

Christmas at
LITTLE TRINITY
SINCE 1842



Christmas Eve Service

Traditional Communion Service

Dec 24 2024
8:30pm

LOVE
GOD

GROW
TOGETHER

SERVE
OUR WORLD



Christmas Eve Communion Service

December 24, 2024 | 8:30pm

CHRISTMAS EVE

WELCOME

OPENING CAROL

STAND

OPENING PRAYERS

SIT/KNEEL

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

And also with you.

Almighty God,

to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS

SIT/KNEEL

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

SIT

People of God: our Hope has come in the Christ-child!

Come, Lord Jesus!

Our Prince of Peace has come to reign on earth!

Come, Lord Jesus!

He comes to turn our sorrow into gladness!

Come, Lord Jesus!

Perfect love has appeared as an infant Boy!

Come, Lord Jesus!

Jesus is the Light of the world.

A light no darkness can extinguish.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

READING

Revelation 12:1-6, 10-11

SIT

¹ And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

² She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. ³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. ⁴ His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. ⁵ She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, ⁶ and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days. [...]

¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

STAND

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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 their 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 Saviour, 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!"

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

STAND for prayer, then **SIT**

The Rev. Karen Koiter, Associate Pastor (Justice Animator)

Silent reflection

CAROL

SIT

CONFESSION OF FAITH

STAND

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SIT/KNEEL

Dear sisters and brothers, God has come into our midst in Jesus. God's word has taken our flesh. That all may know God's presence bringing us together, it is fitting that our flesh should call to God in holy words of petition, saying: Lord, have mercy.

That the feet of each of us might be made beautiful through our proclamation of peace at table, desk and lathe, as well as in every place where violence threatens, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That the word which conquers darkness might enlighten the blindness which keeps Christ's followers separated and at odds, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That our celebration of God's first-born might inquire and quicken in us protection and nurture of all human life, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That God's dwelling among us might lead us to shelter the homeless, feed the hungry, and support those who minister to them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That the power of the word might fill our hearts and minds, so that the gospel be preached with greater courage and strength to the ends of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That God's love might work for the healing of the sick, the lonely and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

O God, the source of all light, your word dispels our darkness, and speaks to our hearts. As we praise you, we beg that your power overwhelm us, that all the world might find us the more perfect ministers of your presence. Thus may you be glorified this Christmas Eve and for ever in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERTORY WORSHIP

STAND

OFFERTORY

In our offertory, we offer our praise and thanksgiving and the gifts of bread and wine to the glory of God.

If you wish to financially support the ongoing gospel ministry of Little Trinity, you can scan the QR code attached to a pew for options or visit our website at littletrinity.org/give.

If you wish to give in person, please deposit your offering in the offering boxes in the church sanctuary.

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer in this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours, for he is Lord now and forever.

Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise Him all creatures here below!

Praise Him above ye heavenly host!

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

SIT/KNEEL

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of salvation in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full.

Hosanna hosanna hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. (repeat)

We praise you, merciful Father, not as we ought, but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son, in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, reaching out to the lost. Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever. In his offering of himself, he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice, and rejoicing in his victory. Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love, and strengthened in our will to serve others; and make of our lives, we pray, a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

All those who have placed their trust in Jesus as Saviour and Lord, are welcome to the Lord's table. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request from the communion administrant.

CAROLS DURING COMMUNION

SIT/KNEEL

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

STAND

Gracious Father, in faith and joy we celebrate the birth of your Son. Increase our understanding and our love of the riches you have revealed in him, who is Lord now and for ever.

Amen.

Glory to God,

whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE BLESSING

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

CLOSING WORSHIP

STAND

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



*The Advent / Christmas floral arrangements
are given to the glory of God by
Elfrieda, Vern and Anne Marie Heinrichs,
in loving memory of Ceci Heinrichs.
(Dec. 14, 1965 - May 15, 1975)*

COMING UP

10:45am - Christmas Day Traditional Service

Reading: Luke 2:1-14; Revelation 12:1-6, 10-11

Dec 29 - 9am & 10:45am Morning Prayer Service

(No Nursery, Children or Youth Ministries)

6:30pm Lamplighters Worship & Communion Service

Readings: Revelation 5:9-14, Matthew 2:1-11

GET IN TOUCH

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