

A Midweek Devotional

ADVENT

November 29, 2023



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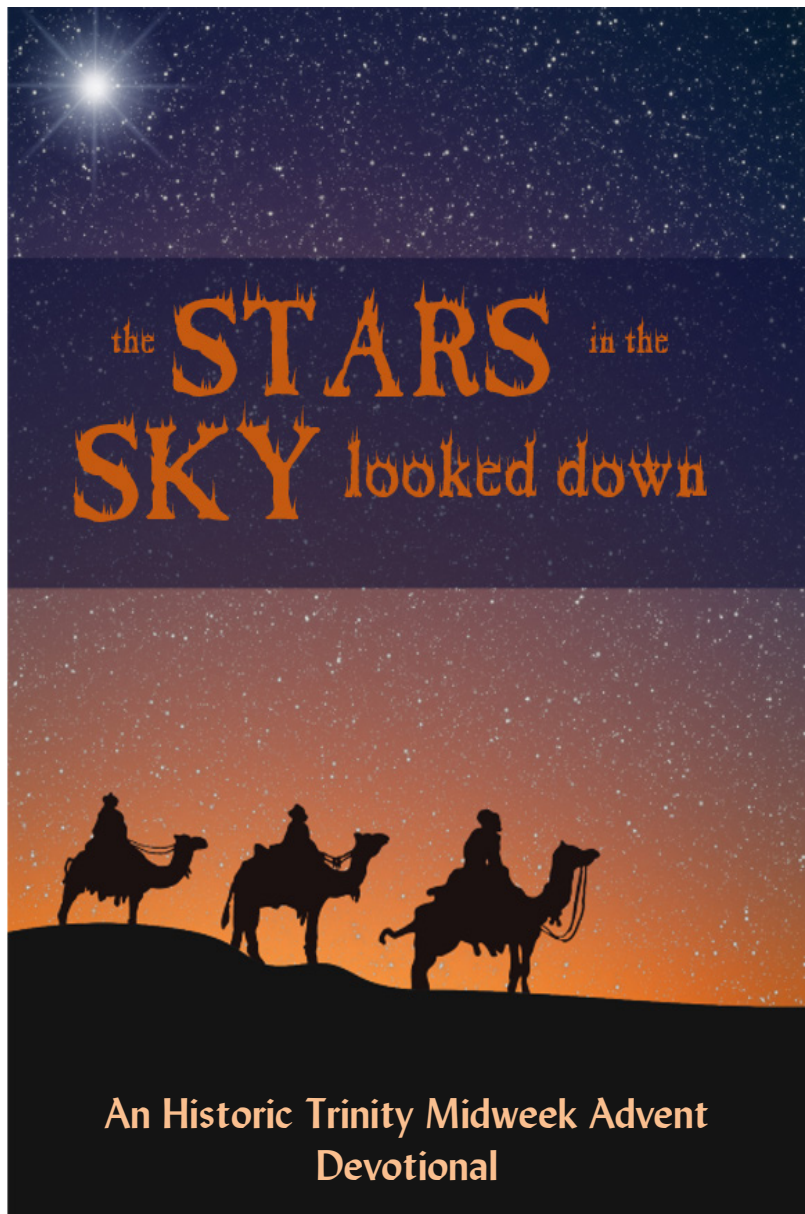
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**An Historic Trinity Midweek Advent
Devotional**



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Historic Trinity
Lutheran Church

The Stars in the Sky Look Down

An Historic Trinity Midweek Advent Devotional
Service One: Star of Creation

AS WE GATHER

Today we will see the birthplace of Christ in a whole new way. We will learn more about the little town where Jesus was born so long ago, and what Jesus, who is the Bright Morning Star, reveals to us. Today, we find that Jesus comes to Bethlehem to be born a star—the Star of Creation, and the ruler of heaven and earth. Created in His image, we shine forth His love into our dark streets.

PRELUDE @12pm

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Tim Shewmaker

CAROLING @6:30pm

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

LSB 367 v. 1-4



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.



Refrain
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: ♪ Amen.

WAITING WITH CREATION...

from Genesis 1, Romans 1, Romans 8, and Colossians 1

Pastor: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

People: **For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.**

Pastor: And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

People: **For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.**

Pastor: "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."

People: **For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.**

Pastor: "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear."

People: **For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So all people are without excuse.**

Pastor: "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth."

People: **Claiming to be wise, they became fools.**

Pastor: "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth."

People: **For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.**

Pastor: "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens."

People: **And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.**

Pastor: Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.”
People: **For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.**
Pastor: Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Lord of Creation,
People: **Forgive us for our sinfulness and the spiritual blindness that prevents us from appreciating the wonder of the world you have made. Forgive us for destroying and tearing down others instead of building them up. Shine your light upon us, O Lord, and open our eyes to see, our lips to praise and our hands to share. Guide us along the pathways of life on this earth until you bring forth a new heaven and a new earth when your Son comes again in glory. Amen.**
Pastor: Hear the Good News: Jesus Christ is the light of the world. He is the Bright Star of Bethlehem. When He was born to save us He shattered the darkness of our sin, bringing forgiveness, love and grace. In him, you are a new creation! As a called and ordained servant of the Word, in the stead and by the command of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: ♪ Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

LSB 367 v. 5

♪ **All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising To the_ eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalms 19:1-6

(The heavens declare the majesty of the Creator)

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. ³ There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. ⁴ Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. ⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT

Colossians 1:15-20

(Jesus is the creation Star)

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM @12pm

“Christ is Coming Soon”
“The People that in Darkness Sat”

*Ziegenhalls
Machemer
St. Paul Lutheran School, Royal Oak*

GOSPEL READING

John 1:1-14

(He is here!)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

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

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

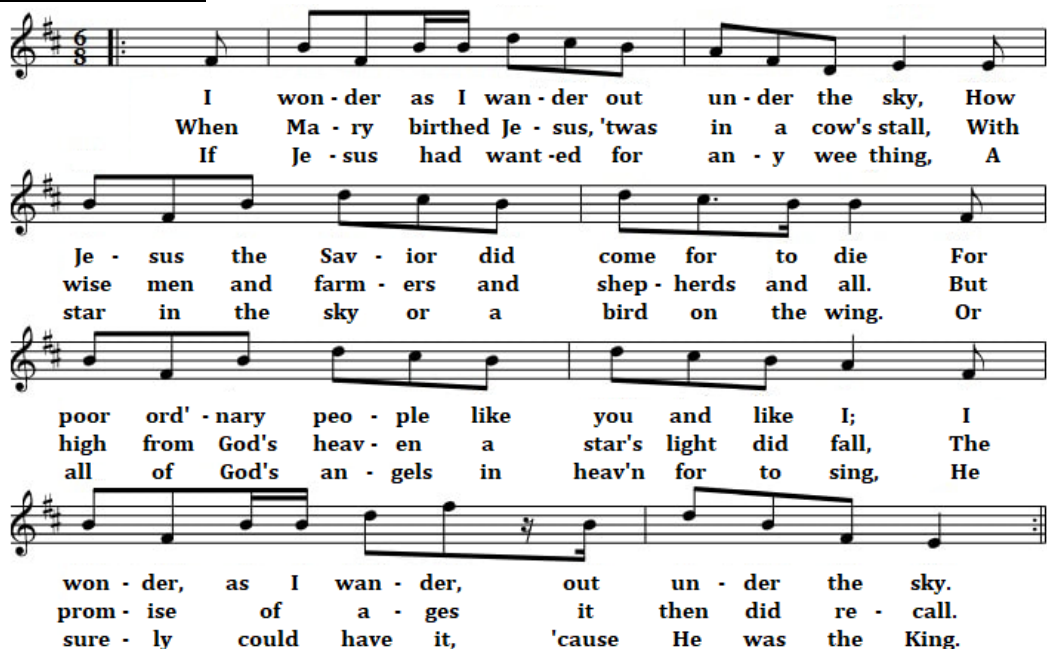
¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"I Wonder as I Wander"



I won - der as I wan - der out un - der the sky, How
When Ma - ry birthed Je - sus, 'twas in a cow's stall, With
If Je - sus had want - ed for an - y wee thing, A
Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die For
wise men and farm - ers and shep - herds and all. But
star in the sky or a bird on the wing. Or
poor ord' - nary peo - ple like you and like I; I
high from God's heav - en a star's light did fall, The
all of God's an - gels in heav'n for to sing, He
won - der, as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.
prom - ise of a - ges it then did re - call.
sure - ly could have it, 'cause He was the King.

HOMILY @12pm

"Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep"

Luke 2:10

*Rev. Jakob Andrzejewski, Senior Pastor
St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Royal Oak*

@ 6:30pm "A Thrill of Hope, the Weary World Rejoices"

John 1:9

*Rev. D. Lee Andrzejewski, Head Pastor
Historic Trinity Lutheran Church*

OFFERTORY THEME

"Away in a Manger"

LSB 364 v. 1-2

♪ **Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Please consider continuing to support the work of the Lord at Historic Trinity with a sacrificial gift.
You can donate at historictrinity.org/give, or mail to 1345 Gratiot Ave, Detroit, MI 48207.*



VOLUNTARY @6:30pm

"I Wonder As I Wander"

Karl Osterland

PRAYERS

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.

BENEDICTION from *Philippians 2:15*

Pastor: Go now and shine like stars in the sky, bringing the light of Christ to the world. And the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you.

People:  **Amen**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

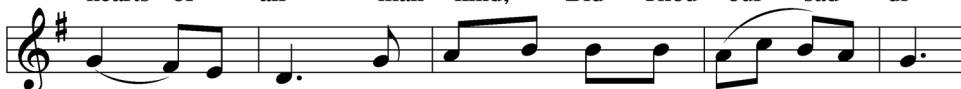
LSB 357 v. 1, 6-7



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

POSTLUDE @12pm

“Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel”

Charles Callahan

@6:30pm

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

J. S. Bach

(BWV 599)