

*I am bringing you
good news of
great joy.*

HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY
DECEMBER 25, 2024

10:00 A.M.

As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore!

Asterisk () indicates that worshipers should please stand as able.*

*Congregational responses are printed in **bold** typeface.*

Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices during the worship service.

The worship livestream begins 10 minutes before the service.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

TOLLING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mary V. Farnham

PRELUDE

Deacon Ned Perwo & Evan Judson

Ave Maria

By Charles Gounod / J.S. Bach

Arranged by John H. Head

Please be seated in prayerful silence during the prelude, which begins our worship together.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The congregation is invited to kneel or stand, as they are able.

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God-with-us,
we confess that we have turned away
those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.
We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.
We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.
Too often, we have valued violence
instead of your peace.
Turn us from our ways to your ways.
Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound,
and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.
Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice!
You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
✝ forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.
Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The musical score consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the final line of the hymn. The fourth system contains the final line of the hymn.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

*GREETING

Christ is born: alleluia, alleluia!

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

And also with you.

*** HYMN OF PRAISE**

Glory Be To God On High



Glo - ry be to God on high,
Je - sus Christ, we now de - clare
Prai - ses to the Ho - ly One,



To all peo - ple, peace on earth, An - gels, shep - herds
Lamb of God and Lord of Love. Grant us mer - cy,
Prai - ses sing in high - est heav'n; To the Fath - er



draw - ing nigh, Join to ce - le - brate His birth.
hear our prayer, Give us grace from heav'en a - bove.
and the Son and the Ho - ly Spi - rit giv'n.



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o! in ex - cel - sis De o!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 52:7-10

Isaiah proclaims news of great joy: “Your God reigns!” Just as God saved the people from oppression in Egypt, God delivers Israel from exile. All the earth will witness the saving acts of God.

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 52.

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

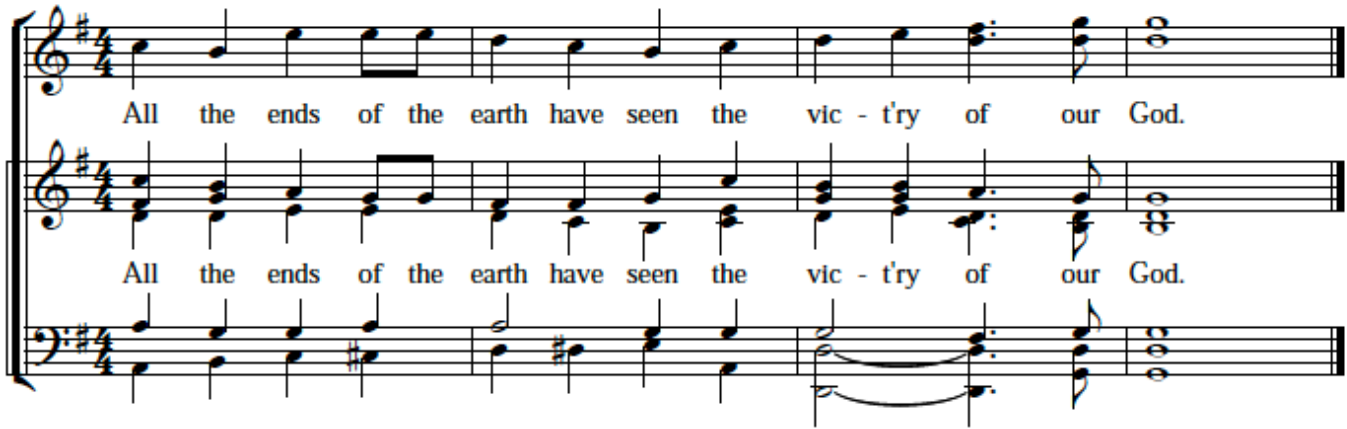
⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98



All the ends of the earth have seen the vic - t'ry of our God.

All the ends of the earth have seen the vic - t'ry of our God.

tone: ADESTE FIDELIS



- 1 Sing to the [LORD a] new song,*
for he has done [marv]-'lous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his [ho]-ly arm*
has he won for him-[self] the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made [known] his victory;*
his righteousness has he openly shown in the [sight of] the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the [house] of Israel,*
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory [of] our God.

Antiphon

- 5 Shout with joy to the [LORD all] you lands;*
lift up your voice, ... re-[joi]ce and sing.
- 6 Sing to the [LORD with] the harp,*
with the harp and the [voice] of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the [sound of] the horn*
shout with joy before the [king] the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and [all that] is in it,*
the lands and those who [dwell] therein.

Antiphon

continued on next page

All the ends of the earth have seen the vic - t'ry of our God.

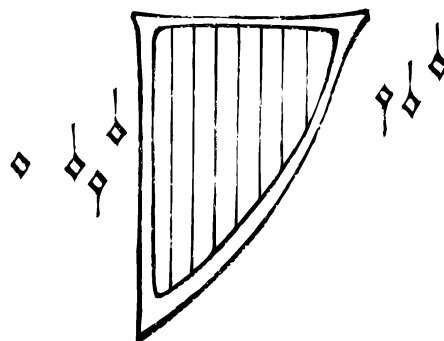
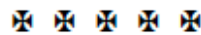
All the ends of the earth have seen the vic - t'ry of our God.

PSALM 98 - CONT.

tone: ADESTE FIDELIS

- 9 Let the rivers [clap] their hands,*
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, ...
when he comes to [judge] the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he [judge] the world*
and the [peoples] with equity.

Antiphon



SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-12

This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Son through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Son, who is exalted even above the angels.

A reading from Hebrews, chapter 1.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son; today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

⁷Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.”

⁸But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,

and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has anointed you

with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

¹⁰And,

“In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,

and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹they will perish, but you remain;

they will all wear out like clothing;

¹²like a cloak you will roll them up,

and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same,

and your years will never end.”

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (stanza 3)



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
→ 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



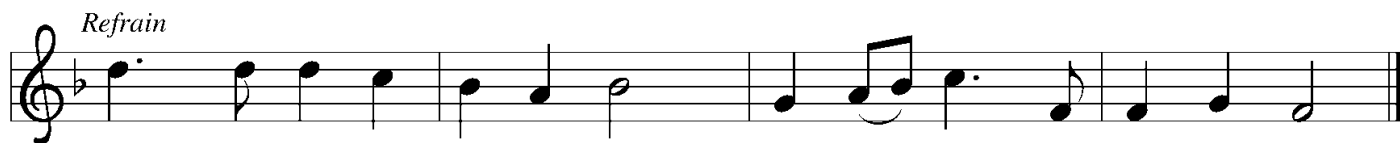
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
→ Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
→ Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
→ born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

***GOSPEL: John 1:1-14**

The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be “full of grace and truth.”

The holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter 1.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

SERMON

Pastor Mary

TIME OF REFLECTION

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.
Music: W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol



***NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

The church sings a new song for you, O God. By the water of rebirth, you claim us as your own. Renew all the baptized by your Spirit of grace and truth, and embolden us to announce your salvation to all.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The heavens and the earth are the work of your hands. By your Word, all things have come into being. Protect coastlands and waters.

Awaken in us a heightened care for habitats threatened by rising sea levels.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Beautiful are the feet of your messengers who announce peace.

Sustain the work of diplomats, relief agencies, and all who strive for peace in places of conflict and violence.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

You guard the lives of your faithful ones and rescue them in times of distress. Heed the cries of all who are afraid. Comfort the grieving and despairing, the lonely and forgotten, and those who are ill.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Voices and instruments ring out with melodies of praise to you.

Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who lead us in making a joyful noise in worship.. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We give you thanks for our ancestors in faith. As their lives bear witness to your light and love, inspire us to testify to the hope we share in you.

We give thanks for the lives of all the faithful who have died and who now enjoy the full presence of God, including those for whom Christmas gifts have been given. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

[Presiding Minister]

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of the Prince of Peace be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

(Scan To Give)



Our offering is an expression of thanks for God's love of us.

We give with grateful hearts, aware that many gifts are given **to** us in order to pass **through** us to others! As faithful stewards of the gifts God has given us, our generosity as a faith family makes a difference- beneath our steeple, in our community, in our Synod, within the ELCA, and around this world God loves so very much.

~The Stewardship Team~

Please pass the Friendship Registers at this time.

OFFERTORY

Deacon Ned Perwo & Evan Judson

Away in a Manger

“Pastorale Symphony” by G.F. Handel

“Cradle Song” by William J. Kirkpatrick

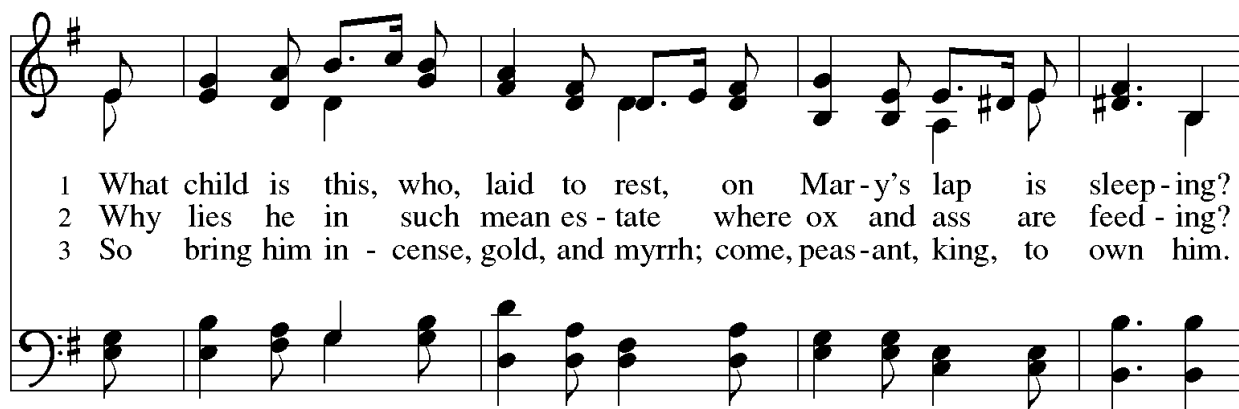
“Mueller” Attr. James R. Murray

Arranged for Organ and Trumpet by Sue Mitchell-Wallace and John H. Head

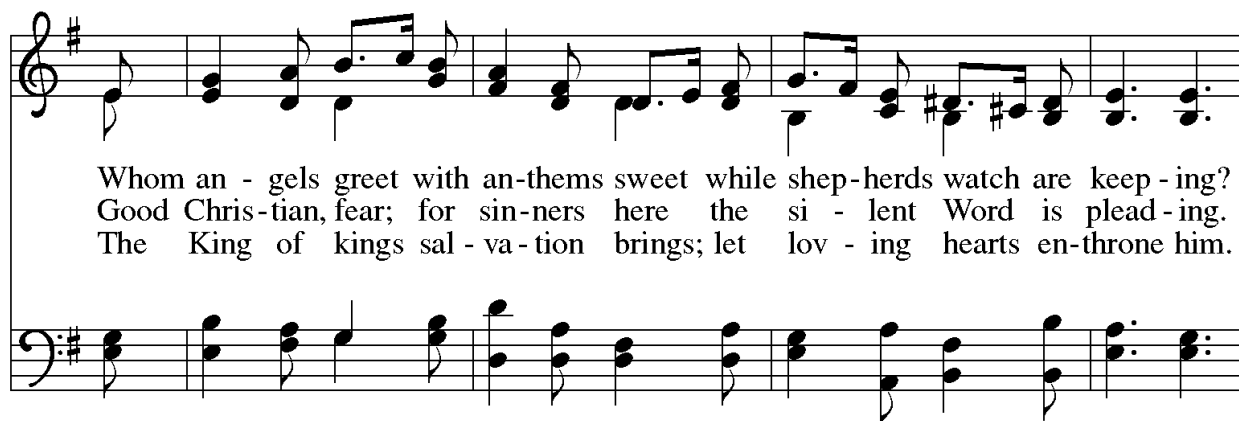


*OFFERTORY HYMN

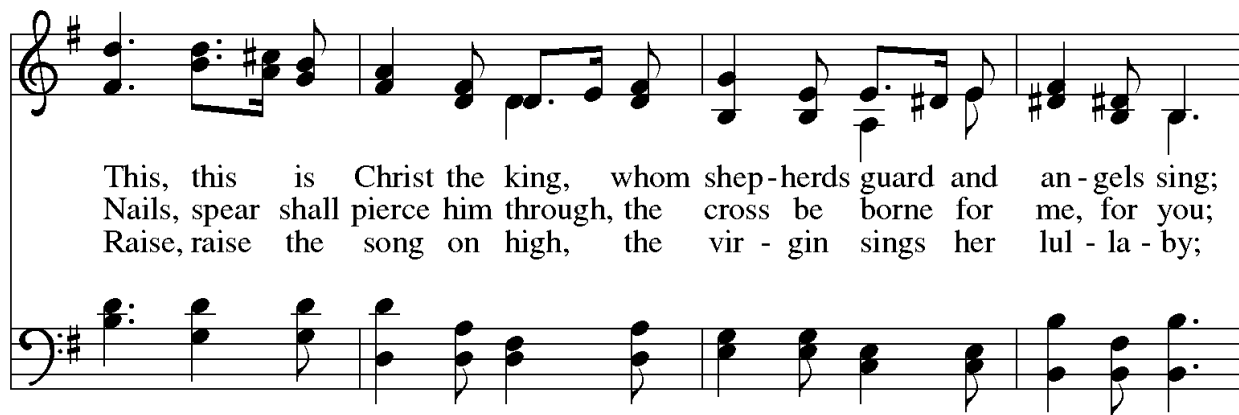
What Child Is This



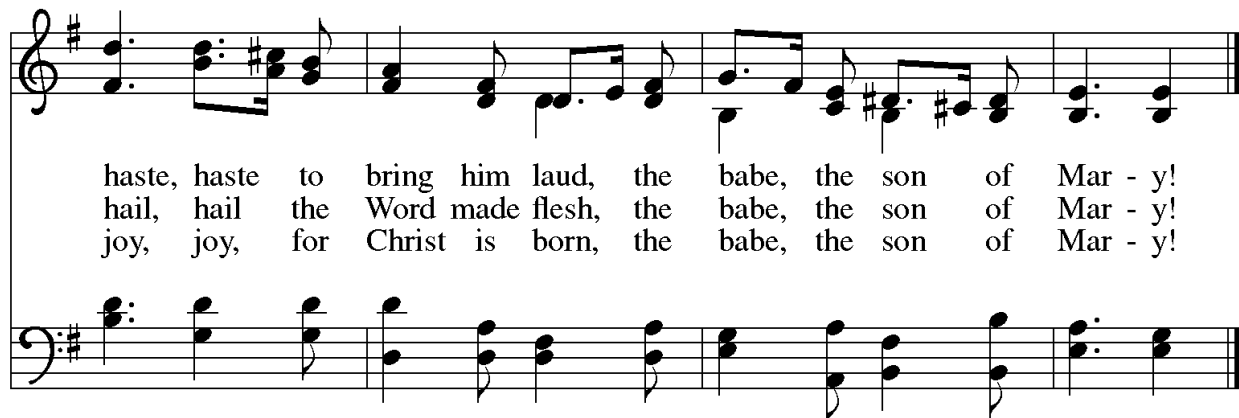
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW

The Great Thanksgiving is a four-line musical score in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each line consists of a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are as follows:

- Line 1: The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
- Line 2: Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
- Line 3: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- Line 4: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*SANCTUS

Intro (first time only) *All*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
Bles - sed is the one who came,



God of hosts, all praise be given! All your glo - ry fills the earth;
bring - ing love and light di - vine. Bles - sed is the king who comes



all your pow - er fills the heavens. Glo - - - -
in the bread and in the wine.



- - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - - - - -



- ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Glory to you, Lord God, heavenly King:

in the beginning you created the world through him who is the
Word-made-flesh.

In remembering your promises to Israel,

that from the root of Jesse a new shepherd would come,
at the appointed time the archangel Gabriel visited the blessed
virgin Mary, and by the Spirit's power your Son was conceived.

Born in humble surroundings, our Lord Jesus became Emmanuel,

God with us, God in our place, and in him you have drawn close
to us.

Thus we praise you for your goodness

and laud your magnificent love, a love which would lead this child
to become the man-for-others, the one who takes away all fears,
doubts, and helplessness: the one who, in love,
bore the holy cross.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his 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.

With the angels we rejoice and proclaim:

Glory to God in the highest!

Glory to you, Lord God, heavenly King:

in this holy Child all lives are renewed, and all sins are forgiven by his life and holy Passion, his resurrection and exaltation at your right hand.

By that same Spirit which gave our Lord life as an infant,

empowered his ministry of words and miracles,

and raised him at his resurrection, now bless this Bread of Heaven and sanctify this Cup of Blessing, that as we partake of our Lord's Body and Blood we may be filled with your forgiving love, and the promise of new life through this holy Child.

Glory to you, Lord God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Glory to you, and praise forevermore.

***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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.
Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

All baptized Christians who believe the Lord is truly present in this sacrament are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Communicants file forward from the center aisle. They receive the consecrated host, then choose either a prefilled cup of consecrated red wine or consecrated white grape juice from the tray held by Communion assistant. Communicants place used glass in separate tray and then return to their seats by the side aisles. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request.

AGNUS DEI



O Lamb of God from Beth - le - hem, where Ma - ry__gave you birth,



grant us your mer - cy, gra - cious Lord, Re deem - er__ of the earth.



O Lamb of God, for - give us, for we still live in sin.



O, come to us, a - bide with us, and grant us peace with - in.

*SACRAMENTAL BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

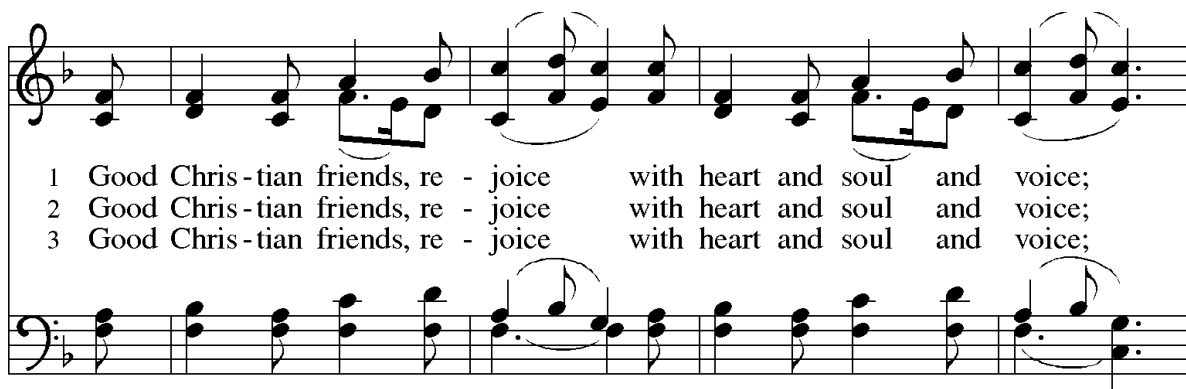
Pastor Mary

The God of love,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
lavish you with grace,
illumine your path,
and increase your joy,
today and always.
Amen.



*SENDING HYMN

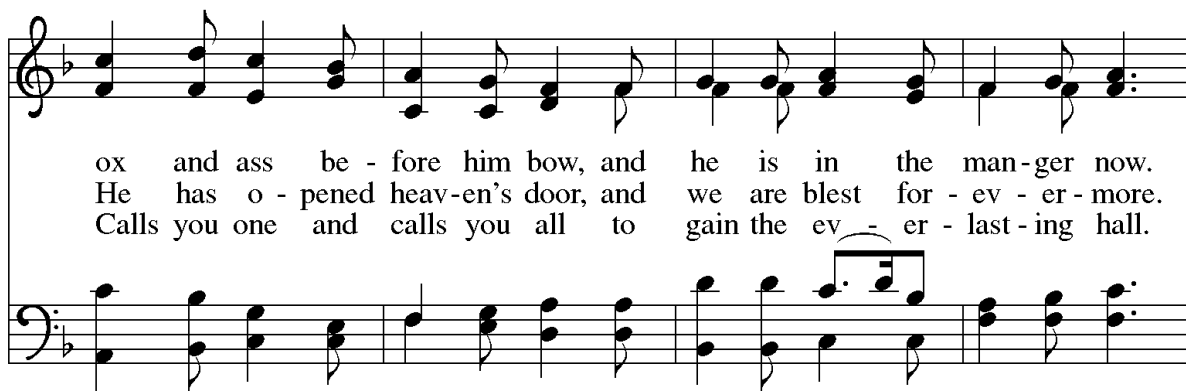
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795-1856

*DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Ned Perwo & Evan Judson

God Rest You Merry

Based on a traditional English melody Arranged by Lani Smith

*The congregation is invited to remain seated for the postlude
or depart quietly for fellowship outside of the sanctuary.*

“Thank You” to Our Musicians

Evan Judson, Trumpet

Brendan Healy, Vocalist

Ned Perwo, Director of Music Ministry

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr | Thursday, December 26, 2024

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

John, Apostle and Evangelist | Friday, December 27, 2024 The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs | Saturday, December 28, 2024 This day commemorates the young children killed by Herod in Bethlehem in his jealous attempt to murder the baby Jesus, a sobering reminder of the evil that led Christ to be born for our salvation.

Name of Jesus | Wednesday, January 1, 2025 By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life. The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872

Thursday, January 2, 2025 Loehe was a pastor in nineteenth-century Germany. Loehe's chief concern was that a congregation find its life in the holy communion, and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and Ukraine.

Announcements

LIVE-STREAMING WORSHIP:

Wed. 7 a.m.; Sat. 5 p.m.; Sun. 8:45 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Please see our website for solutions to gather remotely,
including downloadable orders of worship and
Pastor Mary's sermon.

WEBSITE

www.holytrinity-elca.org.

CHURCH CALENDAR:

Click "Calendar" on the website homepage.

SIGN-UPS:

Click "Sign-Ups" on the website homepage.

HT Office Hours

New Year's Eve – closing at noon, returning Thurs., Jan. 2

THE NURSERY is located under the narthex (rear of the sanctuary) and accessed via the descending staircase. Nursery is available to all families who wish to use it; families are asked to supervise their own children--there is no designated nursery attendant. Video from the sanctuary can be viewed on the nursery TV. Turn it on using the TV remote, wait for it to boot up and select "HDMI 1" for the video feed. Audio from the sanctuary can be heard through the nursery speakers. Please do not adjust TV volume. Please note: children are **always** welcomed in worship!

Eternal Light, Bread & Wine and Bulletins are given to the glory of God by John Cooney in loving memory of his sister, Jean, and in honor of her birthday.

LET US KNOW YOU WERE HERE: THE FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

Signing the friendship register tells us you were present and gives you a chance to provide or update contact info. Please share your e-mail address to receive on-line updates about HT happenings. Our Holy Trinity constitution requires that active confirmed members receive Holy Communion and make a "contribution of record" at least once every other year. Using an offering envelope from the pew ensures that your gift is properly credited.

Visitors, please sign the friendship register, phone or e-mail us!

HEALING SERVICE AND LUNCHEON: Please join us on **Wed., Jan., 8 at 11 a.m.** Our healing service includes Scripture, song, prayer, lighting of candles, laying on of hands, anointing with oil, and Holy Communion. An assisting minister and ushers are needed. Social Ministry is hosting a luncheon in Fellowship Hall following worship. Please sign up to serve in worship and for the luncheon on-line or through the HT office: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054BADAC2CA4FA7-45419977-post>

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Join us on Sunday, January 26 immediately following 8:45 a.m. worship (approximately 9:45 a.m.). Please note: there will be only one worship service on Jan. 26; we will worship at 5 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 25, as usual. There will be no Sunday School on Jan. 26; however, there will be an activity for children whose parents attend the meeting. If weather prevents the meeting from taking place on Jan. 26, it will be rescheduled for Sunday, February 2, following 8:45 a.m. worship. Should this occur, we'll send an eblast and leave word on the HT website homepage.

A quorum (15%) of voting members is required to conduct the meeting; for us this is 75 persons. The meeting agenda will include voting on the budget, a revised Constitution/Bylaws, and becoming a Reconciling in Christ partner congregation. The meeting will also include the election of Council, Nominating Committee, and Endowment Committee members.

Questions? There will be an "Annual Meeting Q&A" after 5 p.m. worship on Sat., Jan. 18, and also during coffee hour on Sun., Jan. 19.

GENEALOGY GROUP MEETS THE 2ND AND 4TH SUNDAYS each month at **11:30 a.m. in the Council Room.** We welcome all who are interested in exploring their family tree, beginners to advanced. We would love to have you join us!

FATIH AND BLUE ANTI-FRAUD PRESENTATION: Officer Kevin Istvanditsch from Manasquan Police will be with us on **Sat., Jan. 11, after 5 p.m. worship** for a fraud prevention presentation: "Common Scams: how to identify them and how to protect yourself." The materials include specific, simple, effective ways to spot a scam and avoid being victimized.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: Wed., Jan. 15, 12:30 p.m. in the Council Room. All are welcomed to come, share experiences, and have hopeful conversations. Susan Nolan, LCSW grief counselor, leads the group. Please contact Susan Bramley, founder of the group, at 848-702-5602 for further information.

“LESSONS FROM DIETRICH BONHOEFFER IN A HOUSE DIVIDED AND A WORLD ON FIRE”:

Join Pastor Mary and Susan Ardito for 6 sessions over 6 weeks to explore the life and theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, with special emphasis on lessons for living at the intersection of faith and civic life today. Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor and theologian living in Nazi Germany; he eventually joined the Resistance and was arrested and killed before the end of WWII. This curriculum was compiled by Dr. Lori Brandt Hale, an internationally renowned Bonhoeffer scholar and president of the International Bonhoeffer Society – English Language Section. Goal: to explore the life of one of the most famous Lutherans of the 20th century, in order to inspire deeper conversation and discernment about how we live as disciples. **Thursdays., Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 10-11:30 a.m. Please RSVP by Jan. 12** on-line or through the HT office:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054BADAC2CA4FA7-54096044-lessons>
Each participant will receive a workbook.

HOLY TRINITY/ST. DENIS "AMEN EFFECT" BOOK STUDY:

Pastor Mary and Fr. Bill Lago will lead discussion of *the amen effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend our Broken Hearts and World*, by Rabbi Sharon Brous. Brous writes about the healing power of "showing up" for individuals and the community in times of pain and sorrow, joy and celebration. She offers compelling examples and invites us to consider how to mend broken hearts and rebuild our society in times of loneliness and isolation. Please join the conversation! (Holy Trinity had a 2 week series on *the amen effect* this past May; we discovered that was nowhere near enough time to mine the richness of this book. We didn't want to leave any of the beauty unexplored, so we're revisiting the discussion. Even if you participated before, please come again!) **Weds., Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 11 a.m.-noon at Holy Trinity and 7-8 p.m. in St. Denis Parish Center.** Please RSVP:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054BADAC2CA4FA7-53912715-holy> or go to the HT website under Sign Ups or call the church office for assistance.

***<https://streicker.nyc/past-event-recordings>.)

ONE WARM COAT: We will continue to collect coats into January, so those who receive new coats through December can donate the ones they no longer use. Social Ministry makes sure they go to organizations that supply warm coats to those in need.

INTERESTED IN HELPING TO COUNT THE WEEKLY OFFERING?

The Finance Team is scheduling counters of the weekly offering in 2024 and we need additional members who are willing to serve. The count takes place each Sunday following 8:45 a.m. worship and requires approximately six Sundays a year of volunteering. (We are flexible.) You will be teamed up with another member of HT, so it is a great way to get to know other members. If you are interested in hearing more about this volunteer opportunity please contact Ralph Jensen at Ralphejensen@aol.com.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER 11 A.M. ON TUESDAYS: Join our weekly Intercessory Prayer gathering via computer or telephone to pray for loved ones, special needs and the world.

Contact Peter Seggel at pastoralcare@holytrinity-elca.org or (862) 588-5107 to receive log-on or dial-in info. Contact Peter with prayer requests.

GETTING CLOSER TO 500!! 493 HT INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS! You can officially follow us [@holytrinity_squan](https://www.instagram.com/holytrinity_squan). Please email any photos you'd like to submit for posting to instagram@holytrinity-elca.org.

MANASQUAN MINISTERIUM FOOD PANTRY: 'tis the season for giving, and as the year comes to a close, the Pantry Volunteers would like to thank you for all the support you have given throughout 2024! Without you, we would not be able to successfully continue this ministry, about which we feel so passionately. We wish you and your loved ones a joyous, faith-filled holiday season.

Our shelves for cannellini and kidney beans, noodles and oil are looking sparse, so any of these donations to end the year would be appreciated. Monetary donations and gift cards for Aldi or ShopRite are also of great use for pantry volunteers to purchase chicken, fresh produce and other needed items.

Do you or someone you know need confidential assistance from our community food pantry? Please call (732) 223-0898 to reach the ecumenical food pantry located on the lower level of Manasquan Presbyterian Church.

{Or...do you need assistance and live in Brick or Point? Contact St. Thomas Lutheran Church Food Pantry at (732) 477-5533.}

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

6 Osborn Avenue, Manasquan, NJ 08736

Pastor: The Rev. Mary V. Farnham

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Deacon: Ned Perwo

Music Ministry

music@holytrinity-elca.org

Youth & Family Ministry

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Pastoral Visitor: Peter Seggel

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Office Manager: Mary Burdwood

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Church Telephone Number

(732) 223-0533

Church Office Hours

M-Thurs., 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. (closed 12-1 for lunch); closed Friday

Church Website: www.holytrinity-elca.org

NJ Synod Website: www.njsynod.org

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Website: www.elca.org



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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