



2024



December 25, 2024

- **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: Today God's people join in joyful celebration of Jesus' birth, because he comes with the truth and grace of God, to take all sin away. The grace of God comes down to us in the manger of Bethlehem!

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.

STAND

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

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: O heavenly Father, on this day of great joy, we acknowledge before you that we are the reason your Son came into this world of ours to suffer and die for our salvation.

C: O Father, on account of our sin, we deserve your anger and eternal punishment.

M: Lord God, hear our silent confession of the sins that made it necessary for you to send your Son.

Silent reflection and confession

M: Our Savior has come! We are not abandoned, and no longer stand beneath God's wrath. He has sought us out and found us. He has bought us back from the evil one who owned us. Jesus has made us his own. In Jesus Christ, God the Father has forgiven you all your sins: in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

M: O God, as you make us glad by the yearly celebration of the birth of our Savior, grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes again to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Be seated

FIRST LESSON

EXODUS 33:18-23

Jesus comes to purify us of the sin that makes it impossible for us to stand in the full glory of God. Because of Jesus' saving work, we will stand holy and see the glory of God's face.

Then Moses said, "Please show me your glory."

¹⁹ The LORD said, "I will make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD in your presence. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy." ²⁰ He said, "You cannot see my face, for no human may see me and live."

²¹ The LORD also said, "Look, there is a place next to me, where you shall stand on the rock. ²² It will happen that, while my glory passes by, I will put you in a crevice in the rock. I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³ Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back. But my face will not be seen."

PSALM: 98

Read Responsively

M: Sing to the LORD a new song,

C: for he has done marvelous things.

M: The LORD has made his salvation known,

C: and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

M: He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel;

C: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

M: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,

C: burst into jubilant song with music;

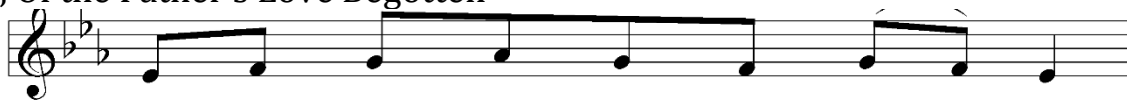
M: make music to the LORD with the harp,

C: with the harp and the sound of singing.

M: Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.

C: He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

HYMN: 35, Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed
 3 This is he whom heav'n - taught sing - ers
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him,
 5 Christ, to you, with God the Fa - ther,



Ere the worlds be - gan to be, He is
 When the vir - gin, full of grace, By the
 Sang of old with one ac - cord; Whom the
 An - gel hosts his prais - es sing, Pow'rs, do -
 And the Spir - it cease - less - ly Hymn and



Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the source, the
 Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, Bore the Sav - ior
 Scrip - tures of the proph - ets Prom - ised in their
 min - ions bow be - fore him And ex - tol our
 chant and high thanks - giv - ing And un - end - ing



end - ing he, Of the things that are, that
 of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
 God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall
 deem - er, First re - vealed his sa - cred
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert
 min - ion And e - ter - nal vic - to -



see Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 face Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Lord Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ring Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ry Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–c. 413, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, st. 1-4, alt.; Henry W. Baker, 1821–77, st. 5, alt.
 Tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM (87 87 877) Plainsong melody, 13th century.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:31-32

Every good thing from God becomes ours in Christ, and no evil can overcome us.

What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

STAND

CHRISTMAS VERSE

M: Alleluia! When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law. Alleluia! (*Galatians 4:4-5a*)

GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

JOHN 1:1-18

M: The Holy Gospel of St. John, chapter 1.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

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

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

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

¹⁴ The 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.

¹⁵ John testified about him. He cried out, "This was the one I spoke about when I said, 'The one coming after me outranks me because he existed before me.'" ¹⁶ For out of his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. The only-begotten Son, who is close to the Father's side, has made him known.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN: 65, O Little Town of Bethlehem



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De -



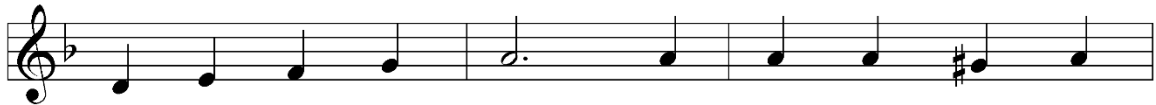
still we see thee lie! A - bove thy deep And
gath - ered all a - bove, While mor - tals sleep, The
won - drous gift is giv'n! So God im - parts To
scend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin And



dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go by.
an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.
hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his heav'n.
en - ter in; Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro -
No ear may hear his com - ing, But
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The



ev - er - last - ing light. The hopes and fears Of
claim the ho - ly birth, And prais - es sing To
in this world of sin Where meek souls will Re -
great glad ti - dings tell; Oh, come to us, A -



all the years Are met in thee to - night.
God the King And peace to all the earth.
ceive him still, The dear Christ en - ters in.
bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-93, abr., alt.
Tune: ST. LOUIS (86 446 76 446) Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908.

SERMON

Text: John 1:1-18

Theme: A Christmas Letter from Home

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be Seated

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: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, praise to you on this Christmas Day, the day of your incarnate birth.

C: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, we praise you for seeking us out so we would no longer be a deserted people.

M: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, you are the exact imprint of God's being; you are the radiance of his glory.

C: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, you are the Son of God, far superior not only to the angels but to everyone and everything else in all creation.

M: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, your throne will last forever and ever.

C: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, you sit at the right hand of God. Rule our hearts so that our Christmas celebration will go beyond this one day and last through the year.

M: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, you are the Word of God in human flesh. You know our struggles and the struggles of all people. So we are bold to ask you to heal and restore the health of those who struggle in mind, body, and spirit this day.

C: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, bless those people whom we care about, whom we now name in our hearts...

Silent prayer

M: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, full of grace and truth, all these blessings come through you and you alone.

C: Jesus, Savior and Redeemer, use us to proclaim your love in all the earth until you come again to take us to our eternal home, where we will worship and adore you forever. 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



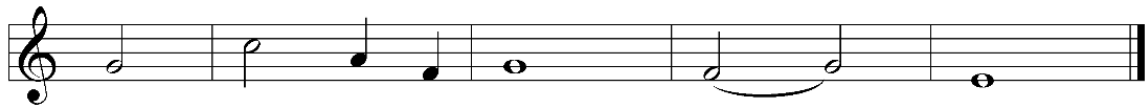
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



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.**

PRAYER OF CHRISTMAS THANKSGIVING

M: Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ. Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as the sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory. Hear our praise and receive our thankful worship of you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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: 67, What Child Is This



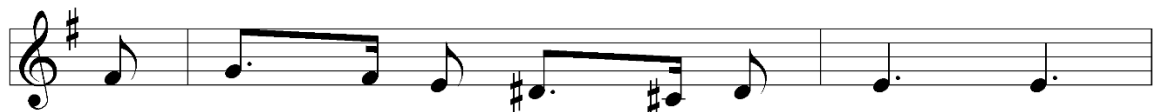
1 What child is this who, laid to rest,
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh;



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;



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



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



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



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

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Women's Bible Study - January 11

The Trinity Women's Bible Study will not meet during the month of December. Our next meeting will be Saturday, January 11 at 9:00 am at Trinity. We'll be discussing chapter four of "Measured by Grace: How God Defines Success" by Sharla Fritz. For questions, please contact Erika Ohlendorf at erika.ohlendorf@gmail.com.

Wine and Word Bible Study – on Break until January 16

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. 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.

Trinity's Book Club – January 18

Trinity's Book club will meet at 9:30am on Saturday, January 18, at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries. Please join us to discuss *An Hour Unspent* by Roseanna M. White and to choose our next read! New members are always welcome.

Trinity's Little Free Library is one of our church's most effective tools for reaching out to our neighborhood. Many families in the area around Trinity regularly visit our LFL for books and shelf-stable food items, especially those who are experiencing food scarcity. Particularly useful are canned or boxed foods that do not require additional ingredients besides water to prepare. Books are always welcome, too, of course! If the shelves happen to be full, there is a donation bin for overflow items in the fellowship room beside the door to the hallway.

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

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.