





December 25, 2023

- **Welcome!** Thank you for joining us for worship! In our service we receive God's grace through his Word and sacraments. As he works to strengthen our faith in Jesus, we respond to his goodness with our prayers, praise, and offerings. We are glad to be here and glad that you have joined us today!
- Restrooms are located in the main hallway, narthex, and back classrooms.
- If you wish to step out of the service to calm your child, please feel welcome to use the Fellowship Hall or the Toddler Sunday School room (located in the back-corner classroom of the building, connected to the Fellowship Hall). Both of these rooms have televisions showing the worship service. Also, please do not hesitate to ask an usher or any member if you need help locating anything. We want to make you feel welcome.

Serving the Lord and Serving Us:

Pastor: Paul Jenkins

Today's Focus: Jesus comes as the Word made flesh to stand in our place and open the door to heaven. He comes to shine the light of this salvation to the whole world, to the delight of all who trust in him.

We Come into the Presence of God

MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.

HYMN 55 “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, Oh,
2 God from true God, and Light from 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, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes,
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n,



Come and be - hold him, Born the King of an - gels.
On - ly be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther.
Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est.
Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing.

Refrain



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Text: John F. Wade, c. 1711–86; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.
Tune: ADESTE FIDELES (Irregular) John F. Wade, c. 1711–86, alt.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of (+) the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, who has shown us grace upon grace and the light of truth in his Son.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we have not fully appreciated the grace you poured out on us through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Because we have sinned against you and our neighbors, we deserve all the condemnation that your law brings. But Jesus brings us the favor of your salvation! For the sake of his incarnation, holy life, death, and resurrection: forgive us, restore us, and lead to appreciate fully the grace you have sent us in him.

M: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you; for his sake God does forgive all your sins. As a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

M: Let us Pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only-begotten Son in flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

FIRST LESSON

MICAH 5:2-5A

Out of Bethlehem comes the eternal God born as a child. He comes to stand with his flock all over the world, and to bring them eternal peace.

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
from you, will go out the one who will be the ruler for me in Israel.
His goings forth are from the beginning, from the days of eternity.

³Therefore the LORD will give them up,
until the time when the woman who is in labor bears a child.
Then the remaining survivors from his brothers will return to the people of Israel.

⁴He will stand and shepherd with the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
They will dwell securely, for at that time he will be great to the ends of the earth.

⁵This one will be their peace.

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7

Born as one of us, God's Son comes to stand under the law in our place and keep it perfectly for us. God arranged all history to lead up perfectly to the time of Jesus' arrival and redeeming work.

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts to shout, "Abba, Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son. And if you are a son, then you are also an heir of God through Christ.

STAND

GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

JOHN 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him everything was made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. ⁵The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

⁹The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

NICENE CREED

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

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.**

(Continued on Next Page)

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY: 62 "Joy to the World"



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And



earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry
all their songs em - ploy, While fields and
thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to
makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries



heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and
floods, rocks, hills, and plains Re - peat the
make his bless - ings flow Far as the
of his right - eous - ness And won - ders

(Continued on Next Page)



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



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

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Tune: ANTIOCH (CM with Repeat) George F. Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

Sermon

Text: John 1:1-14

Theme: “Jesus’ Manger is Our Paradise”

HYMN: 67 “What Child Is This”



1 What child is this who, laid to rest,
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh;



On Mar - y's lap is sleep - - ing?
 Where ox - en now are feed - - - ing?
 Come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet With an - thems sweet
 Good Chris - tians, fear; For sin - ners here
 The King of kings Sal - va - tion brings;

(Continued on Next Page)

While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, Nails, Raise, this spear raise is shall the Christ pierce song the him on King, through; Whom The

shep - herds guard and an - gels sing.
cross he'll bear for me, for you.
vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

Haste, Hail, Joy, haste hail joy, to the for bring Word Christ him made is laud, flesh, born,

The babe, the Son of Mar - y!
The babe, the Son of Mar - y!
The babe, the Son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt.
Tune: GREENSLEEVES (87 87 68 67) English ballad, 16th century.

OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register in the pew.

The members of Trinity make joyful offerings to support this church's ministry. A portion of our offerings is also used for the training of future pastors and teachers, and the worldwide mission work carried out by our fellowship, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Our guests are under no obligation to give, but any gifts freely given are welcome and will be put to work in service to God's kingdom.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Let us pray for the Church around the world and for all people according to their needs.

M: That the coming of the Word in the flesh might open the eyes of all who are blinded by sin and folly, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: That the grace and mercy God has offered in giving his Son might turn the hearts of many to true repentance, joy, and hope, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: That the Church here and around the world might find a renewed sense of purpose as we join the Christmas angels and hosts of heaven in praising the name of our gracious God, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: That an awareness of how much God loves us and what he has been willing to do for us since the beginning of time would bring comfort to all who face this new year through tears and sadness, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: That God, outside limits of time and space, would so move the leaders of this world that they use every opportunity to reflect his care for the nations and communities they serve, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Into your almighty and gracious hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD 'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this (+) is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this (+) is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



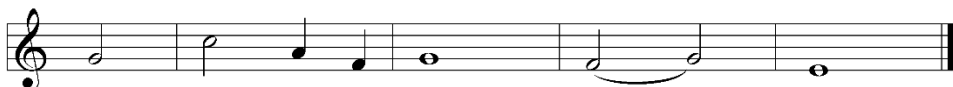
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

Stand

SONG OF SIMEON



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

BE SEATED

HYMN: 57 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Refrain

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills, and ev - 'ry - where;

Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born.

1 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing O'er si - lent
 2 The shep - herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a -
 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum - ble

flocks by night, Be - hold, through - out the
 bove the earth Rang out the an - gel
 Christ was born; And God sent us sal -

heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
 cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Refrain

Text: African-American spiritual, c. 19th century, refrain; John W. Work, 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
 Tune: GO, TELL IT (78 76 76 76) African-American spiritual, c. 19th century, alt.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Catechism and Bible Class Schedules

There will be no catechesis or Bible class on Sunday, December 31. Both will resume on January 7.

Wine and Word Bible Study – January 4

The Wine and Word Bible Study meets at the home of Bruce and Dawn Knox. Their home is located just 5 minutes from the church in Old Bridge Estates. We meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 7-8:30 pm. We are studying the book of Revelation with Larry Kovaciny as our guide. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine and a small bite appetizer. Come and join us whether you drink wine or not! Contact Dawn at 703-615-9320 or dawn.f.knox@gmail.com to RSVP.

Small Choir

Trinity's small choir sings about once a month during Worship. Anyone is welcome to join! We'll sing hymns from our hymnal, Christian Worship. If you are interested in joining, please let John or Erika Ohlendorf know.

Ushers and Usher Assistants Needed

A sign-up sheet is sent via email through Sign-up Genius. You are welcome to fill in as many Sundays as you are available. If you would like to become part of the regular rotation of ushers, or even just fill in once in a while when needed, please speak to Worship Elder Matt Popelier. If you are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org

Our Little Free Library

Our Little Free Library always welcomes donations of books and food! If the library outside is full, you can place donations in the white plastic bin in the Fellowship Hall right beside the door to the hallway.

Lord's Supper Available to All Members

If you are a confirmed member of Trinity, Pastor would be happy to commune you at home, or anywhere else you would like to meet. Just contact him at (309) 433-5807 or revpauljenkins@yahoo.com with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work

It is the mission of
trinity

**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
to glorify God

by growing in His Word and by going with His Word
to Woodbridge and to the world.



Trinity Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.