

Trinity Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve Worship

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

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 - 9pm

* Please stand as you are able



Gathering

+ The Holy Spirit Gathers us to Worship +

THEME A census issued by Caesar Augustus leads Joseph and Mary to travel to Bethlehem. In the city, Mary gives birth to Jesus. The 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

“Pastoral Symphony” (from “Messiah”)

G.F. Handel arr. Don Hustad

*** 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!

* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, you search us out and know us, and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned. When we make no room for Christ, and fail to welcome him into our lives,

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

When we follow shooting stars and squander our gifts in Herod's court. When we seek to cut down those who might rise above us,

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

When we sanitize your birth place and erase from memory the poor and displaced. When we sing sweet sentiments over Christ's birth, and fail to rejoice over his everyday presence,

In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.

We turn to you, O Christ, perfect union of Spirit and flesh;

We renounce evil; We claim your love; We choose to be made whole. Amen

* **CAROL**

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

ELW No. 272

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

Let us pray. 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.**

Word

+ God speaks to us in scripture: read, sung, and preached +

FIRST READING Isaiah 9:1-7

¹ 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.

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

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

⁶For 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.
⁷His 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.
Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

“Once in Royal David’s City”

ELW No. 269

SECOND READING Psalm 96

¹O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
²**Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.**
³Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.
⁴**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.**
⁵For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
⁶**Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**
⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.**
⁹Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.
¹⁰**Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."**
¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
¹²**let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy**
¹³before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“O Holy Night”

Melanie Nehls Burow, solo

Adolphe Adam

THIRD READING Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.
Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

* GOSPEL PROCESSION

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

ELW No. 295 (st.1)

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore.

*** GOSPEL READING** Luke 2:1-20

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

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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. ⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

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

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

*** GOSPEL RECISSION** "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

ELW No. 295 (st.2)

**Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race, and the babe, the world's redeemer, first revealed his sacred
face, evermore and evermore.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Pam Challis

SERMON Pastor Pam Challis

*** CAROL** "Love Has Come"

ELW No. 292

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

OFFERING



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OFFERING SONG

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

ELW No. 294

* OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God, we can think of no greater gift to us than Jesus. In awe and gratitude, we respond with our offerings out of the abundance you have provided in our lives. Use them for the good of the world. **Amen.**

Meal

+ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ +

* GREAT THANKSGIVING

tune: Adeste Fideles

The Lord be with you. **And with you, his servant.**

Oh, come, let us lift our hearts unto the Lord.

With hearts uplifted thanks to him we render;

With joy we come before him, in gratefulness implore him,

With thankful hearts adore him evermore!

* 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.**

Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored! tune: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!

Heav'n and earth cannot contain All the glory of your name!

Hail, hosanna, God most high! Blest is he who now draws nigh

In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing;

Hail, hosanna! Praises due Be forever, Lord to you!

* THE 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**

The infant in the manger became our leader and teacher, and gave his life for the sake of all creation. He invites you now to this table, to share in the bread and wine that makes us one. Here at Trinity we practice the understanding that this is Jesus's table. He is the host of this meal, and Jesus turns no one away! Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine and with them the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Bring your whole self to this place and know that Jesus meets you as you are – beloved, accepted, and welcomed. Please be seated as we continue our preparations.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY 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!**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ELW No. 279 (st. 1 & 4)

**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.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O, come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!**

“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.**

*** 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**

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

+ God blesses us and sends us as mission into the world +

* BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

* 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

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

* SENDING HYMN

“Joy to the World”

ELW No. 267 (st. 1)

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King.
Let every 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.**

POSTLUDE

“In Dulci Jublio”

Gilbert M. Martin

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Worship Participants

Ushers: Ken Vogler, Erik Peters, Bill Rhode **Assisting Minister:** Nelson Trujillo

Livestream Operator: Eliza Eastland **Sound:** Angela Ruehle **Reader:** Andrew Burow

Offering: Dan Breed **Altar Guild:** Cathy Scheitlin **Communion Coordinator:** Annette Siverling

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

Thanks to all who purchased Poinsettias to decorate Trinity!

Dan & 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

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.

Address: 2200 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80302

Office Email: info@trinityboulder.org

Pastor Email: pastor@trinityboulder.org

Youth Email: youth@trinityboulder.org

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

Phone: 303-442-2300

Website: www.trinityboulder.org

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

TrinityBoulder.org/Live