

Trinity Lutheran Church

An Independent Confessional Lutheran Church

Reverend Paul R. Harris, Pastor



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE December 24, 2020 7:30 PM

1207 W. 45th Street
Austin, Texas 78756
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WELCOME

In the name of the Lord Jesus we bid you welcome to our church, to its comfort, and to its peace. Within this church let no one feel himself a stranger. We ask you to sign the guest book and to remain a moment after the service to become acquainted. If you have no church affiliation elsewhere, we invite you to make Trinity Lutheran Church your church home. Membership is open to all who agree with the doctrines and practices of our church, as based upon the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Please get in touch with Pastor Harris as soon as possible.

ORGAN PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROL

(Please Stand - as the crucifix is carried in, it is fitting to face the back and follow it as it proceeds)

"Oh, Come All Ye Faithful" (TLH 102:1,2,3)

1. **Oh, come, all ye faithful, triumphantly sing:
Come, see in the manger our Savior and King!
To Bethlehem hasten with joyful accord;
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!**

2. **True Son of the Father,
He comes from the skies;
to be born of a virgin He doth not despise.
To Bethlehem hasten with joyful accord;
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!**

3. **Hark, Hark, to the angels all singing in heaven,
"To God in the highest all glory be given!"
To Bethlehem hasten with joyful accord;
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!**

INVOCATION

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **AMEN.** (sung)

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Come, let us celebrate.

C: **LET US REJOICE TOGETHER**

P: The Baby born in Bethlehem is a great Savior.

C: **HE IS THE LORD OF ALL AGES.**

P: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

C: **WE HAVE BEHELD HIS GLORY.**

P: Come, let us worship Him.

C: **ALLELUIA! AMEN.**

HYMN OF PRAISE "To Shepherds as They Watched by Night"
(TLH 103:1-4) By Martin Luther

1. **To shepherds as they watched by night
Appeared a host of angels bright;
Behold the tender Babe, they said,
In yonder lowly manger laid.**
2. **At Bethlehem, in David's town,
As Micah did of old make known;
"Tis Jesus Christ, your Lord and King,
Who doth to all salvation bring.**

3. **Oh, then rejoice that thro' His Son
God is with sin-ners now at one;
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,
Your brother is the' eternal God.**

4. **What harm can sin and death then do?
The true God now abides with you.
Let hell and Satan rage and chafe,
Christ is your Brother - ye are safe.**

BE SEATED

Children's Choir "Once He Came in Blessing"

*1.Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us,
Hope and freedom gave us.*

*2.Now he gently leads us;
With Himself He feeds us
Precious food from heaven,
Pledge of peace here given,
Manna that will nourish
Souls that they may flourish.*

*3.Soon will come that hour
When with mighty power
Christ will come in splendor
And will judgement render,
With the faithful sharing,
Joy beyond comparing.*

*4.Come, then, O Lord Jesus
From our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing,
That we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess You
Till in heaven we bless You.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:6-7

"Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord" (TLH 91:1-4)

ALL

1. **Let the earth now praise the Lord,
Who hath truly kept His word
And the sinners' Help and Friend
Now at last to us doth send.**

MEN

2. **What the fathers most desired,
What the prophets' heart inspired,
What they longed for many a year,
Stands fulfilled in glory here.**

WOMEN

3. **Abram's promised great Reward,
Zion's Helper, Jacob's Lord
Him of twofold race behold
Truly came, as long foretold.**

ALL

4. **Welcome, O my Savior, now!
Hail! My Portion, Lord, art Thou.
Here, too, in my heart, I pray,
Oh, prepare Thyself a way!**

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 7:14

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Behold, a Branch is Growing" (TLH 645:1,2,4,5)

*1. Behold, a Branch is growing
Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sung, foreknowing;
It springs from Jesse's race
And bears one little Flow'r*

*In midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.*

*2. Isaiah hath foretold It
In words of promise sure,*

*And Mary's arms enfold It,
A virgin meek and pure.
Thro' God's eternal will
This Child to her is given
At midnight calm and still.*

*4. This Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.
True Man, yet very God;
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load.*

*5. O Savior, Child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of Glory.
Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray.
To the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 5:2

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (TLH 647:1,2,4)

MEN

- 1. 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 darkness shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears
Of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.**

WOMEN

- 2. For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep,
The angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together**

**Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing
To God, the King,
And peace to men on earth.**

ALL

- 4. 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!**

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL FIRST READING Luke 2:1-7 (Page 13)

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" (LSB 366: 1, 3, 4)

- 1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
From heav'n's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.**
- 3. All you, beneath your heavy load,
By prophets seen of old,
Who toil along a dreary way
With painful steps and slow:
Look up, for golden is the hour,
Come swiftly on the wing,
The Prince was born to bring you peace;
Of Him the angels sing.**
- 4. For lo, the days have come to pass
By prophets seen of old,
When down into the circling years**

**Came Christ as was foretold.
His word of peace shall to the earth
God's ancient promise bring,
And all who take this gift will hear
The song the angels sing.**

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL SECOND READING Luke 2:8-14 (Page 14)

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (TLH 94:1-4)

ALL

- 1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

MEN

- 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 God-head see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

WOMEN

- 3. Hail, the heav'nly Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He leaves His throne on high,
Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth;
Born to give them second birth.**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

ALL

- 4. Come, Desire of nations, come,
Fix in us Thy humble home;
Oh, to all Thyself impart,
Formed in each believing heart!
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

PLEASE STAND

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL THIRD READING Luke 2:15-20 (Page 15)

"What Child is This!" (LSB 370 1-3)

- 1. 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.**
- 2. 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!

3. **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!**

CHRISTMAS EVE MESSAGE

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

CHOIR – Advent Prayer (See insert)

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS (Spoken by Pastor)

Almighty God, You made this holy night shine with the brightness of 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 only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: AMEN. (sung)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(sung to "Away in A Manger" traditional tune)

**Our Father in heaven,
All praise to Your name!
Your kingdom among us,
Your will done the same
By mortals and angels
Come, Lord, reign alone:
Oh, hear us and bless us
From heaven's high throne.**

**The bread that we yearn for
Provide us each day;
As we forgive others,
Our sins take away;
In time of temptation,
To lead us be near;
From evil deliver
Your child most dear.**

**For Yours is the kingdom;
O'er all things You reign.
And Yours is the power;
All things You maintain.
To You be the glory,
Resounding again
From all of creation,
Forever! Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE CANDLES

Pastor lights a candle from the Christ candle; the ushers light their candles from the Pastor's candle. The ushers then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. **Lighted Candles should not be tipped to avoid wax dripping on the floor. The unlighted candles should be tipped when lighting it from a neighbor's candle.** Once the entire congregation has their candles lit and the lights are lowered, the congregation sings:

“Silent Night! Holy Night!”

- 1. 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.**
- 2. 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!**

- 3. Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy Birth,
Jesus, Lord at Thy Birth.**
- 4. Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous Star, lend Thy light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King!
Jesus our Savior is here,
Jesus our Savior is here.**

BENEDICTION

- P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
The love of God the Father and
Fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Be with you all.
- C:** **A- - - -men (sung)**

EXTINGUISH CANDLES

CLOSING CHRISTMAS CAROL

“Joy to the World” (TLH 87)

- 1. 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.**

CHOIR

2. *Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!*
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods , rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. **No more let sins and sorrows 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.
4. **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. Amen.

The Christmas Gospel

Luke 2:1 - 20 (KJV)

First Reading Luke 2:1-7

1 AND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Second Reading Luke 2:8-14

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And 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, good will toward men.

Third Reading Luke 2:15-20

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16 And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17 And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18 And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP:
Return for the
Festival Celebration of Christ's birth
at 10:00 AM.

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