

The Second Sunday of
CHRISTMAS

January 4, 2026



Pastoral Staff

Rev. D. Lee Andrzejewski
Head Pastor
Rev. Ronald Guettler
Assisting Pastor
Rev. James Rolf
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Peter Nickel
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Dr. John Heins, *Emeritus*
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. Stephanie Listman
Office Assistant
Mrs. Susan Lockhart
Office Assistant
Mr. Joseph Warnes
Church Sexton
Mr. Scott Larkin, *Custodial*
Ms. Angela Kovacs, *Custodial*

AND THE CHILD GREW
AND BECAME STRONG,
FILLED WITH WISDOM.
AND THE FAVOR OF GOD
WAS UPON HIM.

Luke 2:40



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Historic Trinity Lutheran Church

January 4, 2026

PRELUDE

"Come Your Hearts and Voices Raising"

Karl Osterland

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Let Our Gladness Have No End"

LSB 381



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, al - le - lu - ia!
2 Proph - e - sies in days of old, al - le - lu - ia!
3 See, the love - liest bloom - ing rose, al - le - lu - ia!
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, al - le - lu - ia!



For to earth did Christ de - scend, al - le - lu - ia!
God has sent Him as fore - told, al - le - lu - ia!
From the branch of Jes - se grows, al - le - lu - ia!
He, our ref - uge and our Lord, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain



On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save



us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

People: **who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.**

Pastor: He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world,

People: **that we should be holy and blameless before Him. Ephesians 1:3-4**

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Dear friends, we gather here as our Christmas celebration winds down. We are certainly aware how quickly time flies, and there is more to the story of the Gospel and so much more for us to learn. Let us begin by

recalling that which makes any hope of salvation impossible: our sin and our inability to free ourselves from sin's grasp. Yet it is by the Holy Spirit that we are moved to confess our sins to God in the confidence that He who has first chosen and loved us, gives us forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: "Because you have asked this, behold, I now do according to your word." *1 Kgs 3:11-12*. Upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my 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 INTROIT *Isaiah 9:6; Antiphon: Psalm 98:1a*

Pastor/Choir: Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! To us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

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.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, our maker and redeemer, who 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

LSB 393



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new



Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 3:4-15

(Solomon asks not for riches but wisdom.)

⁴And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:3-14

(God chose us in wisdom.)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People:

VERSE

LSB 366 v. 4



GOSPEL

Luke 2:40-52

(Jesus grew in stature and wisdom.)

Pastor:

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the second chapter.

People:



⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: 
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor: As the shepherds told everyone what had happened in Bethlehem on that first Christmas, we declare what we know and believe about God's Son.

People: **I believe in Jesus the Christ—child prophesied by Isaiah, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, named by Joseph, announced by the angels, worshiped by the shepherds, adored by the Wise Men and celebrated by Simeon and Anna.**

He grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and people. He fulfilled God's law on our behalf. Though He never sinned, He took on our sin. He suffered, died on a cross, and was laid in a tomb. On the third day He conquered death and the grave and now reigns at His Father's right hand. He will return to receive all who cradle Him in the manger of their hearts. Thanks be to God for His gift too wonderful for words!

HYMN OF THE DAY

"See, amid the Winter Snow"

LSB 373



1 See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,
2 Lo, with - in a sta - ble lies He who built the star - ry skies,
3 Sa - cred In - fant, all di - vine, What a ten - der love was Thine,
4 Teach, O teach us, ho - ly Child, By Thy face so meek and mild,



See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.
He who, throned in height sub - lime, Sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.
Thus to come from high - est bliss Down to such a world as this!
Teach us to re - sem - ble Thee In Thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty.

Refrain



Hail, O ev - er - bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!



Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"

SERMON

“Because of Christmas Day”
Rev. Ronald Guettler, Cathedral Pastor
Historic Trinity Lutheran Church

Ephesians 1:7,8

OFFERTORY

LSB 389 v. 1,7

♪ Let all together praise our God Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav’n again To give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.

Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore; We praise You evermore.

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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

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Johannes Brahms

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.

9am continues with benediction

† The Order of Holy Communion †
@10:30am

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 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 which 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:

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.*

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”

LSB 388

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.

DISMISSAL

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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 of the Lord's Supper. Strengthen us with both forgiveness and life through this gift 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

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you, the whole year through. The Lord make His face shine on you with the light of the Christ Child. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace on earth, goodwill to all, now and forever.

People: **C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN “Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising” LSB 375 v.1-2, 5-6

1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending And in
3 Oh, the joy beyond expressing When by
4 Gra - cious Child, we pray, O hear us, From Your

Lord with glad - ness praising; Loud - ly sing His love a -
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -
faith we grasp this bless - ing, And to You we come con -
low - ly man - ger cheer us, Gent - ly lead us and be

maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
fess - ing That Your love has set us free.
near us Till we join Your choir a - bove.

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POSTLUDE

“Let All Together Praise Our God”

J S Bach