

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sunday, December 31, 2017
First Sunday of Christmas

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Service of Holy Eucharist—Setting 4

To all who join in worship, we are grateful that you are here today!

- We invite all believers in Christ to receive the Sacrament with us. White grape juice is available. Gluten-free wafers are also available. If you would like us to bring the bread and wine to you, please notify one of the ushers.
- Nursery attendants are available during worship just off the South Lobby area for children ages 5 years and younger. If you arrive and no one is in the nursery, please notify one of the ushers to get the attendant. A changing table is available in the nursery.
- Pew Pads are located at the end of each pew. Please sign in and pass them down to the end of the row so we can note that you attended worship with us today. If you or someone you know would like a visit from one of our staff, please inform the Pastor.
- Prayer request cards are in the pew racks. Please hand to an usher during the hymn following the sermon.

WELCOME... We pray this worship time is enriching for your spiritual life.

First Sunday of Christmas:

In the psalm all the natural world praises God, including all humanity, male and female, young and old. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we speak of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN: O Come, All Ye Faithful (ELW 283)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Jesus our Lord came into an indifferent world, yet his life revealed the inner thoughts of many. Let us confess our sins before God and one another, that we may receive release from our sin.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not lived as your faithful children. We have kept silent in midst of prejudice and hatred. We have been idle in the face of violence and injustice. We have not been a light to the nations, and our lives have not revealed your glory. Forgive us, Merciful God. Repair the ugliness of our sin and restore in us your beautiful grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord .
Amen.

Beloved of God, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, as a bride adorns herself with her jewels, God covers us with the robe of righteousness. Know that you are forgiven in ✙ Jesus Christ and live as God's beloved
Amen.

LITANY OF THE INCARNATION

God looked around and saw the world which he has made a long time ago. And what he saw upset him. In one place, preachers were talking about peace, priests were talking about peace, prophets were talking about peace. So much talking, but there was no peace. There was only talking to hide the noises of war.

God sighed a heavy sigh.

In another place, people were building, building banks and storehouses, building monuments to their own greed, building ladders for their careers. So much building, while the poor became poorer and the scaled of justice were biased to the rich.

God sighed a heavy sigh.

In another place, people were doing their own thing, doing their own thing about loving, doing their own thing about trusting, doing their own thing about healing. So much doing their own thing, but the truth was that nothing was being done, for all were divided, suspicious and lonely.

God sighed a heavy sigh.

In another place, people were worshipping, worshipping what their hands had made, worshipping what their money had bought, worshipping what their fantasies had imagined. So much worshipping, but no faith and no hope and no God.

God sighed a heavy sigh.

Then God had a brainwave. I'll send ... I'll send ...

I'll go there myself ... but how?

God called a meeting of his three selves ... the Creator, the Word, and the Spirit.

I move that the Word goes,

Said the creator.

I second that.

Said the Spirit.

Wait a minute!

Said the Word.

But there was no minute, for there was no time.

So the Word became flesh: tiny and frail flesh, bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh, the son of Joseph and Mary.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* (ELW 836)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord 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

Let us pray.

Saving God, the prophet Anna and righteous Simeon sang your praise and proclaimed Jesus our Lord to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. Let us who seek redemption in this day prepare our hearts, that we may believe the good news of Jesus, receive the light of salvation, and live according to your word. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:10--62:3

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 148

The psalm for the day is sung responsively.

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,
⁶**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**

⁹mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹²**young | men and maidens,
old and | young together.**

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Galatians 4:4-7

A reading from Galatians.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (ELW 290)

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *What Child Is This* (ELW 296)

The assembly stands.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As children of God and heirs of the promise, let us pray to the Lord.

A brief silence.

For the holy church of God, that all who have been baptized into Christ may shine like the dawn, bear witness to the Good News of Jesus, and light the way of salvation in Jesus' name, let us pray to the Lord:

Loving God, hear our prayer.

For the nations of the earth, that governments and those in authority may protect the vulnerable, shelter the oppressed, and pursue the way of peace, let us pray to the Lord:

Loving God, hear our prayer.

For our city of Laramie and for all places of human interaction and livelihood, that kindness may abound, compassion prevail, and harmony endure, let us pray to the Lord:

Loving God, hear our prayer.

For the planet earth, our home, that we may honor her gifts, respect her limitations, and protect her resources, let us pray to the Lord:

Loving God, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For those troubled with illness, hardship, or conflict, that they may receive healing for their bodies, release from their burdens, and mending of their brokenness, let us pray to the Lord:

Loving God, hear our prayer.

Hear us, O God, for our eyes have seen your salvation. Let your light shine through us and fill the world with the radiance of your love revealed in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns in glory.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements will be made by the pastor and thanks given for what our offerings provide towards the church's mission.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* (ELW 184)

The assembly stands for the presentation of the gifts.

OFFERING PRAYER

Together, let us pray.

Loving God, we give you thanks for the light of the world, Jesus Christ, through whom we have received adoption as your children. With Jesus our brother, we dedicate ourselves in ministry to the world, that we may live as heirs of your promises to the honor and glory of your name.
Amen.

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.

PREFACE

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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

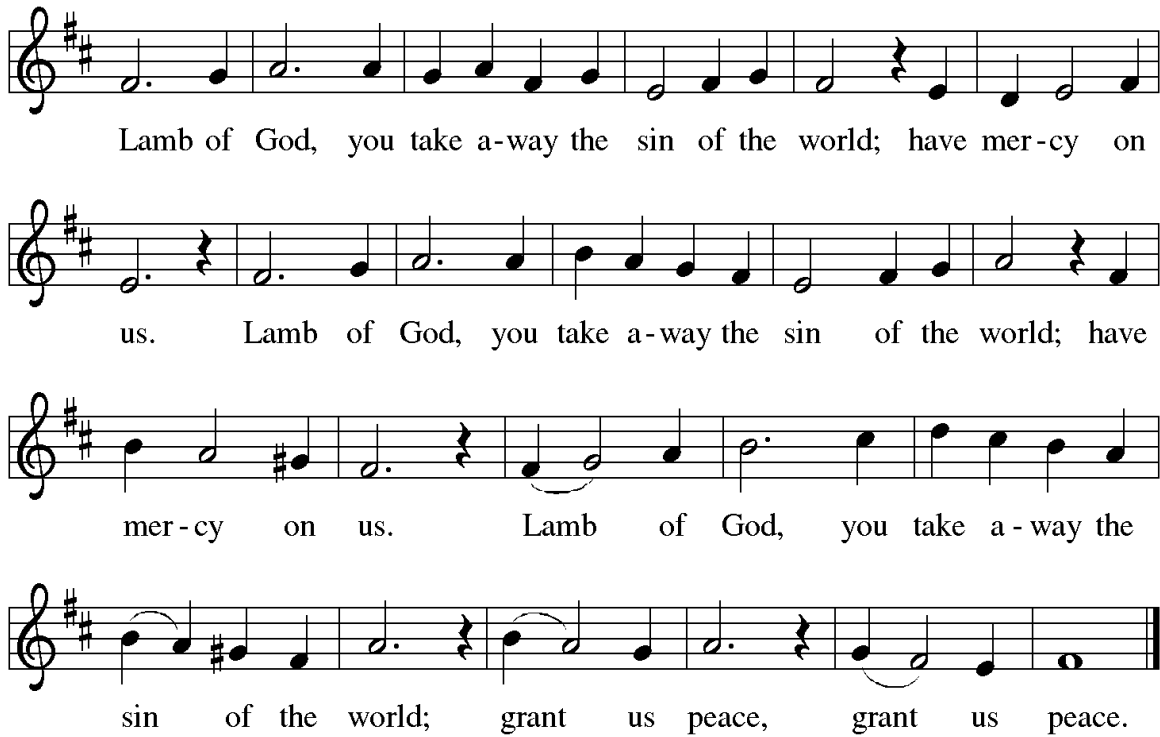
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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.**

The assembly is seated.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

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.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Reflective music provided for Communion contemplation.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The assembly stands to receive the blessing.

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace;
your word has been ful-filled. My own eyes have seen the sal-va-tion which



you have pre - pared in the sight of all peo-ple: a light to re -



veal you to the na-tions and the glo-ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly



Spir - it: as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and



will be for - ev - er. A - men

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (ELW 288)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trinity Happenings

Sunday, December 31	9:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Fellowship

Monday, January 1		OFFICE CLOSED
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Sunday, January 7	9:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Fellowship

Tuesday, January 9	7:00 pm	Church Council
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Wednesday, January 10	10:00 am	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Confirmation

Sunday, January 14	9:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Fellowship
	10:15 am	Sunday School

THOSE NEEDING OUR PRAYERS: Please keep the following members in your prayers this week: Ed Dolan, Joan Dana, Bob Thymian, Jane Kidwell, Addie Hopper, Marilyn Moen, Daniel Travsky, Dick Babcock, and JoAnn Merrill. If there is someone that could be added to the Trinity Prayer Chain, please inform Jennie Lawrence by email at missjennae@yahoo.com.

TRUMPET DEADLINE: Please submit any items for the weekly Trinity Trumpet ***in writing*** by 9 am on Wednesday. The Trumpet is emailed at noon each Wednesday.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES: Your 2018 offering envelopes will be available on or after Sunday, December 31. Some of them have arrived and are being prepped by Bev, but we are waiting for our second order of envelopes to arrive.

Readings for Next Sunday, January 7, 2018

Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

*****Find the weekly lectionary readings and more at www.textweek.com**



The Annual Congregational Meeting of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2018. There will be a sit down breakfast following worship, with the annual meeting after breakfast. More information to come!

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Trinity will be receiving new members during worship on Sunday, January 21, 2018. We invite those who would like to become full voting members of our congregation, as well as those who hold membership in another ELCA congregation and would like to become associate members of Trinity.

If you would like to formally join our community of faith, please contact the church office or talk with Pastor Nate!



Saturday, January 27 — 9 am to 4 pm

Ski day at the Snowy Range Ski area

Lunch, ski passes, and rental included for all college and college aged youth.

Meet at the church at 9 am to carpool.

Let us know if you are coming and have any dietary restrictions.

Jennifer Zenor, jenniferzenor@gmail.com

All are welcome to join in the fun!

Thank you!

The Keith and Toven families would like to thank everyone for their warm Christmas remembrances. It has been a pleasure to serve alongside you at Trinity this year, and we look forward to another fantastic year in 2018!

Serving the Church

TODAY — December 31, 2017

Lector: Diane Fiedler
Ushers: Mike Smith
Greeters: **OPEN**
Nursery: **OPEN**
Stewards: Judy Moline
Diahann Jablin
Altar Guild: Laura Buckner, Marie Frick, and
Sara Muhsman
Fellowship: **OPEN**
Flowers: The Anderson Family in honor of
Linda Anderson's birthday

NEXT WEEK — January 7, 2018

Lector: Brenda Winter
Ushers: Lindsay and Lily Conyers
Greeters: Barb Rouse
Mike Smith
Nursery: MacKenzie Muhsman
Stewards: Jennifer Zenor
Mark Stayton
Altar Guild: Margot Birkholz
Fellowship: **OPEN**
Flowers: Randy and Andrea Wilkison in
celebration of their 30th
anniversary

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor Nate's Office: (307) 314-2481 pastornate3421@gmail.com

*Pastor.....***Pastor Nathan Keith**
*Office Manager.....***Andrea Toven**
*Congregation President.....***Lindsay Conyers**
Organist..... **Yiheng Chen**
*Choir Director.....***Larry Hazlett**
*Financial Secretary.....***Bev Gossett**
*Treasurer.....***Susan Manown**
*Youth and Sunday School Director.....***Becky Dill**



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.