

# The Nativity of our Lord



## Eve

December 24, 2020 - 6:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

[www.tlccg.com](http://www.tlccg.com)

Cottage Grove, Oregon

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### **Trinity Lutheran Church Mission Statement**

We commit ourselves to gather together to worship God, to study, to understand, to live His Word, and assist others to do the same.

**WELCOME** to Christmas Eve worship to celebrate the Christ Child placed in a manger. Just as Mary and Joseph prepared a place for the baby Jesus to rest his head in a manger, so we prepare a place in our hearts this Christmas Eve for Jesus to be present with us.

*(Please be seated behind a cross as placed on the pew.)*

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.  
Luke 2:12*

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

## ORGAN PRELUDE

## ENTRANCE OF CHRIST CANDLE

“O Come O Come Immanuel”

Piano Guys

## INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Amen.**

P: Prepare the way of the Lord!  
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!

C: **To us a child is born.**

P: To us a Son is given.

C: **And the government will be on his shoulders.**

P: And he will be called—

C: **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P: For unto you is born today in the city of David—

C: **A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

## HYMN

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

*(Please see next page.)*



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions  
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,  
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,  
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.  
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.  
 Ye have seen His na - tal star.  
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: On this holy night, merciful Father, hear our confession, for frequently we hesitate to take your Son.

C: **Instead we take the forbidden fruit, like Adam and Eve, and hide behind the bushes.**

P: We take advantage of others, while mouthing pious words.

C: **We take your blessings for granted, living with thankless hearts.**

P: We take vengeance upon those who hurt us, promising retaliation.

C: **We take life into our own hands, ignoring your holy will.**

P: We take refuge and satisfaction in sin, spurning your commandments.

C: **We take hold of our possessions, refusing to let them go.**

P: We take part in sinful conversations, oblivious as to how they break your heart.

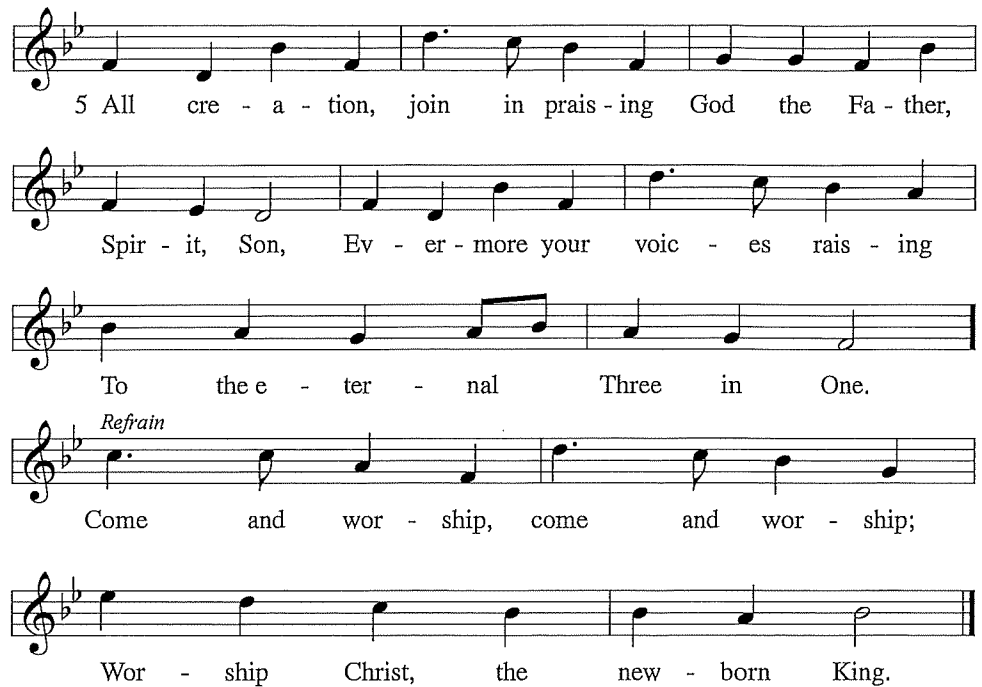
C: **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

P: Luke writes in tonight's gospel lesson, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (*Luke 2:11*). Jesus your Savior took your place in the manger and upon the cross. As the Christ and Lord, Jesus took all of your sin, shame and brokenness. I announce to you the complete and full pardon of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. For unto you is born today in the city of David—

C: **A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"



5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,  
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing  
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.  
*Refrain*  
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;  
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

### SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: *Let us pray.* Almighty God, you gave your only Son to take our human nature upon himself and to be born of a virgin. Grant that we may rejoice in this Christmas gift—"For unto you is born today in the city of David a

Savior, who is Christ the Lord"; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

+ WORD +

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** Let Your Light Shine

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 9:1-7*

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of his burden,  
and the staff for his shoulder,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and of peace  
there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time forth and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE**      *2 Corinthians 4:5-6*

<sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL**      *Luke 2:1-20*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

P: <sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "*Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people.* <sup>11</sup>*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.* <sup>12</sup>*And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.*" <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

**C: <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"**

P: <sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

**C: "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."**

P: <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

**HYMN** "Angels We Have Heard on High"



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.

**SERMON** Prepare a Place

**A CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*(Tune: Away In A Manger)*

In God we believe: the Creator whose pow'r  
 In mercy has brought us for worship this hour.  
 He graciously grants us our years and our days  
 And blesses with kindness our work and our ways.

**In Jesus, the Savior, our hope is secured.  
True God and true man once the cross He endured  
To grant our lives wholeness, forgiveness of sin.  
With hearts freed from guilt, we know true peace within.**

**God's Spirit at work in our lives we confess  
With power and truth the Church now He does bless.  
As saints, God's forgiven, one day we shall then  
Be living in glory forever. Amen.**

#### **PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P:** Dear Lord Jesus, you came from eternity into time and space—not as a metaphor or myth, fable or tale—but to bear our sin and be our Savior. We sing to you with all the humility and joy we can muster, “Born that man no more may die, born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.” We praise, bless and adore you as we embrace the hymn of the angels. For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**C: A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

**P:** Dear Lord Jesus, we thank you that Luke took such great care to detail the history of your birth—one of the greatest details is the lowliness of your birth. Any other king—like Caesar Augustus—would’ve come with great fanfare and a royal entourage. But you came into our world in profound weakness. “No room in the inn” wasn’t an insult to you; it was your choice, your plan, the way of the gospel. We rejoice with the angels who announced. For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**C: A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

**P:** Dear Lord Jesus, you didn’t consider equality with God something to be protected or hoarded. Rather, you made yourself nothing, becoming one of us. And with measureless love and indescribable compassion, you died in our place upon the cross. Thank you for these angelic lyrics. For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**C: A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

*(Additional Intercessions as Needed)*

**P:** Dear Lord Jesus, we long for the Day when every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that you are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. But on this Christmas Eve, we humble ourselves, in quietness and stillness, gratefulness and peace. We pray in your merciful and mighty name, Jesus.

**C: Amen.**



**CANDLELIGHTING** - *(When the acolyte passes your pew, please tighten the bulb on your candle to turn it on.)*

**HYMN**

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

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 Thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night; Wondrous star, lend thy light.  
With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

**LORD'S PRAYER**

P: We pray together softly:

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.

*(Please loosen the bulb on your candle to turn it off.)*

**BENEDICTION**

P: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!

C: For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness”—

P: Has shone in our hearts.

C: To give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God—

P: In the face of Jesus Christ.

C: For unto us is born today in the city of David—a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!

**HYMN**

“Joy to the World”



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

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A special welcome to our visitors tonight. We hope this Christmas Eve service was especially meaningful to you and added to your celebration of our Savior's birth. If you do not have a Church home, we would invite you to consider our church. If I can be of any assistance to you and your family, please feel free to call me. We wish you a very Blessed Christmas and Joyous New Year!

Rev. James Markus 541-942-2373

**Please join us—**

**Tomorrow morning, 10:00 a.m.  
for our Christmas Day Communion Service  
"Prepare for Paradise"  
*Bring a bell to ring!***

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** - A very grateful Thank You to everyone who thoughtfully contributed money toward poinsettias that helped decorate the altar area for our joyous Christmas Celebration of God's great Love for us! It was appreciated.

**All Christmas Poinsettias were offered to the  
Glory of God in Celebration of Jesus' Birth.**

*"Arise and shine, for your light has come"  
Rejoice with the heavenly choir of angels, Alleluia!*