace upon grace flows over you.

+ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.

Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

Amen.

HYMN:

Joy to the World (ELW 267)



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
3 No more let sin and sorrow grow
4 He rules the world with truth and grace

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,
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy,
flow far as the curse is found,
ness and won - ders of his love,

and heav'n and na - ture
re - peat the sound-ing
far as the curse is
and won - ders of his

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God sent from heaven above,
be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Incarnate God, on this Christmas Eve we give
you thanks for sending your Son to bring light to our darkness.
Grant that we, like the angels over Bethlehem, may
sing your praises in our hearts and lives. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-6

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 exultation;
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 has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

MAGNIFICAT (L. HAZLETT): Larry Hazlett

SECOND LESSON: Luke 2:1-7

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.

² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph 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. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And 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 in the guest room.

CAROL: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* (ELW 270)

$\text{J} = 120$



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.



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

THIRD LESSON: Luke 2:8-20

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And 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 he favors!”

¹⁵ When 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.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.

¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

O HOLY NIGHT (P. CAPPEAU): Soyeon Kang & Jiwon Han

FOURTH LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They 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.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then 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.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

CAROL: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (ELW 279)

$\text{J} = 110$



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
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-dring 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!

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

O Come, All Ye Faithful (ELW 283)

 = 120



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!

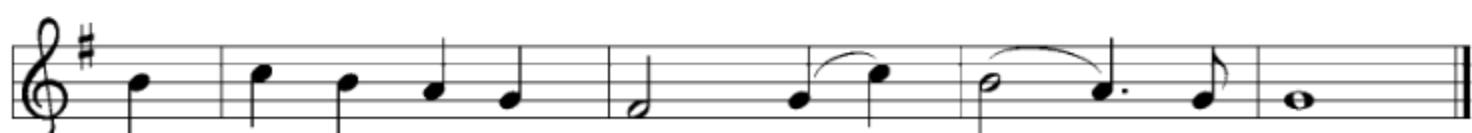


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

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!

OFFERING

Please place offering in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the end of worship as you leave the church.

COVENTRY CAROL (R. CROO): Jennifer, Rebecca, and Derk Lyford

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of glory, by your grace
a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests on his shoulders,
and in his name we pray.

Wonderful Counselor,
we pray for wisdom for the world's leaders,
that they may use their power to lift burdens
and break the bonds of oppression.

Mighty God,
we pray for the church of Jesus Christ our Lord,
that you will multiply and increase our joy
as we share in the harvest you have gathered.

Everlasting Father,
we pray for families, friends, and loved ones,
that those who now walk in deep darkness may
see the great light of your saving love.

Prince of Peace,
we pray for an end to violence and warfare,
that your authority may continue to grow until
there is endless peace in every land.

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts,
we commend our prayers to you, O Lord of hosts,
trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love.
Amen.

BREATH OF HEAVEN (C. EATON): Lindsay Conyers and Jill Keith

THE 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
**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.**

COMMUNION

*All are welcome to join in the gift of Holy Communion.
White grape juice is available and all altar bread is gluten-free.
When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond
Amen.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Away in a Manger (ELW 277)
Angels We Have Heard on High (ELW 289)
It Came upon the Midnight Clear (ELW 282)
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Lisa Guarnieri and Carol Porter)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our lord and savior Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
Amen.

NIGHT OF SILENCE (D. KANTOR)

*Cold are the people, winter of life;
we tremble in shadows this cold endless night.
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping,
flowers that will echo the sunrise;
fire of hope is our only warmth:
weary, its flame will be dying soon.*

*Voice in the distance, call in the night,
on wind you enfold us you speak of the light.
Gentle on the ear you whisper, softly,
rumours of a dawn so embracing:
breathless love awaits darkened souls,
soon will we know of the morning.*

*Spirit among us, shine like the star,
your light that guides shepherds and kings from
afar.
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely,
rising in the warmth of your Son's love,
star unknowing of night and day:
Spirit we wait for your loving Son.*

SILENT NIGHT (J. MOHR)

*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.*

*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!*

*Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light*

*radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

BLESSING AND SENDING

As we carry this light into the night,
may the peace of Christ go before you,
the love of Christ surround you,
and the hope of Christ shine within you.

Tonight we go with joy,
for the darkness has not overcome the light,
and the light still shines—
in you, for you, and through you.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ⁺ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit..
Amen.



9AM DECEMBER 28TH

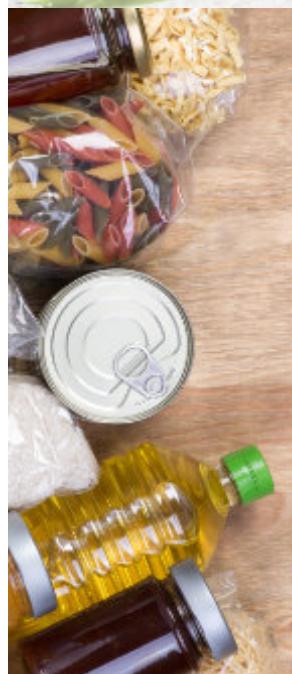
CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Celebrate the season with us in a joyous Christmas Carol Sing filled with your choices.

2026 MONDAYS AT 9AM
IN THE GRUVER RM
FOR SCRIPTURE, BOOKS,
AND REAL-LIFE DISCUSSIONS

Becoming

AS GOD'S PEOPLE
WE ARE ALWAYS BECOMING...
...GROWING, CHANGING,
AND ADJUSTING TO THE
WORLD AROUND US.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH CAMPUS CABINET

*Take what you need and
leave what you can.*

Donations are always welcome.

The Campus Cabinet is available

**Wednesdays
11:30AM- 1:30PM**

ONE BAG PER PERSON PER WEEK

1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS AT
FRONT STREET TAVERN

Theology PUB

- 5:30PM FELLOWSHIP
- 6 - 7PM FAITH CONVERSATION

Women's Study

2026 WEDNESDAYS
GRUVER RM 10AM



Students,
let Trinity buy you a
MUGG Lunch!

- Moments
- Under
- God's
- Grace

JOIN PASTOR NATE
THURSDAYS 11:30AM

