





# Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

## Christmas Eve 2023

Organist: Kathy Conway  
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Bible Class: 9:15am  
Worship: 10:30am  
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### Pre-service meditation

*Isaiah 9:6*

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

# Worship

### Opening Prayer

### Opening Hymn

*WS 708 O Come All Ye Faithful*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### John 1:1-4

- P** In the beginning was the Word,  
**C** **And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**  
**P** He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him.  
**C** **And without Him, nothing was made that was made.**  
**P** In Him was life,  
**C** **And the life was the light of men.**

LSB 362 - O Sing of Christ (v. 1) *printed on the next page*

1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,  
 2 What Ad-am lost, none could re - claim, And Par - a - dise was barred;  
 3 He came to that which was His own, But He was not re - ceived;  
 4 Lord Je - sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth

E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.  
 Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.  
 Yet still through Him God's glo - ry shone, And some His name be - lieved.  
 As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.

Up - on our frail hu - man - i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace  
 For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;  
 To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav'n a - bove,  
 Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,

The full - ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.  
 He came to us as life and light And our re - demp - tion won.  
 Born not of hu - man an - ces - try But born of God in love.  
 That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

**Romans 5:12-18, Galatians 4:4**

- P** Death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam,
- C** Who is a type of Him who was to come.

- P** Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation,
- C** **Even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.**
- P** For when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
- C** **To redeem those who were under the law, That we might receive the adoption as sons.**

LSB 362 - O Sing of Christ (v.2) *found on pg. 2*

### John 1:10-13

- P** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him,
- C** **Yet the world did not know Him.**
- P** He came to His own, And His own people did not receive Him.
- C** **But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, He gave the right to become children of God:**
- P** Who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man,
- C** **But of God.**

LSB 362 - O Sing of Christ (v.3) *found on pg. 2*

### Philippians 2:5-8, 2 Corinthians 8:9

- P** Let this mind be in you,
- C** **Which was also in Christ Jesus,**
- P** Who, being in the form of God,
- C** **Did not consider it robbery to be equal with God.**
- P** But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant,
- C** **And coming in the likeness of men.**
- P** And being found in appearance as a man, Humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death,
- C** **Even the death of the cross.**
- P** For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor,
- C** **That you through His poverty might become rich.**

LSB 362 - O Sing of Christ (v.4) *found on pg. 2*

### Prayer of the Day

### First Reading

*Luke 2:1-20*

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. 3 So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. 6 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10 Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, 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, goodwill toward men!"

15 So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. 17 Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. 18 And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. 19 But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

## **Congregation's Response**

*WS 712 What Child is This? (v. 1)*

*What Child is this who, laid to rest, in 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!*

## Second Reading

*Titus 2:11-14*

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

## Christmas Creed

**☩ I believe in God the Father Almighty, who sent His Son to be my Savior.**

**And I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, my Lord, the long-promised Messiah, who came as foretold, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, announced by the angels, worshipped by the shepherds, adored by the Wise Men, who lived to suffer, die, and rise again, to free me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, Who has brought me to faith in my Savior, and by whose work in my heart I rejoice in my salvation, walk in Christ, show forth His praises, and will one day live and reign with Him in all eternity. Amen.**

## Hymn of the Day

*TLH 647 O Little Town of Bethlehem*

## Sermon Text

*Micah 5:2-5a*

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
Though you are little among the thousands of Judah,  
Yet out of you shall come forth to Me  
The One to be Ruler in Israel,  
Whose goings forth are from of old,  
From everlasting.”

3 Therefore He shall give them up,  
Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth;  
Then the remnant of His brethren  
Shall return to the children of Israel.

4 And He shall stand and feed His flock  
In the strength of the Lord,  
In the majesty of the name of the Lord His God;  
And they shall abide,  
For now He shall be great  
To the ends of the earth;

5 And this One shall be peace.

# Christmas Eve Sermon: Peace in Our Time

**P** The peace of God, brought to you by the Child of Bethlehem, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

**Hymn**

*TLH 94 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

**Prayer of the Church + The Lord's Prayer**

**P** . . . in whose Name we also join to pray together:

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed by 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**

**Benediction**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace. Amen.

**Closing Hymn**

*TLH 646 Silent Night*

**Silent Prayer**

**Welcome to worship at Trinity!** We are delighted to have you here for worship with us this evening and are grateful for the opportunity to share the saving gospel message of Jesus Christ with you! We invite you to sign our guest book in the entryway and invite you to join us tomorrow morning for our Christmas Morning worship, beginning at 10:30am.

**Acknowledgements**

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# Welcome to Worship at Trinity!

Please wait to be ushered out of the sanctuary. Please do not leave any bulletins or other materials behind. Offerings may be left in the offering plate in the rear of the sanctuary or mailed to the church.

Guest and Visitors, we are delighted to have you here for worship with us this morning and are grateful for the opportunity to share the saving gospel message of Jesus Christ with you! Because He lives, we shall live also! We invite you to sign our guest book in the entryway. Please speak to the members and pastor if you wish to learn more about the Gospel ministry here at *Trinity*, and we hope to worship with you again!

Our Christmas Celebration continues! Join us tomorrow at 10:30am for our Christmas Day lessons and carols service.

FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN,  
TO US A SON IS GIVEN,  
AND THE GOVERNMENT  
WILL BE ON HIS SHOULDERS.  
AND HE WILL BE CALLED

WONDERFUL  
*Counselor,*  
MIGHTY  
*God,*  
EVERLASTING  
*Father,*  
PRINCE OF  
*Peace.*

ISAIAH 9:6, NIV

