



Trinity Lutheran Church

Christmas Day
December 25th, 2020



Call to Worship: “Beautiful Star of Bethlehem”

Christmas Greeting:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all in abundance this blessed Christmas morn.

C: **And also with you.**

P: We join the angel chorus and proclaim, “Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace, goodwill to men!”

C: **We have heard the angel’s admonition to ‘not be afraid’. We have come this gentle morning, in faith and trust, to praise Christ the new-born King!**

P: Hear the witness of the Church regarding Christ Jesus, taken from 1 John 1:1-4: *We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— ³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete*

Confession of Sins and Forgiveness

P: *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (1 John 1:8)*

C: ***If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)***

(silence)

P: Heavenly Father, the gift of Christmas is so dear, so undeserved. We kneel before the manger in honesty of confession and contrition,

C: **I come to You this day, a sinner, sorry for my sin and in need of Your forgiveness and love. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and place within me a willing spirit, for Jesus’ sake. Amen.**

P: *God has given His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for the sins of the world. It is my joy on this holy morning, as a called servant in the Church of Christ, and by Christ’s authority, to speak these words to you; your sins are forgiven! Merry Christmas!*

C: **Amen. Merry Christmas!**

Carol of Good News: “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Profession of Faith

P: As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we confess with our lips and believe in our hearts the deepest truth about Him.

All: **Christ was born. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Maranatha! Amen.**

Children’s Story

Cradle Carol: “Once in Royal David City”

First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Carol: God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Second Reading Hebrews 1:1-6, 10-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made 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 his Father, and he will be my Son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ¹⁰And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; ¹¹they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; ¹²like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Carol of Healing: Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Holy Gospel John 1:1-14

In 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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Message: "Losing our religion . . . finding The Way."

Video: "The Wrong Christmas Story"

Christmas Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

screen

Christmas Benediction

Carol of Proclamation: "Today is the Saviors Day"

Video

Sending

P: Go in the peace of the Christ Child and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Christmas resources written by Pastor Maggie Theiss 2020

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