

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Sunday, December 24, 2018 — 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Family Worship

Welcome

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ELW 283

—Please stand as able—

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain: *O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us
adore him, Christ the Lord!*

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:

Refrain

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the
brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may
walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to
the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.**

Amen

Children's Sermon and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

All children are encouraged to come to the chancel to join Pastor Tim Krick for a Christmas message.

Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ELW 279

O Little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Luke 2:8-14

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Angels Arrive

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of
peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Luke 2:1-20

Children can follow along in the “Whirl Kids Mini-Story Bible” that was handed to them during the Children’s Sermon. The following can be found on page 10 in the “Whirl” booklet.

Mary and Joseph packed quickly. They needed to go to Bethlehem to be counted by the emperor.

Mary was worried. Where would they stay? Joseph was concerned. Would they be gone a long time? Mary & Joseph were BOTH excited. Soon their son Jesus would be born!

Bethlehem was crowded with people. Knock, knock! Mary & Joseph knocked on door after door. There was nowhere for them to stay! Squeeze! Mary grabbed Joseph’s hand tight. The baby was coming!

That night, Mary gave birth to a tiny baby. It was Jesus! Joseph found a simple wooden manger for Jesus’ bed. Mary wrapped her newborn son tightly in cloth and laid him on the golden hay.

The baby Jesus yawned with his tiny mouth. Joseph touched his tiny fingers. Mary looked at his tiny, wrinkled face and smiled.

In a nearby field, shepherds watched the starry sky in the quiet night. A bright light FLASHED! The shepherds JUMPED! An angel appeared. The shepherds tried to hide.

“Don’t be afraid!” the angel said. “I have GOOD news! Tonight the Messiah was born. God’s Son has come to be with you. His name is Jesus.”

A choir of angels filled the sky. The shepherds were AMAZED! The angels’ song echoed across the hills. “Glory to God! Peace on earth!” The shepherds hurried to see Jesus. Then they raced across the hill shouting the good news.

“Jesus is BORN!”

Shepherds Arrive

Carol

“Away In a Manger”

ELW 277

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Sermon

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

We give our Offering - as a Response to God's Great Gift

As the offering is collected, we sing "The First Noel"

Offering Hymn

"The First Noel"

ELW 300

1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

2 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. *Refrain*

3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

4 This star drew near to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

5 Then entered in those wise men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

The Christmas Offertory Prayer

LD: Merciful God, it would have been enough for you to give us the fruit of the earth by which we live. But in this meal, by your promise, you also give us yourself. All we can do is return to you what is yours. Use what we have gathered here – our time, our treasures and our talents to feed the hungry world with your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

The Celebration of Holy Communion

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 God thanks and praise.

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation. 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.

C: Amen

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.**

Reception of Family Blessings and Holy Communion

Holy Trinity welcomes all who are baptized and wish to receive the offered promise in the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Christ, to come and share in receiving Holy Communion. The ushers will guide you in coming forward.

- 1) Please step forward to receive Communion. The bread is gluten free for those who have gluten sensitivities. The wine is non-alcoholic wine. Those not receiving communion may fold their arms over their chest to receive a communion blessing.
- 2) After receiving Communion, families are welcome to receive a blessing at the baptismal font, if you wish.
- 3) During Communion & the Family Blessing, the lights will be dimmed. Everyone, including young children, are invited to take a glow stick and break it so it lights up.

Communion Carol

“Silent Night”

ELW 281

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright. Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts....sing, alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, loves pure light. Radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at your birth! Jesus, Lord at your birth!

Communion Carol

“What Child is This”

ELW 296

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste,
haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; hail,
hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come peasant, king, to own him. The
King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the
song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Communion Carol “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” ELW 276

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new;
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Post Communion Prayer

LD: Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Benediction**—Please stand as able—**

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

C: Amen.

As you depart, go renewed in God's promise in Christ for you. Be safe in your travels! May this Christmas season offer you peace!

Please return to join us in worship:

Sundays at 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Church Office Hours: Sunday-Thursday 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

To reach us by phone: (603) 436-1704

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