

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2020

Trinity Free Lutheran Church

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Grand Forks, ND 58201

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Candle use is optional. The flame will be passed from the center aisle toward the outside. If you do not wish to use a candle, please sit toward the outer aisle. If you want to be sure your candle is lit, please sit toward the center aisle.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Luther Frette: "O Holy Night"

INTROIT: PSALM 2:1-2, 4-6 (ESV)

- ¹ Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
- ² ***The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,***
- ⁴ He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord holds them in derision.
- ⁵ ***Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,***
- ⁶ ***"As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill."***

OPENING PRAYER

O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#19: "O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL"

- ¹ O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels:

Refrain:

- O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord.
- ² Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest: (*refrain*)
- ³ Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: (*refrain*)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: ISAIAH 7:10-14 (ESV)

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³ And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

EPISTLE LESSON: TITUS 3:4-7 (ESV)

⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lane Lindseth: "What Child Is This?"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING RESPONSE

We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be.

All that we have is Thine alone, a trust O Lord from Thee. Amen.

#27: "FROM HEAVEN ABOVE TO EARTH I COME"

- 1 From heav'n above to earth I come,
To bear good news to ev'ry home,
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will gladly sing.
- 2 This night to you is born a child,
The chosen Virgin's Infant mild.
And He, a child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 He is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Whose name we praise with one accord;
Your Savior He has deigned to be
And from all sin will set you free.
- 4 These are the tokens you shall mark:
The swaddling clothes, the manger dark;
In these the infant now is laid
By whom both heav'n and earth were made.
- 5 We welcome Thee, most noble Guest,
Through whom this sinful world is blest
Thy coming is a boon for me;
What thanks shall I return to Thee?
- 6 Were earth a thousand times as fair,
Beset with gold and jewels rare,
It still were far too poor to be
A narrow cradle, Lord, for Thee.
- 7 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart, and let it be
A quiet chamber, kept for Thee.
- 8 Praise be to God upon His throne
Who gave the world His only Son;
For this His hosts, on joyful wing,
A blest New Year of mercy sing.

GOSPEL LESSON: LUKE 2:1-20 (ESV)

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ 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, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ 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.

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

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SERMON: "GOD IS PLEASED"

CANDLE LIGHTING

Ushers will light from the Christ candle & come down the center aisle. Please tilt unlit candles toward the lit candles to avoid spilling wax.

#23: "SILENT NIGHT! HOLY 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 Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

THE MAGNIFICAT (LUKE 1:46-55)

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

COLLECT

O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

You may now extinguish your candles.

BENEDICTION (2 CORINTHIANS 13:14)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

#20: "HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING"

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

- 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
 Christ, the everlasting Lord;
 Late in time behold Him come,
 Offspring of a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 Hail th' Incarnate Deity,
 Pleased as man with man to dwell;
 Jesus, our Immanuel.
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn King."
- 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings,
 Ris'n with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by,
 Born that man no more may die,
 Born to raise the sons of earth,
 Born to give them second birth.
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn King."

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sun., Dec. 27 "Behold His Glory" KNOX 1310 AM 7:30 am
 Divine Worship 10:30 am
 No Sunday School

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sun., Jan. 3 Divine Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:30 am
Wed., Jan. 6 Bible Study (1 Peter) 7:00 pm
Sun., Feb. 7 Annual Meeting following worship

"I will need your reports into the office preferably Thursday, January 14th and no later than Thursday, January 21st. Thank you." – Marilyn

Offering envelopes are now available. If you do not have envelopes but want them, please contact Marilyn or Beverly.

Remember to pray for those who are hurting or sick, those who have lost a loved one, young families with children, our nation, the AFLC, members & friends of Trinity, Pastor Dan and Alicia Antal.