

The Festival of the
NATIVITY

December 24, 2023



Pastoral Staff

- Rev. D. Lee Andrzejewski
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Rev. Dr. David PE Maier
Associate Pastor
Vicar Adam Hiles
Pastoral Student
Rev. Dr. John L. Heins
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Ronald Guettler
Assisting Pastor
Rev. James Rolf
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Peter Nickel
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Alan Eisinger
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Dr. Gerberding, *Emeritus*
Rev. J. Gruetzner, *Emeritus*

Staff

- Mr. Karl Osterland
Director of Music Ministry
Mrs. Mariana Stecker
Office Manager
Mrs. Tammy Eberhard
Director of Operations
Mrs. Kristen Andrzejewski
Financial Secretary
Mrs. Stephanie Listman
Office Assistant
Mrs. Susan Lockhart
Office Assistant



*S*HE GAVE BIRTH TO HER
first born child, a son,
WRAPPED HIM SNUGLY,
AND LAID HIM IN A MANGER.

LUKE 2:7 (CEB)



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Lutheran Church

PRELUDE @6pm

“A Christmas Prelude”

Charles Callahan

Alana Meeker, Flute

Today's Brass Quintet

@8/10pm

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee be glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God In the high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

PRAYER

LSB 387

Pastor: Dear Savior who was born to us, Jesus, we thank you that you are our Savior and our Lord. Thank you for this night... so long ago. And for placing Yourself at our mercy. Take us to the stable to learn from You. To the manger. To the swaddling cloths. To a quiet place in the straw. There we pray you would give us the right eyes and ears that we may see You wherever You may come, hear You however You may speak...

♪ **Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her 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.**

Pastor: Take us to the fields to learn from the shepherds. Give us the lowly heart of those shepherds, who, because of their humility, were entrusted with such a great revelation. Give us their listening heart, which with fear and trembling hung on to every word that fell from heaven. Give us their searching heart, which left their work busyness to scour the barns of Bethlehem to find you...

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

Pastor: Grant us, fairest Lord Jesus, the spilling of heaven's glory over the fields we watch. Grant us the echo of some angelic song amid the monotones of our busyness. And grant us a heart to behold heavenly things in the humblest of places...

♪ **He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.**

FESTIVAL INTROIT @8/10pm

Karl Osterland

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

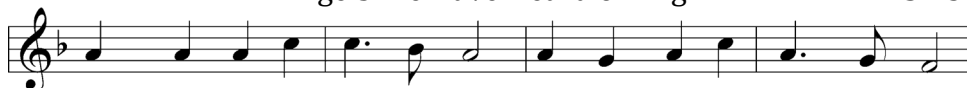
Pastor: O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: ♪ **Amen.**

GLORIA

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

LSB 368 v. 1, 3



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
3 Come to Beth-le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

* LESSONS AND CAROLS *

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 7:10-14

(The virgin will be with child.)

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 John 4:7-16

(God is love.)

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have

loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM @6pm

“Birthday of a King”

Neidlinger

Todd Schurig, Soloist

@8/10pm

“Star Carol”

John Rutter

The Cathedral Choir

GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH 1

Luke 2:1-5

(Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem.)

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

HYMN

LSB 361

♪ **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.**

GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH 2

Luke 2:6-7

(Mary gives birth to Jesus.)

⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

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

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.**

GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH 3

Luke 2:8-14

(Angels appear to shepherds.)

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

HYMN

LSB 367 v. 1-2

♪ **Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light.
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH 4

Luke 2:15-20

(Shepherds worship Jesus.)

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph,

and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

ANTHEM @6pm

“O Holy Night”

Adam

Todd Schurig, Soloist

@8/10pm

“Gloria, He Is Born”

arr. Phillip Kern

Il est Ne le Divin Enfant; Ding Dong! Merrily on High

The Cathedral Choir

THE GOSPEL PROCESSION

LSB 384 v. 1

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH 5

John 1:1-5, 10-14

(Jesus is the Word, Life, and Light.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the First Chapter.

People:

☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He 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...

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

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

Pastor: This is the Christmas Gospel of our Lord.

People:



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

THE GOSPEL RECESSION

LSB 384 v. 4

4 O ye heights of heav'n, a-dore Him; An-gel hosts, His
prais-es sing. Pow'rs, do-min-ions, bow be-fore Him
And ex-tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
si-lent, Ev-'ry voice in con-cert ring
Ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Galatians 4:4-5, 1 Timothy 3:16

Pastor: But when the fullness of time had fully come

People: **He appeared in a body**

Pastor: God sent His son, born of a woman, born under law

People: **was vindicated by the Spirit**

Pastor: to redeem those under the law

People: **was seen by angels**

Pastor: was preached among the nations

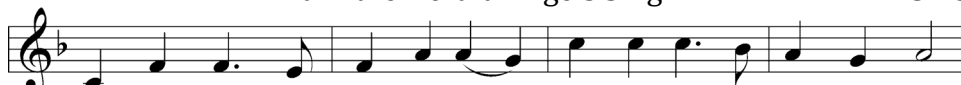
People: **was believed on in the world**

Pastor: that we might receive the full rights as sons.

HYMN

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

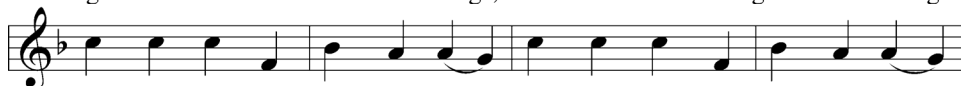
LSB 380 v. 1, 3



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



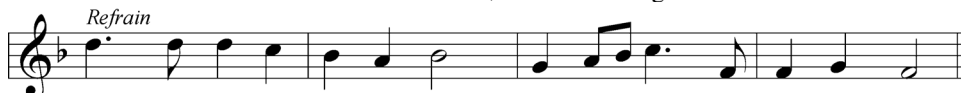
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King!”

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

“Safe and Sound”

Luke 2:19

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

OFFERTORY HYMN

LSB 370 v. 3

♪ 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!

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Please consider support for 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

@6pm

“Joy to the World”

arr. Robert Powell

@8/10pm

Today’s Brass Quintet

CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

Pastor: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, praise to You on this holy eve, the night of
Your incarnate birth.

People: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, we praise You for seeking us out so we
would no longer be a deserted people.

Pastor: Jesus, King of angels, You are the exact representation of God's being, You are the radiance of His glory.

People: Jesus, King of angels, You are the Son of God, far superior not only to the angels but to everyone and everything in all creation.

Pastor: Jesus, Son of God, Your throne will last forever and ever.

People: Jesus, Son of God, You sit at the right hand of God. Govern our hearts and minds that our Christmas celebration would go beyond this one day and last throughout the year.

Pastor: Jesus, Son of Man, You are the Word of God in human flesh. You know our struggles and those of all people. So we are bold to ask You to heal and restore to health all those who struggle in body, mind, and spirit this day.

People: Jesus, Son of Man, bless those people about whom we care we now name in our hearts...

Pastor: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, You are full of grace and truth. Those things come through You and You alone.

People: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, use us to proclaim Your love in all the earth until You come again to take us to Your eternal home where we will worship and adore You forever and ever. Amen.

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.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Hebrews 9:26*

Pastor: As we prepare to celebrate our Lord's birth and receive Him as He still comes to us today, let us also remember the reason Jesus was born:

People: "He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself."

Pastor: He has come to bring peace, yet not always in ways we can see in this world. He has come to bring peace, yet not always in ways we can see in ourselves in our thoughts, words, and actions. He has come to bring peace that is forgiveness of sins and peace with our Father in heaven.

People: We confess that we have sinned against God and against one another. We yearn for peace with God and reconciliation with one another, yet we cannot accomplish it ourselves. Forgive us, Lord, and restore our souls, that our lives reflect not our sin, but the joy of the birth of Your only Son into the world.

Pastor: Jesus is Immanuel, which means “God with us.” What we are powerless to do, He has done for us. His name is Jesus, the name that means He has “come to save us from our sins.” Know the peace He has come to bring; live it with others and share it with all. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord 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.

✠ The Order of Holy Communion ✠

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things that are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *Is 6:3*



Ho-ly, O ho - ly Lord most high, Lord God of Sa - ba - oth! Dis -
Ho-ly, O ho - ly Lord most high, Lord God of Sa - ba - oth! Ho -
play His glo - ry heav'n and earth! Bless-ed is He who comes.
san - na in the high__ est! Bless-ed is He who comes.

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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

People:  Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI *Jn 1:29*

O Christ the Lamb of God we pray: Take this world's sin a-way. Have
mer - cy on us, Lamb of God! Grant us Your ho - ly peace.

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DISTRIBUTION

*For those with health concerns, there are gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic white wine available.
Communion will take place in two continuous lines at the altar.*

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

LSB 366

1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un - furled,
3 All you, be - neath your heav - y load, By care and guilt bent low,
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,

From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.
Who toil a - long a drea - ry way With pain - ful steps and slow:
When down in - to the cir - cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.

“Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav’n’s all - gra - cious king.”
A - bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov - ring wing,
Look up, for gold - en is the hour, Come swift - ly on the wing,
His word of peace shall to the earth God’s an - cient prom - ise bring,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.
And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an - gels sing.
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.

“The First Noel”

LBW 56



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .

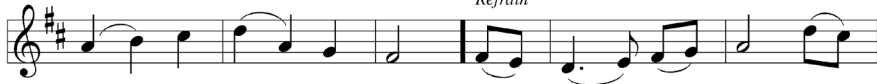


cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin - ued both day and night. No - el, No - el, No -
 star wher - ev - er it went. place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Pastor: Unto us a Child is born! Unto us a Son is given! May He who is called the Prince of Peace, through His body and blood, bring a full measure of peace and joy in our lives.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB 361 v.3

♪ **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.**

CANDLE LIGHTING

from Isaiah 9:2, 6; John 1:4-5, 14

*(The pastor takes the light from the Christ candle to the assistants.
They pass the light on to the congregation. Tip only the unlighted candle.)*

- Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- Pastor: Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.
People: We have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.
- Pastor: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.
People: In him was life, and that life was the light of men.
- Pastor: The almighty and merciful God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit
bless you now and forever.
People: Amen! Glory to God in the Highest! And peace to His people on earth!

HYMN

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

LSB 363

♪ **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 Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

Following this hymn, you may extinguish your candles as safely as possible.

POSTLUDE @6pm
@8/10pm

“Carillon”

Louis Vierne
Today’s Brass Quintet