

# Trinity Lutheran Church

December 24,  
2025

Christmas  
Eve Service  
4:00 PM

217 Brackenridge  
Southwest  
Sleepy Eye, MN

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Every member

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**Custodian**  
**Pat Lowther**



**HOLY COMMUNION ~ SETTING 3**  
**4:00 P.M. ~ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**



*God bless you as we gather on this blessed Christmas Eve. We welcome all visitors and pray our worship together brings you a special blessing as Christ extends his invitation to all as we receive the presence of Christ's body and blood through the bread and cup.*

*Children yet to be instructed in Communion are invited to receive a personal blessing at the time of Communion.*

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## GATHERING

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**WE PREPARE...** *In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.*

**WELCOME**

PASTOR DAVE NISSEN



"O HOLY NIGHT"

ALYSSA NISSEN

### THE PROMISE OF ARRIVAL

To a people longing for hope and yearning for deliverance, the prophet Isaiah declared, The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined...For 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. (Isaiah 9:2,

6)  
Tonight, we come seeking hope, peace, joy, and love, and we find these things in a child. God made flesh as a baby in a manger. A baby who is both the beginning and the end of our salvation, who dwells with us even now, our Emmanuel, God with us.

**We live as people in the in-between who celebrate the arrival of the Light that shines in lost and broken places as we wait for the day when we will live in the fullness of God's kingdom.**

We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, our just peace, our fierce joy, the love that transforms us, and Jesus Christ, our wondrous Light. May the Light burning in our hearts guide us, comfort us, protect us, and tend us in all seasons and circumstances, reminding us that day and night, in the light and in the darkness, God is with us. Our salvation has come! Amen.



THE PROMISE OF ARRIVAL

Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings.

**Joy to the world, the Savior reigns.**

Tonight, we long to worship the newborn king.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

Tonight, we long to hear the good news proclaimed by the angels.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

Tonight, we long to receive the promise foretold.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**



Today we light all the candles. The **first candle** ignites the thrill of hope in the hearts of weary people. The **second candle** shines peace that surpasses understanding into a conflicted and confused world. The **third candle** expresses the joy of fulfilled promises and the anticipation of those yet to come. The **fourth candle** shines with grace and new life in God's unconditional love. Tonight, we light the **Christ candle** in celebration of our Messiah's birth. As God's promises continue to shine, we echo the words shared through the ages – Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!

*Please Join the Choir in singing:*

## Where the Promise Shines

Words by SYLVIA G. DUNSTAN  
Music by BOB MOORE

Congregation:

Lead us on, lead us on to a morn - ing where the  
prom - ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on  
to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

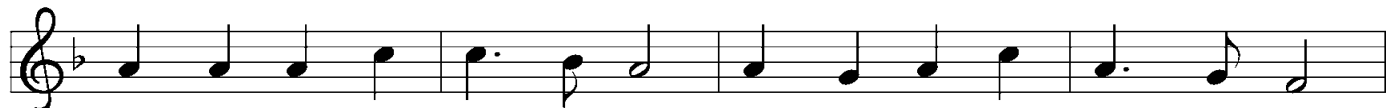
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1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



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.

*Refrain*

Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



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

**GREETING**

Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all. **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, the Light that burst in heavenly radiance on Bethlehem's hills still glows for us today. It shines in our Christmas candles, twinkling strings of lights, beams in heaven's stars, and is reflected in the faces of all who are gathered here. Grant that we who know the Light in its dim radiance might bask in its heavenly glory forever that, with the same angels who sang to shepherds of your grace, we too might sing our Christmas songs to you: "*Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to God's people on earth.*" Through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now... and forever. **Amen**



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# WORD

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## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 9: 2-7**

The first reading is from Isaiah, Chapter 9, verses 2-7. 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!

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.  
You 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.  
For 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.  
For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
For 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.  
His 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.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSIVE PSALM~ 96

*Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad.*

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!**

**The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge  
the peoples with equity."**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,  
for you come to judge the earth.**

You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

**SECOND READING****Titus 2:11-14**

The second reading is from Titus, Chapter 2, verses 11-14. The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

*The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Away in a Manger*

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his 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 cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

*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. 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. 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.*

*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. 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." 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!"*

*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. 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. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE**

Pastor Dave Nissen



*"Bless  
all the dear  
children  
with thy  
tender care"*



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;



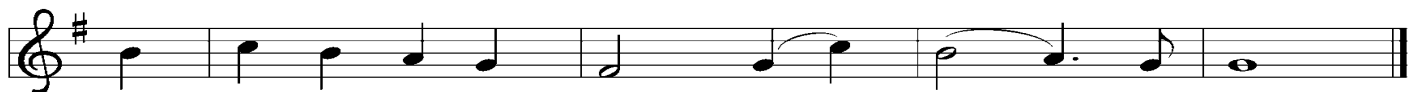
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



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!

**CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of grace, receive our prayer.

**OFFERING**

*(Please sign the Welcome Pads and pass to your neighbor...)*

**MEAL****PRAYER**

Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**And also with you.**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

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, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*What Child Is This?*

ELW# 296



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the 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!

## THE WORDS OF JESUS

### 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.**

### DISTRIBUTION

God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good.



SPECIAL  
MUSIC

“CHRIST CHILD’S LULLABYE”

DARLENE BRUMMUND

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## A CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. **Jesus, the Savior, is born!**

Praise the Lord with heart-filled joy!

**We praise him! We bless him! Christ our newborn King!**

And he blesses you with his presence—then and now and always! **Amen.**

Jesus Christ, God made flesh, Savior of the World, came to the world this night.

Not as a mighty warrior on a chariot as many expected. Rather as an innocent, helpless baby, in the stable of an inn, amongst the animals.

On this night the cries of our broken world were silenced by the cry of our newborn savior.

**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.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

Behold the Light, the Word made flesh, a Savior, Christ the Lord. Welcome the Light, the Baby Jesus, a Savior, Christ the Lord. Spread the news the angels told.

Tell the world: Our Savior is here! **Thanks be to God!**

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## SENDING

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### BLESSING

Jesus is the promised Savior, born of Mary. May his birth among us renew all joy. **Amen.**

### DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest! **Peace to God's people on earth!**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please extinguish your candles)*



### Our Thanks To All Who Serve The Body Of Christ

<b>Accompanist</b>	Mary Mulry
<b>Acolyte</b>	Levi Johnson
<b>Reader</b>	Darlene Brummund
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Larry Baumgardt, Mark Beito
<b>Sound Techs</b>	Russ Sorensen
<b>Greeters</b>	Chris Mangen
<b>Ushers</b>	Mark Miller, Dennis Mangen
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Joleen Dittbenner



**Thank you to the following donors for sharing God's beauty with us in the form of a poinsettia.**

*Feel free to take your plant home any time after the Christmas Eve service has concluded. Many Thanks!*

- ❁ Jeff & Lisa, Sue & Jerry, Lee & Bev, Paulette & Greg and their families in memory of  
Bill & Colleen Ibberson
- ❁ Mark & Sandra Beito in memory of Gunny & Julia Ann Knudson and  
Marion & Wilma Beito
- ❁ Mark & Sandra Beito in memory of Rex & Judy Beech
- ❁ Jay Sellner in memory of Brandy Sellner
- ❁ Nicole, Riley, and Karmela Voigt in memory of grandparents Ted & Nina Voigt, and  
Grandpa Donald Zirbes
- ❁ Dave and Mardy Vosbeck in memory of our parents
- ❁ Brian & Carol Polesky in memory of Betty, David & DJ Riley Ed Polesky, Dean  
Brinkman, Bill Vogeler & Nic Jacques
- ❁ Larry and Diane Evers in honor of their family
- ❁ Hazel Schueler in memory of Jerry
- ❁ Craig and Joleen Dittbenner in honor of their family
- ❁ Craig and Joleen Dittbenner in memory of Marian and Lester Johnson
- ❁ Connie Johnson in memory of A. J. & Mae Hoverman
- ❁ Connie Johnson in memory of V. K. & Olga Johnson
- ❁ The Jean Bloemke family in memory of Craig Bloemke
- ❁ Michal and Pat Lowther in memory of family
- ❁ Mary and Brian Mulry in honor of family
- ❁ Eric and Juli Wahlborg & family in memory of Delores Wahlborg
- ❁ Larry and Sherry Baumgardt in memory of our brothers
- ❁ Ashley and Danny Fischer in honor of family
- ❁ Rod and Darlene Brummund in memory of Don and Donna Marcott,  
Alan Justen, Herbie, Albert, David, Boomer, Herbert and Esther Brummund
- ❁ Rod and Darlene Brummund in honor of our children Katrina, Andrea, and John,  
grandchildren Ariella and Andy  
Great-grandsons Marcus and Antonio

*We thank all of those who have graciously shared their talents of special music with us for this Celebration of Christ's birth. Pastor Dave, Darlene, Pat, Mary, Alyssa, and Pat extend their Christmas greetings to you all. May you and your family's Christmas and New Year be richly blessed and filled with God's presence and peace.*



