

# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

*"A family where Christ is Head and the entire congregation are ministers."*

**Rev. Jonathan Meraz ~ *Pastor***  
**Carroll Smith ~ *Director of Music***



If you have a smart phone or tablet computer you can scan this code and the complete Order of Worship will appear on your screen.

**WiFi Password** – HelloFriend

*Good Evening and a Special Welcome* to all who are worshipping with us today. Trinity is a liturgical Lutheran church using the Divine Service as written in the Lutheran Service Book. Today's Divine Service is printed for you in this bulletin. Today's service is being live streamed to YouTube and will be available later in the day on Trinity's Facebook page and Website. The receiving of communion will not be recorded to preserve the sanctity of the sacrament. During this time, the recording will be directed to the stained-glass window above the altar so communion hymns can still be shared. By entering the service, you consent to the video recording to be used for live streaming, inclusion on our web site and Facebook, and/or any other purpose by Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. We hope that your experience here is meaningful and will be lasting.

**ALL LOOSE COINS** placed in the offering plate directly assist our future pastors with their education through Concordia Seminary's "*COINS FOR CHRIST*" program.



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*Please do not light your candle until the  
"Candlelight Portion of the Service"*

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**HOLY COMMUNION** – In the Sacrament of Holy Communion our Lord Jesus comes to us with **His very body and blood** to eat and to drink **for the forgiveness of sins** and **to strengthen our union with Him and with one another**. He invites to His table those who trust His words, **repent of all their sin** and forgive and love one another as He forgives and loves us.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because **Holy Communion is a confession of the faith** which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the LCMS, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to **speak with the Pastor before communing**.

*For further study, see Matt. 5:23ff, 10:32ff, 18:15-35, 26:26-29; Acts 2:38, 42; 1 Cor. 10:16, 11:17-34*

Other Christians and children who have not completed instruction may come forward, cross their arms over their chest and receive a blessing. For those who prefer it for any reason, the cups in **the center of the tray contain a grape juice option**. Please let the pastor know if you need a **Gluten Free wafer**.

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### Today's Worship Participants

Pastor  
Director of Music and Organist  
Acolyte  
Communion Assistant  
Soloist

*Rev. Jonathan Meraz  
Carroll Smith  
Jason Loper  
Bill Sontag  
Lynn Hubert*

*While Trinity still encourages members to wear masks inside the church (as 'recommended' by the CDC), Trinity will no longer require wearing masks. However, we do recommend those not comfortable without their masks to continue wearing them. We will still have masks available if someone wants one. Of note, Pastor and the Communion Assistant will wear their masks during Communion.*

# Symbols of Salvation - The Living Nativity

**Christmas Eve**

**December 24, 2021**

## As We Gather

*Worship is at the heart of Christmas as God's people join with the angelic host and celebrate that what was promised by God for centuries has been realized in the birth of the babe of Bethlehem. What the prophets had longed and hoped for has become a marvelous reality! The "Christmas story" is more than a story—it is real, true, living history! Today, we rejoice with those who saw Jesus' coming even before His birth and join with those who surround us here and now in bringing praise to Christ, the babe of Bethlehem, who, by His life, death, and resurrection, has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.*

## Organ Prelude

Prelude on *Greensleeves*

Richard Purvis

## Welcome and Announcements

**Call to Worship** *Stand and face the Processional Cross (rear of the Church)*

# PREPARATION

## Processional Hymn

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

LSB 359



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath  
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in  
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the  
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have  
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er  
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -  
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the  
kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to  
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and  
know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.  
us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.  
death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.  
**C** Gracious God, our heavenly Father, we Your people confess our sins with contrite hearts. We are by nature sinful and separated from You. We live sin-filled lives, transgressing Your Law in thought, word, and deed. We repent of our sins and beseech Your great forgiveness. By the power of the Holy Spirit within us, direct us so that we may amend our sinful lives and joyfully walk in ways of love and peace to Your glory.
- P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Hymn

### *Angels We Have Heard on High*

LSB 368



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



*Refrain*  
Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.

## Collect of the Day

- P** Let us pray...  
**C** Lord Jesus, we rejoice at Your birth, which brings us reconciliation with God and fulfills the promises of God's good will towards His fallen creation. We welcome You, Jesus, as the Savior of the world and the Lord of our hearts, for You live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

## Christmas Litany

*Psalm 118:27a; 2:7; 111:9; 132:11b*

- P** Alleluia. A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, all you nations, and worship the Lord. Alleluia.  
**C** The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us.
- P** The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."  
**C** He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.
- P** One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne.  
**C** Christ the Lord, our Savior, everlasting God and Mary's Son, we praise You evermore.

## Introit

*Psalm 93:1-2, 5; antiphon: Isaiah 9:2*

- C** 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.
- P** The LORD reigns; He is robed in majesty;  
the LORD is robed; He has put on strength as His belt.  
Yes, the world is established;  
it shall never be moved.  
Your throne is established from of old;  
You are from everlasting.  
Your decrees are very trustworthy;  
holiness befits Your house, O LORD, forevermore.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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.



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 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*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text and tune: Public domain

*Sit*

## WORD

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 9:2-7*

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the ninth chapter... <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>You have multiplied the nation; You have increased its joy; they rejoice before You as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad 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, You have 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 shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall 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, on 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 forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



Hymn

*Joy to the World*

LSB 387, stz. 1, 4



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

**Epistle Reading**

*Titus 2:11-14*

**P** The Epistle is from Titus, the second chapter.

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for 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 lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand (as you are able)

## Hymn

### *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

LSB 380, stz. 1-2



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,



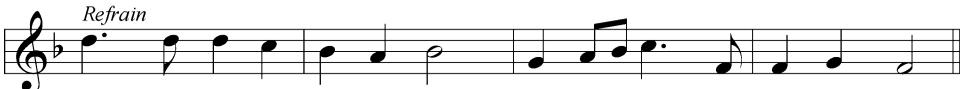
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!



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

Tune and text: Public domain

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:1-20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**P** <sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town 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 registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <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 the same 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, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto 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 baby 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 those 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 baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that 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 treasured up 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** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.



Sit

## Sermon Hymn

## *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

LSB 374



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;  
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;  
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.  
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.  
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?  
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;  
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.  
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.  
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Tune and text: Public domain

## Sermon



*Stand (as you are able)*

## **Nicene Creed**

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\text{†}$  of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

**P** As we rejoice in Your blessings, Lord, we bring You our prayers this day. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people and thank You for the grace shown to all people through the birth of Your Son. Grant Your Holy Spirit to bless us with peace in this holy season. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for the world in which we live and for all people everywhere. Enable us to be witnesses to the Good News of salvation, echoing the great tidings shared by the heavenly host. Cause the truth of the Gospel to be known in every part of the earth. Bless the labors of missionaries and local pastors and church workers in every place as we join in worship and praise with them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** On this blessed day, we pray for our towns and cities and for rural areas, asking that the Prince of Peace be welcomed everywhere among us. Grant Your Holy Spirit to direct us, that the light of Christ in the manger shine brightly among us and through us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for those with special needs at this time, including the sick and shut-in, those who grieve, those who feel alone in this season, and all others who are in need of our petitions. According to Your tender mercy, Lord, attend to those who call to You, and be their source of hope and comfort. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord of time and eternity, we thank You for the faithful witness of those who are no longer among us on earth and who now rejoice in Your eternal glory. Grant that we find inspiration and strength in the witness of those who have preceded us by faith into eternity, and by Your Spirit, guide us to serve You constantly all our earthly days. Lord in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**Offering** *Please take this time to sign in the Welcome Book at the end of your pew.*

(Loose coins directly support LCMS families studying for the ministry through Coins for Christ.)

**Offering Voluntary**

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

setting by Wilbur Held

**Offertory Hymn**

*What Child Is This*

LSB 370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Tune and text: Public domain

# SACRAMENT

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## Proper Preface

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose birth into this world has brought salvation to people everywhere and the promise of renewal to the whole creation. Rejoicing together with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



**C** 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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

### Lord's Prayer

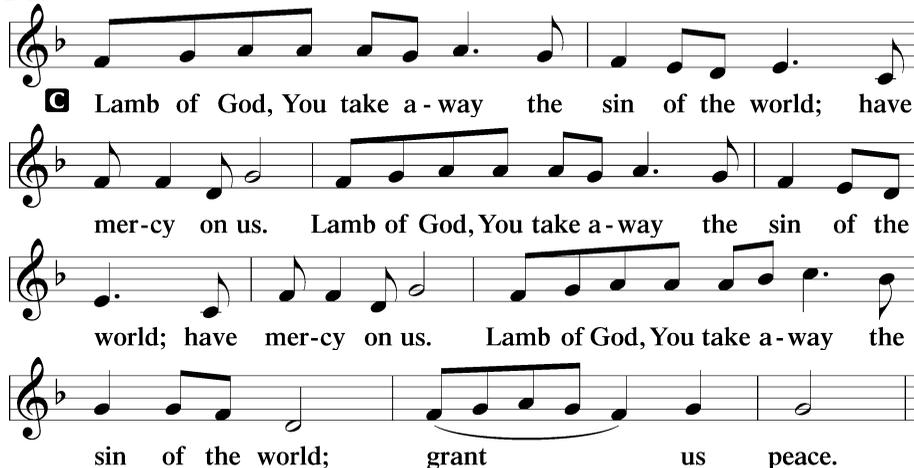
**C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### The Peace of the Lord

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

**C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei



**C** 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 Hymn

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

LSB 361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
 While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.  
 Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
 And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!  
 Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text and tune: Public domain





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 All you, be-neath your heav-y load, By care and guilt bent low,  
 4 For lo, the days have come to pass 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.  
 Who toil a-long a drea-ry way With pain-ful steps and slow:  
 When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was 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,  
 Look up, for gold-en is the hour, Come swift-ly on the wing,  
 His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-lemn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.  
 And ev-er o'er its ba-bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.  
 The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing.  
 And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

Text and tune: Public domain



*Stand (as you are able)*

## Post Communion Canticle



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## Post Communion Thanksgiving

**P** Let us pray... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have given us grace at this time to celebrate the birth of our Savior. We bless You for all Your mercies, which are renewed each and every day in Christ. As we have now feasted in Your presence and at Your bidding once again, help us to show forth Your praise in joyful obedience to Your loving will; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Christmas Litany

*John 1:14a; Luke 19:38a; Isaiah 9:6a; Luke 2:14*

**P** The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

**C** Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

**P** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.

**C** Alleluia. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased. Alleluia!

# SERVICE OF CANDLELIGHT

Solo

*Away in a Manger*

XXXXX

## The Candle Lighting

*As the soloist sings, turn the bulb in your candle to light it. After all candles are lit and the solo is finished, the following carol is sung.*

## Candlelight Hymn

*Silent Night*

LSB 363



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,



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 Thy ho - ly face



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 Thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Tune and text: Public domain

## Quiet Reflection

### Prayer

**P** Let us pray... O God, our heavenly Father, give us grace to keep this festival of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, with pure faith and holy love, that while we join our voices with the voices of those who sang, "Glory to God in the highest," we also join our voices with those of the shepherds and all others who spread abroad the Gospel of Your peace and good will toward all people; through Jesus Christ, the babe of Bethlehem and our loving Savior.

**C** Amen.

## Benedicamus

- P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction

- 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 Hymn

### *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

LSB 388

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.  
Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Tune and text: Public domain

At this time, please turn your candle off by turning the bulb until the light is out. Please place your candle in the basket by the exit door as you leave the building.

## Postlude

### *On This Day Earth Shall Ring*

setting by J. Wayne Kerr

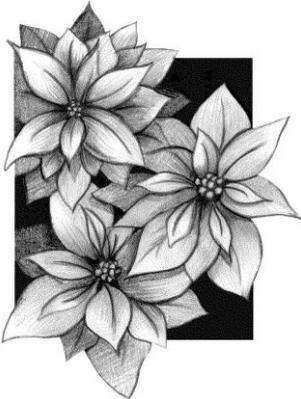
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The poinsettias gracing our church today are given ~

**In Loving Memory of**

Family  
My husband, John and mother, Margaret  
Lennie and Shirley Whitson  
Nattie, Rudolph and Harry Broegler  
Courtney Pendry  
My husband, Bill  
My daughter, Sabrina  
June Knickelbein  
My wife, Catherine  
Our Parents  
Mom, Esther Sontag  
Our Parents  
Al and Kay Sulak and other family members  
Courtney Pendry

by Richard and Flo Ball  
by Jean Boyette  
by the Brooks, Sawyer and Mathews Families  
by the Brooks Family  
by the Brooks Family  
by Charlotte Gunther  
by Errol Jennings  
by John and Jan Knickelbein  
by Robert Kuethe  
by Craig and Mary Lou Scott  
by Edward Sontag  
by Walter and Tresea Staley  
by Doug Sulak  
by Doug Sulak



**In Memory of Loved Ones**

by Peggy Bashara  
by Jacque Czypinski  
by Bud and Lynn Hubert

**To the Glory of God**

by Ralph and Cathy George  
by Ken and Sharyn Leiding  
by Boyd Sylvester

**In Honor of**

The Baroody and Vernick Families  
by Ted and Elizabeth Baroody

Welcome to  
**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
6001 Granby Street, Norfolk, VA 23505  
757-489-2551

**TRINITY'S MINISTRY TEAM** prays that the peace and joy of Christ will be yours always.  
Have a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

*-Pastor Meraz, Carroll Smith, Anne Combes, Lynn Hubert and Bill Sontag*



*God is with us. Jesus came at Christmas to save you. But not just at Christmas. He comes to save you now.*

*Believers in Jesus gather together at church every week, and there Jesus meets them. He speaks to them through His Word in the Bible. He brings the forgiveness of sins to those who trust in Him. He is there with comfort and peace for His people. Every week.*

*As we gather together in church under His name, we know that Christ is with us, just as He has promised to be. This is our joy, the joy of all the earth.*

*Join us on Sundays as we gather together to praise this Christ, who will come to us as truly as He came to earth on that first Christmas.*

We invite you to join us in Worship at 10:00 AM Sunday mornings.