

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA



We want to be a congregation who continues:
Trusting God
Loving and Connecting with God and one another
Reaching out to all God's children

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
January 3, 2021 10:00 AM

Pastor – Rev. Barbara Barry
Ministers to the World – Congregation of Trinity Lutheran
Mission – *To Share Christ in Word and Deed*
Office Phone – 717-597-9348

WE WELCOME ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US THIS DAY!

- To prepare for worship, please find a slice of bread and cup of juice or wine for Communion. If that isn't possible, know that your desire for union with Jesus IS Holy Communion.
- If you're joining us on Facebook, please use the comments to say hello, write your God moments, mention something that inspires you from the service and share the peace. We are family together and connection is more vital than ever.
- Congregational responses are in bold.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

Hymn *He Has Come for Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman (CCLI License #2823825)*

1 God rest ye merry gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

He has come for us this Jesus
He's the hope for all mankind
He has come for us the Messiah
Born to give us life

2 From God our heav'nly Father
A blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

He has come for us this Jesus
He's the hope for all mankind
He has come for us the Messiah
Born to give us life

3 All the angels sing hallelujah
Jesus Christ is born
All the children sing hallelujah
He is Christ the Lord

Born to give us life
He is born to give us life

He has come for us this Jesus
He's the hope for all mankind
He has come for us the Messiah

Angels sing hallelujah
Jesus Christ is Lord
All the children sing hallelujah
He is Christ the Lord

Jason Ingram | Meredith Andrews
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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day: We pray together: **O God, we come before you as a people gathered to behold the Christ, a light shining in the dark that cannot be extinguished. In this new year, we offer special thanks for Trinity, our family of faith, and your faithful presence. Help us to see more clearly your glorious light, that we will open our hearts to your reign on earth and dedicate our lives to your service. Amen**

WORD

The Holy Gospel according to John, the second chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel – John 1:1-5, 10-14, 16-18

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Sermon

Questions to ponder:

- *John tells us "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." What does this wonder mean to you?*
- *How does the truth of Christmas speak to our callings as individuals and as a congregation? How does faith in the living Jesus lead us to continue to 'become flesh' for the sake of the world today?*

- *Share your God moments by sharing a comment on Facebook or calling the office. We encourage one another when we see how God is active in each other's lives.*

Hymn

The First Noel (ELW 300)

1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Refrain

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

4 This star drew near to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay.
Refrain

2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far; and to
the earth it gave great light, and so it
continued both day and night. *Refrain*

5 Then entered in those wise men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

Prayers of the Church: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great!**

MEAL

Offertory

Everything we have, do and are is a gift from God. God invites us to use our gifts of time, talent, money, and other blessings to love others. We join God in the work of healing our broken world. We pray - offering ourselves and our contributions to the glory of God.

God of light and hope, **we bring our gifts of time, talent, money and our very selves to further your work and ministry of love in all the world. May our gifts bring light and new opportunities to all. May our gifts and our lives bring your light into the pains and sorrows of the world. In the name of Jesus. 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.

Words of Institution

The night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; 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.

Again after supper, Jesus 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.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Our Savior taught us:

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

The Word of God is revealed in a manger and in this meal of Holy Communion. Receive Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Communion

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

Table Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of your Word and this Sacrament of Holy Communion. **May we be sustained and strengthened from having heard your Word proclaimed and from feasting on the bread of life, the very real presence of Jesus. So encouraged, may we continue to build a stronger and deeper trust in you, transformed by your love to live as you would have us – your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

Story of Epiphany: Matthew 2: 1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sending Hymn

1 We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain moor and mountain
Following yonder star

Chorus

O star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign

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Benediction:

The holiday is over, but the work of Christmas is just beginning. Guide us, loving God, as we follow in the footsteps of the one whose birth we celebrate. Grant us the grace to order our lives so that others might know that we have knelt in Bethlehem and worshiped the newborn king. On the threshold of this new year, let us remember to follow the star instead of the crowd. If we lose our way, help us to remember, O God, the angel songs and the gift born to us that we might have life and have it abundantly.

And may God bless you in the name of the Father, (+) Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Sending for Mission: Light has broken into our world of darkness. Go out into the world sharing the light and love of Jesus to all you meet. **Thanks be to God. We will!**

Postlude

We Three Kings (WOV 646)

3 Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a deity nigh
Prayer and praising, all men raising
Worshiping God Most High

4 Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying
Sealed in the stone cold tomb
Chorus

5 Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and sacrifice
Alleluia! Alleluia
Peals through the earth and skies