

Nativity of **Christmas Eve** Our Lord 2:00 pm December 24, 2023 trinity | camp hill LUTHERAN CHURCH

What's Happening

Welcome! We are so glad you're here. Merry Christmas!

Our 2024 theme is *The Time Is* Now. You'll be hearing that often and learning just exactly what it's time to do, and why.

Come back often. Stay connected. Sermon themes:

- Dec. 30-31. "Welcome to the New You"
- Jan. 6-7. "It's time"
- Jan. 13-14. "It's time to share"
- Jan. 20-21. "It's time to give"
- Jan. 27-28. "It's time to rebuke"
- Feb. 3-4. "It's time to gather"
- Feb. 10-11. "It's time to listen"

Speaking of what it's time to do now...

Look around you. Be thoughtful. Is someone hiding sadness or depression behind a smile? Are you? Pray for all. God loves you. So do we. You are not alone.

ESL: A new ministry. The time to help is now.

Come 10 am Sun., Jan. 14, to Rm. 123 to learn how you can impact the lives of refugees locally. No experience needed.

Thinking about becoming a Trinity member? We'd LOVE to have you!

- Sun., Jan. 21, 10 am. Meet up with others to learn more about us.
- Sun., Feb. 4, noon. Dig deeper! Lunch and childcare provided.
- Weekend of Feb. 18-19. New members welcomed at service of your choice.
- Questions? Ask Pastor Liz Frey at <u>elizabeth.frey@trinitycamphill.org</u>.

Grateful! That's what we are. Thank you, thank you.

Your offerings support all that we do every day, and they are truly needed. Please give as you are able. Use the code or go to

TrinityCampHill.org/donate. You can also make a special Christmas offering online or in person in addition to your general/regular offering.





Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church! We're so glad you're here. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

We would like to know you were here worshiping with us. Using a QR reader or camera on your mobile device, please scan this QR code to check you and your family into today's worship service. Or go to the following link: trinitycamphill.org/checkin

about today's service

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

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

+ Gathering +

We gather together to praise God and receive God's love.

Prelude: "Christmas Eve/Sarajevo" "Ding! Dong! Merrily on High" "Angels We Have Heard on High" Adult Bells

Welcome

Proclamation of the Birth of Christ

[Please Stand as you are able]

Gathering Song No. 270: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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.

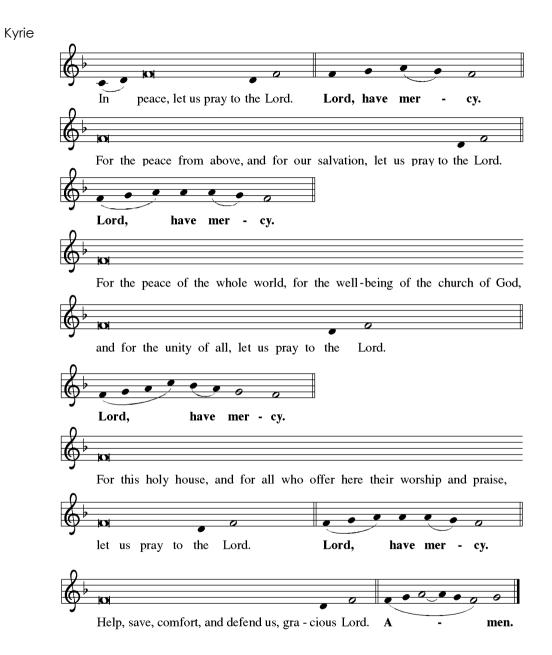
Pastor Jack Horner

Paul O'Neill

Sandra Fithun

Valerie Stephenson

MENDELSSOHN



Hymn of Praise: Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA



Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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.

[Please be seated]

+ Word +

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

Children's Message

Pastor Liz Frey

Solo: "Rejoice and Be Merry/Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella" arr. Robert Powell Sara Lobaugh, flute; Kim Hannigan, clarinet; Alison Koch cello

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.

[Please Stand as you are able]

Gospel Procession

Please turn to face the procession as it moves to the midst of God's people and join in singing:

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come, and adore Him, born the King of angels, O come, let us adore Him...Christ the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

- P: The holy gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading

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. While 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 manaer, 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. ⁹Then 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: ¹¹to 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 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." 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; ¹⁸and 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: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sing as the procession returns to the front.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest. O come, let us adore Him....Christ the Lord.

[Please be seated]

Sermon: "A Night to Remember"

[Please Stand as you are able]

Hymn of the Day No. 274: On Christmas Night

SUSSEX CAROL

Pastor Jack M. Horner

Nicene Creed

A: Let us profess our common faith in the words of the 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 the Church Each portion of the prayer ends:

- A: Hear us, O God,
- C: Your mercy is great.

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Prayer Response

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.

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; oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

+ 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 drink the 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

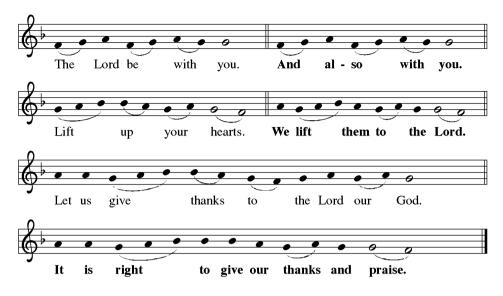
Optional giving methods: Use the 'Vanco Mobile' app on your device • Text an amount to 717-963- 2281 (be sure to use a "\$") • Use the "DONATE" button on our website and e-blasts or scan the QR to the right • Mail into the church office • Your offerings may also be placed in the white offering boxes at the entrance to the worship space as you exit.

Offering Prayer

- A: Let us pray. God of abundance,
- C: receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.



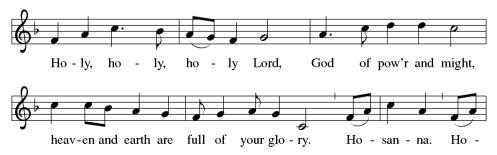
Great Thanksgiving

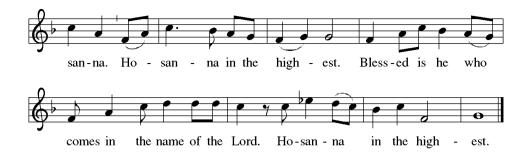


Proper Preface

P: Almighty God, you shape your very life to create and restore us forever. We gather around your altar like those who came to your Son's manger, the place where our humanity and your divinity meet. You had too much love to keep it to yourself; and though we took up arms against you and one another, you disarmed us in coming into our midst as a defenseless baby. As his arms were tied in swaddling clothes, so later his hands were nailed to the cross. Yet you made his birth the foretaste of our redemption and his death the gateway to the resurrection life. You give us such joy and peace in your company that our hearts join the angels in the Christmas sky and around your eternal throne, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Sanctus [Holy, Holy, Holy]





Eucharistic Prayer

P: God of new birth, as you laid your Son in Mary's arms, you place these gifts of bread and wine in our hands. Sanctify your church to be as fragile and tender and true as the infant Savior. Send down your Holy Spirit, that this bread and wheat gathered from the fields and this cup of grapes gathered from the vineyards may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ:

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.

P: Great is the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

- P: God who exalts the humble and humbles the exalted, as you drew the magi to the place of your epiphany, call us to yourself, and bring your creation to its consummation. Lift your whole church, living and departed, to the vision of your glory, once made flesh in a humble family, now exalted and reigning with justice and mercy. In this banquet restore us in your image, surround us with your company, and prepare us for your freedom, after the pattern of your Son, through whom and with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, 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: Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.
- C: Thanks be to God.

[Please be seated]



Agnus Dei [Lamb of God]

Sharing our Lord's Supper

All Christians are welcome to celebrate the real presence of Jesus Christ in our Lord's Supper. You will remain at your seat and at the direction of the pastor, you will be invited to commune, at which time, you will open the individually wrapped, prepackaged communion elements you received when you arrived. The bread is in the bottom and wine in the top. If you did not receive communion elements when you arrived, please see an usher.

The presiding minister will now invite you to commune at your seat.

Open the bread:

P: The Body of Christ given for you.

Open the wine:

P: The Blood of Christ shed for you.

[Please Stand as you are able]

Prayer after Communion

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

- A: Let us pray. God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- 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.

Carol: Silent Night, Holy Night!

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

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!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

+ 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: God bless you and keep you, + Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Extinguish Candles Please place your candle holder in the boxes at the doors.

Dismissal

P: Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella"

Keith Chapman

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Worship Leaders Presiding Minister: The Rev. Elizabeth E. Frey Assisting Minister: Nancy Martin Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner Musician: H. Timothy Koch Lector: Barbara Park Acolytes: Jackson Seivard, Ryan Andrews Tech Crew Team: Jon Lobaugh (Tech Lead), Danelle Andrews, Emily Andrews, Royce Hoffman Greeters: Earl & Joann Henry, Pat Eby Ushers: Tim, Teresa and Peter Sheaffer, Mickael Kelly, Bob Foster (head usher) Altar care: Altar Care Team Bulletin Cover: Trinity Staff

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.

Worship Notes

Videos of last week's sermons are available on our website (<u>www.trinitycamphill.org</u>). If you would like a printed copy, please call the church office and we can mail one to you.

The flowers in the Nave and Fellowship Hall are presented to the glory of God.

The sanctuary lamp candle that burns day and night as a symbol of God's abiding presence is presented to the glory of God.

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

2023 contributions of offerings or special gifts must be received in the office by Friday morning, December 29, or received in the church offering boxes by Sunday, Dec 31, in order to be credited to your 2023 giving statements. The church office will be closed on Monday, December 25 and Monday, January 1 for Staff observance of the Christmas and New Year's Eve Holiday. In the addition the office will have reduced holiday hours (9am till 2pm) from Tuesday Dec. 26 through Friday, Dec 29.



Join us tomorrow! + + + Christmas Day

+ + +

Sermon Theme: "Meeting God at Christmas" Preacher: Pastor Liz Frey



Sat., Dec. 30, 5 pm | Sun., Dec. 9 & 11 am

Join us next weekend! + + + First Sunday of Christmas

+ + +

Sermon theme: "Welcome to the New You" Preaching: Pastor Jack Horner We wish you a blessed Christmas. It's a wonderful time at Trinity, with hundreds of people, seen and unseen, handling all details large and small. Thank you to every person who has played a role.

Something else: Not everyone feels joy during this season. Some folks are grieving, or ill, or hurt, or lost. Reach out to those in need: a visit, a listening ear. But remember too that some folks hide their suffering; maybe it's the person next to you, quiet but smiling. So be thoughtful, sensitive, and kind. And pray for all.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTORS AND STAFF

Regular Worship Times in 2024

Sunday In-person & Streaming 9:00 am • Sunday Traditional & Contemporary 11:00 am Saturday 5:00 pm • Friday prayer service 12 noon

> 10 am • Faith Connect hour Classes for all ages

- Everyone is welcome at Trinity. Families, singles. All walks of life.
- Children are welcome at any service. Or you can use our family lounge/library. The lounge is not staffed, so a parent or adult caregiver must remain with the child/children
- 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.

717-737-8635 • 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011 • <u>www.trinitycamphill.org</u> United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.

