# Trinity Lutheran Church

### A CONGREGATION OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

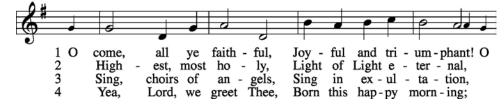
1165 Westmore Meyers Rd., Lombard, IL 60148 630-629-8765 + www.trinitylombard.org Rev. Steve Wagner—Sr. Pastor

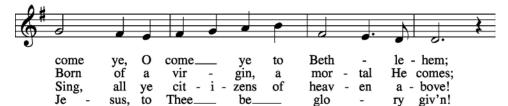
## Sunday, December 24, 2023 The Eve of the Nativity of our Lord

Stand

Children's Processional - (3:00 PM only)

**Opening Hymn 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful** *LSB 379* 











Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

### **Opening Sentences** Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:14

- **P** For to us a child is born,
- C to us a son is given;
- **P** And His name shall be called
- C Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
- **P** Everlasting Father,
- C Prince of Peace.
- **P** "Glory to God in the highest,
- C and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

### **Confession and Absolution**

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- **P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **T** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

### C Amen.

### **Advent Candles**

- **P** All four candles are now burning on our Advent wreath.
- C The two candles of repentance remind us of how we are to approach God.
- **P** The pink candle is to show our joy of Christ's coming,
- C The joy in Christ's salvation for us causes us to await His second coming with faith and hope.
- **P** The fourth candle reminds us of God's mercy,
- C We are still in the world of sin and trouble, but we do wait for the coming of Jesus, our Savior.
- **P** The Christ Candle is white to show the purity and sinlessness of our Savior, the light of the world.
- C God who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in trespasses and sin.

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And with thy spirit.
- **P** Let us pray.

Father of all, on this silent, holy night You have given to all people the gift of infinite worth, Your only-begotten Son, Jesus. Grant that He who was heralded by angels and welcomed by shepherds may be born in our hearts by faith, that we may grow in Your grace following Him with all humility; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C Amen.

Sit

Reading Hymn 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



Old Testament Reading

Public domain

Isaiah 9:2–7

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.
 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.
 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. <sup>5</sup>For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

## **Epistle** *Titus 2:11–14*

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

## **Alleluia and Verse**



Holy Gospel Luke 2:1–20

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

## C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>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, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>15</sup>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." <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>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 Gospel of the Lord.



## **Nicene Creed**

C I believe in one God,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life T of the world to come. Amen.

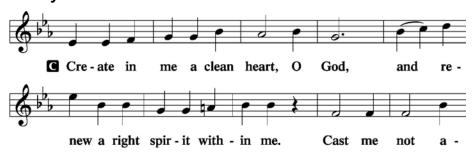
Sit Children's Sermon ~ Pastor Wagner (3:00 PM ONLY)

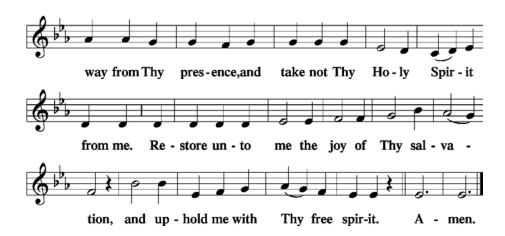
Sermon Hymn 387 Joy to the World



## **Sermon** ~ **Pastor Steve Wagner**

## Stand **Offertory**





Sit Offering

Stand

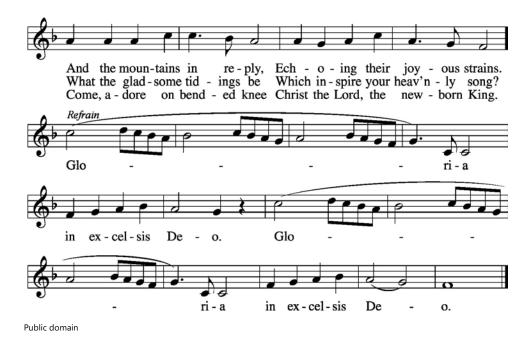
**Sharing of the Peace** 

**Prayer of the Church** 

Prayer Hymn 368 Angels We Have Heard on High



- 1 An gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains, 2 Shep-herds, why this ju bi-lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long? 3 Come to Beth-le-hem and see Him whose birth the an gels sing; the plains,



#### Stand

### **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.

### **Luther's Morning Prayer** (3:00 PM ONLY)

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may

have no power over me. Amen.

## **Luther's Evening Prayer** (10:00 PM ONLY)

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hand I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## **A** Let us pray.

O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



### **Salutation and Benedicamus**



### **Benediction**

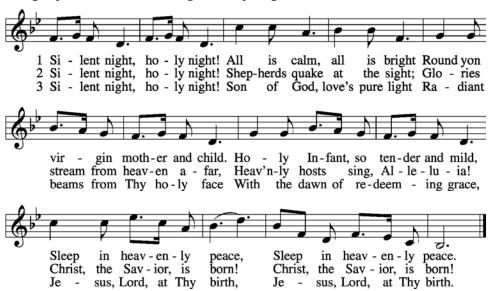
The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with His favor and T grant you His peace.

## C Amen.

Sit

## The Lighting of the Candles (10:00 PM only)

## Closing Hymn 363 Silent Night, Holy Night



(...please extinguish your candles before leaving worship this evening...)