First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 31, 2023 – Traditional Service with Holy Communion

and see this thing which is come to pass.

Luke 2:15, KJV

now go even unto Bethlehem,

WELCOME TO ALL

Welcome to worship at Trinity Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here. We are delighted to gather as one people in the name of the risen Lord Jesus, in whose power over disease and death we take hope. Please use this bulletin to participate in the liturgy and take it with you when the service is ended.

Based on revised CDC guidance, we are no longer encouraging the wearing of masks for those attending worship, regardless of vaccination status. However, if you have symptoms, have tested positive for Covid or been exposed to someone with Covid-19, we ask that you do wear a mask. Please feel free to continue wearing a mask in worship for your safety, if desired. This guidance may change if our risk level changes.

> Bathrooms are located down the hall from the side entrance to the sanctuary. Children are always welcome during worship, but if desired, there is a nursery in room 107 available for children ages birth to school age.

Please be aware that we are streaming our services. If you do not wish to be on camera please contact the church office.

First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 31, 2023 Traditional Service with Holy Communion

The psalmist calls on the natural world, celestial bodies, fire and earth, creatures, and all humanity, to praise God. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we tell of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregation responds in bold print.

Please respect the silence of those around you preparing for worship.

PRELUDE

"The Birthday of A King"

Neidlinger

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation. Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

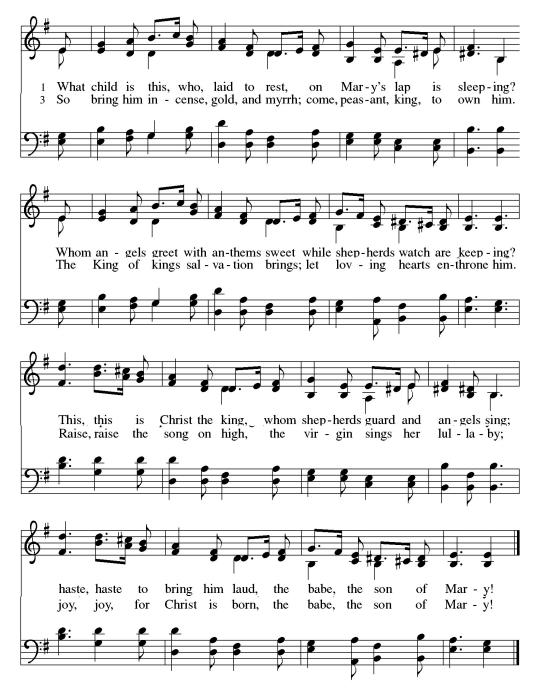
Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life, you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. Amen. **OPENING HYMN**

"What Child Is This"

ELW 296



APOSTOLIC 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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

To the people who returned to Jerusalem after the exile, the prophet proclaims that God's salvation will fully come to pass. Jerusalem will become a shining light to the nations and righteousness and praise will spring up as surely as the earth puts forth vegetation.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALMODY

Psalm 148

We will speak the Psalm responsively.

The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.
²Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
³Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.
⁴Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.
⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD, where the lord is the lord.

who commanded, and they were created,

⁶who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away. ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps; ⁸fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will; ⁹mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; ¹⁰wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds; ¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; ¹²young men and maidens, old and young together. ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven. ¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

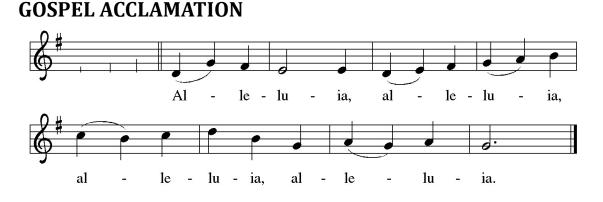
SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4-7

Paul seeks to show the Galatians that the purpose of Christ's birth was to liberate us from the law's condemnation so that we would be fully adopted into God's family as beloved children..

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**



GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

Luke's narrative continues with stories that emphasize Jesus' connection to Judaism. His family is devout in its observance of the law, and Jesus himself is recognized as one who will bring glory to Israel.

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

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Barb Barry

MUSIC MEDITATION

"Carol of the Bells"

Leontovich



Please stand as you are able.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Names of family & friends in prayer found on page 17.

A brief silence.

Response following each petition:

L: Hear us, O God. **R: Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you!

OFFERING

Thank you for your generous and faithful support. We are not currently passing the collection plates; instead you may place your offerings in the plates provided by the door as you enter or exit worship.

If you prefer, Trinity offers 5 other ways to give as well: Text, Mail, Mobile, Automatic Transfer, & Online. Contact the church office for details.



MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

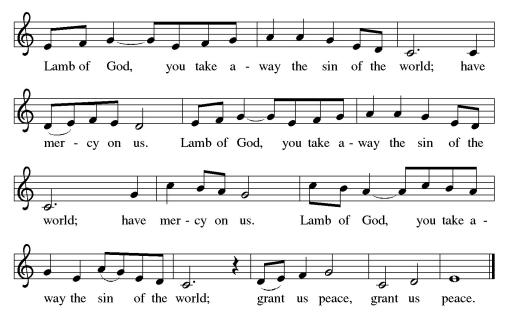
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

Thanks be to God.

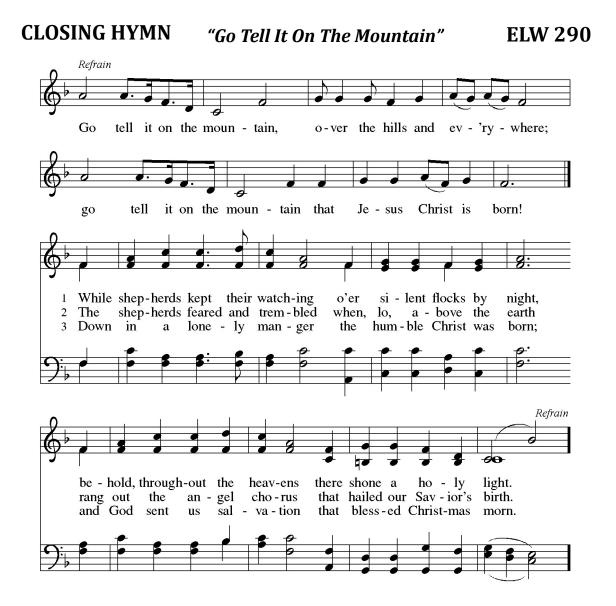


Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

All baptized followers of Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table. Communicants are ushered forward row-by-row. Please open your hand and the pastor will place the bread in your hand. Once you have eaten the bread, the communion assistant will offer you a cup of wine or juice from the tray. Wine is red. Juice is white. After drinking, you may return to your seat along the side aisle.

COMMUNION BLESSING THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER THE BENEDICTION



SENDING

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

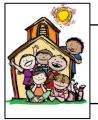
POSTLUDE

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

arr ... DeCou

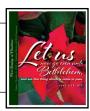
Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our grandchildren and great grandchildren By Ken and Sherry Saylor.





The children's bulletins are given to the Glory of God, and in honor of Trinity's children by Dave and Becky Morningstar.

> Worship bulletins are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our Trinity Family by Dewey and Carol Hutsler.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Preacher /Presider	Pastor Barb Barry	
Organist	Robert Eyer, Jr.	
Ushers	Ken Saylor Sherry Saylor	
Acolyte	Darcy Aurand	
Lector	Ray Brindle	
Communion Asst.	Kathy Ashway Barb Woods	
Communion Prep	Ed Wlazlowski Helen Wlazlowski	
Livestream Team	Jason Brown	
Nursery	Brenda Runshaw Ken Runshaw	

Next week's Lessons:

- Psalm 72
- Ephesians 3:1-12
- Matthew 2:1-12



IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

We Pray For

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Bernice Conner
Leland Schaffer
Diane Sterner
Paul Stockhausen
Barry
Stanley Shilling
Tammy McDonald
Becky Morningstar
Shirley Shilling
Judy Royce
Denny Verner

Carl Fahnestock Bob Shannon Bea Clark Linda Remson Jean Baughman Sue Lensbower Doris Krieble Greg Wilson Doug Price Deb Hutsler

Sharon Emmons

Thomas Clarke Brenda Zullinger Marlene Fisher Mary Royce Phyllis Dusman Floss Sterner Curt Stambaugh Cheryl Kelly Cameron

MEMBERS

James Moe Barb Montgomery

Dave & Becky Morningstar Richard, Sabrina, Hannah, Corinne & Jennifer Morrissette

**Names may be added / removed by calling the church office. **Names will normally be removed after <u>4 weeks.</u>

OFFERING

Total Budgeted Giving Expected as of December 17, 2023: <u>\$182,692.31</u> Amount received as of December 17: <u>\$197,874.12</u> **Please note:** We found a discrepancy in actual amount received year to date. It is now corrected. Thank You!

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH WEEKLY & NNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING SpiriTrust Lutheran Counseling Services

December's special offering for the month is for the SpiriTrust Lutheran Counseling Services and the Prison Ministry. Please remember these special ministries with your offering this month.



THIS WEEK @ TRINITY

-		
Sunday - 12/31/23	9:00 AM 10:00 AM	<i>Learning for all Ages:</i> Scripture and Coffee - Lounge High School Class - Social Hall - Stage Confirmation - Cloud 9 2 nd to 5 th Grade - Library Preschool to 1 st Grade - Nursery Worship - Sanctuary <i>First Sunday of Christmas</i> <i>RECYCLE PAPER DAY</i>
Monday - 1/01/24	Office Closed	Happy New Year 2024!
Tuesday - 1/02/24	11:00 AM 6:00 - 9:00 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Committee - Lounge Cub Scout Committee - Scout Room Property - Lounge
Wednesday - 1/03/24	10:00 AM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM	Service Committee - Lounge Yoga - Social Hall Choir - Sanctuary
Thursday - 1/04/24	6:00 PM 6:30 - 8:00 PM	Learning - Cloud 9 Girl Scouts - Scout Room and Library
Friday - 1/05/24	6:00 - 8:00 PM 8:00 - 10:00 PM	Cub Scouts - Scout Room Girl Troop - Scout Room
Saturday - 1/06/24		Epiphany
Sunday - 1/07/24	9:00 AM 10:00 AM	<i>Learning for all Ages:</i> Scripture and Coffee - Lounge High School Class - Social Hall - Stage Confirmation - Cloud 9 2 nd to 5 th Grade - Library Preschool to 1 st Grade - Nursery Worship - Sanctuary <i>Epiphany Sunday</i>



TRINITY

Evangelical Lutheran Church

431 Philadelphia Avenue Chambersburg, PA

www.trinitylutheranchambersburg.org

@trinitychambersburg

PASTORS' CONTACT INFO

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Chambers-

OFFICE HOURS

9 AM - 1 PM Mon. - Thurs. office@trinitychbg.org

Pastor Barb Barry

Pastor Ruth Smith rsmith183@comcast.net

717-263-8156

pastorbarb@trinitychbg.org 717-357-3150

801-419-8312

TRINITY STAFF TO SERVE YOU

Pastor

Visitation Pastor Director of Music Ministries Office Manager Communications Secretary Administrative Assistant Treasurer Financial Secretary Livestream Coordinator The Rev. Barbara Barry The Rev. Ruth Smith Robert Eyer, Jr. Christie Cistone Monica Crider Priscilla Cullinane Dennis Alleman Cindy Scanzello Jason Brown

TRINITY CHURCH COUNCIL

Council President Council Vice President Council Secretary Evan Sutton Gloria McCauley Joyce McDonald

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kathy Ashway Heidi Hawbaker Ken Saylor

Wallace Whitworth

Ray Brindle Laura Pearce David Wenerd

Vision

"Growing in God"

Mission Statement "Seed - Planting and Growing in our Faith Sow - Sharing the word of God with our community Steward - Giving to all the love of God Service - Showing the love of God with our community"