

Christmas Eve Worship

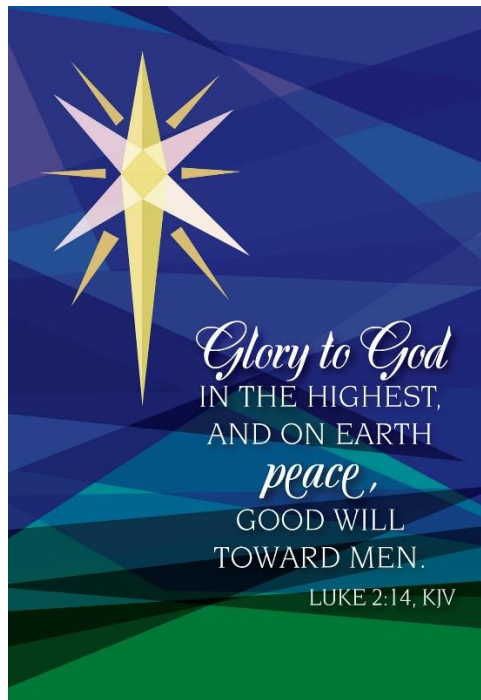
December 24, 2021

4:00pm and 6:00pm

Hear the Promise

Tell the Story

Share the Good News



Trinity Lutheran Church

812 N. Fifth St.

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

Office Phone: (208) 664-5743

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

We serve God by serving others.

For unto us a child is born! We gather this night at the stable, to give thanks for the birth of Christ our Lord. Into our darkness shines God's light; into our violence comes God's peace. Welcome this night to the hope of God's promise made flesh.

Prelude

O Holy Night (Adolphe Adam; Arr. by Kurt Bestor)

***Call to Worship**

P Love comes wrapped as a baby,

C God's love lying in a manger.

P The ordinary conceals the unspeakable;

C God is with us. God knows us. God is with us, revealed in us. His name is Emmanuel.

P God's love is coming to us.

C God's love is with us, again and again with us.

P Soon and always, with us.

C Emmanuel. God with us.

***Processional Hymn**

O Come All Ye Faithful

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him born the king of angels;

(refrain) Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,

Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,

Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;

Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!

(refrain)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God in the highest.

(refrain)

***Greeting**

P The grace of the child born for us and the joy of the Son given to us be with you all.
C **And also with you.**

***Prayer**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

(6:00pm) **Musical Offering** *The First Noel* (arr. Kirby Shaw)

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

The season of Christmas begins this night with the story of Jesus' birth, and with the hope carried by Israel that God's promise would be so kept. We, too, come to the manger, to confess our faith and our wonder at God's marvelous grace.

The Promise (Jack Riggs 4:00pm / Anne Mackenzie 6:00pm) **Isaiah 9:2-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined.³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hymn

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.
Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov’ring wing,
and ever o’er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

The Story

(Sue Thilo 4:00pm / TBS 6:00pm)

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv’n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav’n.
No ear may hear his coming; But, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

The Story (Jack 4:00pm / Anne 6:00pm)

Luke 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Hymn

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

(refrain) *Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo;*
Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heav’nly song?

(refrain) Come to Bethlehem and see, him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

(refrain)

The Story (Sue 4:00pm / TBS 6:00pm)

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Hymn

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;

oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.

Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:

Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new

saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.

Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:

Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Children's Message

Sermon

- Pastor Dan Forsgren

*Prayers of the People

A Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A Love proclaims that a Savior has been born to us! Inspire your church throughout the world to proclaim the good news of Jesus' birth to all who seek salvation, hope, and new life. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Love whispers to a weary world that the time for rest and restoration has come. Maintain healthy cycles of wake and sleep for all creatures. Where light pollution disrupts natural rhythms, encourage new practices. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Love cries to a warring world that the time for peace is at hand. Direct those in power who make decisions on behalf of others, that they nurture and sustain all that is healthy, good, and holy. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Love sings through the wails of a newborn baby. Respond to all who cry out in pain, despair, or need this night. Bring comfort to those for whom separation, grief, or loss makes the Christmas season especially difficult, especially *the Family of Wendall Wardell, the Family of George Periman, Larry Bellender, Elleyyna, Tim Brunelle, Terry Fairchild, Robyn Fairchild, Ken Amundson, Karalee Shenfield, Jonnie Dempsey, Sara Ripley, Janet Wilbanks, Dave Nordby, Carol Price, Donna Cedervall, Phyllis Bacon, Lee Ray, Marion Keating, Sally English, Delores Luttropp, Mavis Fuchs, and Susan Kirkpatrick*. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Love murmurs words of comfort to a newborn child and exhausted parents. Bless new and expectant parents or caregivers, especially those who are alone or afraid this night. Pour out your love upon families of every kind. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

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

P Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

***Sharing the Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

(4:00pm) **Music during Offering**

The First Noel (arr. Kirby Shaw)

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

Hymn

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve

I am so glad each Christmas Eve, the night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth, and angels sang on earth.
The little child in Bethlehem, he was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav'n above to help a world in need.
He dwells again in heaven's realm, the Son of God today;
and still he loves his little ones and hears them when they pray.
I am so glad each Christmas Eve! His praises then I sing;
He opens now for every child the palace of the king.

Offertory Prayer

P Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Preface

P 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

(sing to the tune of "Away In the Manger")

Our Father in heaven, all praise to Your name!
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same
By mortal and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.

The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;
As we forgive others. Our sins take away;
In times of temptation. To lead us be near;
From evil deliver your children most dear.

For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.
To you be the glory, resounding again
From all creation, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion *(Proceed up the center aisle at the usher's direction.)*

P In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

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 colored

liquid) and gluten-free communion wafers are available by asking a server. Each person receiving communion today will be given a cup by an usher upon leaving the pew to proceed to the front of the sanctuary at the altar steps.

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.***

Communion Distribution

Music during Communion *(Congregation: Words printed on insert in bulletin)*

(Pastor & Asst. Minister: Words printed at end of the service pages)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

What Child Is This

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

***Post Communion Prayer**

P We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

***The Story of Light**

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 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.

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was

the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify

to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And 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.

***Lighting of the Candles**

Ushers will light the candle for those sitting at the center aisle; please dip the unlit candle into the lit candle from then on.

***Hymn**

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Candles are extinguished.

SENDING

So again, we have told the story to one another. Now, we are called to share that story of good news for all people with the whole of God's world.

***Benediction**

P The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

C Amen.

***Hymn**

Joy to The World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the Nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of this love, and wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of this love.

***Dismissal**

P Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

C Thanks be to God!

***Postlude**

Star of Bethlehem (Miklos Rozsa)

Communion Hymns

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

(refrain)

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!

(refrain)

Hail the heav'n born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.

(refrain)

What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ is born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forever more.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!