

# Lessons & Carols for Christmas

December 25, 2022



**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
EAST BERLIN, PENNSYLVANIA**



*Our love and prayers go out to:*

Eunice Ailshie

Joyce Altland

Bobby Asper

Brandon Barbarite

Rev. Julia Beall

Sue Beamer

The Bee Family

Leo Bennett

Sandy Boyer

Glenn Bremer

Charlotte Brooks

Seville Brown

Louise Boyer

Valerie Bushey

Sue Caler

Gail Campbell

Kim Churchill

Sherry Crabbs

Jack Crackett

Wanda Crackett

Stacey Crouse

John Dutton

Louise Eisenhart

Marieann Flick

Joanna Forry

Louise Haugh

Pixie Henry

Maxine Herman

Joann Hinkle

Chanda Holtzinger

David Holtzinger

Lucy Jacobs

Diane Jacobs

Flo Jones

Darla Kaltenbach

Rick Kauffman

Jim Kline

Tamara Leas

Margie Lease

Nancy Lewis

Larry Luckenbaugh

Family of Ruth Lusk

Freda Manzullo

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Jay Mummert

Bob Myers

Deb Nelson

Mitchell Nelson

Amy Ogurcak

Marty Paino

Elaine Panter Brown

Kelli Payne

Larry Peters

Nancy Pletcher

Wanda Potts

Carl Puffenberger

Debbie Raines

Natalie Rimmer

Noah Rinehart

Judy Rote

Donna Rubincam

Christine Sheads

Stephanie Sheaffer

Jack Shultz

Barb Smith

Kim Smith

Jeff Smith & Family

Beth Smyser

Larry Snyder

Phyllis Spahr

Sam Starner

Wayne Strausbaugh

Angela Thornton

Bonnie Topper

Leeann Trayer

Elliot Trump & Family

Freda Weaner

Darlene Wetzell

Sadie Whisler

Sue Wilbourn

Linda Williams

Edward Yale

Barry Zeigler

Jose, Yadira, & Christian

First Responders

Healthcare Workers

Military Personnel

Refugees

Ukraine and its people

Those with private concerns

## INTRODUCTION

*A tradition as old as the Nativity itself is the telling of the story. Christians across the world gather at Christmas to tell God's story, a holy story in which we share – from the gift of creation through our reliance on God's most holy promises. Today we hear of a Lord whose every action rests in promise and love.*

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE**                    *“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*                    Edwin Johnson

**\*GATHERING HYMN**            *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*                    ELW 283

## **\*OPENING DIALOGUE**

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

**By day and night, he shines for all to see.**

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

**that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

**so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

Jesus is the light of the world.

**Jesus is the light of our lives.**

Sing to God a new song!

**A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

## **\*OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray...

**All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST LESSON: Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

L Word of God, word of life

C **Thanks be to God**



**SECOND LESSON: Micah 5:2-5a**

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; <sup>5</sup>and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C **Thanks be to God**



### **THIRD LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C **Thanks be to God**

**HYMN**

*"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"*

ELW 265



#### **FOURTH LESSON: Matthew 1:18-25**

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C **Thanks be to God**

**HYMN**

*"What Child Is This?"*

ELW 296

#### **FIFTH LESSON: Luke 2:8-20**

<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.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C **Thanks be to God**



**HYMN**

*“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”*

ELW 275

**SIXTH LESSON: Isaiah 9:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for those who were 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 will make 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 lived in a land of deep darkness —  
on them light has 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 people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor,



you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

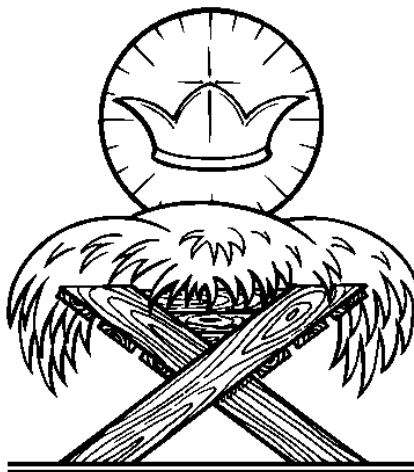
<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God.**



For unto us a child is born,  
to us a son is given ...

Isaiah 9:6

**\*NICENE CREED**

Let us profess our faith with the words of the 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;**

**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 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 Son he is worshipped 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.**

**\*RESPONSIVE PRAYER**

Glory to God in the highest,  
**and peace to God’s people on earth.**

Blessed are you, Prince of peace.

You rule the earth with truth and justice.

**Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

Blessed are you, Son of Mary.

You share our humanity.

**Have mercy on the sick, the dying,  
and all who suffer this day.**

Blessed are you, Son of God.

You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

**Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament  
that we may bear your light to all the world.**

### **\*PEACE**

The peace of our incarnate Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Let us take a moment to share a sign of Christ's peace with one another.*

### **OFFERING**

*In thanksgiving we offer our selves, our time, and our possessions before the Christ child. God has come down to us and we rejoice! Thank you for your celebration of Christ's birth here at Trinity, and thank you for your gifts that make all ministry here in Jesus' name possible! Merry Christmas!*

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

### **\*OFFERTORY**

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

ELW 289

### **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

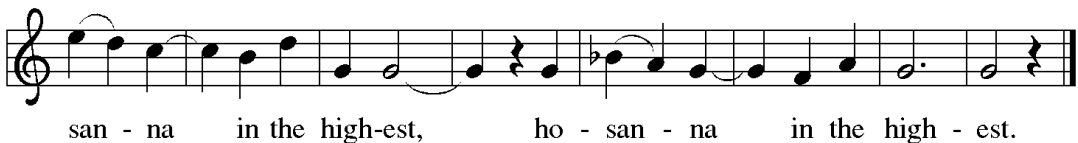
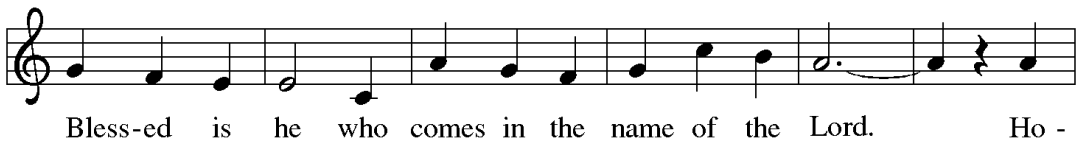
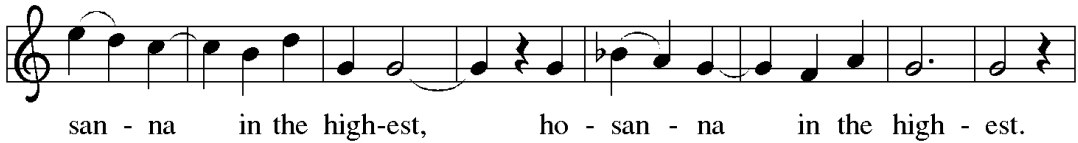
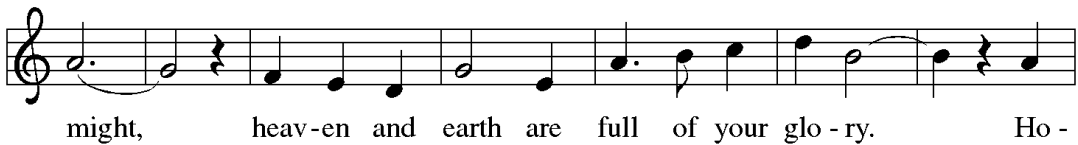
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## **\*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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.

**Amen**

## **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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** In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

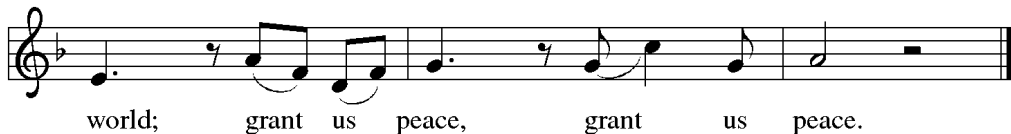
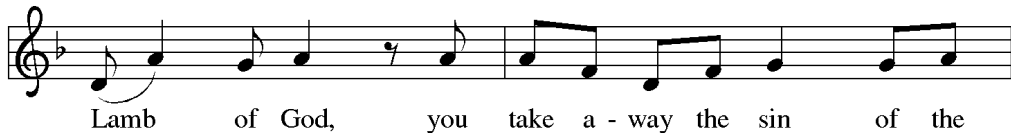
**C** Thanks be to God!

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*We are all invited to the Lord's Table; please make yourself at home. Please note the following elements are available in addition to bread and wine: pre-blessed, sealed wafer and grape juice packages, gluten-free wafers, grape juice. You are welcome to visit and remain at the chancel rail during the meal as you wish.*

## \* COMMUNION HYMNS

*The congregation is invited to sing during the distribution of Holy Communion. The hymns begin with:*



## COMMUNION HYMN

*“Let Our Gladness Have No End”*

ELW 291

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our incarnate Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

## \*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray...

C **We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

## \*BLESSING

P The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through + Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

C **Amen.**

\*SENDING HYMN *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”*

ELW 288

## \*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*“He Is Born”*

Richard Hudson

*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
East Berlin, Pennsylvania*

**Our Mission:** We are a family of Christian disciples committed to making Christ known while loving and serving God and neighbors.

**Our Vision:** To fulfill our mission, we will:

**Worship** through liturgy, music, prayer & Sacraments;

**Teach** God's Word and nurture spiritual growth;

**Serve** and provide for those in need;

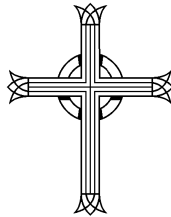
**Witness** to others by sharing the Gospel;

**Celebrate** with fellowship;

**Return** with joy what God has given;

**Be active** in our community and the Church.

**Worship, Serve, Celebrate!**



*Worship: Sunday, 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.*

*Ministers: The People of Trinity*

*Office Phone: 717-259-9125*

*[www.trinitylutheraneb.org](http://www.trinitylutheraneb.org)*

*[secretary@trinitylutheraneb.org](mailto:secretary@trinitylutheraneb.org)*

*Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:45am – 11:45am, Friday 9am-1pm*

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