

*The First Sunday of Christmas*

*Worship Service of Holy Communion  
January 1, 2023*



*Trinity Lutheran Church  
812 N. Fifth St.  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
(208) 664-5743*

*Trinity is a Christ-centered community of believers, saved and  
enlightened by God's grace.  
We serve God by serving others.*

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

### Confession and Forgiveness      *(Read Responsively)*

P    In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C    **Amen.**

P    God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C    **Amen.**

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

C    **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

P    In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C    **Amen.**

### **Opening Carol**

*Once in Royal David's City*

Hymn #269

*(Printed on p. 11 of this bulletin)*

P    Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let us open our hearts and our ears to once again, hear the message of the angels. To go, in our minds, even to

Bethlehem and witness this thing that has come to pass, to see the baby lying in the manger, to hear the story once again of Emmanuel, God with us.

Therefore, let us read and mark in holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought to us by this holy Child.

But first, let us pray...

Good and gracious God, as we bask in the light of your son who has come unto us, we ask that you would unite us with those who celebrate the birth of Christ across this world you created, from the deepest valleys to the highest heights; with those who rejoice with song and voice, and with those who are weighed down with grief, illness, poverty, hunger, or injustices. Be with families who are together in these days, and be with those who are separated by either distance, time or circumstance. Let your light shine on those who are suffering whether it is in mind, body or spirit, all those members of our congregation who are not able to be with us, and those closest to us as well. May your light shine in the darkest places on earth, and give hope to those who need it. We ask that the light of your wisdom shine into our hearts, and open our minds to the knowledge of your Word; that we may think and act according to your good will, and may we continue to bear your light and your love in all we do. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

**Lesson #1**

**Isaiah 63:7-9**

<sup>7</sup>I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his

steadfast love. <sup>8</sup>For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior <sup>9</sup>in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

**Carol** *In the Bleak of Midwinter* Hymn #294  
(Printed on p. 12 of this bulletin)

**Psalm 148** *(Congregation will read responsively verses in **BOLD** type)*

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

<sup>2</sup>**Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**

<sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

<sup>4</sup>**Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

<sup>6</sup>**He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

<sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

<sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

<sup>9</sup>Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

<sup>10</sup>**Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**

<sup>11</sup>Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

<sup>12</sup>**Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!**

**Carol** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Hymn #272, verses 1 & 4  
(Printed on p. 13 of this bulletin)

## Lesson #2

## Hebrews 2:10-18

<sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." <sup>13</sup>And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

<sup>14</sup>Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

**Carol**

*Peace Came to Earth*

ELW #285

(Printed on p. 14 of this bulletin)

**Gospel**

**Matthew 2:1-23**

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no

means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

<sup>13</sup>Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

<sup>16</sup>When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: <sup>18</sup>"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

<sup>19</sup>When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup>Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead. <sup>21</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

**Meditation/Homily**

-Pastor Dan Forsgren

**Carol**

*From Heaven Above*

Hymn #268, stanzas 12-14  
(Printed on p. 15 of this bulletin)

**Confirmation of Faith**

*Nicene Creed*

**P** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C** **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 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 the People**

A With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A Merciful God, broaden the church's hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Life-giving God, restore the health of the soil, the seas, and the air. Increase the joy and praise of all living things. In the coming year strengthen local, national, and international efforts to prevent further harm to the environment. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Liberating God, deliver your people from cruel oppression. Increase justice in every nation and keep the dream of freedom alive. In this new year bring the blessing of peace and put an end to violent conflict throughout the world. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Uplifting God, raise all who are bowed down by trouble and need, especially individuals and families living in poverty. Protect and nurture all children. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. Attend the dying, and relieve any who are suffering with illness or in pain, especially Kaye Ellis, Micah Price, Nick Taskey, Heather Wilson, Jonnie Dempsey, Sharon Alexander, Barbara Smalley, Kyle Lenz, Richard Cook, Ken & Darlene Amundson, Carol MacLean,

Terry Fairchild, Janet Wilbanks, Tom & Carol Price, Donna Cedervall, Phyllis Bacon, Marion Keating, Sally English, Harold & Mavis Fuchs, and Susan Kirkpatrick. God of grace,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

A Abiding God, accompany this community in the coming year. Increase our love for one another and the neighbors we serve. Enrich our worship and deepen our faith. Sustain our pastor and all who minister in your name. God of grace,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

A For what else do the people of God celebrate and pray?

P Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

**C** **Amen.**

### **Sharing the Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

*\* Offering plates can be found in each of the aisles for your offering.*

### **Words of Institution**

P 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.

**C** **Amen.**

P 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.

## **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.

## **Invitation to Communion**

**P** Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

## **The Lord's Supper**

*We celebrate together the Meal of Grace. The Lord is Host. We are the Guests. All are invited to the Table to feast in the promise of Jesus to be present in the bread and cup. Grape juice (light liquid) and gluten-free wafers are available by asking a server. The communion cups will be pre-filled and placed in trays with every other space left open to allow you to take without touching neighboring cups. Bread will be pre-cut. You will walk up to the altar steps to receive bread and wine, with no kneeling at the front. Communion servers will wear masks and gloves. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:*

*The body of Christ given for you*

*The blood of Christ shed for you*

*And each person may respond: **Amen.***

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## **Benediction**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C** Amen.

**\*Closing Carol**

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*

ELW #290

(Printed on p. 16 of this bulletin)

**\*Dismissal**

P Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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Once in Royal David's City



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,  
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;  
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:  
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;  
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.  
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895  
Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

## In the Bleak Midwinter

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;  
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;  
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894  
 Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

## Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

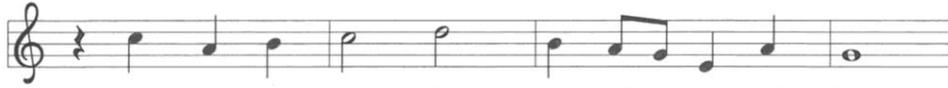
seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4  
 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night  
 2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held  
 3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,  
 4 How else could I have known you, O my God!



when an - gels clove the sky with song and light  
 the in - fant in their arms, and lat - er felt  
 in flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pains,  
 How else could I have loved you, O my God!



and God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might—  
 the wound - ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled—  
 in bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain—  
 How else could I em - brace you, O my God!



Who could but gasp: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but sigh: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but see: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but pray: Im - man - u - el!



Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!  
 Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

## Sing stanzas 12-14

### From Heaven Above



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good  
 2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,  
 3 "This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your

*Insert additional stanzas as desired.*

12 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly child, pre - pare a  
 13 My heart for ve - ry joy now leaps; my voice no  
 14 "Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to



news to ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy I  
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; this new - born child of low - ly  
 sad and bit - ter cry, who will him - self your Sav - ior

bed, soft, un - de - filed, a qui - et cham - ber in my  
 long - er si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful  
 us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous



bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:  
 birth shall be the joy of all the earth.  
 be and from all sin will set you free."

heart, that you and I may nev - er part.  
 tongue the sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song:  
 mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

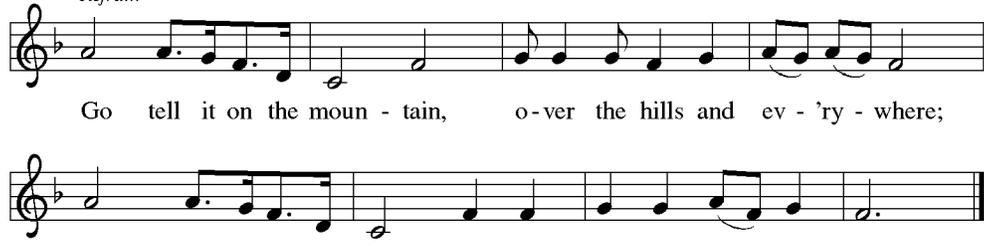
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>4 "The blessing that the Father planned<br/>             the Son holds in his infant hand,<br/>             that in his kingdom, bright and fair,<br/>             you may with us his glory share."</p> <p>5 "These are the signs that you will see<br/>             to let you know that it is he:<br/>             in manger-bed, in swaddling clothes<br/>             the child who all the earth upholds."</p> <p>6 Now let us all with joyful cheer<br/>             go with the shepherds and draw near<br/>             to see this wondrous gift of God,<br/>             the blessed child to us bestowed.</p> <p>7 Look, look, dear friends, look over there!<br/>             What lies within that manger bare?<br/>             Who is that lovely little one?<br/>             The baby Jesus, God's dear Son.</p> | <p>8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,<br/>             through whom this sinful world is blest!<br/>             You turned not from our needs away;<br/>             how can our thanks such live repay?"</p> <p>9 O Lord, you have created all!<br/>             How did you come to be so small,<br/>             to sweetly sleep in manger-bed<br/>             where lowing cattle lately fed?</p> <p>10 Were earth a thousand times as fair<br/>             and set with gold and jewels rare,<br/>             still such a cradle would not do<br/>             to rock a prince so great as you.</p> <p>11 For velvets soft and silken stuff<br/>             you have but hay and straw so rough<br/>             on which as king so rich and great<br/>             to be enthroned in humble state.</p> |
|---|--|

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: VOM HIMMEL HOCH, attr. Martin Luther; V. Schumann, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1539  
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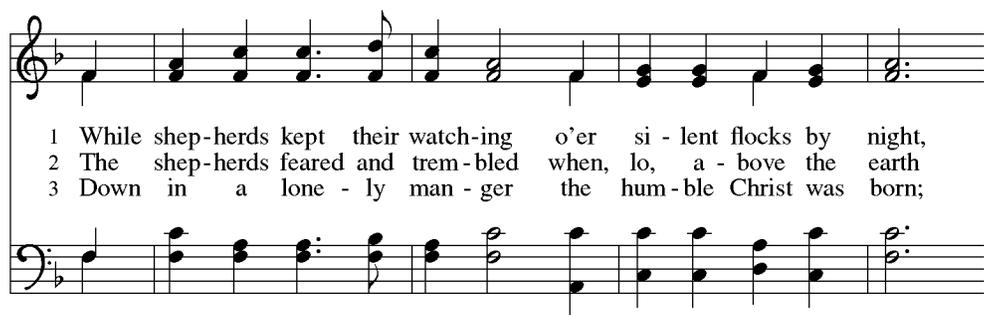
# Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;  
 go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
 Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual