

**Trinity Lutheran Church
Cortez, Colorado**

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



**7 pm, December 24th, 2022
Christmas Eve**

**208 N. Dolores Road, Cortez, CO 81321
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TrinityLutheranChurchCortez.com**



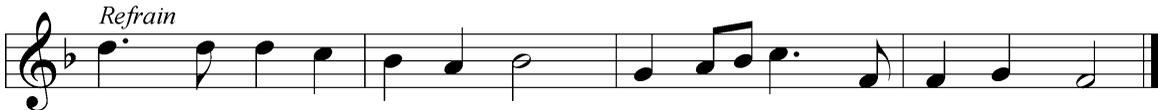
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



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!
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



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!
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



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

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** For centuries, the church has used through Advent a series of antiphons, or responses, to prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ's birth. These seven responses, names, and titles for our Savior, are often called the "O Antiphons," familiar to us in the hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." Tonight, we light the Christ candle and all of the candles on the Advent wreath in praise to Christ, whose birth we celebrate.
- P** O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting:
- C** **Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.**
- P** "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
- C** **For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;**
- P** But the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.
- C** **And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising"**
(*Isaiah 60:1-3*).
- P** Jesus said, "I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star ... Surely I am coming soon."

C “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!” (*Revelation 22:16, 20*).

Confession and Absolution

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C **Almighty God, on this Christmas Eve we celebrate the birth of Jesus our Lord and Light. Yet so often we turn from the light of your love to walk in darkness. We sin against you daily in our thoughts, words, and actions. In this season of light and love, we often become unkind and impatient with others. We become too busy with our own plans and activities to rejoice in your plan for our salvation revealed on this holy night. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus, our Lord and our Light.**

P God in mercy sent his Son to be our Savior. On this night we celebrate the Light born among us to banish the darkness of sin from our lives. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. Jesus, Sunrise and bright Morning Star, rise in our hearts and fill us with your joy and light!**

Opening Collect

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you have sent your Son to be our Savior.

C **He is the dawning light, the Dayspring, the bright Morning Star.**

P He is the Light of the world, and his light banishes the darkness of sin and fear.

C **As your baptized sons and daughters, we walk now as children of light, following in the footsteps of Jesus our Lord.**

P On this holy night, as we celebrate his birth in Bethlehem, we are filled with joy because the light of your salvation now shines on us.

C **We pray that your light will shine through us and spill out of our lives to touch the lives of others so that they too will come to know and worship Jesus as Lord.**

P We pray, too, that our Lord, the root and descendant of David, the bright Morning Star, will come soon.

C **Hear our prayer and accept our grateful praise. Amen.**

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.**

Special Music: 393 Infant Holy Infant Lowly

Carol, Penny, & Hope (flute)

Children's Message

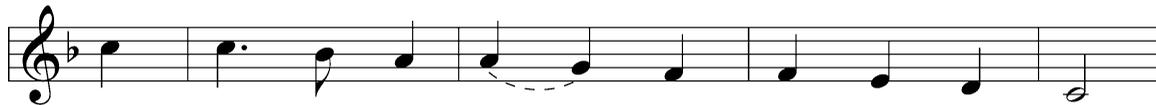
Hymn: 364 Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
 But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
 Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the sky — looked down where He lay,
 I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.

³And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Revelation 22:16–20

¹⁶“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

¹⁷The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

¹⁸I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

²⁰He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1–20

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

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

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And 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, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And 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.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵When 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.”¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.²⁰ 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.

Hymn of the Day: 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem



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!

Sermon

Offering & Offertory: 370 What Child Is This



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!

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray. ... Happy birthday, dear Jesus!

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.

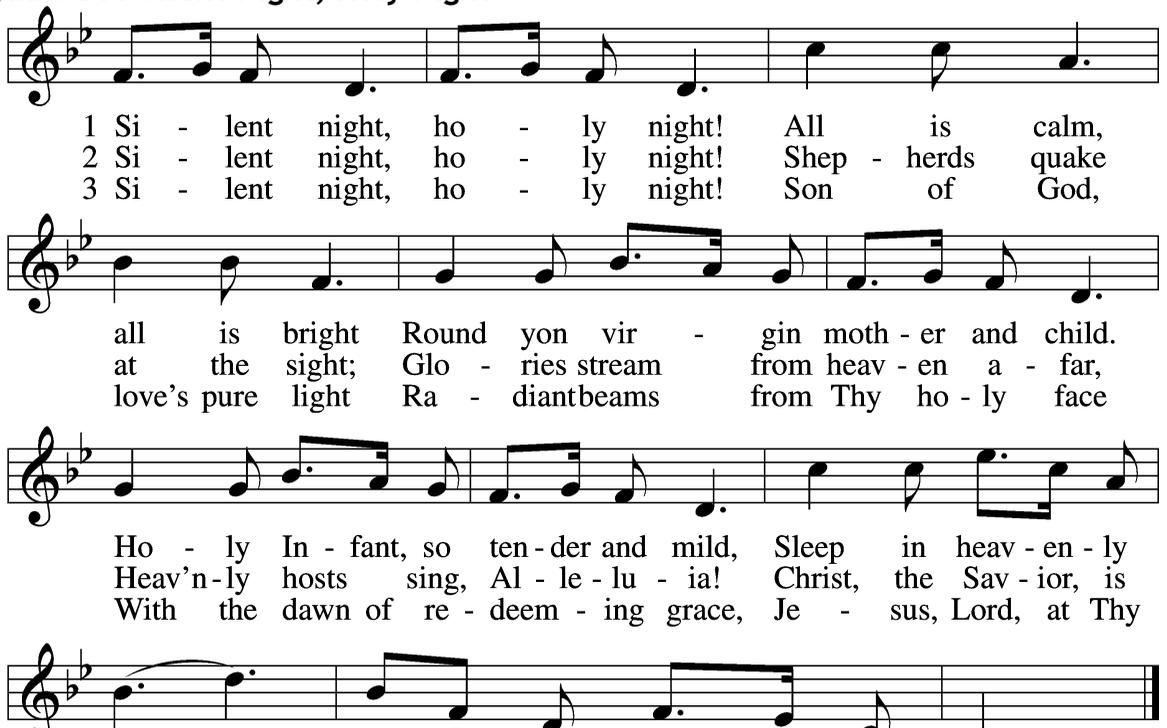
Lighting of the Candles

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.

Lights are dimmed.

P As the light of these candles illumines our faces, it symbolizes the light of Christ, the bright morning star, as a child in the manger at Bethlehem, a Savior suffering our death on the cross, and as the one who said, "Surely I am coming soon." 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.

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

Benediction

After the Benediction, the lights will be turned back on for the final song. Please blow out your candles and allow the wax to cool before returning them to the ushers when you exit the church.

P Jesus said, "I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star ... Surely I am coming soon."

C "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!"

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.

Hymn to Depart: 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

sts. 1 & 6



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from
6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us

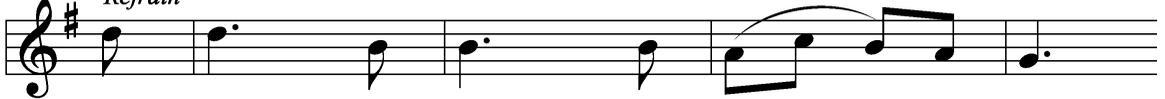


cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y
by Thy draw - ing night; Dis - perse the gloom - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



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

P Merry Christmas! Christ is born!

C Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!

The Aramaic expression “Marana tha” (meaning “Our Lord, come!”), became a common cry and prayer of the early church (e.g. 1 Cor 16:22, Rev 22:20, etc...), especially as it began facing persecution. We use it today to remind us that, just like our Lord Jesus dwelled with us at His birth, He will return soon to live with us for all time.

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Lolita Aulston, Terri Blackwell (Lowell & Mary Lou Volk’s daughter), **Jan Chaffin** (Dave Dahl’s friend), **Jacqueline Chittick, Betsy Doolen** (Bryan Baumgartner’s sister), **Kathleen Gray** (Nicci Crowley’s grandmother), **Jerry Henneman, Trudy Hooyman, Eleanore Larson** (Larry Gessner’s sister), **Mary Mahaffey, Max** (Sara McCabe’s grandson’s friend), **Beth McCabe, Paul & Carol McCall** (Renee Johnson’s parents), **Jerry Payne** (Shar Short’s extended family), **Kylee Pontine** (friend of Penny Stevens’ granddaughter), **Rhonda** (Ramona Merritt’s daughter), **Ivy Tu** (friend of the Volk’s), **Bobby & Barbara Yates** (Sharon Krater’s friends), **Lorene Young** (Katrina Baumgartner’s co-worker), and the family and friends of **Joyce Johnson** who died recently.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Join us tomorrow, Christmas Day (Dec 25th), at 9 am as we walk through the O antiphons that declare who Christ is to us and that he has come to each one of us. On this special day we take a look at the antiphon O Emmanuel and rejoice that Jesus is born to be God With Us here on earth.

Bible Study: There will be no adult bible study Dec 25th or Jan 1st, we will resume on Jan 8th.

Pastor will be on Vacation Dec 26th – Jan 2nd and Pastor Bickner will be filling in for him. If you have an emergency, please contact one of the Elders.

On Jan 8th, during the Sunday Worship Service, we will be **recognizing the service of our 2022 Officers** and **installing our 2023 Congregational Officers**. If you have been elected as a church leader, please try to attend.

Acknowledgments

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Lutheran Service Book (LSB): Divine Service Four

Hymn of Invocation: 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing; Text and tune: Public domain

Special Music: 393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly; Text and Tune: Public domain

Hymn: 364 Away in a Manger; Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn of the Day: 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Offering Hymn: 370 What Child Is This; Text and tune: Public domain.

Hymn: 363 Silent Night, Holy Night; Tune and text: Public domain

Closing Hymn: 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Text and tune: Public domain

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