



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA
Phone: 717-597-9348

CHRISTMAS EVE
December 24, 2025 7:00 PM

Rev. Denise Horn – Interim Pastor
Ministers to the World – Congregation of Trinity Lutheran
Mission – *To Share Christ in Word and Deed*

Office Phone: 717-597-9348 www.tlcgreencastle.org

WELCOME ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE THIS DAY!

- If you are visiting with us, we are honored by your presence. If you are seeking a church home, please contact the Pastor.
- Holy Communion is celebrated in this evening's worship. All are welcome to the table. Young children should follow the practice of their home congregation.
- The Worship Service will be available on You Tube, Facebook and the Website after the service. It is being recorded through Facebook Live.
- Congregational responses are in bold.

**Please stand.*

Piano Prelude

*O Little Town of Bethlehem
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
O Holy Night*

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

***Christmas Proclamation**

***Entrance Song** *Angels From the Realms of Glory* (ELW #275) 4 verses

***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**

Let us pray together: **Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth 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.**

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and

the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He 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.

***Gradual Hymn**

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming (ELW #272) vs 1 & 2

*The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

***Christmas Story According to Luke 2:1- 20**

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these

words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The 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.

***Gradual Hymn** *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming* (ELW #272) vs 3 & 4

Children's Message

Sermon

***Hymn** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* (ELW #270) 3 verses

***Prayers of the Church** - *(Each petition ends with "Hear us, O God," The Congregation responds "your mercy is great").*

***Sign of Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** *(If you are joining us on Facebook, please share Christ's peace with one another in the comments.)*

MEAL

You are invited to come forward for the traditional distribution of Communion or if you prefer, take a prepackaged kit available from the Usher and remain seated. The Pastor will give instructions to you prior to communing the Assistants.

***Offering Prayer**

God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

***Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

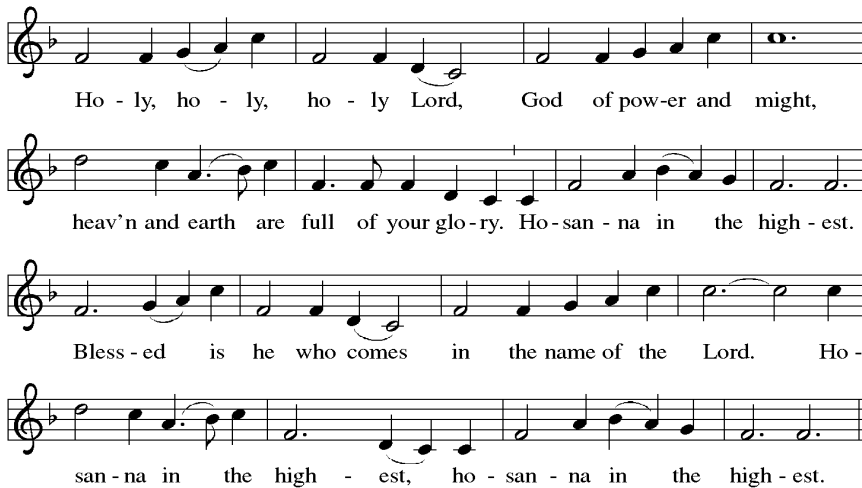
We lift them to the Lord.

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, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*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

God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

Pew Communion: *Those who wish to commune from their seats using the prepackaged kits please open them now. Take and eat and drink, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.*

Assistants Commune

Communion

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

Communion Music

Holy Child Within the Manger (WOV #638) 3 verses

Before the Marvel of This Night (WOV #636)

The Birthday of a King (Public Domain) 2 verses

***Table Blessing**

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

***Post Communion Prayer**

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

CANDLE LIGHTING

Distribution of Light (during reading) *The pastor lights a large candle from the Christ candle, which symbolizes the Light of the world, of whom John's gospel speaks. The ushers light their candles from the minister's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.*

***Reading of Light - John 1:1-14**

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.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

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.

***Hymn**

Silent Night (ELW 281) 3 verses

(The candles are extinguished after the last verse)

SENDING

***Benediction:**

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **Amen.**

*** Sending Hymn**

Joy to the World (ELW 267) 4 verses

***Sending for Service:**

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

Thanks be to God.

Please fill out the enclosed Member-Guest Connection Card and place it in the Offering Plate or give it to an usher.

SERVING TRINITY THIS EVENING

Director of Music – Sandra Wingert

Assisting Minister – Charlie Ford

Musician – Phyllis McCullough

Communion Assistants – Don and Carol Swart

Communion Cups – Josie Thomas

Usher – Norra Swart

Greeter – Doug McCullough

Candle-lighters – Ella and Norra Swart

IT Ministry – IT Team

*Please join us on Sunday, December 28 at 10:15 AM for
A Service of Lessons and Carols*