

Dwelling Word



Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Day
10:00 am
December 25, 2018



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LUTHERAN CHURCH



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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 and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

about today's service

On this Christmas morning the people of God gather to celebrate the birth of the Word made flesh, Christ our Lord. Luke recounts the familiar story of shepherds and angels; John's gospel tells of the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth. The meaning of Christmas is made clear: the light shines in the darkness. It is in the liturgy that we encounter the Word made flesh—in the people of God gathered together as the body of Christ, and in the meal around the holy table. We go forth to be bearers of light as we proclaim this good news to all the ends of the earth.

P: Presiding Minister A: Assisting Minister L: Lector C: Congregation

✝ Gathering ✝

Prelude: "Come, Let Us Adore Him"

arr. Carolyn Hamlin

Welcome

[Stand]

Gathering Song No. 269: Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

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.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who shines in glory, clothes us in compassion, and bears gifts of mercy for all.*

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, wonderful counselor,

C: we confess that we have turned from your gifts and chosen our own way. We have not made room for you in our hearts or in our world. We have lived in fear; we have not welcomed the stranger; we desire gifts that will not endure. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown, and open us to receive the peace of Jesus dwelling in and among us. Amen.

P: God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior. We are saved, not by anything we have done, but by God's mercy poured out on us richly. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Through the Spirit living in you, God give you faith to trust Jesus, who is Love born for you, now and always.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise No. 275: Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

[Sit]

† Word †

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

A messenger races home to Jerusalem with the marvelous words: "Your God reigns!" In comforting the people, God proves to be the best brother or sister (redeemer) they have ever known. Everyone will witness the victory (salvation) of God.

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading:

Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]

This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Son through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Son, who is exalted even above the angels.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. [⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." ⁸But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." ¹⁰And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; ¹¹they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; ¹²like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

[Stand]

Gospel Verse: O Come, All Ye Faithful

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the king of angels;
Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

P: The holy gospel according to John, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading:

John 1:1-14

The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Verse:

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

[Sit]

[Stand]

Hymn of the Day No. 272: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS

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

Prayers of Intercession

Each portion of the prayer ends:

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your Mercy is great.

+ Meal +

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

[Sit]

Offering

Optional giving methods: Use the Give+ app on your mobile device • Use the Giving Station in the Gathering Space • Text an amount to 717-963-2281 (be sure to use a "\$") • Use the "DONATE" button on our website and e-blasts

Worship Witness (Please sign booklet and return to center aisle)

Solo: "Wexford Carol"

arr. John Rutter

Marianne Brock

[Stand]

Offertory: "What Child Is This"

GREENSLEEVES

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

**C: Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows
from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come
among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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

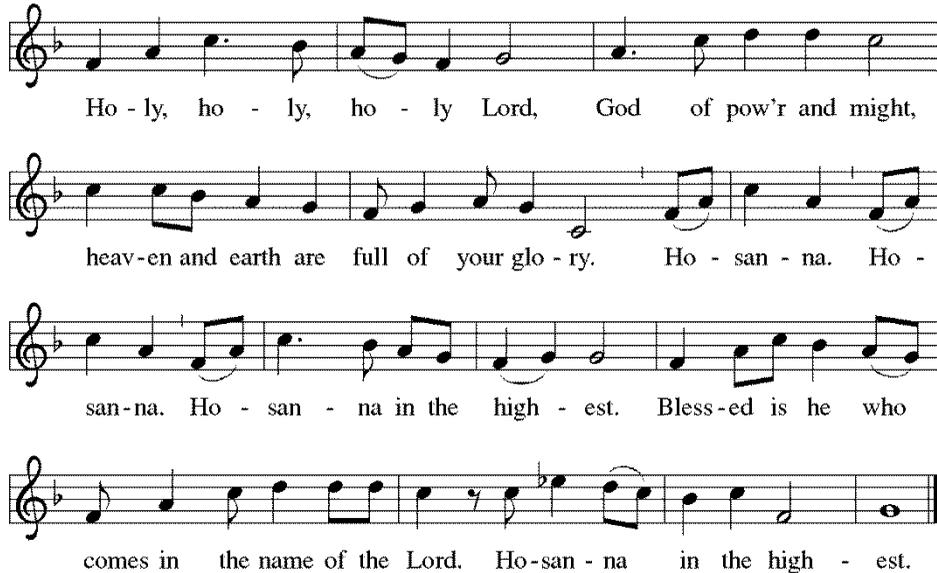
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

P: We give you thanks, Father ... through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both 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.

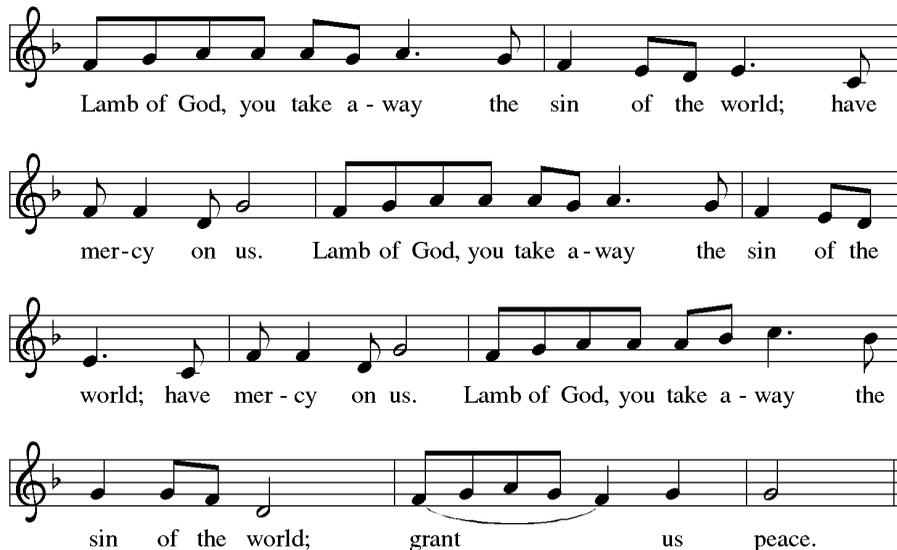
Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table where Christ meets you.

C: O come let us worship him.

(Sit)

Angus Dei [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.

Distribution of Holy Communion

We invite all baptized Christians to the Lord's Table to celebrate the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament. Communion is by intinction. You will receive a wafer. Dip it in the chalice of wine before consuming. You may then return to your seat or come to the altar rail for prayer. Children and adults who aren't communing may come forward to receive a blessing. As a gesture of hospitality, we use dealcoholized wine (less than .5% alcohol). In addition, we offer gluten-free wafers, available upon request – please ask at the time of communion.

Hymn No. 276: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Hymn No. 278: Away in a Manger

[Stand]

Prayer after Communion

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

A: God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.

C: Amen.

✝ Sending ✝

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and... ✝ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Carol No. 288: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

INDULCI JUBILO

Dismissal

P: Glory to God in the highest!

C: Peace to God's people on earth!

P: Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "I Saw Three Ships"

arr. Richard Elliot

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Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. John H. Brock

Preacher: The Rev. Elizabeth E. Frey

Assisting Minister: Nancy Martin

Communion Assistants: Richard and Fran Jacobs

Organist: Dan Dorty

Lector: Ron Katzman

Soundboard: Jeff Weaver

Altar care: Fran Jacobs

Greeter: Pat Eby



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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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monday-friday, 9am-4pm

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

Worship Notes

The flowers in the Nave, the communion elements, and the sanctuary lamp candle, the symbol of God's abiding presence, are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Roy M. Sheely, Jr. by his wife, Janet.

Poinsettia Pick-up. Any person who has ordered a poinsettia and has chosen to pick it up, please do so after the 10:00 a.m. service today (the building will be closed at 11:30 a.m.). 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 Trinity at Christmas.

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

2018 contributions of offerings or special gifts must be received in the office by Monday, December 31, in order to be credited to 2018 giving statements.

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 of people playing roles—large, small, seen, unseen. To each and every person, we say thank you.

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



Thanks for being here. Come back often. There's always something going on. See below.

Regular Worship Times in 2019

Sunday Traditional 8:30 and 11:00 am • Sunday Contemporary 8:30 and 11:00 am
Saturday 5:30 pm • Thursday spoken service 6:30 pm • Friday prayer service 12 noon
Healing service monthly, third Sunday, 12:30 pm

☆ **Everyone is welcome at Trinity.** Families, singles. All walks of life.

☆ **Kids can come to any service.** Or you can use our Sunday nursery for infants through age 5.

☆ **Take advantage of our Faith Connection opportunities** for infants through elders.

☆ Teens and pre-teens love our **active Youth Group.**

☆ **Musically inclined?** Find opportunities for everyone: vocal and bell choirs, instrumentalists, praise band.

☆ **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, all kinds of fellowship.



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