

The First Sunday of

CHRISTMAS

December 28, 2025



Pastoral Staff

Rev. D. Lee Andrzejewski
Head Pastor
Rev. Dr. John L. Heins
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Ronald Guettler
Assisting Pastor
Rev. James Rolf
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Peter Nickel
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
Mr. Joseph Warnes
Church Sexton
Mr. Scott Larkin, *Custodial*
Ms. Angela Kovacs, *Custodial*

Rise, take the
Child...

Matthew 2:13



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Historic Trinity

Lutheran Church

December 28, 2025

PRELUDE

"The Christmas Pipes of County Clare"

Harvey Gaul

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

LSB 367

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
△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

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,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - 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.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

INVOCATION Mt 28:19b

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: As inheritors of the promises to God's Old Testament people through faith in Christ, we know that He has become our Savior, born in Bethlehem to start His sacrificial life, redeeming us from sin and death. Let us therefore go to God's throne of grace and confess our sins...

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we cannot remember Your Son's birth without realizing that He came to save us sinners. We confess, though, that we often hide our sins from ourselves and think that You are unaware as well. Forgive us for belittling the gravity of our rebellious nature.

Pastor: Lord Jesus,

People: we would prefer to see ourselves as people gathered around the manger in quiet peace. We confess, though, that we often live as prodigal brothers and sisters, running from You and Your will for us. Forgive us for failing to hallow Your name with our words and actions.

Pastor: O Holy Spirit,

People: we rejoice in the gift of faith You have planted within us. We confess, though, that we have neglected to trust You for all we need in times of testing. Forgive us and restore in us the joy of Your salvation.

Pastor: Isaiah continues: In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the angel of His presence saved them; in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; He lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. *Isaiah 63:9* Now in these last days God has redeemed all who call out to Him in the name of Jesus. He promises to lift us up and carry us into an eternal future. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I am pleased to share this Good News: Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: ♪ Amen.

THE INTROIT *Jeremiah 31:15, 17; antiphon: Hosea 11:1*

Pastor: When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. Thus says the Lord: "A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more." There is hope for your future, declares the Lord, and your children shall come back to their own country.

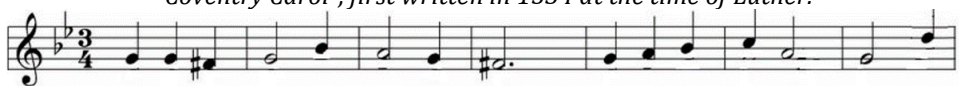
THE GLORIA PATRI

LSB p. 186

♪ **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

CHRISTMAS KYRIE

The Kyrie Eleison ("Lord have mercy") for Christmas is drawn from the familiar Christmas tune "Coventry Carol", first written in 1534 at the time of Luther.



O Je- sus Christ, have mer- cy Lord. Grant us Thy ho- ly peace. Have



mer- cy Lord, Im- man- u- el. Be Thou our "God with us".

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light"

LSB 378



1 Break forth, O beau- teous heav'n- ly light, And
2 O dear- est Child, whom I a- dore, Whose
3 All bless- ing, thanks, and praise to Thee, Lord



ush- er in the morn- ing. Ye shep- herds, shrink not
grace sur- pass- es mea- sure, My Broth- er, whom I
Je- sus Christ, be giv- en: Thou hast my Broth- er



with af- fright, The day of grace is dawn- ing. This
cher- ish more Than earth with all its trea- sure: Haste
deigned to be, Thou Lord of earth and heav- en. Help



Child, though weak in in- fan- cy, Our con- fi-
from Thy man- ger to de- part, O come and
me through- out this day of grace To praise Thy



dence and joy shall be, The pow'r of Sa- tan
dwell with- in my heart; With joy will I re-
love and seek Thy face; And when I stand be-



break- ing, Our peace with God now mak- ing.
ceive Thee, A cra- dle there will give Thee.
fore Thee For- ev- er to a- dore Thee.

THE SALUTATION 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People:



■ And with thy spir - it.

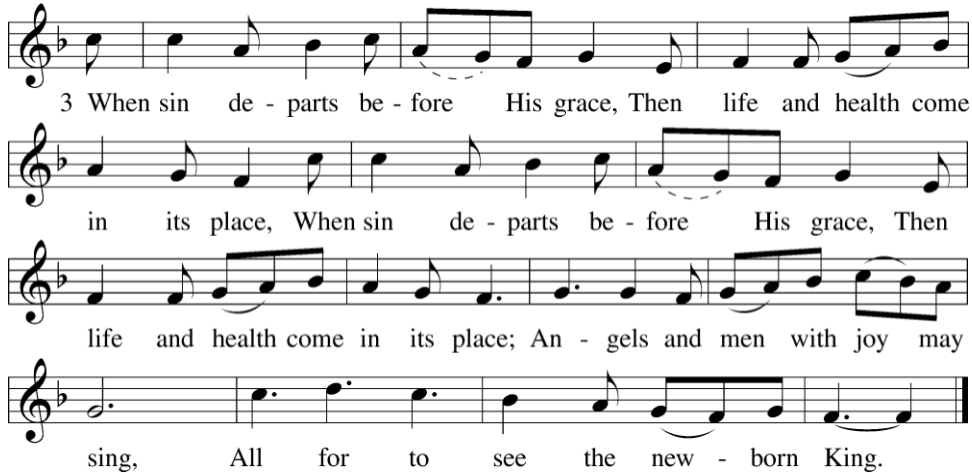
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ♪ Amen.

RESPONSE

LSB 377 v. 3



OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 63:7-14

(Remember the Lord's steadfast love.)

⁷I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD, the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely." And he became their Savior.

⁹In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. ¹⁰But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their

enemy, and himself fought against them. ¹¹Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, ¹²who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, ¹³who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. ¹⁴Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Galatians 4:4-7

(The fullness of time has come.)

Pastor: But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, . . .

HYMN

LSB 390 v. 1

♪ **Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.**

Pastor: . . . to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

HYMN

LSB 390 v. 2

♪ **To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in gladness.**

Pastor: And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

HYMN

LSB 390 v. 3

♪ **We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.**

Pastor: So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

HYMN

LSB 390 v. 4

♪ **Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.**

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

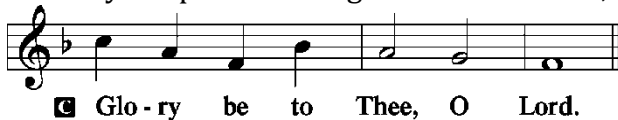
GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13-23

(The Holy Family flees to Egypt.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the second chapter.

People:



¹³Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, 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." ¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

¹⁹But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." ²¹And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People:



THE ORDER OF HOLY BAPTISM @10:30am

tune: Picardy

♪ Let us bring this child before Him, lost in sin's impurity.

Watch as God's own hand delivers, through the water's mystery.

Life! New life and resurrection, From the bonds of sin, set free!

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Baptized in God's House today are Edi and Esmeralda Paluka, and their children

Fiona, Filip, and Frank Paluka

The children's godparents are Eraldi Lapi, Francesca Muscatello

THE APOSTLES CREED @9am

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and
was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“What Child is This?”

LSB 370

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to
sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let
shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the
Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
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!

SERMON

“Strong and Silent”

Matthew 2:13

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

OFFERTORY

W0V 646 v. 2

♪ Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again;
king forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.
Oh— star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We continue to gather offerings utilizing the offering receptacles (one at the back of the church and one at the Gratiot entrance in the parish hall), through the mail, and online.



VOLUNTARY

"Noel"

Charles Tournemire

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

10:30am continues with the benediction

† The Order of Holy Communion †

@9am

THE PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Tim. 4:22*

People: 
☐ And with thy spir - it.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Lam 3:41*

People: 
☐ We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. *Ps 100:4*

People: 
☐ It is meet and right so to do.

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, 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 which are not seen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION *Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Co 11:23-25*

THE PAX DOMINI *Jn 20:19*

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

People: **Amen.**

THE AGNUS DEI *Jn 1:29*

LSB p. 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.

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.*

"Once in Royal David's City"

LSB 376



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a
2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is
3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by
4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His
5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her
God - and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a
day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and
ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y
sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the
help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He
heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.
leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.
stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

DISMISSAL

THE THANKSGIVING

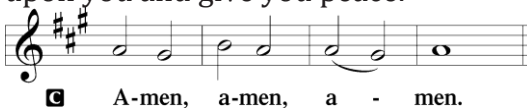
Pastor: We give You thanks Heavenly Father, that You have given us the precious gift of Your Son's body and blood in this holy gift. Strengthen us with both forgiveness and life and enable us to celebrate Christmas every day in our lives, all throughout the year, as we live with the joy of our salvation. We ask this in the name of Your Son, the Christ Child, Jesus.

People:  **Amen**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24-26*

Pastor: God is with us. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The † Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.

People:



RECESSIONAL

"Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

LSB 374



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

POSTLUDE

"The Boar's Head Carol"

Karl Osterland