

CHRISTMAS EVE 2023

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6-7



WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

W2776 STH 32, HOWARDS GROVE, WI 53083

[PHONE: (920) 565-3669] [WEBSITE: WWW.TRINITYHOWARDSGROVE.ORG]

PASTOR NOAH FREMER

Welcome to Trinity!

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



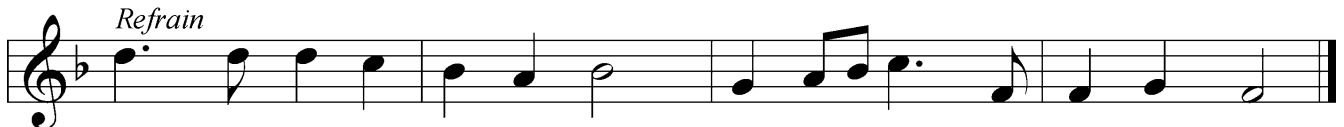
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
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!”
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



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

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.
Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–47
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Reading

Luke 2:1–14

- P** In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.
- C** **This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria.**
- P** And all went to be registered, each to his own town.
- C** **And 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,**
- P** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.
- C** **And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.**
- P** And 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.
- C** **And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.**

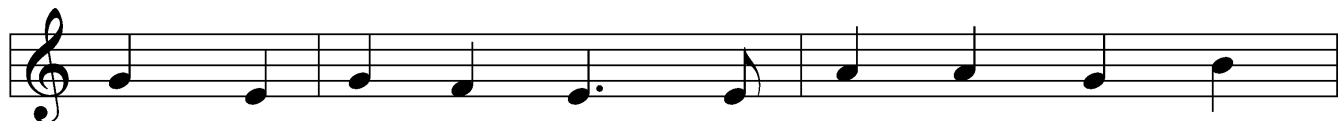
- P** And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.
- C** And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people.
- P** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
- C** And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”
- P** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
- C** “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”
- P** When 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.”
- C** And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.
- P** And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.
- C** And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.
- P** But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.
- C** And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.
- P** This is the word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Sit
 “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

sts. 1-7



1 “From heav’n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 “To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
 4 “He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
 God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
 bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.

- 5 “These are the signs that you shall mark:
 The swaddling clothes and manger dark.
 There you will find the infant laid
 By whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”
 (Verses 6 & 7 are on the following page.)



6 How glad we'll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done
In sending us His own dear Son.

7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christ Child lying there.



Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C 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.

Sit

358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

sts. 8-15



8 Wel - come to earth, O no - ble Guest, Through whom the
9 Ah, Lord, though You cre - at - ed all, How weak You
10 Were earth a thou - sand times as fair And set with
11 In - stead of soft and silk - en stuff You have but



sin - ful world is blest! You came to share my
are, so poor and small, That You should choose to
gold and jew - els rare, It would be far too
hay and straw so rough On which as King, so



mis - er - y That You might share Your joy with me.
lay Your head Where low - ly cat - tle late - ly fed!
poor and small A cra - dle for the Lord of all.
rich and great, To be en - throned in roy - al state.

- 12 And so it pleases You to see
This simple truth revealed to me:
That worldly honor, wealth, and might
Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap;
My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradlesong:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valtin Schumann
Text and tune: Public domain



Sermon

Offering—*Please rise as the offerings are brought forward to the altar.*

Prayers of the Church—*We respond with Amen.*

Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

Sit

Lighting of the Candles

The church is darkened. Pastor Fremer will light his candle from the Christ Candle on the Advent Wreath. The ushers will light their candle from the pastor's candle. The ushers will go to each pew, lighting the candle of the person on the aisle side of the pew. The second person in the pew lights their candle from the first, the third from the second, and so on. All candles are symbolically lit from the "Light of the World." When your candle is lit, hold it out in front of you, shoulder height. Please do not tip the lit candle. Pastor will read the following scripture as the candles are being lit. When all candles have been lit, we will sing "Silent Night."



² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For 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.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Solo—Lance Liermann “Stille Nacht”



Silent Night

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Silent night, Holy night
Brings to earth saving light;
Grace fulfilled to us is giv'n
From the golden heights of heaven,
Comes in lowly birth,
Comes in lowly birth.
4. Silent Night! Holy night!
Shows to each His great might.
Love descends from heaven above.
Dwells with us in brotherly love.
Hailed by nations afar,
Hailed by nations afar.
5. Silent night, Holy night!
Grants us grace from sins plight;
Stills God's wrath as was foretold
By His prophets in days of old.
Peace, goodwill to all.
Peace, goodwill to all.
6. Silent night, Holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C Amen.

Acknowledgments

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Trinity Lutheran Church and Preschool

Howards Grove, Wisconsin



TO MAKE THE SAINTS - "WISE UNTO SALVATION" AND TO "EQUIP FOR SERVING"

Pastor

Rev. Noah Fremer

pastorfremer@gmail.com

Cell: (260) 715-2353

Organist/Pianist

Paula Harder

Preschool

Director: **Marilyn Heinemann**

Teacher: **Dori Matte**

preschool@trinityhowardsgrove.org

Custodians

Gary and Dawn Hopf

Secretary

Mary Fremer

secretary@trinityhowardsgrove.org

Church Office: (920) 565-3669

Thank you to Paula Harder for playing the music for us today.

Thank you to Lance Liermann for singing for us today.

Thank you to Tom Weber for providing and installing the beautiful lanterns in our sanctuary.

Please join us for:

Christmas Day Worship with Communion 9:00am

December 31st 8:00am & 10:30am Regular Worship (No Sunday School)



Trinity Messenger:

Flowers on the altar are in celebration of Mike and Rita Winter's 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Birthday Blessings to: Valeta Burkhardt, Addison Goosen, Jamie Hansen, Gordon Heffernan, Claire McCraw, Logan Fremer, Kevin Neese, Noah Bender, Sandy Marthenze, Greyson Reiss, and Owen Timm.

Boiler Announcement We had a Special Voter's Meeting November 26th to discuss purchasing the new boiler. As per the meeting, it was approved that the Property Committee would gather bids and make the final decision. The bid from Four Seasons Comfort was selected and will cost \$19,100. We will be using money in the Building Fund and some from Scrip to cover the cost, but we will also be accepting offerings in order to not deplete those funds. If you feel moved to make an offering, please use a plain envelope with **"Boiler Fund"** and **your offering envelope number** written on it. These envelopes can be put in the collection plate during any worship service. Installation took place the week of December 18th.

There will be NO CONFIRMATION classes December 27th.

This bulletin was sponsored by Mike and Rita Winter in celebration of their 50th Anniversary.