

Peace Came to Earth



OUR PEACE RESTS ON HIM ALONE

During one of the busiest and most stressful times of the year, we pause this third week of Advent and consider the source of real and abiding peace. This harmony with both God and others comes to us neither through our exertions of control nor through our best-laid plans, but through the reign of our Mighty God come near to us in Jesus, His one and only Son. The fulfillment of our everlasting Father's perfectly executed plan to save the world is revealed to us in the straw of the Bethlehem manger and then, some thirty-three years later, in the wood and nails of Calvary's cross. Amid the disorder of our chaotic lives, our Prince of Peace gives us what the world can never give. Let us center our hearts and minds on our Wonderful Counselor, who freely gives His everything so that our peace may rest on Him alone.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Dr. Matthew Prince ~ *Vacancy Pastor*
Carroll Smith ~ *Director of Music*

A Special Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this evening. 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. 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.



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

In this Solemn Season of Advent you are encouraged to
talk to God before the Service, let God talk to you in the Service,
*then talk to one another **after** the Service.*

Prelude

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (setting 3)

Lee Dengler

Welcome and Announcements

Moment of Preparation and Lighting of Advent Candles

Stand

Opening Hymn

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

LSB 352



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
 2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
 3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
 4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head
 That, set free from doubt and dread,
 I may cling to You in faith,
 Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again
 As the glorious king to reign,
 I with joy will see Your face,
 Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text and tune: Public domain

Opening Sentences

Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 4:7

- P** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
C **and the government shall be upon His shoulder,**
P and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
C **Mighty God,**
P Everlasting Father,
C **Prince of Peace.**
- P** The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** **Amen.**

Psalm

Psalm 126

- P** When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
C **we were like those who dream.**
P Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
C **and our tongue with shouts of joy;**
P then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”
C **The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.**
P Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb!
C **Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!**
P He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
C **shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.**

Salutation

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

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.
- C** **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by the light of Your Holy Word, we may be drawn to Jesus, who steps into the chaos of our world, that we may know the peace that rests on Him alone. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Prince of Peace, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn

Peace Came to Earth



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho-sen night
 2 And who could be the same for hav-ing held
 3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,
 4 How else could I have known You, O my God!



When an - gels clove the sky with song and light
 The in - fant in their arms, and lat - er felt
 In flesh and blood You bore our griefs and pain,
 How else could I have loved You, O my God!



And God em - bod - ied love and sheathed His might—
 The wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled—
 In bread and wine You vis - it us a - gain—
 How else could I em - brace You, O my God!



Who could but gasp: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but sigh: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but see: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but pray: Im - man - u - el!



Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

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FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1–7

P A reading from Isaiah, the ninth chapter.

¹But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time He brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.

⁷Of 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 O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 12:9–21

P A reading from Romans, the twelfth chapter.

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Psalms 85:8

P Alleluia. Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

C for He will speak peace to His people. Alleluia.

Stand

Third Reading

Matthew 10:34–39

P A reading from Matthew, the tenth chapter.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶And a person’s enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸And whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁹Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Readings Response

- P** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Hymn of the Day

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357 vs. 1, 6-7



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -

ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
vi - sions cease, And be Thy self our King of Peace.

Refrain

Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
Tune: French, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

Sermon

Offering and Offertory

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (setting 2)

Lee Dengler

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)

Magnificat

Luke 1:46–55

- P** Mary rejoiced that the Lord was coming to earth, stepping into the center of our troubled world to deliver to us the gifts of heaven—peace with the Father. Let us now use her song of praise to rejoice in our Advent Savior.
- C** **My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;**
- P** for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
- C** **For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.**
- P** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- C** **He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.**
- P** He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.
- C** **He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.**

**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.**

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior!

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.**

Collect for Peace

- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,
- C** **give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give,**
- P** that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies,
- C** **may live in peace and quietness;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Benediction

Isaiah 9:6b

P His name shall be called

C **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P Go forth then, children of God, living securely in Him and in harmony with one another, rejoicing in His presence and knowing His perfect peace. The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—be with you and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**

Hymn

Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333

1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -
dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,
Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -
save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006
Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534
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Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain

Postlude

Light One Candle for Joy

Natalie Sleeth

Please join us for our Advent/Christmas Worship Services and Activities –

<i>Fourth Sunday in Advent</i>	Sunday, December 24 th	10:00 am
<i>Christmas Eve Services</i>	Sunday, December 24 th Family Candlelight Worship Service	7:00 pm
<i>Christmas Day Service</i>	Monday, December 25 th Service of Lessons and Carols	10:00 am

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