

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET, STEPHENS CITY VA
540-869-4019

CHRISTMAS EVE 2018
4:00 PM



Christmas Eve Family Service

Welcome to this celebration of Christmas, the story of Jesus birth, and the gift of his presence in our lives through the Eucharist (Holy Communion). If you are new to Trinity, we are especially pleased to have you join us for this service and invite you to worship again. We gather each Sunday at 9:30 AM. *If you have brought an infant gift*, please place it beneath the Chrismon tree during the prelude.

Prelude

Carols of Joy and Wonder

Steven Scott

Opening Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

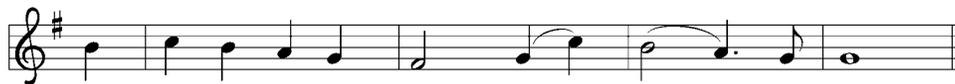


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Dorrie Greene

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Welcoming the Gospel

Angels We Have Heard on High, vs. 1 and 2

Children are invited to ring bells each time "Gloria in excelsis Deo" is sung



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;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

The gospel reading is a call and response between the reader and the assembly. Each time the reader announces To us is born a Savior, the assembly responds: Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Christmas Eve story comes from the Gospel of Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Celebrating the Gospel

Angels We Have Heard on High, st. 3 *Bells may ring again.*



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;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol

Hymn of the Day

Away in a Manger



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



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.
 Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

Prayers of Intercession

As people around the globe rejoice this night, let us pray for the needs of the church and all the world.

A brief silence.

Lord of Grace, you offer hope, clothe us with joy, and share with us the gift of love in the birth of a child. Give us gratitude each day for your light and the bread of life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creation's beauty sings your praise: sun, moon and stars give light to our paths, day and night. Forests, mountains and valleys, the wide plains, desserts and foaming oceans intrigue and invite us to explore the vast diversity of planet earth. Give us the will and desire to care for the gifts before us and to praise you in doing so. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You have created us to live in community, to care and support one another. For the sake of good order we rely on leaders who are faithful to the offices and positions of trust placed upon them. We especially pray for those who protect and serve, the mayor, town council and county supervisors; all branches of government in the commonwealth and nation. Give them a mind and passion for fairness, equality and the well-being of all they serve. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You bind up the broken hearted and make whole what is broken. We seek your mercy for all who find this time of year a burden. Strengthen the grieving and comfort those who struggle with addictions. We pray especially for those we name aloud or silently (*a brief silence*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the spirit of this holy night, we pray for children everywhere, for their safety and well-being, for love of their parents and extended family and above all for your holy and tender compassions for their lives. Teach us more and more to trust like them, to rejoice in small treasures of life, and to be inquisitive about those things we seek to understand, especially the ability to live in friendship and with compassion for others. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

By the power of your presence among us you give us to each other to encourage and challenge. Give us hearts that remember your Christmas gifts beyond this night. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for those before us who witnessed to your presence, taught us to pray, and strengthened us in the truth especially those we remember by name or silently, and all with whom we share the feast of eternal life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offering

Offertory Solo

Gesù Bambino Pietro Yon

Olivia Zeigler, soprano

Offertory Cantic

What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

Offering Prayer

Holy God,
your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross.
As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us,
warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need.
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

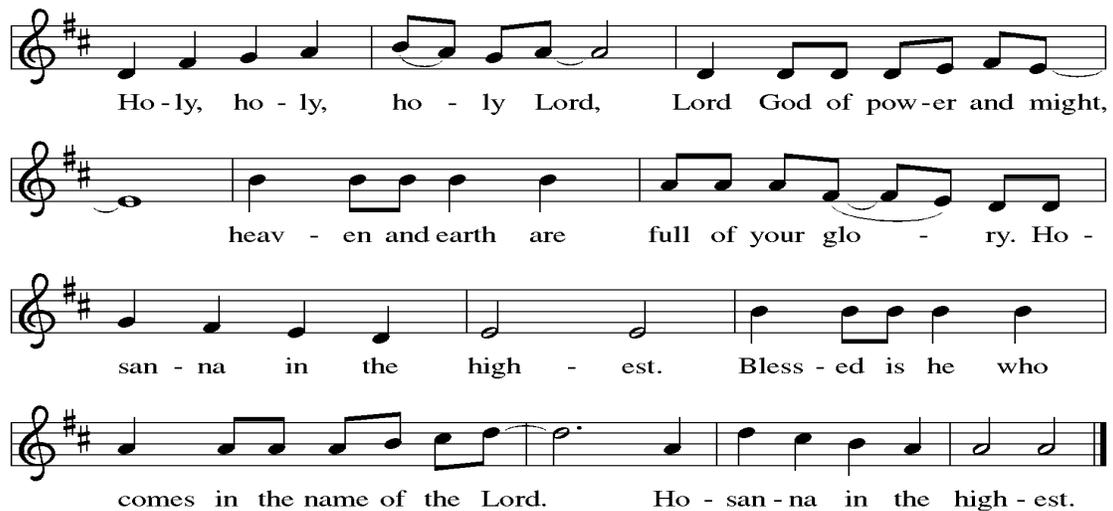
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING †

We give you thanks, Father,
through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son,
whom you sent in this end of the ages
to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.
He is your Word, inseparable from you,
through whom you created all things,
and in whom you take delight.
He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will

and won for you a holy people;
he stretched out his hands in suffering
in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

On the night in which he was betrayed Jesus took bread,
Broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

As we take this bread and cup,
giving you thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people,
send your Spirit upon us;
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ;
through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord, remember us and teach us to trust and pray ...

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table where Christ meets you.
Eat, rejoice, and be glad!

All are invited to participate in the Eucharist (Holy Communion). Please follow the ushers' guidance. You may use a cup to receive the wine or use intinction (dipping the wafer into the chalice). Return to your seat by the side aisle. Hymns during communion are on the following pages.

Love Has Come



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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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!



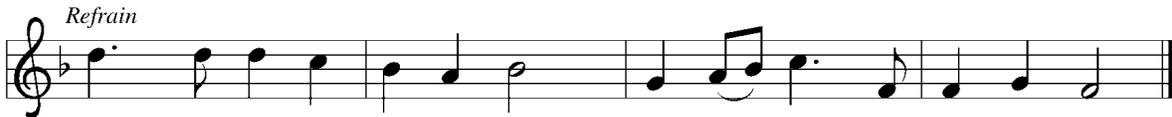
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915



Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



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!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.
Music: W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

Prayer after Communion

God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near.
As you have come among us now,
send us out in joy, hastening to share
the good news of your love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy..
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Song

Go Tell It on the Mountain

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.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

Postlude

Go Tell It On the Mountain

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A festival Candlelight service will be held tonight at 11:00PM, including guest violinist Heather Butler and the Trinity Choir.

The church office will be closed December 25-January 1st. Pastor Sims may be reached by phone (540) 545-8410.

A Service of Lessons and Carols will be used at 9:30AM next Sunday, December 30th.

Poinsettias

Donor

Ralph and Carolyn Gregory

Joe & Vickie Hollis

Debra and Larry Carbaugh

Jim & Anne Vermillion

Tracey Legare

Mark & Dorrie Greene

Nicole Legare

Kim Monk

In Honor of

All our veterans

Kim Begnaud for her tireless work for others

Robert Carbaugh

Our children and grandchildren

Vinnie & Nicole Legare, Andy & Amy King

Cooper Greene

Ralph and Carolyn Gregory

Jeff Shifflett



Donor

Louise Poffenberger

Sue Scheulen

Ed & Elizabeth Streun

Mark & Patty Taylor

The Jenkins, Garber & Daily families

The Wolf family

Richard & Lynn Downs

In Memory of

Charles Poffenberger

Leonard and Annabelle Richard

Harry and Bertha Scheulen

Dennis Richard

Anthony Bourdain

Barbara Taylor

J. Warden Jenkins

loved ones

George & Marie Downs

Paul Buchholz

Katie & Shane Downs

continued

Donor

William Edmonson & Marcie Stern

Chuck & Marcie Stern

Debra & Larry Carbaugh

Jim & Anne Vermillion

Deb Crawford

Ruby Ridings

Tracey, Nicole, Vinnie Legare, Andy & Amy King

Ken & Robin Cibroski

Mr. & Mrs. Christian & Sarah Downs

Emily & Aaron Pyne

In Memory of

Beloved brother & Uncle John P. Edmonson

Our beloved grandparents;
Harold E. Metz
William H. Edmonson, Jr.
Foster L. & Mildred E. Judy
Charles N. & Edith F. Stern

Frances Carbaugh

Our parents

Her daughter, Sarah Bower

Vernon Ridings, Keller Nichols, Ben Cooley

Vincent Legare, Jr.

Adam & Anna Cibroski

Marian Smedley

Melvin & Janie Carbaugh
Rose Pyne



Merry Christmas



The Rev. George Sims
Ricky Gearhart
Brenda Boldin
William Edmonson
Theresa Horn
Joe Hollis, Ralph Gregory, Bill Herrell
Jerry Rogers
Dan Painter
Mark Greene
Tracey Legare
Darla Wolf, Sue Scheulen, Jerry Rogers, Sarah Downs, Mike Pyne

Interim Pastor
Choirmaster/Organist
Administrative Secretary
Treasurer
Housekeeper/Sexton
Trustees
Property Manager (vol.)
Council Chair
Council Vice-Chair
Council Recorder
Council Members

The Rev^d Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

The Rev^d Bob Humphrey, Bishop
Virginia Synod ELCA

The Rev^d. Martha Sims, Dean
Northern Valley Synod Conference