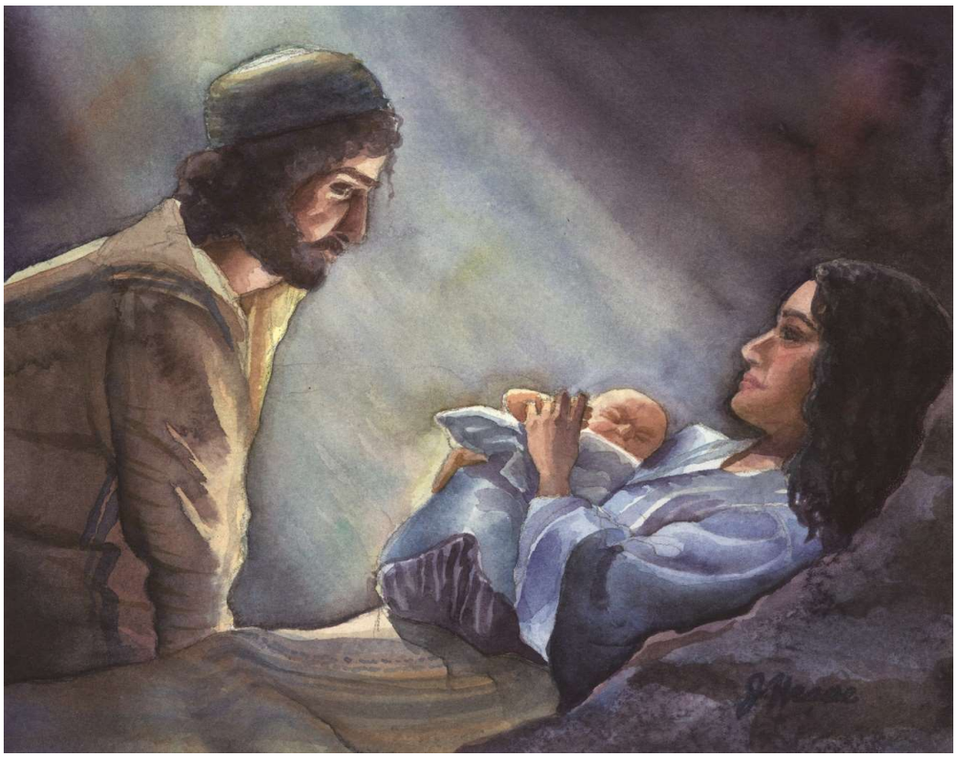


The Holy Nativity of Our Lord
Trinity Lutheran Church
December 24, 2025

PRELUDE Oboe Concerto in D Minor Tomaso Albinoni
Adagio

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (*stand*) "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"
LSB 359

Choir *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!*
Of Jesse's lineage coming as prophets long have sung,
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

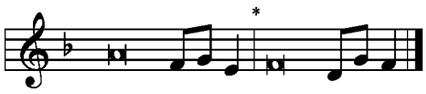
Choir *Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;*
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

All (*sing softly*)
This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

All (*sing loudly*)
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.

INVOCATION
Pastor In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

INTROIT *The Reign of the Lord's Anointed* Psalm 2:1-2, 4-6
antiphon: liturgical text



Solo When all was still, and it was | midnight,*
your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the | royal throne.

All **Why do the | nations rage***
and the peoples | plot in vain?

Solo The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel to- | gether,*
against the LORD and against his a- | nointed.

All **He who sits in the | heavens laughs;***
the Lord holds them in de- | rision.

Solo Then he will speak to them | in his wrath,*
and terrify them in his fury, | saying,

All **"As for me, I have | set my King***
on Zion, my | holy hill."

All **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Solo When all was still, and it was | midnight,*
your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the | royal throne.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS "Angels We Have Heard On High" LSB 368

Choir *Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,*
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Choir *Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?*
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria, sing gloria!

All **Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;**
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Pastor O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All **Amen.** (*sit*)

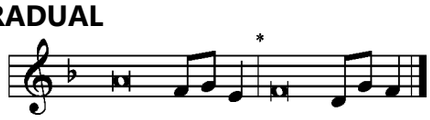
OLD TESTAMENT *For To Us a Child is Born* Isaiah 9:2-7

[2]The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.
[3]You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

[4]For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
[5]For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
[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.
[7]Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Assistant This is the Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a



Solo 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.
All **Sing to the Lord a | new song,***
for he has done | marvelous things!

EPISTLE *The Grace of God Has Appeared* Titus 2:11–14

[11]For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, [12]training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, [13]waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, [14]who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Assistant This is the Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.** (*stand*)

HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB 379, v. 1

All **O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant**
O come, ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him born the king of angels;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

GOSPEL *The Birth of Jesus* Luke 2:1-14

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
All **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[1]In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. [2]This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. [3]And all went to be registered, each to his own town. [4]And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to 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, who was with child. [6]And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. [7]And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

[8]And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. [9]And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. [10]And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. [11]For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. [12]And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and 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 among those with whom he is pleased!"

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB 379, v. 3

All **Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,**
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest.
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

CREED *Luther's explanation to the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed*
I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives, and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

HYMN OF THE DAY (*sit*) "From Heaven Above" LSB 358, sts. 1-6, 15

According to legend, Martin Luther wrote this hymn and tune as a pageant for his children to perform in their home on Christmas Eve. The first five stanzas are sung by a character dressed as an angel. Stanza six is the response of the shepherds, and the hymn concludes with everyone in the household singing a paraphrase of the Gloria in Excelsis sung by the angels in Luke 2:14.

Choir *"From heav'n above to earth I come to bear good news to ev'ry home;*
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, whereof I now will say and sing:

"To you this night is born a child of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.

"This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be from all your sins to set you free.

"He will on you the gifts bestow prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair, you may with us His glory share.

"These are the signs that you shall mark: the swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid by whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

All **How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the shepherds let us go**
To see what God for us has done in sending us His own dear Son.

All **Glory to God in highest heav'n Who unto us His Son has giv'n!**
While angels sing with pious mirth a glad new year on all the earth.

SERMON "Grace in the Flesh, for our life and eternity" Titus 2:11–14

OFFERING (*sit*) *Mary, Did You Know?* Buddy Greene
Please sign and pass the attendance record in your pew

CHRISTMAS PRAYER (*stand*)

PREFACE

Pastor The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**

Pastor Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor It is truly good, right, and salutary … praising You and saying:

SANCTUS LSB 367, v. 5

All **All creation, join in praising**
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the_eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

LORD'S PRAYER

All **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.**

AGNUS DEI "What Child is This" LSB 370

All **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!

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!

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!

HYMN (*sit*) "Away in a Manger" LSB 364

All **Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,**
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay.
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love thee. Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" LSB 361

All **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 dark streets shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

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 all the earth!

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

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;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

HYMN "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" LSB 374

All **Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;**
There He lay, the Undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found His favor.

Angels sang about His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefiled but no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth; hail the King of glory!

HYMN "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" LSB 366

All **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, goodwill to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its babel sounds the blessèd angels sing.

All you, beneath your heavy load, by care and guilt bent low,
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.

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.

HYMN "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" LSB 380

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

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 Godhead see, hail incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

HYMN "Go Tell It on the Mountain" LSB 388

Refrain
Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

(*sing softly*)
While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

(*sing loudly*)
The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

(*sing softly*)
Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessèd Christmas morn. *Refrain*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (*stand*) "Joy to the World" LSB 387

Please ring a bell or shake your keys during this hymn

All **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.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns; let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy. Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

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.

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.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES (*sit*)

Please keep the lit candle upright as your neighbor lights their candle

CLOSING HYMN "Silent Night, Holy Night" LSB 363

Choir Cold are the people, winter of life,
We tremble in shadows this cold endless night,
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, flowers that will echo the sunrise,
Fire of hope is our only warmth, weary, its flame will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night,
On wind you enfold us, you speak of the light,
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, rumors of a dawn so embracing,
Breathless love awaits darkened souls, soon will we know of the morning.

Spirit among us, shine like the star,
Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar.
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely, rising in the warmth of the Son's love,
Star unknowing of night and day, Spirit we wait for the loving Son.

All **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.

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!

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor 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.

All **Amen.**

Please extinguish your candle.

POSTLUDE *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* anon. medieval tune

You may exit the sanctuary after the acolytes extinguish the altar candles.

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Welcome to all who have joined us to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus. At Trinity, there is a place for everyone, and we hope that you have felt included in the family of Christ while you are here. If there is anything more we can do for you, please don't hesitate to ask.

Remember that you are always welcome to worship with us:
4:30 pm Saturdays
8:00 am Sundays live-stream and in person
10:30 am Sundays

We pray the spirit of Christmas may remain in your heart throughout the year as we continue to grow in Christ together.