

Trinity English Lutheran Church  
The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024

8:30 pm and 11:00 pm



## The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The Twenty-fifth Day of December,

when ages beyond number had run their course  
from the creation of the world,

when God in the beginning created heaven and earth,  
and formed humans in God's own likeness;

when century upon century had passed  
since the Almighty set the bow in the clouds after the Great Flood,  
as a sign of covenant and peace;

in the twenty-first century since Abraham, our forbearer in faith,  
came out of Ur of the Chaldees;

in the thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led by Moses  
in the Exodus from Egypt;

around the thousandth year since David was anointed King;

in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel;

in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;

in the year seven hundred and fifty-two  
since the foundation of the City of Rome;

in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus,  
the whole world being at peace,

**JESUS CHRIST**, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,  
desiring to consecrate the world by God's most loving presence,

was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and when nine months had passed since his conception,  
was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah,  
and was made human:

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

*The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ from the Roman Martyrology*

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD  
THE FESTIVAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome to Trinity English Lutheran Church on this glorious night! All of us here pray that your time with us this evening opens your heart to the presence of our Lord Jesus in the year to come. As we prepare for worship, let us remember the words from the Orthodox liturgy for Christmas Vespers:

What shall we offer thee, O Christ,  
Who for our sakes hast appeared on earth as a man?  
Every creature made by thee offers thee thanks.  
The angels offer thee a hymn;  
The heavens, a star;  
The magi, gifts;  
The shepherds, their wonder;  
The earth, its cave;  
The wilderness, the manger:  
And we offer thee our lives, that which you have already given,  
To reveal you to the world.

Music Notes: Tonight's pre-service music is based on carols from around the world. Although some of the language is archaic to our ears, it is used this evening out of respect for the tradition from which it came.

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**  
*Chancel Choir and Orchestra*  
*Robert Hobby, Conductor*

**SEVEN JOYS OF CHRISTMAS**.....Kirke Mechem

I. The Joy of Love: “This Is the Truth” (English)

*Emily Bird, Soloist*

This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love, therefore don't turn me from your door but hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate is that God did man create; the next thing which to you I'll tell: woman was made with man to dwell.

And we were heirs to endless woes, till God the Lord did interpose; and so a promise soon did run that he would redeem us by his Son.

And at that season of the year, our blest Redeemer did appear; he here did live and here did preach. And many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved, to show us how we must be saved; and if you want to know the way, be pleased to hear what he did say.

II. The Joy of Bells: “Din, Don! Merrily on High” (French)

Din don! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing; Din don! Verily the sky is riven with angel singing. *Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen, And i-o, i-o, i-o by priest and people sungen. *Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!*

Pray you dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers. May you beautifully rime your eve-time song, ye singers. *Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!*

III. The Joy of Mary: “Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine” (German)

Joseph dearest, Joseph mine, help me cradle the Child divine; God reward thee and all that's thine in paradise, so prays the Mother Mary. He came among us on Christmas day, on Christmas day in Bethlehem; *Christus natus hodie in Bethlehem* (Christ is born today in Bethlehem); Lo, he comes to love and save and free us!

Mary dearest, Mary mild, I shall gladly help rock the Child; God will surely reward us then in Paradise, so prays the Mother Mary. He came among us on Christmas day, on Christmas day in Bethlehem; *Christus natus hodie in Bethlehem*; lo, he comes to love and save and free us!

Now is born Emmanuel, prophesied by Ezekiel, promised Mary by Gabriel, rejoice and sing Alleluia, Maria. He came among us on Christmas day, on Christmas day in Bethlehem; *Christus natus hodie in Bethlehem*; lo, he comes to love and save and free us!

#### IV. The Joy of Children: “Patapan” (Burgundian)

Willie, take your little drum, with your whistle, Robin come! When we hear the fife and drum, tu-re-lu-re-lu, patapatapan, when we hear the fife and drum, Christmas should be frolicsome!

Thus the men of olden days loved the King of kings to praise: when they hear the fife and drum, tu-re-lu-re-lu, patapatapan, when they hear the fife and drum, sure our children won't be dumb!

God and man are now become more at one than fife and drum, when you hear the fife and drum, tu-re-lu-re-lu, patapatapan, when you hear the fife and drum, dance and make the village hum!

#### V. The Joy of the New Year: “New Year Song” (Japanese)

When night's shadows fly New Year's dawn floods all the sky; and joyful voices sound. Branches of the fragrant pine hang everywhere around.

Leaves so dainty fine freshly gathered, dewy shine, and glitter in the light. From Kadusa's lofty pine-tree waving: waving on the height.

#### VI. The Joy of Dance: “Fum, Fum, Fum!” (Spanish)

On December twenty-fifth, sing fum, fum, fum! He is born of God's pure love, the Son of God, he is born of virgin Mary in this night so cold and dreary. Fum, fum, fum!

Birds who live in every forest, fum, fum, fum! You must leave your fledglings on the bough; for to make a downy nest, so the newborn babe may rest. Fum, fum, fum!

All the brilliant stars in heaven, fum, fum, fum! All the little stars in heaven, fum, fum, fum! Looking down see Jesus crying, send away the darkness lightly, shine your light upon us brightly, Fum, fum, fum.

#### VII. The Joy of Song: “God Bless the Master of this House” (English)

God bless the master of this house, and all that are therein, and to begin this Christmastide with mirth not let us sing! The Savior of all people upon this time was born, who did from death deliver us, when we were left forlorn. Then let us all most merry be, and sing with cheerful voice, for we have good occasion now to sing: *Gloria in excelsis Deo*. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive it's King! Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, With mirth now let us sing!

“Fantasia on Greensleeves”.....Ralph Vaughan Williams

*Please stand.*

GATHERING HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" .....ADESTE FIDELES



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!

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

**GREETING**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

**HYMN OF PRAISE: "Glory to God"**



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al - migh-t-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



A - men, a - men.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray . . .

**P** 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 Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING**.....Isaiah 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. <sup>3</sup>Thou hast multiplied the nation, thou hast increased its joy; they rejoice before thee as with joy at the harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, thou hast broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

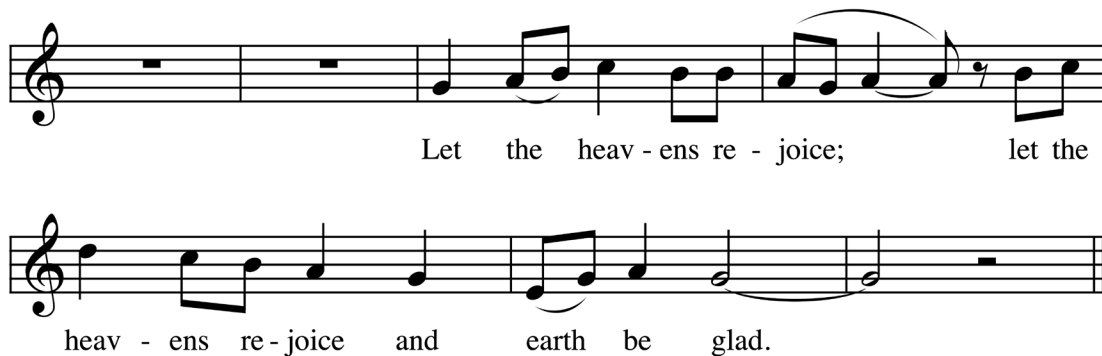
**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



PSALM 96: 1-3, 9-10a.....Richard Proulx

*The choir will sing the refrain, then all are invited to repeat it.  
The cantor will sing the verses, and all are invited to sing the refrain as indicated.*



<sup>1</sup>Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord all you lands.  
<sup>2</sup>Sing to the Lord; bless his name. **REFRAIN**

Announce his salvation, day after day.  
<sup>3</sup>Tell his glory among the nations;  
Tell among all peoples, his wondrous deeds. **REFRAIN**

<sup>9</sup>O worship the Lord in holy splendor.  
Tremble before him, all the earth;  
<sup>10</sup>say among the nations: "The Lord is king." **REFRAIN**

**SECOND READING** ..... Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, <sup>13</sup>awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

- The word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

SEQUENCE HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing".....MENDELSSOHN

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,

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.

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!

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 - ma - nu - el!

*Refrain*

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

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
 Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

**P** The Nativity of Our Lord according to St. Luke!

**G** Glory to you, O Lord!

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. <sup>2</sup>This was the first enrollment, when Quirin'i-us was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup>And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; <sup>11</sup>for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord!

**G** Praise to you, O Christ!

SEQUENCE HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" .....MENDELSSOHN



3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of right-eous-ness!



Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



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!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

*Please be seated.*

SERMON.....Pastor Erdos

*Silence for reflection.*

*Please stand.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear".....CAROL

Stanza 1: All in unison

Stanza 4: Treble Voices

Stanza 2: Lower Voices

Stanza 5: All in unison

Stanza 3: All in harmony

1 It came up on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,  
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,  
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf - fered long;  
 4 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,  
 5 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
 be - neath the heav'n - ly hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;  
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."  
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
 and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the tid - ings which they bring;  
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
 when peace shall ov - er all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
 and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 oh, hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!  
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876, alt.  
 Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900

## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
he only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the  
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs . . .
- P** Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.

## PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*People greet each other saying: “Peace be with you.”*

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

*All of the work of Trinity is possible because of the prayers, service and offerings of the people of Trinity. If you would like to leave an offering, you may use an envelope and leave an offering in one of the black boxes at an entrance. You may also use a credit card or give an offering through PayPal at [TrinityEnglish.org/give](http://TrinityEnglish.org/give). Scanning the QR code will take you to the site. Thank you for your support!*



**OFFERTORY ANTHEM:** “Before the Marvel of This Night” .....Carl Schalk

Before the marvel of this night, adoring, fold your wings and bow,  
Then tear the sky apart with light, and with your news the world endow.  
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease:  
Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace; sing peace, sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made.  
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.  
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss:  
Sing bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss, sing bliss; sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,  
Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.  
Into one song compress the love that rules our universe above:  
Sing love, sing love, sing God is love; sing love, sing God is love!

-Jaroslav Vajda

*Please stand.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**P** Let us pray. 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.

**C** Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has a C-clef and a common time signature. The second, third, and fourth staves also have C-clefs. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' There are repeat signs at the end of each staff.

**P** 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, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows five staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.', 'Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.' There are repeat signs at the end of each staff.



**P** Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

**P** With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**C** Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C** Come, Holy Spirit.

**P** All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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.

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All the baptized are invited to receive the Lord's Supper or come forward for a blessing. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available if needed. All who commune are encouraged to complete a communion card. Visitors, we welcome you. At your request, we will forward your completed card to your home congregation.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

**VOLUNTARY:** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" .....Adrian Mann

**HYMN:** "Away in a Manger" .....AWAY IN A MANGER



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841-1905

# HYMN: "Jesus, What a Wonderful Child" .....WONDERFUL CHILD

*Sung first by the choir; then all are invited to sing it several times,  
following the lead of the choir.*

Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.

The first system of music features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. A piano (p) dynamic marking is present at the beginning of the bass line.

Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are placed below the notes. A piano (p) dynamic marking is present at the beginning of the bass line.

mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.

The third system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,

The fourth system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

The fifth system concludes the melody and bass line. The lyrics are placed below the notes. A final double bar line is present at the end of the system.

Text: African American traditional, alt.  
Music: African American traditional; arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1953-2002  
Arr. from *The New Century Hymnal* (#136), © 1992 Pilgrim Press.

*Please stand.*

### COMMUNION BLESSING

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

**C** Amen.

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**P** Let us pray. Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

### HYMN: "Silent Night, Holy Night" .....STILLE NACHT

*Tonight, as the candles are being lit, we are using an adaptation of the original version written by Franz Gruber.*

*Stanza 1 is first sung in German by the choir, then all are invited to sing stanzas 1-3 in English.*

The musical score is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system includes three numbered lines of English lyrics. The second system continues the English lyrics.

*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
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,

*Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
*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*

*Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
*peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.*  
*born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!*  
*birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.*

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

## BLESSING

- P** Jesus is the Word made flesh in our midst.  
 May his incarnation fill your hearts with joy and peace.
- C** Amen.
  
- P** Jesus is the promised Savior, born of Mary.  
 May his birth among us renew your hope.
- C** Amen.
  
- P** Jesus is the Prince of Peace, and Lord of lords.  
 May the gift of his presence bring forth rejoicing.
- C** Amen.
  
- P** Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- C** Amen.



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin, and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



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, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, 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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

**DISMISSAL**

- P** Go in peace. Share the Good News.
- G** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE: “Flourish on Joy to the World” .....Robert A. Hobby**

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Front Cover -Copy of Rembrandt’s painting The Holy Family 1892  
 painting by Venny Soldan-Brofeldt (Museum: Finnish National Gallery)

## + PARTICIPANTS +

Our appreciation and thanks to those serving in God's house today:

- + Pastor Erdos, Preacher
- + Pastor Zandstra, Celebrant
- + Deacon Mary Lasits, Intercessor
- + Robert Hobby and Daniel Schwandt, Directors/Organists
- + Emily Bird, Cantor
- + Chancel Choir
- + (8:30pm) Elizabeth Richey, (11:00pm) Rebecca Karcher; Lectors
- + (8:30pm) Doug Brouwer, Jessa Campbell, David Daugherty, Judy Follis, Mae Hardin, Brooke Lawson, Don Terry (11:00pm) Connie Ault, Doug and Pam Barcalow; Communion Assistants
- + (8:30pm) Mae Hardin, Crucifer
- + (8:30pm) Brooke Lawson, (11:00pm) Bella Bowman; Book Bearers
- + Special thanks to today's Ushers, Altar Guild, Video and Audio Production Crew.

### + Instrumentalists:

Martyna Bleke	Andrew Hicks	Dan Price
Anne Devine	Brian Klickman	Derek Reeves
Derek Devine	Janet Guy-Klickman	Daniel Schwandt
Kevin Dombrowski	Kevin Kosnik	Alexandra Tsilibes
Luke Fitzpatrick	Brian Kuhns	Pablo Vasquez
Michael Galbraith	Anne Lewellen	Debra Welter
Shannon Hardiek	Johanna Bourkova-Morunov	Kristin Westover
Dan Heulton	Akira Murotani	

**Altar Flowers in the Nave:** The flowers on the altar are to the glory of God. In loving memory of husband Dennis and parents Jack Emley and Don and Virginia Bohnke and grandmother Hannah Karsten by Donna Emley. In loving memory of Charlotte and Louis Andrews by their daughter Karen Gilliatt. In loving memory of Evelyn and Richard Salisbury by Diana Salisbury and Judith (Salisbury) Buelow. In memory of parents, Max G. and Virginia Irmscher and Glen and Edna Archbold by Mox and Lisa Irmscher.

**In Our Prayers:** Sharon Gerig, Jenny Hobby and Family, Shari, Connie, Becky, Brooks, Kathy, Bruce, Chris Bickel, Carol Scherer, Sasha.

### Orchestrations:

The setting of "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" is a composite by Jeremy Bankson, John Hotchkis, and David Willcocks.

The first setting of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" is by Richard Webster.

The second setting of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" is by David Willcocks.

The settings of "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," "Away in a Manger," "Jesus, What a Wonderful Child," and adaptation of the Franz Gruber arrangement of "Silent Night" are by Robert Hobby.

The adaptation of Psalm 96 and orchestration of the Sanctus are by Daniel Schwandt.

The setting of "Joy to the World" is by John Rutter.

## NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 26th- NO 7pm service

Sunday, December 29th-First Sunday of Christmas -10:30 AM

For more information about the ministry of Trinity English Lutheran Church,  
please visit [www.TrinityEnglish.org](http://www.TrinityEnglish.org)

### YOUR PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

The Rev. Dr. Gary M. Erdos, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Lee A. Zandstra, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Jeremy G. Russell, Visitation Pastor

Mary E. Lasits, Deacon

+ + +

Robert A. Hobby, Director of Music

Daniel E. Schwandt, Associate Director of Music

Emily K. Bird, Director of Children's Music

Rebecca L. Karcher, Director of Communication

Anya E. Boyden, Communications Assistant/Social Media Manager

Brian W. Eastman, Director of Facilities

Amy E. Henderson-Hill, Director of Family Ministries

Meghan M. Dohring, Coordinator of Children's Ministry

Julie E. Shepperd, Accountant

Laura M. Hoffman, Receptionist

Rachel K. McAninch, Administrative Assistant

Karen L. Moore, Accounting Assistant

The Rev. Dr. Frederick E. Hasecke, Senior Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Kathleen W. Haller, Associate Pastor Emeritus

+ + +

Karen L. Anderson—Chile

ELCA Missionary Partner Supported by Trinity English