

A Mission Congregation of the ELCA  
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P. O. Box 64 - 8520 Oakes Rd - Pitsburg, Ohio 45358

**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus**

December 24, 2025

4:00 and 10:00 PM Services



**Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]**



Scan with your Smartphone and link to our web page, our Facebook page, and our YouTube Channel.



- PRELUDE Roxanne Groff
- WELCOME Pr Mel Musser
- LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

R: On this holy night, a savior is born. Jesus, you are that child, who redeems all of creation.

**C: We lit the first candle in expectation of your coming.**

**C: We lit the second candle in hope of new life in you.**

**C: We lit the third candle in anticipation of your fulfillment of God's word.**

**C: We lit the fourth candle in wonder at your choice to become one of us.**

**C: Now we light this Christ candle in joyful praise and celebration that you are in our midst at last, now and forever. Amen!**

#### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

P: God who was and is and is to come,

**C: Despite our best intentions, even our deepest desires, we find ourselves time and again turning away from you to follow after other gods—possessions, people, comforts—in an effort to fill the hole that only you can. In so doing we have harmed ourselves, others, and your holy creation by what we have said and done, and by the things we have neglected to do. Open our eyes to see that you alone are the source of our wholeness. Forgive us our wrongs and inspire us to the work of making them right, for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ.**

P: Beloved of God, like the prodigal son, you are always received with great joy, and your sins are forgiven you. Go forth in newness of life.

**C: Amen.**

\* GATHERING SONG “Angels We Have Heard on High” LBW 71

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.

## \* APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

**C:** And also with you.

## \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... God of love, on this holy night, when all of creation cries out with joy at the birth of Jesus, still there is suffering in the hearts of many. Still there is fear and grief nearby and far away. Breathe hope into the world, as small and humble as the tiny babe in the manger, and by this hope, transform reality, that all might know the eternal joy of your redeeming love. In the name of our newborn savior, Jesus Christ, we pray.

C: Amen.

- **WORD OF GOD**

P: The Gospel according to Saint Luke the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter...

C: Glory to You, O Lord

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

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>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: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

[<sup>15</sup>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.” <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>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

- **SERMON**

**Pr Mel**

*Silence for reflection may follow.*

\* **NICENE CREED**

*The Nicene Creed is said on all festivals and on Sundays in the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. The Apostles' Creed is said at other times. The Creed is omitted here if the service of Holy Baptism or another rite with a creed is used.*

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

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*\*Or, He descended to the dead.*

\* **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**L: Trusting in the promise of Jesus' advent among us, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.**

*A brief silence.*

**L: Your finest work came about on a quiet night in a small town. Instill in us the wonder of a Savior's birth: how something so ordinary is the most extraordinary of all. God who was, and is, and is to come,**

**C: We lift our prayers to you.**

**L: All of creation sings for joy at Jesus' birth! Accept our thanks and praise as we also honor you by caring for all the earth, knowing you came not only for our redemption, but for that of all you have made. God who was, and is, and is to come,**

**C: We lift our prayers to you.**

L: All people await the fulfillment of your peace on earth—a true and lasting peace which binds up all who have had their hearts broken by war, suffering, and injustice. Break into our world with your uncommon grace. God who was, and is, and is to come,

**C: We lift our prayers to you.**

L: On this holy night, a mother comforted her newborn child. Comfort us as a loving parent would, when we cry out in pain, want, or grief. Heal your servants and hold them close, (*especially...*) God who was, and is, and is to come,

**C: We lift our prayers to you.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: Mary and Joseph, faithful caretakers, brought your son into the world. Add us to the long line of saints who heard your word and followed, risking the loss of safety, comfort, and reputation. God who was, and is, and is to come,

**C: We lift our prayers to you.**

P: Steadfast and loving God, gather these prayers we have offered, both aloud and silent, into your loving arms, for we know that you are faithful and will never abandon us. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

**\* SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**• OFFERING**

*The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

P: As we collect our offering here in person, those worshipping with us through the internet may go to our website located at [www.pittsburghlc.org](http://www.pittsburghlc.org) where you'll find a button labeled "Give to Trinity." You can make your offering to God through our secure website.

**\* OFFERTORY PRAYER**

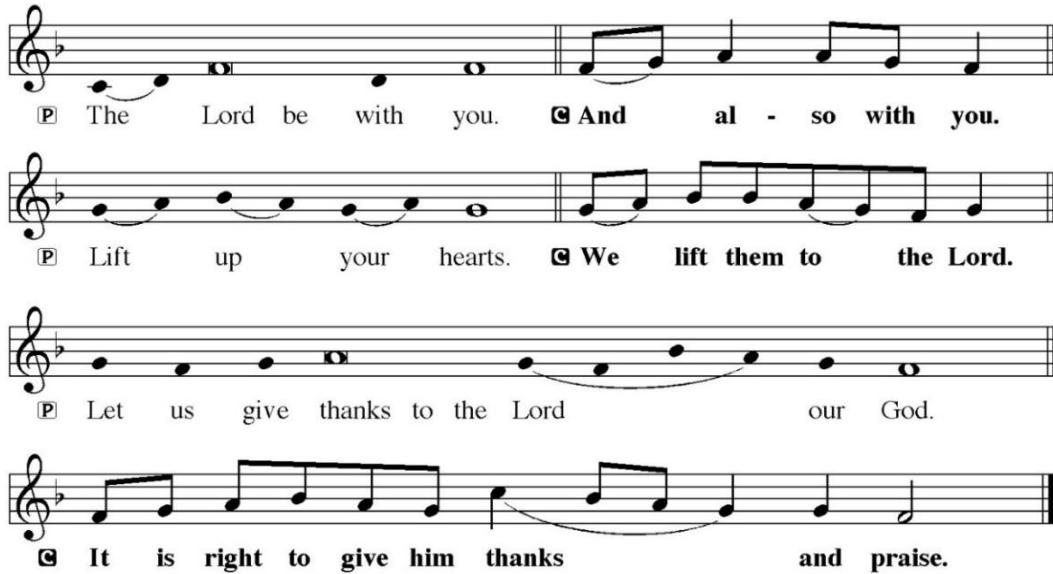
P: God, you have given us treasure upon treasure, even to the gift of your own Son. With joy we bring before you our gifts in return, and offer them to you for the continuation of the work you began in Jesus Christ, for the flourishing of all creation.

**C: Amen.**

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Communion is by Station. All the Baptized are welcome to celebrate this Holy Meal.*

## \* DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

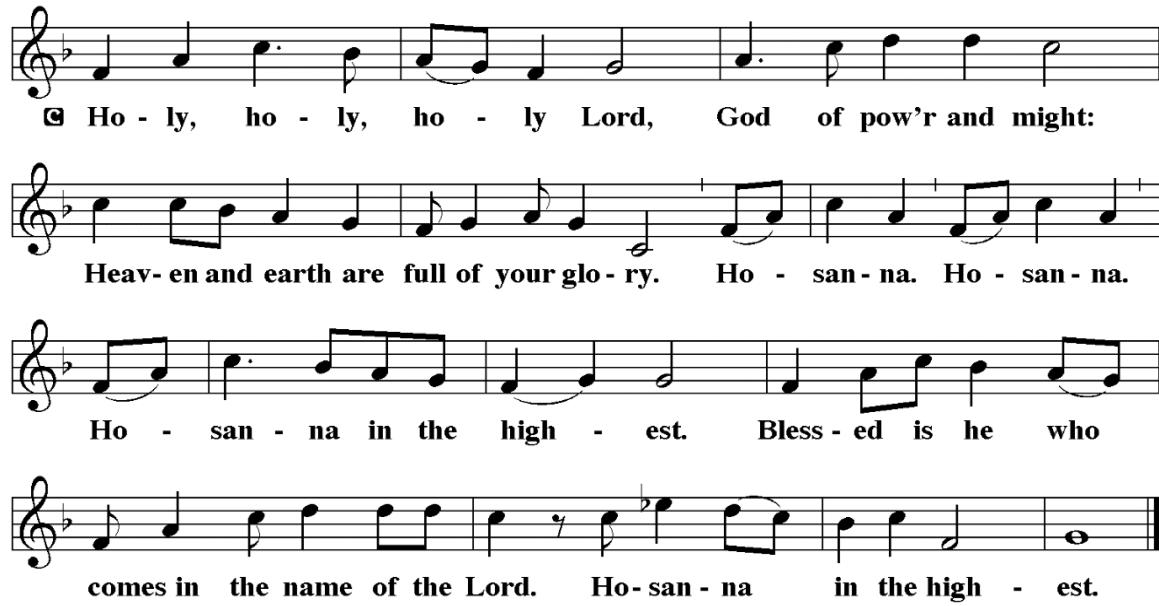
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## \* THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \* THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav- en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

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.

\* = Please stand if able

• = Please be seated

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## \* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

In 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, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him. By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## \* THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: United into one through this heavenly food, we pray as Jesus taught...

**C: 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

P: The God who came to us as one of us now invites you to the feast of Jesus Christ, God incarnate. Come to the table and share in the abundant goodness of creation.

## • COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

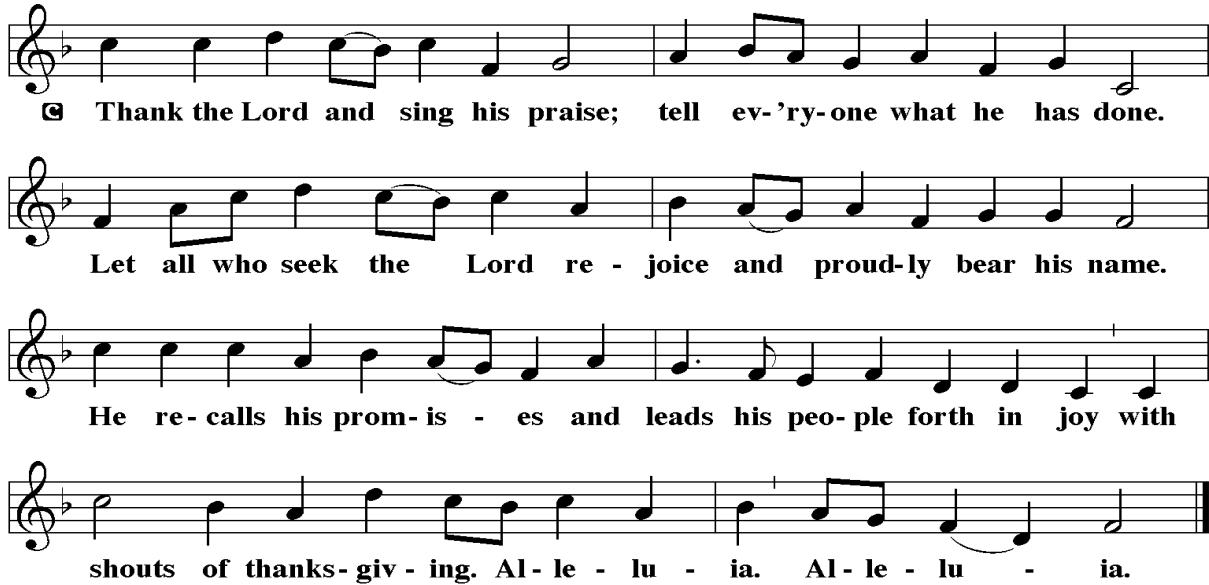
*The Communion follows. The bread may be broken for distribution. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say:* **Amen.**

## \* POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proudly bear his name.

He re - calls his prom- is - es and leads his peo- ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks- giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## \* POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May this Body and Blood of our Savior Lord Jesus strengthen, keep, and unite us, now and forever, amen.

## \* POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray... 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.

C: Amen.

## \* LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*The Pastor and Acolyte will distribute the flame from the Altar Candles down the center aisle and the congregation will pass the flame from the center aisle outward. Unlit candles lean to lighted candles so as not to drip hot wax. When all candles are lit, the congregation will sing Silent Night.*

### ***Lighted Candles Hymn: “Silent Night”***

- 1 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.
- 2 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!
- 3 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.

*The candles are extinguished and the lights are restored in the sanctuary once again.*

\* ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* BLESSING

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

C: Amen

\* SENDING SONG

“Joy to the World”

LBW 39



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart pre - pare him.  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the ceive her king; let ev'ry heart pre - pare him.  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -  
room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing far as the curse is found, far as the curse is 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.

## \* **DISMISSAL**

P: Thank you all for joining us to worship our great and gracious God! Thanks also to our Facebook and other social media viewers for joining us as well. We're glad you're with us today. Until the next time we gather together as God's people to offer our worship and praise, depart in Christ's Love.

C: Seeking, welcoming, and serving all. Amen!

## \* **Postlude**

**Roxanne Groff**

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## **Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff**

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Lector – 4 pm	Linda Baker
Lector – 10 pm	PJ Musser
Musician	Roxanne Groff
Acolyte – 4pm	
Acolyte – 10 pm	
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28<sup>th</sup>** – We will sing some of your favorite Christmas hymns

**AND on December 28<sup>th</sup>,** you are invited to wear your



## Trinity Contact Info



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