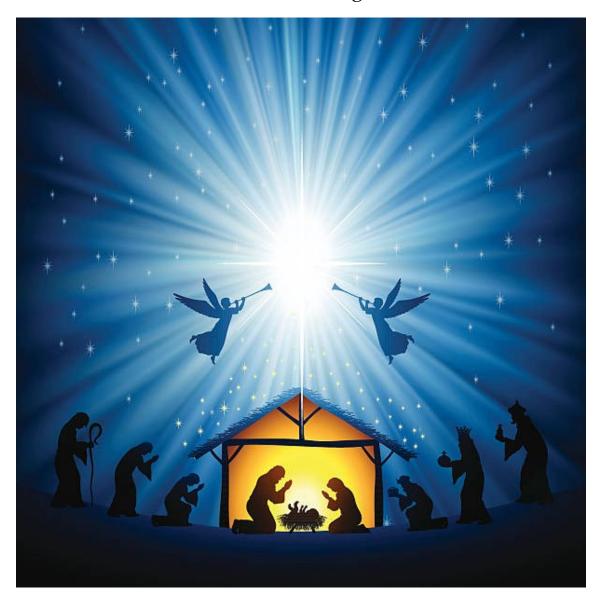
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas

7:30 PM Candlelight Worship Service • December 24, 2024 ELW Setting 3



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.

Welcome members and guests to our worship service today. If you are visiting, we encourage you to sign the guest register located in the narthex; or, if you are online during our worship service, drop us a line to say hello or that you and your family are attending, so that we know you have joined us for worship. For those who come in person, please include your home address, email address and phone number. In each pew, there is a card that you can fill out if you wish to have a consult with the pastor and/or leave us more information about you. Sunday School begins at 8:45 followed by a worship service at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings.

A nursery room is available during the service. The nursery is located off the hallway on the Huntington Avenue side of the church building. At this time, there are no nursery attendants. We also have "activity binders" available for older children to enjoy during the service. Please ask an usher about using one.

Trinity offers an induction loop for the benefit of hearing impaired worshippers. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T."

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607 (757) 245-7861 – http://trinitylutheran-nn.com

Church Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



REV. TINA MELUSKY — Pastor (tina.melusky@gmail.com)

GEOFFREY BELL – Director of Music Ministries (music@trinitynn.org)

Sharon Mathison – Administrative Assistant (admin@trinitynn.org)

CAROL BESSOM – Treasurer (cbessom@trinitynn.com)

THE CONGREGATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN — Ministers of the Word FACEBOOK & WORSHIP LIVESTREAMS: http://facebook.com/TrinityNN TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL WEBSITE: http://trinitynn.org

PASTOR MELUSKY'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9am-12pm; Tuesday 9-10:30am, 11:30am-12:15pm; Wednesday 9:30am-12pm; Thursday 9am-12pm
Times are flexible with monthly meetings, but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in.

Pastor's Cell: (734) 239-4013

Trinity is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, LINK, THRIVE, and The Simple Sunflower.

MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS EVE See program list in back of bulletin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

GATHERING

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God-with-us,

we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.

Turn us from our ways to your ways.

Grant us the grace to begin again.

Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, + forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

Amen.

ELW 269

IRBY

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN O Come, All Ye Faithful ELW 283

ADESTE FIDELES

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN OF PRAISE Angels We Have Heard on High ELW 289

GLORIA

FIRST 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!

The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness –

on them light has shined.

You 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.

For 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.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors

and all the garments rolled in blood

shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For 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.
His 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.
Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God

The assembly is seated

HYMN

On Christmas Night SUSSEX CAROL

ELW 274

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

The gospel is proclaimed in the center of the congregation, symbolizing Christ's incarnation—the Word of God coming into the midst of the people. The doors are opened so that the gospel may be proclaimed to the world.

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.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered 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. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth—and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and

Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known

what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

MENDELSSOHN; Stanza 3

SERMON Pastor Tina Melusky

The assembly stands

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

ELW 279

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, nd 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 INTERCESSION

God of grace, receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

The assembly is seated

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The First Noel

arr. Dan Forrest

Noel, Noel, Born is the King, Noel.

The first Noel, the angels did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star Shining in the east, beyond them far. And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued both day and night. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with His blood our life hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King,
Noel, Noel, Born is the King, Noel!

The assembly stands

OFFERTORY HYMN

What Child Is This GREENSLEEVES

ELW 296

OFFERTORY PRAYER

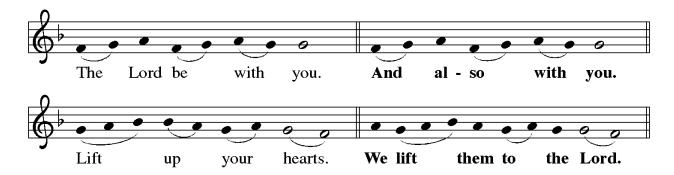
God of heaven and earth,

from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight.

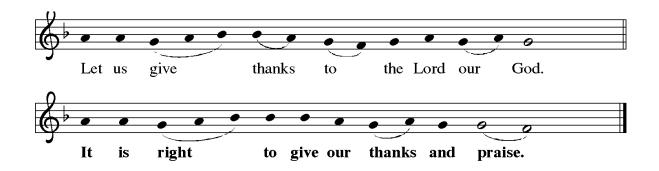
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.
Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING



Continued on next page

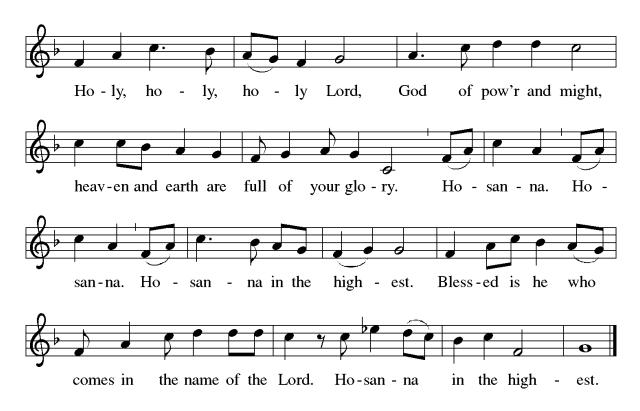


PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.



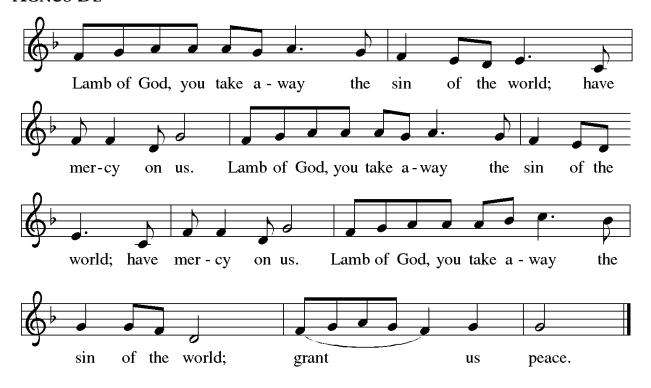
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

AGNUS DE



COMMUNION

Communion is held around the table. The bread will be handed to you by the pastor. Please take a **clear** cup with wine or a **purple** cup with grape juice from the tray. Recycling baskets for your plastic cups are located outside the doors of the sanctuary. Trinity has an open table – all are welcome to come to the feast.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

It Came upon the Midnight Clear ELW 282

CAROL

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly ELW 276

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter

How can you measure the love of a mother, Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

How do you capture the wind on the water?

How do you count all the stars in the sky?

(Refrain) Candlelight, angel light, firelight and starglow

Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Angels are singing; the Christ child is born.

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him, Seraphim round him their vigil will keep; Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Savior, But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger:
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay.
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation:
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

SERVICE OF CANDLELIGHT

†† Ushers will come to light the candle of the person on the end of each aisle.

Please carefully dip the unlit candle into the lit candle flame. Do not dip the lit candle.

Lighted candles should be held in an upright position so that hot wax will not drip.

When extinguished, please continue to hold your candle upright until it cools.

Following the service, please return your candle to a designated box or to an usher.

ORGAN MEDITATION Berceuse on Silent Night Charles Callahan

CANDLELIGHT HYMN Silent Night, Holy Night ELW 281
STILLE NACHT

After singing the third verse, please hum an additional verse. Choose a chime at which you will extinguish your candle.

SENDING

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, \pm Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN Joy to the World ELW 267

ANTIOCH

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly,

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Carillon for Christmas Brenda Portman

Music for Christmas Eve

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 599 Johann Sebastian Bach

Lois Jean Carpenter, organ

The Snow Lay on the Ground arr. Linda Scholes

Trinity Ringers

The Little Road to Bethlehem Michael Head

Patricia Fielding, soprano

O Come, All Ye Faithful arr. Phil Lehenbauer

Nathan Rummel, trombone

Masters in This Hall arr. John S. Dixon

Chorale Prelude on *In dulci jubilo*Johann Michael Bach

Canon de Noel Joseph M. Martin

Still, Still, Still arr. Roberta Rowland-Raybold

Patricia Fielding, flute

The Wexford Carol arr. Aaron Shows

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY

CRUCIFER - Mark Madler

CLERGY CROSS – Patrick Spisak

ACOLYTES — Luke and Samantha Harry

TORCHBEARERS — Drew Rummel and Carl Carpenter

BIBLE BEARER – Abbi Wessler

LECTOR — Bill Solomon

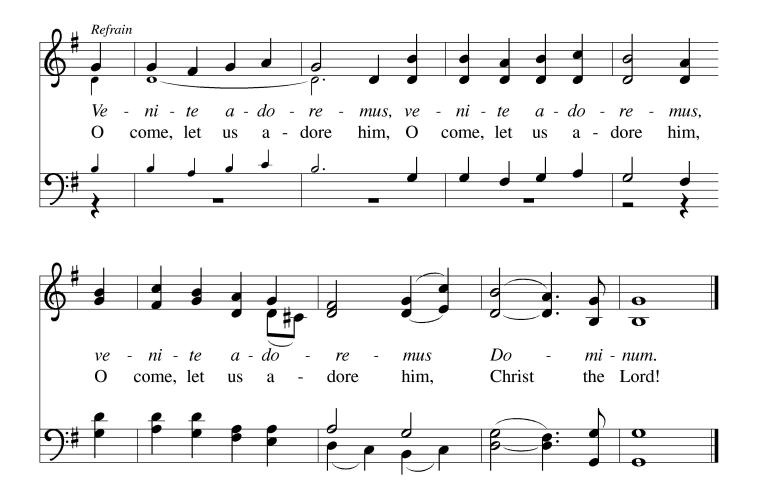
USHERS/GREETERS – David Hunt, Judy Hunt, Dave Roselius and John Lunsford

CAMERA/LIVESTREAM — Cliff Obara









Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade





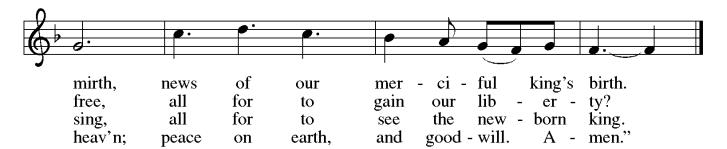
- 1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the
- 2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re-deem er
- 3 When sin de parts be fore his face, then life and health come
- 4 All out of dark ness we have light, which made the an gels



On Christ - mas night Chris - tians gels bring. all sing to an sad. us glad? Then should we earth made why be since on place. in its When sin de - parts be fore his face, then sing this night. dark - ness have light, which All out of we



the news the an - gels bring: of great joy, news of hear news great made us glad, re - deem - er when from our sin he set us our its place. and health come in re - joice with us An - gels and made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry God in high - est to



Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt. Music: SUSSEX CAROL, English traditional





Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.





- 1 In fant ho ly, in fant low ly, for his bed a cat tle stall;
- 2 Flocks were sleep-ing, shep-herds keep-ing vig-il till the morn-ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know-ing Christ the child is Lord of all. saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift-ly wing-ing, an - gels sing-ing, bells are ring-ing, tid - ings bring-ing: Thus re-joic-ing, free from sor-row, prais-es voic-ing, greet the mor-row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!



