

Trinity Lutheran Church Cortez, Colorado

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



**4 & 7 PM, December 24th, 2020
Christmas Eve Worship**

208 N. Dolores Road, Cortez, CO 81321
970-565-9346 | TrinityLCCortez@gmail.com
TrinityLutheranChurchCortez.com

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Luke Scheele, Pastor 303-332-8971

Helping Today: Bryan Baumgartner & Burt Ramsey (Elder), John Sperling (Organist), Bruce Schulz (Guitar), Hope Scheele (Flute)

Flowers Donated by: Vic & Gail Vanik, Burt & Debra Ramsey (Anniversary), Burt & Debra Ramsey (Jacquelyn's 30th Birthday), BJ Humbracht, Beth McCabe, Mary Lou & Lowell Volk (Anniversary), Luke & Hope Scheele (Anniversary), & Joyce Johnson

Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church, and to the blessings, comfort and peace of Christ.

Jesus, the Firstfruit of Jesse's Tree

AS WE GATHER:

"In Him was life" (John 1:4). If you have ever had the opportunity to witness the birth of a child, it's difficult to not be in awe of a new life entering the world. A newborn baby is full of life! Yet the Christ Child born that first Christmas is full of life in an even greater way. This child, the Word made flesh, is born, lives, dies, and rises to give life to the world. "In Him was life." In Jesus is life for Mary, life for Joseph, life for the shepherds, life for those in Bethlehem, life for the Jews, life for the Gentiles, life for all, life for you. This Christmas, when you see the babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger, rejoice that "in Him was life"!

TO OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS:

Within this church let no one feel a stranger. We ask you to sign our guest register, located in the entrance hallway. If you get the chance, before or after the worship service, Pastor Scheele would love to talk with you to find out how he might serve you. Whether you are looking for a new church home, or are passing through Cortez from time to time, we invite you to join Trinity Lutheran in worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ as often as you can. New member classes are open to all and cover the basics of the Christian faith. Please get in touch with Pastor Scheele for the next available class.

TITHES AND OFFERING:

The offering plates are in the Narthex to allow you to put your offering in the plate as you enter or exit the building without having to "pass the plate" across social distancing guides. If you are worshipping from home, please mail your check or work with, Carol Sperling, to setup electronic transfers.

Jesse Tree Worship Series: Jesus, the Firstfruit of Jesse's Tree

Opening Hymn: 368 Angels We Have Heard on High

Video by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians

- | | | | |
|---|--|-----|--|
| 1 | Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
Refrain | ref | Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. |
|---|--|-----|--|

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Refrain

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain

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PREPARATION

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

John 1:14

P And the Word became flesh

C and dwelt among us,

P and we have seen His glory,

C glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath & the Christ Candle:

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

John 1:9–13

- P** The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.

As we gather together this Christmas, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

- P** But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Because of the Savior who is the Word made flesh and dwelt among us, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, 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.**

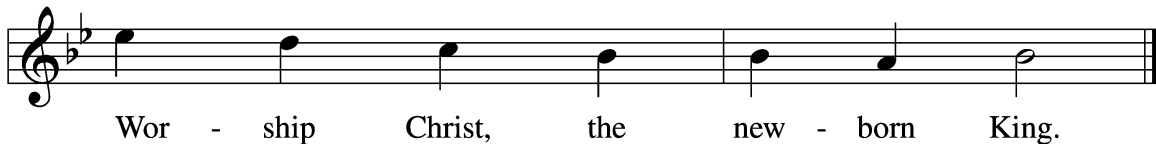
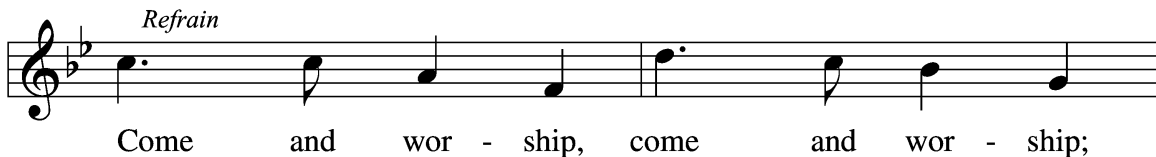
WORD

Hymns of Praise:

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

sts. 1, 2

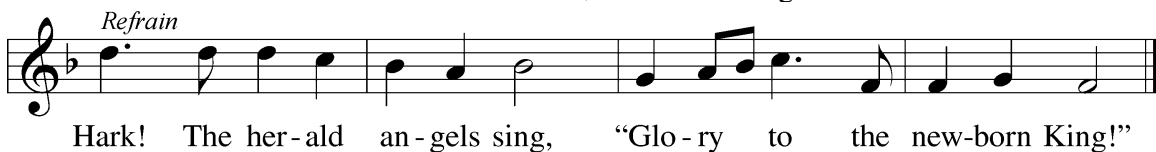
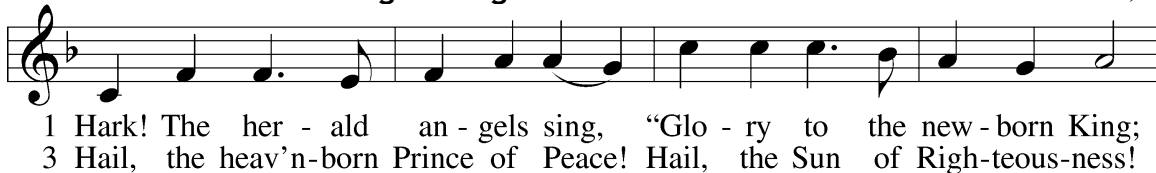
1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,



Text and tune: Public domain

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

sts. 1, 3



Tune and text: Public domain

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

st. 5

△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.
Refrain
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text and tune: Public domain

Introit

Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

- [P]** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
- [C]** **and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**
- [P]** Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!
His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.
- [C]** **The Lord has made known His salvation;
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**
- [P]** Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- [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.**
- [P]** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon His shoulder,

C and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Hymn: 373 See amid the Winter's Snow

Congregation sts. 1, 2, & 4; Choir Trio st. 3



1 See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,
2 Lo, with - in a sta - ble lies He who built the star - ry skies,
3 Sa - cred In - fant, all di - vine, What a ten - der love was Thine,
4 Teach, O teach us, ho - ly Child, By Thy face so meek and mild,



See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.
He who, throned in height sub - lime, Sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.
Thus to come from high - est bliss Down to such a world as this!
Teach us to re - sem - ble Thee In Thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty.



Hail, O ev - er - bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!



Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"

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Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Father in heaven, You sent Your only-begotten Son as a descendent of Jesse as You fulfilled Your promise of a Messiah;

C **grant that we joyfully receive Him as our Savior, the Word made flesh who dwelt among us;**

P through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:2–7

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping
warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood

will be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶ 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.
⁷ 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

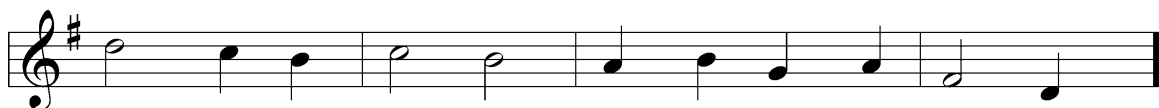
sts. 1, ref, 2, 4



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,
 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;
 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!
 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

Epistle

Hebrews 1:1-6

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,
²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making 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 to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

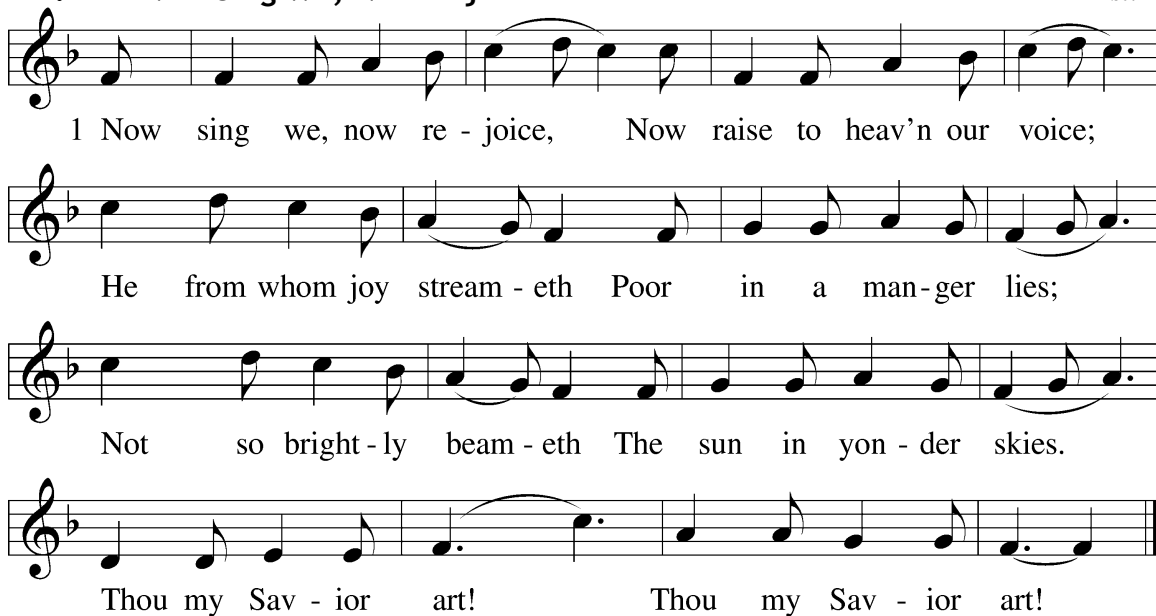
“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse: 386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

st. 1



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man - ger lies;
Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!

Text and tune: Public domain

Holy Gospel

John 1:1–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn: 383 A Great and Mighty Wonder

sts. 1, 2, 4

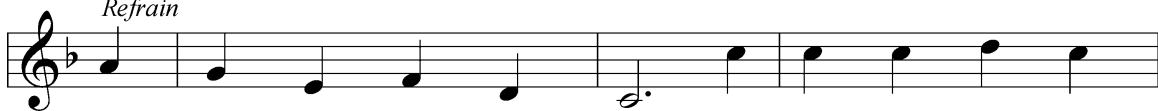


1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:
2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,
4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!
And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.
The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.

Refrain



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Offering & Offertory: 362 O Sing of Christ

sts. 1, 4



1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,
4 Lord Je - sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.
As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Up - on our frail hu - man-i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace
Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.
That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

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Prayer of the Church

John 1:1, 3–5, 12, 14

P We come before our Lord in prayer in the name of the Word, who became flesh and dwelt among us.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” We come before You, eternal Lord, rejoicing that You are the same yesterday, today, and forever with mercies new each morning. In the name of the Word, who became flesh

C and dwelt among us.

P “All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.” We give You thanks for this world You have created. Empower us to be faithful stewards of Your creation. Amid our struggles & suffering, help us to remember the birth of Jesus. Never have we needed your joy and peace more than now. In the name of the Word, who became flesh

C and dwelt among us.

P “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” We are grateful that You sent Your Son to shine in our lives darkened by sin, bringing forgiveness. Grant that we shine as lights in this dark world, always bearing witness to Christ. And through this celebration, use us to find the lost, heal those with broken spirits, feed the hungry, and spread hope to the hearts of all who see you. In the name of the Word, who became flesh

C and dwelt among us.

P “But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.” Have mercy on us as Your children. Bless with healing and restoration those who cry out to You for aid, [*especially . . . names*]. In the name of the Word, who became flesh

C and dwelt among us.

P “We have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” As we celebrate the birth of Your Son, we are thankful for Your glory that has been revealed in Him. We also give You thanks for the time when we can all be together again. Let your love be our guiding light to spread Your joy to the world. In the name of the Word, who became flesh

C and dwelt among us. Amen.

Hymn: 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

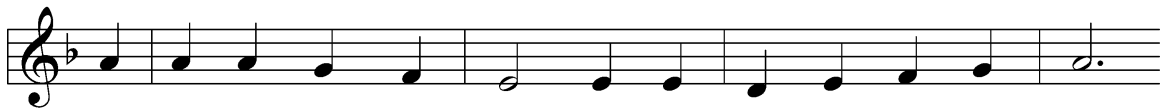
sts. 1, 3–4 (Organ & Flute)



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
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;
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.
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.
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

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.

Benedicamus

John 1:14

P And the Word became flesh
C and dwelt among us,

- P** and we have seen His glory,
C glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Lighting of the Candles

The pastor takes the light from the Christ candle and gives it to the ushers. They pass the light on to the congregation by holding their candle upright and allowing the first person in the pew to tip their unlit candle into the flame of the usher's candle. The remaining people in the pew will then pass the flame down the pew by tipping their unlit candle into the flame of the lit candles. DO NOT TIP YOUR CANDLE ONCE IT HAS BEEN LIT.

- P** As the light of these candles illumines our faces, it symbolizes the light of Christ, a child in the manger at Bethlehem, a Savior suffering our death on the cross and soon to come from His throne on high as Judge of all. He is our light here on earth and the eternal light who enlightens heaven, where there is no need of candle or sun. Rejoice, for the light of the world has come, who transforms us with the brightness of His glory.

Lights are dimmed.

Candlelight Hymn: 363 Silent Night, Holy Night

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

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After the song is done, please blow out your candles and allow the wax to cool before returning them to the usher's when you exit the church.

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.

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please keep the following in your prayers: **Lolita Aulston, Terri Blackwell** (daughter of Lowell & Mary Lou Volk), **Ed Bonds, Gary Brodhagen, Bill Brown** (Penny Steven's Brother-in-law), **Murray Dugger** (Connie Walter's brother-in-law), **Joyce Green, David Hedrington** (Jerry Henneman's Cousin), **Jerry Henneman, Trudy Hooyman, Renee Johnson, Mary Mahaffey, Michael & Priscilla Merritt, Tate Schaefer** (Hope Scheele's cousin's son), **Shirlie Schlotfelt, Bill Utrup** (friend of Kelly Keithly), **Bill Witthans, and Kolten Woodard** (Sharon Woodard's grandson).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please check your email and the church website regularly to find out about the most recent arrangements as a result of the COVID-19 precautions.

<http://www.trinitylutheranchurchcortez.com/>

Bible Study: There will be no adult bible study on Dec 27th. We will resume in the new year.

Pastor will be on Vacation from Dec 26th – Jan 1st but will be available via phone or email.

Acknowledgments:

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Lutheran Service Book (LSB)

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380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing; sts. 1, 3; Tune and text: Public domain

Hymn: 373 See amid the Winter's Snow; Tune and text: Public domain

Hymn: 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful; sts. 1, ref, 2, 4; Text and tune: Public domain

Verses: 386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice; st. 1; Text and tune: Public domain

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