

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH,
FARIBAULT, MN
DECEMBER 28 & 29, 2024**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

L Welcome to this service of Scripture lessons and music. Through the lessons from Holy Scripture we remember the reason for our celebration of Christmas, and we will also reflect on the past year of 2024 and look forward to the new year. The lessons begin with the reason God had to send a Savior, that is, mankind's fall into sin. Then the lessons show us how God promised to redeem His people by sending the "Messiah, God With Us". When the time was right in God's eyes, the lessons tell about the birth of Jesus, our Redeemer and Savior. Our service will end with readings appropriate for the ending of one year, looking forward to the new year. Let us begin this special service of worship and praise.

Please stand

L In the name of our great God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

L Let us pray: O Lord, our God, help us to focus on the complete reason for the celebration of Christmas and New Year's. We remember that gifts under the tree should not be our focus, but rather, the **GIFT** Who was nailed to a tree for our salvation. We ask that You always remain the center of our lives, as our hope and strength for the new year. Thank You for redeeming us and thank You for bringing us to this holy time of celebration once again. In the name of our Messiah and King, we pray,

C **Amen**

OPENING HYMN "Once in Royal David's City" LSB 376
stanzas 1 & 2-Solo, 3 & 4-All

Please sit

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

(The seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.)

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was

naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?"

(continued...)

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you

and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN "The Tree of Life" LSB 561, stanzas 1-All, 2-Men, 3-Women, 4-All

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:2,6,7

(The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.)

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

⁶For 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. ⁷Of 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the verse

HYMN "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heav'nly Light" stanza 1 (*melody LSB 378*)

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light, And usher in the morning.
Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, The day of grace is dawning.
This Child, though weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be,
The pow'r of Satan breaking, Our peace eternal making.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. "Lutheran Hymnal (Australia)", 1973; Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667
Text: © 1973 Openbook Publishers. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002916; Tune: Public domain

Please sit

THIRD LESSON

(A ruler will be born in Bethlehem.)

Micah 5:2-5a

²But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

(continued...)

⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

R This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem” *LSB 361*, melody *LSB 362*
 stanzas 1-Women, 2-Men, 3-All

FOURTH LESSON (*The angel Gabriel visits Mary.*)

Luke 1:26-35, 38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father

David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

R This is the Word of the Lord
C **Thanks be to God.**

INSTRUMENTAL “The Angel Gabriel”

(You are encouraged to follow along with the lyrics on LSB 356, and you are welcome to hum the melody.)

FIFTH LESSON

(The birth of Jesus)

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and

unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, *(continued...)*

“Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name

Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN “Away in a Manger” LSB 364, stanzas 1-3

SIXTH LESSON (*The Wise Men are led to the manger.*)

Matthew 2:1-12

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and

search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN “What Child Is This” LSB 370, stanza 3

SEVENTH LESSON *(The mystery of the Incarnation)***John 1:1-14**

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN **“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”** LSB 384, stanzas 1 & 2-Solo, 3-All

L As we gather our tithes and offerings, please remember to fill out the Friendship pads and the ushers will collect them.

TITHES AND OFFERING *Instrumental “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”*
(You are encouraged to follow along with the lyrics on LSB 621,
and are welcome to hum melody.)

EIGHTH LESSON Thinking of the past year of 2024**Romans 8:28-39***(We are more than conquerors.)*

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn?

(continued...)

Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN “Little Ones, Dear Lord”, stanzas 1-All, 2-Women, 3-Men, 4-All

1 Your little ones, dear Lord, are we,
And come your lowly bed to see;
Enlighten ev’ry soul and mind,
That we the way to you may find.

3 Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,
And to us all your grace accord;
True faith and love to us impart,
That we may hold you in our heart.

2 With songs we hasten you to greet,
And kiss the dust before your feet.
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night
That gave you birth, our soul’s delight.

4 Until at last we too proclaim,
With all your saints, your glorious name;
In paradise our songs renew,
And praise you as the angels do.

Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694-1764: tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, 1845-1925, alt. Tune: Johann A.P. Schultz, 1747-1800, Text & Tune: Public domain

NINTH LESSON *(Sing to the Lord a new song)*

Psalm 98:1-9

Read this psalm responsively, led by presiding Elder.

R¹ Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

C² **The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

R³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

C⁴ **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

R⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

C⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

(continued...)

R⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!

C⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands; let
the hills sing for joy together
⁹before the LORD, for he comes to
judge the earth.

R He will judge the world with
righteousness, and the peoples with
equity.

**GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON
AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.
AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING,
IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER. AMEN.**

HYMN “Joy to the World” *LSB* 387, stanzas 1,4

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L We rise for prayer:

Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We celebrate the birth of our Savior, and we give thanks for His death and resurrection, so that we may live eternally with You, our great God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L Lord, hear us as we pray as You have 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.

BLESSING

L Receive the blessing of the Lord: May the Lord bless us and keep us.
May the Lord make His face shine upon us and be gracious to us.
May the Lord look upon us with favor and grant us peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

Please remain standing for hymn

CLOSING HYMN “Almighty Father, Bless the Word” *LSB* 923, stanzas 1-3

POSTLUDE “We Wish You a Merry Christmas”

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

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.