

# Trinity Lutheran Church

**Christmas Eve Worship**

To assist with worship- **Bold:** All Respond

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024 –3pm**

\* Please stand as you are able



**THEME** A census issued by Caesar Augustus leads Joseph and Mary to travel to Bethlehem. In the city, Mary gives birth to Jesus. This news is announced to some shepherds living in the nearby fields by an angel who gives them a sign to look for the Messiah.

**PRESERVICE MUSIC**

Medley of Carols

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

“Christmas Angels”  
Rebecca Eastland, flute

arr. Joel Raney

**\* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Emmanuel is here among us! **We light this candle of hope fulfilled.**

We light this candle for love incarnate. **We light this candle with joy at your coming.**

We light this candle for peace on earth. **We light the Christ candle in a proclamation of God with us!**

Thanks be to God.

\* **CAROL**                      “Good Christian Friends Rejoice”                      vs. 1 & 2                      ELW No. 288  
Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ  
is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

\* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

Let us pray together. Almighty God, **As we hear the story of our Savior's birth, we are filled with wonder and awe. Thank you for the gift of your Son, born in a manger. In our daily lives, help us remember the profound joy of this story. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

\* **CAROL**                      “Good Christian Friends Rejoice”                      vs. 3                      ELW No. 288  
Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the  
grave; Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting  
hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

**FIRST READING**                      Isaiah 9:1-7

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <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.

## THE ABC'S OF CHRISTMAS

### EXPLANATION

**A** is for an angel (**ahhh!**), Gabriel, who began the story with a greeting: “Good evening! You’re beautiful with God’s beauty, Beautiful inside and out! God be with you!” Luke 1:28 *The Message*

**B** is for Bethlehem, where our story takes place. People traveled from far and wide to arrive in the city; it was a very busy place (*mumble under your breath*).

**C** is for a census [that's a counting of all the people] (**How many people here?**) the reason so many people filled the city of Bethlehem.

**CAROL** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 1 & 2 ELW No. 279

**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!**

**D** is for the donkey (**hee-haw**) that carried a family on their long journey to Bethlehem to be counted.

**E** is for exhausted (*take a deep breath*), that's how everyone felt when they arrived – tired from all the travelling.

**F** is for family (**you and me and baby makes three**): Mary and Joseph and their new baby Jesus, who was born that night in Bethlehem.

**CAROL** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 3 & 4 ELW No. 279

**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; oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**

**G** is for the Good News (**we have good news!**) about to be shared with all the earth. This is what was said:

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 2:8-16

<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.

**YOUTH CHOIR ANTHEM** “Humble Savior”      Rebecca Eastland, flute      Diane Beckstead

Weary trav’lers, seeking comfort and a place to lay their heads.  
Two found nothing but a stable in a crowded Bethlehem.  
When the town lay still and silent, Joseph held his infant son.  
Others slept but Mary marveled: God had sent the chosen one.  
Sing a humble song for a humble Savior, born in a lowly cattle shed.  
While the angels sang and shepherds knelt, the world slept on.  
Where was the fanfare? The celebration for the birthday of a king?  
After years of expectation, Love upended ev’rything!  
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.

**H** is for herds, all the animals that were present in the stable, and the flocks of sheep (*make animal noises*) in the field with the shepherds when they heard the good news.

**I** is for our imaginations (**we will be in a world of pure imagination**), stirred by this story!

**CAROL**      “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”      vs. 1, 2 & 4      ELW No. 275

**Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

**Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.**

**Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light. (Refrain)**

**All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to  
the eternal Three in One. (Refrain)**

**J** is for joy (**whoop-whoop!**) the excitement (**hurray!**) and happiness that a new baby, and now, this special night brings.

**YOUTH CHOIR**      “Norwegian Dance Carol”      Dolores Hruby

Now Christmas has come and we sing of the One, who came to this earth for all children.

We greet you with joy as we sing of the boy, to bring you a bright, happy welcome.

(Refrain) We noisily stamp our feet, we loudly clap our hands, we turn around and bow so low;  
We stamp again and clap hands together.

O Wise Men, we know where it is that you go; Oh, please let us go there together.

On camels you'll ride as we walk by your side; the Star shining brightly to guide us. (Refrain)

Now give me your hand as together we stand; come hurry my sister and brother.  
Hold hands knit in love, holy love from above; we promise to care for each other. (Refrain)

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & GIFT FROM JESUS** Pastor Pam Challis

**K** is for kindness, shown by the innkeeper that night, allowing a tired family to stay in the stable when there was no room in the inn (**aww! That's so nice**).

**L** is for the love (**we love you!**) we share with one another all through the year and especially at Christmas.

### **\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

### **\* 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.**

### **\* PREFACE**

Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to the 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.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

## \* LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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

God with us, Emmanuel, Jesus who is called Christ, now welcomes you to the table of life, to the celebratory feast of all creation. Come with joy with your siblings in Christ and share in this precious and holy meal. Here at Trinity, we practice the understanding that this is Jesus' table. He is the host of this meal and Jesus turns no one away. Everyone is invited to receive this bread and wine and with it the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. All will soon be prepared—come and eat.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

“What Child Is This”

ELW No. 296 (st. 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!**

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

ELW No. 289 (st.1 & 3)

**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!**

**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!**

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

ELW No. 270 (st.1 & 2)

**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 hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”**

**Refrain: 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 Emmanuel! (Refrain)**

“The First Noel”

ELW No. 300 (st. 1 & 2)

**The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

“Joy to the World”

ELW No. 267 (st. 1 & 4)

**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.**

**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.**

**\* POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

**\* POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us  
forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. **Amen.**

## **THE ABCS OF CHRISTMAS, CONT.**

**M** is for the manger, it is usually used to hold food for animals (*make animal noises*), but this time it held the  
baby because he had no crib.

**CAROL**

“Away in a Manger”

ELW No. 277

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the  
stars in the bright 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  
you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all  
the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

**N** is for noel, another word for Christmas. It means new birth, that’s what happened in our story, and it  
happens every year.

**O** is for offering, there were many gifts for the baby; we even have some to share now (**Oooh, we love  
giving gifts!**)

## OFFERING



Scan to Give Electronically

**CAROL** “In a Far-Off Place, Jesus Comes” vs.1 solo vs. 2 youth choir **vs. 3 all** ACS No. 908  
In a far-off place, Jesus comes to earth. Sheep and cattle grace the site. As the angel songs begin,  
like the whisper of the wind, nature's hope awakes again; Jesus comes.

For the poor in heart, Jesus comes to earth. Humble shepherds start the news. For each homeless  
infant born, for the meek and those who mourn, for the weary and the worn, Jesus comes.

**In our deepest night, Jesus comes to earth. Radiant star to light our way. Summer's heat or  
winter's chill, with a warm and loving will, to a world that needs him still, Jesus comes.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God, you have given us treasure upon treasure, even to the gift of your own Son. With joy we  
bring before you our gifts in return, and offer them to you for the continuation of the work you began in  
Jesus Christ, for the flourishing of all creation. **Amen**

## THE ABCS OF CHRISTMAS, CONT.

**P** is for prayer and praise and pondering, all different ways people reacted to the amazing thing that  
happened. We pray and praise and ponder together: (*we sit, or stand or kneel at this time for prayer*)

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Glory to God in the highest

**And peace to God's people on earth.**

Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

**Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

Blessed are you, Wonderful Counselor. You enlighten the heart with steadfast love.

**Enliven your church that it might bear good tidings of great joy to all people.**

Blessed are you, Emmanuel. You promise to be with us even to the end of the age.

**Open our eyes to see your presence in all who are hungry, lonely, or homeless.**

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

**Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**

Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

**Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## THE ABCS OF CHRISTMAS, CONT.

**Q** is for quiet (**Hush now!**), the deep peace that Christmas brings –knowing that God is with us.



**R** is for revelation (**what!!**), God showing us who God is (**in a little baby born this night!**)

**S** is for one special star (**Ooh! A star!**) that shone bright in the night showing wise ones the way to Jesus.

**CAROL**

“Love Has Come”

ELW No. 292

**Love has come—a light in the darkness. Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises: Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.**

**Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.**

**Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free. Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas; Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**

## **THE ABCS OF CHRISTMAS, CONT.**

**T** is for trust, the confidence we have in God (**God, we believe in you!**)

**U** is for unity (**we are all one**), all different people brought together tonight to celebrate God’s love!

**V** is for vulnerable, a little child needs to be cared for, protected—that’s our job (**and we will do our best!**)

**W** is for wonder—our amazement at the beauty of how much God loves us (**this is so awesome!**)

**CAROL**

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

vs. 1& 2

ELW No. 282

**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.**

**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 blessed angels sing.**

**X** is for Xmas, the X is actually the Greek letter “chi”, the first letter in the word “Christ”. (**X marks God’s spot**)

**Y** is for you! You are here to celebrate and worship (**Yes, we are!**)

**Z** is for zeal, the passion with which we share the Good News and God’s love, tonight (**We will share God’s love with everyone!**)

**\* CAROL**

“Go! Tell it on the Mountain”

ELW No. 290

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

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

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

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

**\* SHARING OF THE LIGHT**

While the organ prepares us for singing Silent Night the congregation will light their candles for the hymn. PLEASE, tilt the unlit candle to receive the flame from the lit candle. Adults, please supervise children closely.

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

ELW No. 281

**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 your holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

**\* DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

“Sleigh Ride”

Leroy Anderson

Jeanine Marsh & Marilyn Van Roekel, duet

---

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* or *All Creation Sings* Hymnals copyright © 2024. All rights reserved.  
Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under One License.net #A-705807  
and under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB153896.

### Worship Participants

**Ushers:** Ken Vogler, Andrew Burow, Craig Glover

**Livestream Operator:** Jane Twetten **Sound:** Melanie Nehls Burow **Reader:** Julie Walker

**Altar Guild:** Jane Deutschmann **Communion Coordinator:** Craig Glover **Offering:** Susan Twetten

**Assisting Minister:** Julie Walker **Youth Choir Director:** Jeanine Marsh

**Organist:** Marilyn Van Roekel **President:** Pastor Pam Challis

### Youth Choir Members

Neve Lovenduski

Jette Godfrey

Meg Reynolds



### Trinity Christmas Worship Schedule

**Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day**

“From Heaven Above” Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion - 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, December 29 - Christmas I**

“Until Peace and Justice Embrace” Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion - 9:30am.

Christmas Goody Potluck - 10:45 a.m.

In person or online at [www.TrinityBoulder.org/Live](http://www.TrinityBoulder.org/Live)



**Thank you to all who purchased Poinsettias  
to decorate Trinity and to celebrate the  
newborn Christ child!**

**Dan and Diana Breed**

**John & Sue Patti**

**Jim Crowder**

**The Challis Family**

**Kathy Koshi** ~ in honor of family

**The Dieter Family** ~ in memory of Kristine Dieter

**Duane Isakson** ~ in memory of Stephanie Isakson

**Jim McRitchie** ~ in memory of Dave and Marian McRitchie

**Gail Gray** ~ to the glory of God and for a peaceful holiday and prayers for peace in the new year

**Trinity Staff** ~ in memory of Nancy Challis, Dave Challis's mom

**Peggy Brooks** ~ in memory of Kristil Krug

**John & Lois Greer** ~ to the glory of God and for Abby & Laura

**Terry and Lonnie Hilkemeier** ~ to the glory of God and for family and friends

**Dan and Susan Twetten** ~ to the glory of God and for Jane and Elsa

**Steve and Cathy Thompson** ~ in memory of Phyllis Thompson

**Marilyn Van Roekel and Jeff Barton** ~ in honor of their children and grandchildren

**John, Courtney, Rachel, & Meg Reynolds** ~ in honor of Andrew, Elizabeth, Angela, and Pastor Pam for their commitment to the Confirmation experience.

**Dick & Nancy Pautsch** ~ in memory of Betty & Arvid Norman, and Arlene & Lester Pautsch

**Address:** 2200 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80302

**Office Email:** [info@trinityboulder.org](mailto:info@trinityboulder.org)

**Pastor Email:** [pastor@trinityboulder.org](mailto:pastor@trinityboulder.org)

**Youth Email:** [youth@trinityboulder.org](mailto:youth@trinityboulder.org)

**Church Office Hours:** M-Th 10am-3pm

**Phone:** 303-442-2300

**Website:** [www.trinityboulder.org](http://www.trinityboulder.org)

**In-Person and Livestream Worship: Sundays at 9:30am**

[TrinityBoulder.org/Live](http://TrinityBoulder.org/Live)