



CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

THANK OFFERING: Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

RESTROOMS are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

YOUNG FAMILIES / TODDLER BAGS – We are **GLAD YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHILDREN** to our worship service. Jesus said: *"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* We know that having little children in church can be a trial, but **DO NOT WORRY** about it. Many of your fellow worshippers have been in your shoes and are just happy you brought your children with you. For your convenience, we have reserved the back rows of seating for parents with small children. These areas provide more flexibility for your family, as well as, easy access to move downstairs if necessary. A closed-circuit TV system allows families to continue participating in the service while downstairs. Pre-school **toddler bags** and **children's bulletins** are available for their enjoyment. Ask an usher for one to use during the service and please return the toddler bag afterwards.

330 Peace Came to Earth

CW 330



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho-sen night when an - gels
 2 And who could be the same for hav-ing held the in - fant
 3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen, in flesh and
 4 How else could I have known you, O my God! How else could



clove the sky with song and light and God em - bod - ied
 in their arms and lat - er felt the wound - ed hands and
 blood you bore our griefs and pain, in bread and wine you
 I have loved you, O my God! How else could I em -



love and sheathed his might— Who could but gasp: Im-man-u - el!
 side, all doubts dis-pelled— Who could but sigh: Im-man-u - el!
 vis - it us a - gain— Who could but see: Im-man-u - el!
 brace you, O my God! Who could but pray: Im-man-u - el!



Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
 Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

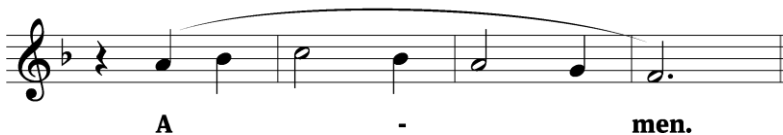
Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: arr. Mark Kellner, 1959–2015, alt.; Richard Jeffrey, b. 1952

Text: © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727703

Tune: © 2000 MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727703

(Congregation sings words in bold print)



Tune: Dale A. Witte

Tune: © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727703

339 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

CW 339



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing

stall; ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the
new saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings

child is Lord of all. Swift - ly wing - ing an - gels
of a gos - pel true. Thus re - joic - ing, free from

sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, ti - dings bring - ing: Christ the
sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row: Christ the

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

Text: Polish; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.

Tune: Polish

Text and tune: Public domain

Confession

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
in our thoughts,
in our words,
in our deeds,
and in all that we have not done.
Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Deliver and restore us,
that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ,
and in him we are forgiven.
Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun,
when we shall serve him in newness of life.
Amen.

Bell Choir with Vocalists

“Were You There on That Christmas Night?”

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.
For those living in the land of the shadow of death, the light has dawned.
³ You have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy.
They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time,
like the celebration when people divide the plunder.
⁴ For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them.
You have broken the bar on their shoulders and
the rod of their oppressor,
as you did in the day of Midian.
⁵ Every boot that marched in battle
and the garments rolled in blood will be burned.
They will be fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born.

To us a son is given.

The authority to rule will rest on his shoulders.

He will be named:

Wonderful Counselor,

Mighty God,

Everlasting Father,

Prince of Peace.

⁷ There will be no limit to his authority

and no end to the peace he brings.

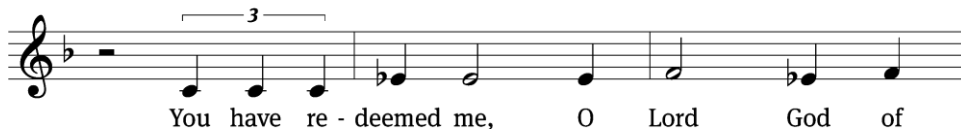
He will rule on David's throne and over his kingdom,

to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness

from now on, into eternity.

The zeal of the LORD of Armies will accomplish this.

(Congregation sings words in bold print)



truth. In - to your hands I com-mend my spir - it.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the + Son

and to the Ho - ly Spir - it. In - to your

hands I com - mend my spir - it.

Tune: Dale A. Witte

Tune: © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727703


344 What Child Is This

CW 344

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 - en now 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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
 Tune: English, 16th cent.
 Text and tune: Public domain

Second Reading

1 John 4:9-14

⁹ This is how God’s love for us was revealed: God has sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we may live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, if God loved us so much, we also should love one another.

¹² No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God remains in us and his love has been brought to its goal in us. ¹³ This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ We have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

356 God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

CW 356



- 1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
- 2 From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
- 3 "Fear not," then said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;
- 4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ, our Sav - ior, was born on Christ - mas Day
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings of the same,
this day is born a Sav - ior, the true and ra - diant light,
and in true love and fel - low - ship each oth - er now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas is filled with heav'n - ly grace.

Refrain



O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,



O ti - dings of com - fort and joy.

Text: English, 18th cent.
Tune: English
Text and tune: Public domain

Third Reading

Luke 2:1-7

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³ And everyone went to register, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the town of Nazareth, into Judea, to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was from the house and family line of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, his wife, who was pledged to him in marriage and was expecting a child.

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

343 Once in Royal David's City


CW 343



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
3 And our eyes at last shall see him through his own re -
4 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble with the ox - en

cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
deem - ing love, for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our
stand - ing by shall we see him, but in heav - en, set at

(continued)



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and mean and
 Lord in heav'n a - bove, and he leads his chil - dren
 God's right hand on high. Then like stars his chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 on to the place where he is gone.
 crowned, all in white, his praise will sound.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, abr., alt.

Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

Text and tune: Public domain

Fourth Reading

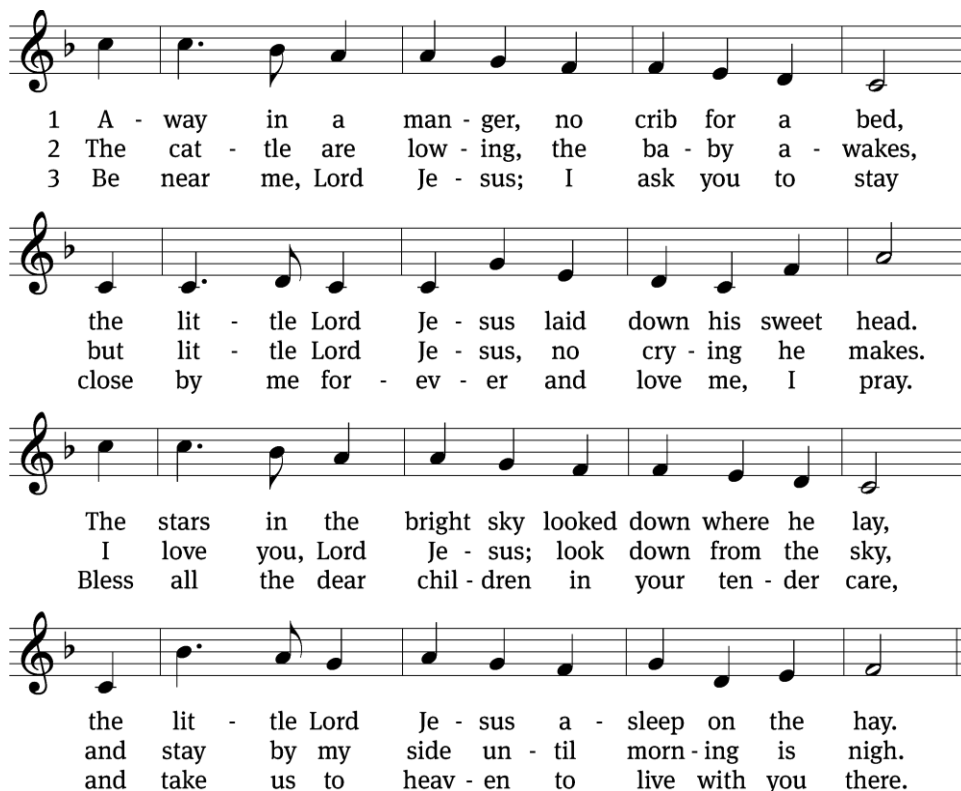
Luke 2:8-20

⁸ There were in the same country shepherds staying out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified! ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. For behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which will be for all people: ¹¹ Today in the town of David, a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ Suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude from the heavenly army, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward mankind.”

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Now let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they told others the message they had been told about this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it were amazed by what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

340 Away in a Manger

CW 340



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
and take us to heav - en to live with you there.

Text (sts. 1–2): The Myrtle, Boston, 1884; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, Louisville, 1892, alt.

Tune: James R. Murray, 1841–1905

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

“To Us a Son is Given”

Isaiah 9:2-7

Solo

“O Holy Night”

Jim Tice

Lighting of Candles

(The pastor will light his candle from the Christ candle. The ushers will light their candles from the pastor's and then come down the aisle. The people in the pews who are closest to the aisle will light their candles from the usher's. Each person will then light their candle from the person sitting next to them. Remember to never dip a lit candle!)

Piano Duet

"The First Noel"

Marcia Marion Ackling, Sarah Hanke

The Church Lights are Dimmed

Prayer (Congregation sings words in bold print)



Hear my prayer, O Lord;




lis - ten to my cry.




Keep me as the ap - ple of your eye;



hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.



P: In right - eous - ness I shall see you;



C: **when I a - wake, your pres - ence will give me joy.**

Tune: Dale A. Witte

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337 Silent Night, Holy Night

CW 337 sts. 1-3



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight. Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts__ sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy



peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885; Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848

Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787-1863

Text and tune: Public domain

Christmas Eve Prayer

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.

Individual candles are extinguished

968 In Peace, Lord, You Let Your Servant


CW 968

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "In peace, Lord, you let your ser-vant now de-part ac-cord-ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, with some notes beamed together. The final note of the piece is a double bar line.


In peace, Lord, you let your ser-vant now de-part ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which
you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev.
Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923-1993
Text: Public domain
Tune: © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727703


Blessing



The grace of our Lord ✝ Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

350 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CW 350



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 - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right-eous-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 th'in-car-nate De - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th'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, 1707–1788, alt.
Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847
Text and tune: Public domain

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Officiant	Pastor Isaac Pappenfuss
Organists	Marcia Marion Ackling, Sarah Hanke
Instrumentalists	Marcia Marion Ackling, Sarah Hanke,
.....	Tom Amerman, Ken Kirkpatrick
Soloist	Jim Tice
Vocalists	Sarah Hanke, Laura Sala, Jim Tice
Accompanist	Laura Sala
Bell Choir Director	Jeremy Hanke
Deacons	Dave Frey and Duane Mason
Altar Guild	Sharon Boswell and Judy Lindemann
Videographer	Ann Latowski

OUR CELEBRATION OF JESUS’ BIRTH continues tomorrow morning at 10 a.m. with our Christmas Day Service.

ONLY ONE SERVICE on Sunday, December 29th, at 9:30 a.m. No Sunday School or Bible Class that day.

SUNDAY SCHOOL and BIBLE CLASS resumes Sunday, January 12th.

CALENDAR AND ENVELOPES – The January calendar page and offering envelopes for 2025 are available for you to pick up in the Bible Class room.

NOTE—the January 2025 newsletter will NOT be going out on January 1st, but will be out by Sunday, January 5th. There will be no regular office hours December 26th-January 1st. You can leave a message on the church answering machine or call the parsonage at 429-1087.

BELL CHOIR will not be meeting on January 9th or 16th, but will resume on January 23rd.

