

Christmas Eve 7:00 pm December 24, 2017





Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church! Please sign the red Worship Witness booklet to record your attendance with us this day, and indicate how many are communing. Then pass the booklet to the worshipers beside you in your row. If you are a guest, name tags are available for you to wear---we would be delighted to greet you by name. Hearing assistance devices are available at the Gathering Space desk.

about tonight's service

On a long winter evening we gather to proclaim the coming of the light. Isaiah announces that the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Paul reminds us that the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. In the familiar account of Christ's birth, the evening sky is bright with the heavenly host singing, "Glory to God in the highest." Amid our broken world we proclaim that the prince of peace is born among us. God comes to us in human flesh—in Christ's body and blood—so that we may be bearers of divine light to all the world.

P: Pastor L: Lector C: Congregation

+ Gathering +

We gather together to praise God and receive His love.

"Away in a Manger" Verse 1

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head. The stars in the heavens looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

Verse 2

The cattle were lowing, the poor baby wakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; Look down from the sky, And stay by my bedside 'til morning is nigh.

Verse 3

Be near me Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay Close by me forever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care And lead us to heaven to live with thee there.

Verse 4

(on "oooooh")
W.J. Kirkpatrick Arr. By Lowell M. Durham © 1962 by Deseret Music Publishers

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Verse 1

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king; Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Verse 2

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Verse 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!" Text: Charles Wesley. Music: Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

"What a Glorious Night"

Verse 1

The shepherds came to see the Baby,

Stood by His mother's side.

Here laid the Savior inside a manger.

Oh, what a glorious night!

Oh, what a glorious night!

Chorus

I hear the angels singin',

"Halleluiah! Let the earth receive her King."

I know that Love has come; sing it out:

Jesus Christ is born! Jesus Christ is born! Yeah, yeah.

Verse 2

The shepherds wondered; They couldn't hide it,

Told ev'ry one in sight.

All were amazed when they heard how God came

Down on the glorious night.

God came down on this glorious night!

Chorus

Bridge

Glorious, glorious, what a glorious night!

Glorious, glorious, what a glorious night!

Chorus 2X

Ending

All is calm now, all is quiet;

A star shining in the sky.

Below, in Bethlehem, the King is sleeping.

Oh, what a glorious night!

Oh, what a glorious night!

By Ben McDonald, Casey Brown, David Frey & Jonathan Smith © 2013 Dayspring Music, LLC ccli# 1283514.

Proclamation of the Birth of Christ

Reed Bertram

(Stand)

Song: "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" Verse 1

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!

Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem.

Come and behold him, born the king of angels.

Chorus

Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come let us adore him. Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Verse 2

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal. Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!

Chorus

Verse 3

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest:

Chorus

Verse 4

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Chorus

Keaggy, Cheri- 1993 Sparrow Song (a div. of EMI Christian Music Publishing) CCLI License No. 1283514

Greeting

P: Christ the Lord makes his home with us. May the light and life of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. 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.

(Sit)

+ Word +

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of His people.

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and

righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. ³You 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. ⁴For 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. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For 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. ⁷His 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Story

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation: "Our Way, Our Truth, Our Life"



©Debbie Wilson & Nancy R. Easton

Gospel Luke 2:1-20

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. 5He went to be reaistered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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. 8In 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. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: "Ito you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And 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!" 15When the angels had left them and agne 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." 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When 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. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The 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.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Sit)

Sermon: "Homecoming"

Pastor Jack M. Horner

Song: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Verse 1

O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie,

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light.

The hopes and fears of all the years,

are met in thee tonight.

Verse 2

How silently how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n.

So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.

No ear may hear His coming but in this world of sin.

Where meek souls will receive Him still, The dear Christ enters in.

Verse 3

O holy child of Bethlehem descend to us we pray.

Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.

O come to us abide with us Our Lord Emmanuel.

Text: Phillips Brooks; Music: Lewis H. Redner

(Stand)

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, the 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 \pm resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Following each petition are the words: "Lord, in your mercy. . ."

Please respond with: "... hear our prayer."

+ Meal +

When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience His love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Optional methods of giving: text an amount to 717-963-2281 (be sure to use a "\$"); use the Giving Station in the Gathering Space to donate by credit card.

Special Music: "Christmas Lullaby"

Verse 1

Are you far away from home this dark and lonely night? Tell me what best would help to ease your mind: Someone to give direction for this unfamiliar road Or one who says, "Follow Me and I will lead you home"?

Verse 2

How beautiful, how precious the Savior of old, To love so completely the loneliest soul. How gently, how tenderly He says to one and all, "Child you can follow Me and I will lead you home."

Instrumental

Verse 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and take us to heaven, to live with Thee there.
Take us to heaven, to live with Thee there.
Words and music by Amy Grant & Chris Eaton, copyright 1999 Grant Girls Music LLC, CCLI 1283514

(Stand)

Offering Prayer

P: Generous God.

C: You invite us to live lives of gratitude and generosity. Unite and empower us to give our time, talents, and treasures for your mission and ministry. Make your home in us so we may serve you and your people. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: Christ is here.

C: The Spirit is with us.

P: With joy, we lift up our hearts.

C: And give thanks to the Lord of Life.

- P: On this holy night we give you thanks, Heavenly Father, for your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. His coming was foretold by the prophets, and his arrival was heralded by choirs of angels. Born of the Virgin Mary, he was your light come into the world. In him your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. By his life he proclaimed your mercy and love. By his death on the cross, he destroyed the power of sin and death. By his resurrection, he leads us into new life. Now, by the gift of this meal, fill us with the Holy Spirit, and strengthen us to live as children of the light.
- C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P: 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."

Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to Holy Communion

P: Joy to the world! The Lord is come.

C: Let every heart receive our Savior.

(Sit)

Sharing our Lord's Supper

All baptized Christians are welcome to celebrate the real presence of Jesus Christ in our Lord's Supper. Please come forward, receive the bread, dip it into the wine, and return by the side aisles. Communion may be received in bread only, if desired. Non-communing children and adults are invited to come forward for a blessing. As a gesture of hospitality we use dealcoholized wine (less than .5% alcohol). In addition, we offer gluten-free wafers—please ask the assistant at the time of communion.

(Stand)

Post-Communion Prayer

P: On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to bring us home and save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

+ Sending +

We have heard the Word of God, offered our gifts, and been fed at the table. Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.

Blessing

P: May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lighting of the Candles

The ushers will light the candles of worshipers on the aisles. Pass the light to the person next to you until every candle is lit. **TILT ONLY UNLIT CANDLES.** The candles will remain lit during "Silent Night." Please extinguish the candles following the Dismissal, and place them in the box by the door.

Song: "Silent Night"

Verse 1

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright.

Round you virgin mother and child.

Holy Infant so tender and mild

Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Verse 2

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!

Verse 3

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

Radiant beams from thy holy face,

with the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Tag: Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr; Music: Franz Gruber

Dismissal

P: Filled with hope at Christ's birth, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Jennifer A. Crist

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

Storyteller: Becky Enney

Lector: Kathy Mieczkowski

Greeters: Dave Reeser (head greeter), Pat Eby

Communion Assistants: Tom Hoffert, Pat Eby, Jake Miller, John Artevich, Dave and

Maria Hegedus, Kathy Mieczkowski

Ushers: Rupnik Family

Altar Care: Adrienne Brady
Sound Technician: Gary Rini

Video Presentation: Barb Henderson

Visual Announcements: Jane Killian

Faith X: Kevin Appleby, Kevin Brady, Pam Hess, Shannon Jones, Devin Miller, Mike

Schwalm, Tom Stank, Paul Walker, Debbie Wilson, Rick Wilson

Guest Musician: Jesse Northridge

Cover art: Trinity Staff



trinity | camp hill

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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gathering space receptionist hours: sunday-thursday, 6pm-9pm

worship notes

The flowers in the Nave and Fellowship Hall, the communion elements for all services, and the sanctuary lamp candle, the symbol of God's abiding presence, are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Lawrence K. Thompson, III, by Mrs. L. K. Thompson, III and family.

Poinsettia pick-up. Any person who has ordered a poinsettia(s) and has chosen to pick it up, please do so after the 10:00 a.m. service on Christmas Day. Please do not take the plastic saucers as they are saved for future use. Many thanks to all of you who contributed to the beauty of Christmas at Trinity.

Your many greetings and gifts received by Trinity Church's Staff are most appreciated. We bless you with peace and hope.

2017 Contributions to Trinity: All offerings must be received in the church office by Sunday, **December 31**, in order to be credited to your 2017 contribution statement.

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.



A message from the pastors and staff of Trinity Lutheran Church

We wish you a blessed Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. It's a wonderful time at Trinity, with hundreds and hundreds of people playing roles—large and small, seen or unseen. Thanks to each and every person who helped in any way. You are very much appreciated.

Something to think about. For some folks, this season of joy is tempered by hurt, loss, or sadness. Please reach out to those in need. Your greatest gift will be a visit, a listening ear, a prayer.

Thank you for being here. Come back often. There's always something going on; see below.

REGULAR WORSHIP TIMES IN 2018

Sunday Traditional 8:30 and 11 am, Contemporary 9 and 10:45 am • Saturday 5:30 pm
Thursday spoken service 6:30 pm • Friday prayer service 12 noon

- Everyone is welcome at Trinity. Wear what makes you comfortable—casual or dressy, it's your choice.
- Kids can come to any service. Or you can use our Sunday nursery for infants through age 5.
- Take advantage of our learning opportunities for children, nursery through high school.
- Teens and pre-teens love our active Youth Group.
- Musically inclined? Find opportunities for all ages: vocal and bell choirs, instrumentalists, praise band.
- Intellectual growth? Connect at Bible studies, discussion groups, classes, mission talks, more.
- Serve our neighbors at home and abroad? Prayer shawls, quilts, mission trips, prison ministry, much more.
- Serve at Trinity? Usher, greet, read, give communion, help in kitchen or office, visit homebound folks, more.
- Connect with others? Enjoy meals, concerts, plays, walk/run group, even motorcycling.



717-737-8635 • 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011 • www.trinitycamphill.org

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Staff

Lead Pastor – The Reverend Dr. Jack M. Horner
Ministry Director for Parish Life – The Reverend John H. Brock
Director of Congregation Care – The Reverend Dr. Guy S. Edmiston, Jr.

Interim Associate Pastor – The Reverend Jennifer A. Crist

Ministry Director for Music - H. Timothy Koch

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Sextons – Russell Brown, La'Mont Randolph

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Dave Reeser – Secretary Jay Killian Anne Stafford
Mike Finio Barbara Kriebel Charlie Suhr

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Hospitality Stewardship – Dave Maser
IT / AV – Jonathan Lobauah Worship – Jane Killian

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