



FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

DECEMBER 24, 2023
4:30PM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD
Faribault, MN

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB 379 vv. 1-3

INVOCATION & OPENING VERSICLES

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 2:1-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was,

that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. *(continued...)*

And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is

come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

INTERGENERATIONAL LIVING NATIVITY

PART #1: MARY & JOSEPH

HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" *LSB* 361, v. 1

Narrator:

Mary and Joseph, a pitiful sight.
So tired and dirty, they gave me a fright.
Sickly or dying? What was the matter?
"A room in the inn?" Impossible chatter!
"My rooms are all taken; not one empty bed.
There'll not be a room in all Bethlehem," I said.
But their eyes told a story of hunger and need.
I couldn't avoid them, so I tried a good deed.
I cleaned up the stable: Rachel cooked up a meal.
We helped all we could, at least, that's how I feel.
For we noticed that Mary was expecting - and soon!
So we prepared for delivery right under the moon.
The child came so quickly. His face seemed a light.
As if God had shone God's presence so gloriously bright.
Joseph said softly. "It's Jesus, my friend."
God sent him among us to bring to an end
Fear and hatred, darkness and sin.
Instead God gave light, to let God's love in."

PART #2: THE ANIMALS

HYMN: “Away in a Manger” *LSB* 365, v. 1-cong., v. 2-choir, *LSB* 364, v. 3-cong.

Narrator:

My animals were calm, quieter than normal.
They often were noisy, and never too formal.
They always were eating, or else they were sleeping.
The stable required continuous sweeping.
But on Christmas night, they were strangely in awe
At the sight of the babe and all that they saw.
It's as if they were aware that God had just hushed them,
Had fed and watered and carefully brushed them.
They knew, I believe, that God had been able
To work a miracle there in that stable.

PART #3: THE STAR & THE ANGELS

HYMN: “Angels We Have Heard on High” *LSB* 368, v. 1

Narrator:

We don't often see angels in flight.
But on the first Christmas, they lit up the night.
They appeared to the shepherds and, boy, were they scared!
“Angels!” cried one. “Will any lives be spared?”
“Are they here to destroy us? Is our time on earth up?
Have we seen our last day? Have we drunk our last cup?”
But “Peace on earth; goodwill to all.”
Was the angels' sweet song; that was their call.
With a light show that dazzled all who did see,
The angels hallelujahed and sang out with glee.
“To Bethlehem, shepherds!” the angels directed.
“To see Jesus the Christ, whom God has perfected.”
“Go worship the Lord and follow his ways.
And you'll find Christmas joy for all of your days.”

PART #4: THE SHEPHERDS
TRINITY CHOIR “The Newborn King”

Narrator:

The shepherds, I told you, were scared and stunned.
“Too much hard work or too much hot sun!”
That’s what they thought; that’s how they explained.
Perplexed and afraid, they loudly complained.
But the angels’ song calmed them, and then they believed.
They rejoiced when they knew and they were quite relieved.
They went to the stable and worshiped the Lord.
Then they left and began to spread the good Word.

PART #5: THE STAR & THE MAGI
TRINITY CHOIR “The Stable Carol”

Narrator:

The star that shone brightly led Wise Persons at night
To Bethlehem’s stable, to the manger’s strange light.
They came bearing gifts, in worship and love,
Praising God for God’s wonders from heaven above.
The Wise Men were kings and they knelt on my straw.
It was the oddest of things that ever I saw.
If kings bring him treasure,
Then maybe you, too, can worship with pleasure
The person of Jesus, who came to us all.
So worthy of praise, for he brings us God’s call.
“I am the way, the truth, and the life,
Come to God for healing from strife.
Come unto me, all you who labor,
And I’ll give you perfect rest, forever to savor.”

PART #6: CONCLUSION

Narrator:

T'was the very first Christmas and there in the manger,
The Christ-child was born; it couldn't have been stranger.
Shepherds saw angels; Wise Men, a star.
They came to see Jesus; they came from afar.
They knew he was special - God's very own Son,
He came down to earth to love everyone.
He grew up in time, the Savior, the Lord,
To be worshiped each day, to be loved and adored.
So now at each Christmas we all take delight,
In the gift that God gave us that first Christmas night.
In the gifts we receive and the ones that we give,
Let us never forget, it's in Christ that we live.

HYMN "Go Tell It on the Mountain" LSB 388

CHRISTMAS HOMILY "UNTO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR" – Rev. Dr. Brent Klein

TITHES AND OFFERING "All Is Well" Trinity Choir

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

(Two Ushers light the eight candles among the poinsettias.)

CANDLE LIGHTING

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C: the light no darkness can overcome.

P: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

C: and the day is almost over.

P: Let your light scatter the darkness

C: and illumine Your Church.

HYMN: “Silent Night, Holy Night” *LSB 363 (please watch the director)*

BENEDICTION

P: On this Christmas Eve, may you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child.

P: And may almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: “Joy to the World” *LSB 387*

DISMISSAL

P: Filled with the joy of our Savior’s birth, go in peace, for Christ is with you!

C: Thanks be to God!

* * * **To GOD BE THE GLORY** * * *

LEADING WORSHIP

Preaching The Rev. Dr. Brent Klein

Music Nancy Simonson, Organist; Trinity Choir;
Karen Fuchs-Archambault, Director

Worship Assistants Brent Peterson, Dave Simonson

Elder Curt Becher

Soundboard Noah Negaard

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Sunday, Christmas Eve, December 24

10:00 PM - Candlelight Service

(Rev. Dr. Brent Klein)

Monday, Christmas Day, December 25

9:00 AM - Christmas Day Service [with Holy Communion]

(Rev. Dr. Armand J. Boehme)

Regular Worship Services on December 30 & 31

5:30 PM Service on Saturday

8:00 & 10:30 AM Services on Sunday

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL