

CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
A SONG OF MIRACLES

DECEMBER 25, 2020
9:00AM



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD
Faribault, MN

OPENING HYMN **“Joy to the World”** *LSB 387***OPENING AND LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS**

P. In the name of our great God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, we begin our celebration of the Nativity of our Lord.

C. Alleluia! Amen.

P. The grace and loving kindness of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of the virgin Mary, be with you all.

C. And also with you.

P. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!

C. Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

P. O Christ, born into the world in the fullness of time for the liberation of all creation: Release us all into Your promised freedom.

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time, born in a stable at Bethlehem: May Your church be a sign of hope and joy.

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. O Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, Child of wonder and splendor, mighty God of all ages, Prince of Peace: May the whole world live in peace and justice.

C. Grant us Your peace. Amen

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P. Today we celebrate Christmas, the incarnation of Jesus, the Word of God becoming flesh. Jesus came to bring peace and joy through all the earth, yet centuries later, our world is still filled with war and violence, hopelessness and despair. Too often, we have spread the evils of the world, rather than the joy and peace of Jesus. But our heavenly Father invites us to come before Him to ask for His forgiveness.

P. Together, let us confess: Heavenly Father,

C. we confess that we have failed to live in the joy and peace of Jesus. We have taken Your salvation for granted. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we know the joy of the Lord.

P. Our heavenly Father sent Jesus to embrace all people. Jesus comes to heal the sick, to preach good news to the poor, and to forgive sinners like you and me. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen. We are joyful in Jesus. We are forgiven in Christ.**

HYMN OF PRAISE “Angels from the Realms of Glory” *LSB 367, vv. 1, 5*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to

SECOND READING

¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to

Genesis 12:1-8

go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.

P. This is the Word of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

Galatians 4:1-7

redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

P. This is the Word of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN FOR THE GOSPEL “My Soul Rejoices” LSB 933, v. 1

(During the singing of the hymn verse, the Pastor will be led to the center aisle to read the Gospel, a symbol that God is in our midst.)

GOSPEL READING**Luke 1:46-55**

P. The Holy Gospel is found in Luke, the first chapter.

C. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁶And Mary said, “My soul magnifies
the Lord,
⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my
Savior,
⁴⁸for he has looked on the humble
estate of his servant.
For behold, from now on all
generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹for he who is mighty has done great
things for me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰And his mercy is for those who fear
him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the
thoughts of their hearts;
⁵²he has brought down the mighty from
their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
⁵³he has filled the hungry with good
things,
and the rich he has sent empty away.
⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring
forever.”

P. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Music for the Pastor to return to the chancel.)

HYMN OF THE DAY “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” LSB 386, vv. 1,3,4

SERMON**“A SONG OF MIRACLES”**

The Rev. Paul Rieger

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

P. Rejoicing in the news of the birth of our Savior, let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

APOSTLES' CREED

**C. I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Dear Lord, grant us the faith to greet the news of the Word made flesh with joy and peace. Give us the obedience of faith to walk in the light of His ways, and the strength to be steadfast in this faith. We pray for speedy feet to proclaim this message to the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
C. Hear our prayer.

(Further petitions are offered and the Pastor will say "Lord, in Your mercy."
The congregation will respond, "**Hear our prayer.**"

P. Into Your hands, we commend all for whom we pray and join together now in the prayer that our Lord Himself has taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

P. We celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar in the confidence that our Lord gives us His very body and blood to eat and drink in, with and under the bread and wine. We receive the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our union with God and with one another. As we trust His words and repent of our sins, we proclaim Christ's death until He comes. Holy Communion is a confession of our faith and we require that those who receive this Sacrament be instructed and share in the beliefs we hold.

P. Hear now, the Words of Our Lord, spoken at the time of the Last Supper:

(Words of our Lord spoken here.)

P. People of God, do you believe the body and blood of Christ is present in, with, and under the bread and wine? If so, please answer, "I do so believe."

C. **I do so believe.**

P. In addition, do you wish to receive the many blessings of this Sacrament: the forgiveness of sins, communion with Christ, unity with one another as Christians, and the opportunity to remember our Lord's sacrifice, give Him thanks for this gift and for our salvation, and proclaim our Lord's death on the cross for us? If so, please answer, "With humility and thankfulness, I wish to receive these gifts of grace."

C. **With humility and thankfulness, I wish to receive these gifts of grace.**

P. Then, welcome to the Lord's Table. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C. Amen

LAMB OF GOD

C. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us and grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

TRINITY CHOIR "Sing an Alleluia"

"God Loves Me Dearly" LSB 392

"O Come All, Ye Faithful" LSB 379

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

P. The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C. Amen

P. Let us pray: Almighty and redeeming God, today You have made us one with You by sending Your Son to share in our human lives. We thank You for this Word made flesh, revealed to us in the manger and in the bread and wine. As we return into the world You love, may we take to all people the good news of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

C. Amen

BENEDICTION

Based on Isaiah 9: 2-7

P. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in deepest night, are lit up with a brilliant sight.
Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given.
The spread of His influence and of His peace will never end.
Therefore, go out into the world with great joy,
And the grace of Bethlehem's matchless Child,
the love of the God who never ceases to amaze,
and the fellowship of the Spirit who never wearies,
will be with you this holy day and evermore.

C. Thanks be to God! Amen

CLOSING HYMN "Go Tell It on the Mountain" LSB 388

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

P. Filled with the joy of our Savior's birth, go in peace and serve the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

* * * TO GOD BE THE GLORY * * *

LEADING WORSHIP

Presiding The Rev. Tyler Werner
Preaching The Rev. Paul Rieger
Music Kevin Kreger, Organist, Trinity Choir
Worship Assistant Brad Twedt
Elder Brian Fuchs

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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