



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

107 S. 7th Street
Laramie, WY 82070 745-4222
Keith Prekker, Interim Pastor
Dan Groathouse, Organist

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

December 24, 2013

*Congregation Standing

WELCOME

*ENTRANCE HYMN: "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful" #283

*CHRISTMAS DIALOGUE

Leader: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

All: He is the Light no darkness can overcome.

Leader: At darkest night we gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

All: With the heavenly host we sing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven."

Leader: In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and lives among us.

All: With the shepherds, we will tell of the wondErs we have seen and heard.

*HYMN: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" #290

*GREETING AND PRAYER

Minister: May the grace aNd truth of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us pray. (A brief silence.)

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory through your holy son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #270

READING: Titus 2:11-14

HYMN: "Your Little Ones, Dear Lord" #286

READING: Luke 2:1-7

HYMN: "Away in a Manger" #277

READING: Luke 2:8-20

HYMN: "Angels We Have Heard on High" #289

CHILDREN'S TIME:

Pastor Keith Prekker

SERMON: "1994"

Pastor Keith Prekker

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN: "What Child Is This"

#296

*THE PRAYERS

Wonderful Counselor, increase our joy as the church gathers on this holy night to sing of our dear Savior's birth. May the story of salvation live in the hearts of all who sing of its wonders. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Mighty God, you have broken the yoke of sin's burden through the birth of your Son. Comfort those whose burdens distract them from the deeper peace of this holy night and grant them a restful mind. God of peace,

Hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, uphold all who are in sorrow or need of your divine goodness and mercy (especially . . .). We remember with thanksgiving all who have died and who now rest in your peaceful light. God of love,

Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, bathe us always in the light of your Word made flesh. Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*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.

*SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION:

*THE GOSPEL OF THE INCARNATION: John 1:1-4

The minister lights a large candle from the altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's gospel speaks. Ushers or assistants light their candles from the minister's candle and then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving the light to another.

*BLESSING

May the Lord God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. In the name of Almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN OF LIGHT: "Silent Night, Holy Night" #281

*DEPARTURE HYMN: "Joy to the World" #267

*SENDING

FIRST LESSON. Isaiah 9:2-7

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. 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. 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

SECOND LESSON. Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

GOSPEL. Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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 for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



Good news
of
Great joy

