

# Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024

3:00 & 7:00 PM



Trinity Lutheran Church

1190 Valley Forge Rd PO BOX 340 Fairview Village, PA 19409

610-584-8411 [www.trinityfairview.com](http://www.trinityfairview.com)

# Welcome!

We are so glad you have gathered here with us to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are invited to God's table to receive the bread and wine of communion or a personal blessing. Please see detailed instructions in the bulletin.

This Christian community will gather next on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. At that time we will hear the Scripture lessons of Christmas and sing Christmas carols. It is a beloved tradition and a joyous way to extend our celebration of Christmas.

Again, welcome! Now let us prepare our hearts, minds, and spirits for worship. Tonight, we remember and celebrate the greatest gift we will ever receive as God comes to us in human form, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laying in a manger. This is the gift we celebrate. Today. Tomorrow. Forever.



P Please rise.

## O, COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

### Verses 1, 3 & 4



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



*Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,*  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



*ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.*  
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

## GREETING

P We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

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

## AWAY IN A MANGER



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2–7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

# O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

## Verses 1, 2 & 4



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

P The holy gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.  
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:1–20**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

<sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P The gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

# CHRISTMAS HOMILY

The Reverend Karen Nelson, Pastor

## JOY TO THE WORLD

### Verses 1, 3 & 4



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872



## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed

**C** **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 THE CHURCH

L Let us pray.

L With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

*A brief silence.*

L Your infinite love is born to us this night. With choirs of angels the church proclaims the good news. Send us out as messengers of the hope that has come to all people. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

L You are pleased to dwell with your creatures and the whole earth sings for joy. Renew the splendor of creation from the smallest cell to the widest galaxies. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of generations to come. God of grace,  
**C hear our prayer.**

L Your authority is over the nations. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear. Bring peace where there is war, compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease. God of grace,  
**C hear our prayer.**

L You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Protect infants and children and bless those who care for them. Watch over women giving birth, attend the dying, and relieve any who are in pain. Shelter refugee families and those who have no home. God of grace,  
**C hear our prayer.**

L Your loving kindness embraces everyone in need. Help any for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort those among us, or known to us, who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or grieving.

We especially pray for those who are unable to be with us today: Sandy, Dot, Nancy, Joe & Diane.

For those in need of God's healing love and strength: Steve, Rick, Brandon, Mike, Stacy, Joan, Jane, Peggy, Anna, Marita, Heather, Tilly, Paula, Tom, Susan, Vince, Bob, Carol, Leslie, Katrina, Mary, Sherry, Rhiana, Edward, Megan, Jed, Wayne, Phyllis, & Sandra

For those in need of God's guidance, protection and strength:  
Christine & Hope

In gratitude for God's abundance:

For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

For those who serve and protect our nation: Jordan, Brian, & Craig.

And for those who we hold in our hearts, and those whose needs are known only to you God.

God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

L You welcome those who have died into the joyous light of glory. We give thanks for the saints of every time and place who have praised you with lives of faith and humility. Inspire us by their example to love you by serving others. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

L Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

**C Amen.**

# SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P Please rise.
- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C **And also with you.**

*While we sing, you may turn to those sitting closest to you to offer, and receive, the peace and reconciliation which is possible only through Christ.*

## Peace

Musical score for the hymn "Peace". The score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of quarter note = 70. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is on a single staff. The lyrics are: "Pe - ace to you! God's Pe - ace to you. I share Go - d's Peace with you - - -". The score is divided into two systems. The first system has a measure number of 1 and the second system has a measure number of 5. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: Bb, Eb, F7, Bb, Eb, F, Bb, Bb7 in the first system; Bb, Eb, F7, Bb, Gm, Gm/Eb, F, 1.Bb, 2.Eb Bb in the second system.

- P Please be seated.

## OFFERTORY MEDITATION MUSIC

“Gesu Bambino” - Trinity Choir and Bell Choir

With

Hannah Nelson-Poteet soloist

## OFFERING

*God has blessed us in so many ways. We offer our gifts as a demonstration of our gratitude. And we pray God will use these resources to help us address the needs of our neighbors.*

**Offering by online giving:** Make a gift to the general fund at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YR6Z/home>



**P** Please rise.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**P** God of abundance,  
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.  
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,  
and gather us at your table of celebration.  
Strengthen us to share with all the world  
the abundance of your grace upon grace,  
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

**C** **Amen.**

# GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- P 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.
- P 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.
- P With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We find our hope in his coming.
- C Come, Lord Jesus.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C 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.**

## COMMUNION

- P The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
- C Amen.**

*To receive Holy Communion please come by the center aisle to the pastor to receive the bread (wafer) and then proceed to the communion assistant for intinction (dipping your wafer in the wine) and then eat, then return to your seat by the side aisle.*

*Non alcoholic wine is used at all services.  
A gluten free wafer is available,  
simply tell the Pastor when you approach.*

*If you are not communing and desire a personal blessing please come to Pastor with your hands at your sides.*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

- P May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you forever in His grace.
- C Amen.**



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal, we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.



## THE GOSPEL OF THE INCARNATION: John 1:1–14

*Candles are lit at this time.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And 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.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

# SILENT NIGHT

Silent Night, Holy Night!  
*Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!*



*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



*Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



*Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

## BLESSING

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with His favor and ☩ give you His peace.
- C** **Amen.**

*The candles may be extinguished.*

# SENDING HYMN

## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

## DISMISSAL

P Joy to the World...the Lord is come! Go in peace and joy.  
C **Thanks be to God!**

## Poinsettia Sponsorships



Given in honor of her children & grandchildren by Betty Kratz.

Given in memory of their parents by Dave & Linda Stone.

Given in honor of their children Dan & Ali by Dave & Linda Stone.

Given in memory of their parents, George & Bertha Ferris and Stephen & Pollyann Nowmos,  
by John & Alma Nowmos.

Given in memory of George & Susan Hilty by Jessica Lacerte.

Given in memory of their parents by Jeff & Becky Shadle.

Given in memory of her parents, Jean & Ed Meibohm, by Anne Meibohm.

Given in memory of Mark Campbell by Lori Peltier.

Given in memory of her husband Ray by Elaine Gross.

Given in honor of her children Carol, Lynn & Kathy by Elaine Gross.

Given in memory of their parents by Vince & Liz Gallenti.

Give in memory of her parents, Ted & Mary Gross, by Marilou Doughty.

Given in honor of Elaine Gross with love from her family.

Given in honor of loved ones both here & departed by Peter & Lynne Schell.

Given in honor of all who serve at Trinity by Kristin Stoeber.

Given in memory of Joseph, Marie & Karl by the Schafers.

Given in honor of their granddaughter, Mira, by Bob & Trish Graves.

Given in memory of Mark Howard Flanigan by Judy Flanigan.

Given in memory of William Jeffries by Sally Jeffries.

Given in memory of Jean, John & Irma Erickson, Betty & Warren Dungan & Louise Hirst  
by Ann Dungan.

Given in memory of Elizabeth & Robert Marberger by Dave & Doreen Marberger.

Given in honor of their children & grandchildren by Jim & JoAnn Sorom.

Given in gratitude for family & friends by Paul & Priscilla Myers.

TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
FAIRVIEW VILLAGE

LIVE LOVE SERVE

<i>Serving Today:</i>	3 PM	7 PM
<i>Lector</i>	<i>Lynn Chialastri</i>	<i>Linda Stone</i>
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Emma Birkmire &amp; Ann Dungan</i>	<i>Lynn Schell &amp; Priscilla Myers</i>
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	<i>Lynn Chialastri &amp; Paul Myers</i>	<i>Jen Castor &amp; Marilou Doughty</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Rick Cole &amp; Karl Schafer</i>	<i>Leslie Askonas &amp; Lori Peltier</i>
<i>Building</i>	<i>Opener: Rick Cole</i>	<i>Closer: Alma Nowmos</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Trish Graves</i>	<i>Brenda Aslin</i>

