

Trinity Lutheran Church Christmas Day December 25th, 2025





Welcome:

Invocation:

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

C: Amen.

A Christmas Prayer -* Christmas prayer of St. Ephrem, the Syrian. (AD 306-373)

- The feast day of your birth resembles You Lord, because it brings joy to all humanity. Old people and infants alike enjoy your day.
- Your day is celebrated from generation to generation. Kings and emperors may pass away, and C: the festivals to commemorate them soon lapse. but your festival will be remembered until the end of time.
- Your day is a means and a pledge of peace. At Your birth heaven and earth were reconciled, since you W: came from heaven to earth on that day You forgave our sins and wiped away our guilt.
- М: You gave us so many gifts on the day of your birth: a treasure chest of spiritual medicines for the sick; spiritual light for the blind; the cup of salvation for the thirsty; the bread of life for the hungry.
- P: In the winter when trees are bare, You give us the most succulent spiritual fruit. In the frost when the earth is barren, You bring new hope to our souls. In December when seeds are hidden in the soil, the staff of life springs forth from the virgin womb. *
- On this Christmas morning we rejoice in all Your good gifts to us in each season of our lives, but C: most of all we rejoice in the gift of love You have given us in the manger, humble and bare - the gift of Yourself. Thank you, dearest Lord Jesus. We await Your return with confident hearts and joyous hope. Amen.

Opening Carol:

"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"

LBW 45

Confession of Sins & Absolution:

Let us confess our sins before God our Father. P:

We confess that as all good things in this life fade, We cling to moments that cannot last. We C: labor in a world broken by sin, where joy gives way to sorrow, and life to death. Forgive us, Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Silence for reflection

Hear the good news. To us a child is born, to us a son is given. His Kingdom is good, growing, and P: unending. In Christ, your sins are forgiven and your future is secure. You are citizens of his everlasting Home. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Carol of Good News: "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

LBW 60

God's Word 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.

Children's Story Brianna

Second Reading Hebrews 1:1-12

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." ⁷Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." ⁸But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." 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 Good News:

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

LBW 71

Holy Gospel John 1:1-18

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.

¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Christmas Message:

Video: "He Came to get Messy" Skit Guys

Offertory:

(Offering will be received at this time)

A Christmas Prayer - Martin Luther

P: Let us pray,

C: It's Christmas!

And I will sing praise to the Father who stood on heaven's threshold and said farewell to his Son as he stepped across the stars to Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

And I will sing praise to the infinite, eternal Son, who became most finite, a baby who would one day be executed for my crime. Praise him in the heavens, Praise him in the stable, Praise him in my heart.

Amen...

Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

Celebration of Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Communion hymns "O Little Town of Bethlehem" LBW 41 "Away in a Manger" LBW 67

Post Communion Prayer

Christmas Benediction

Carol of Sending: "Go Tell it on the Mountain" LBW 70

Sending

P: Go in the gentle peace of the Christ Child, loving and serving the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Pastor: Maggie Theiss

Worship & Communication Minister: Sarah Summach

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***Please note: the office will be closed December 24 – January 6