

*Unto Us
a Child is Born*



*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jenera, Ohio
December 25th, 2021*



December 25, 2021

Christmas Day

The Festival of the Nativity of Our Lord

Worship theme:

What Child is this? God in the flesh.

HYMN

61 – “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Please Stand.

THE INVOCATION

P : We worship on this holy day in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CHRISTMAS ADORATION

P: Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

C: Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: By right, we should have nothing to sing about. We do not deserve God’s love. He created humankind in his perfect image to live with him in peace forever. But Adam and Eve sinned against him and we have sinned against him no less than they.

C: We confess our sins, O Lord.

P: Our hearts are filled with love for you, but we confess we have often loved others more than you. Our eyes behold your glory, but we confess we have lusted for what you forbid. Our lips praise you, but we confess we have spoken evil again and again.

C: We deplore our sins, O Lord.

P: They have only gained us trouble. They have not given us the happiness they promised.

C: For the sake of Jesus, forgive us for sinning against you, O Lord.

P: Remind us that Christ came into the world to free us from the guilt of sin. Proclaim to us that his life and death cover our sins. Keep us from being attracted to sin. Spare us from being enslaved by sin. Help us to amend the sins we commit against one another.

C: Deliver us from sin's power, O Lord.

P: Glory to God in the highest! In love that astounds us, the eternal God sent his one and only Son to live among us, to obey as we could not, and to suffer what we deserved. In Christ there is indeed peace on earth. In him God extends his good will to all people. Because of Christ and by his authority, I say to you what God says: In Christ your sins are forgiven!

C: Glory to God in the highest! Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin that we may live for you without fear, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON – Exodus 33:18-23; 34:5-7

To reveal himself to us, God hid himself in human flesh. To reveal himself to Moses, God hid Moses within the cleft of a mountain.

¹⁸Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory." ¹⁹And the Lord said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live."

²¹Then the Lord said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²²When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."

⁵ Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the Lord. ⁶ And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.”

CHOIR ANTHEM: *“Christmas Joy”*

SECOND LESSON – Romans 8:31-32

If the Father was willing to give us his only Son, clearly there is no good thing he would withhold from us.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: 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)

Please Stand.

GOSPEL - John 1:1-18

In Jesus the God whose glory is impossible to see is seen. The God who cannot be known is known.

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 all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. ⁶ There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹ The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³ children born not of natural

descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'" ¹⁶ From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

THE CREED (*Spoken in unison*)

The 2ND Part of the Athanasian Creed

It is furthermore necessary for eternal salvation truly to believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh. Now this is the true Christian faith: We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man. He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh, equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity; and though he is both God and Man, Christ is not two persons but one, one, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God; one, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person; for just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being, so God and man are one Christ. He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, and from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds. Those who have done good will enter eternal life, but those who have done evil will go into eternal fire. This is the true Christian faith. Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved.

Please be seated.

HYMN 67 – "What Child is This?"

SERMON Text: Exodus 33:18-23; 34:5-7
Theme: How does God reveal his glory?
1. Not in the way we would expect.
2. But in the way that we need.

HYMN 40 – "O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is" (verses 1, 3, & 5)

OFFERING

Friendship Registration

Guests: Please fill out name, address, and phone number.

Members: Please fill out name and any new information.

Check the third box if you intend to commune.

Please, return the booklet to its original location. Thank you!

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Eternal Father, we give you thanks and praise on this holy day for sending your one and only Son to share our humanity, to carry our guilt, and to become for us the perfect Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

C: We adore you, O Lord.

P: Keep our faith in your Son alive and strong. Nourish us with your Word and Sacrament and, by your Holy Spirit, give us strength to overcome Satan's power and pride. Help us to withstand the temptations the world and our sinful nature put in our path.

C: Give us courage, O Lord.

P: Remember ministers of the gospel throughout the world who on this day are proclaiming that a Savior has been born. We especially commend to your care the missionaries we, as members of the Wisconsin Synod, have called. Since they cannot enjoy the fellowship of their extended families this Christmas, we pray that you would give them joy that comes with service in your kingdom.

C: Protect all those who preach the gospel in our place, O Lord.

P: We pray for our community, O Lord, and for all who live and work and play here. Keep the economy of our nation strong so that we may enjoy plenty from which to bring you our first and best offerings.

C: Govern and prosper your people, O Lord.

P: As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who are less fortunate than we are. Give us hearts that truly care for people who need our help. If it is your will, bring your powerful healing to those who are sick or diseased in body or mind. We pray especially for brothers and sisters who are setting aside their celebration today to care for the sick, feed the bedridden and stand at the side of the dying.

C: Sustain those who endure the troubles of life, O Lord.

P: Be a source of strength to the members of this congregation. Comfort all who have lost a loved one during the past year, support those who are troubled, and be with those who are spending Christmas alone. If any are among us today who have lost the true meaning of this festival, let them rediscover the joy that comes from Christ alone.

C: Let your peace reign in the hearts of all, O Lord.

P: As you sent your Son to bring peace to all people on earth, so we pray for all people, those known and those unknown to us. Hear us as we join in the prayer your Son taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(traditional)

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.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

P: 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 song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

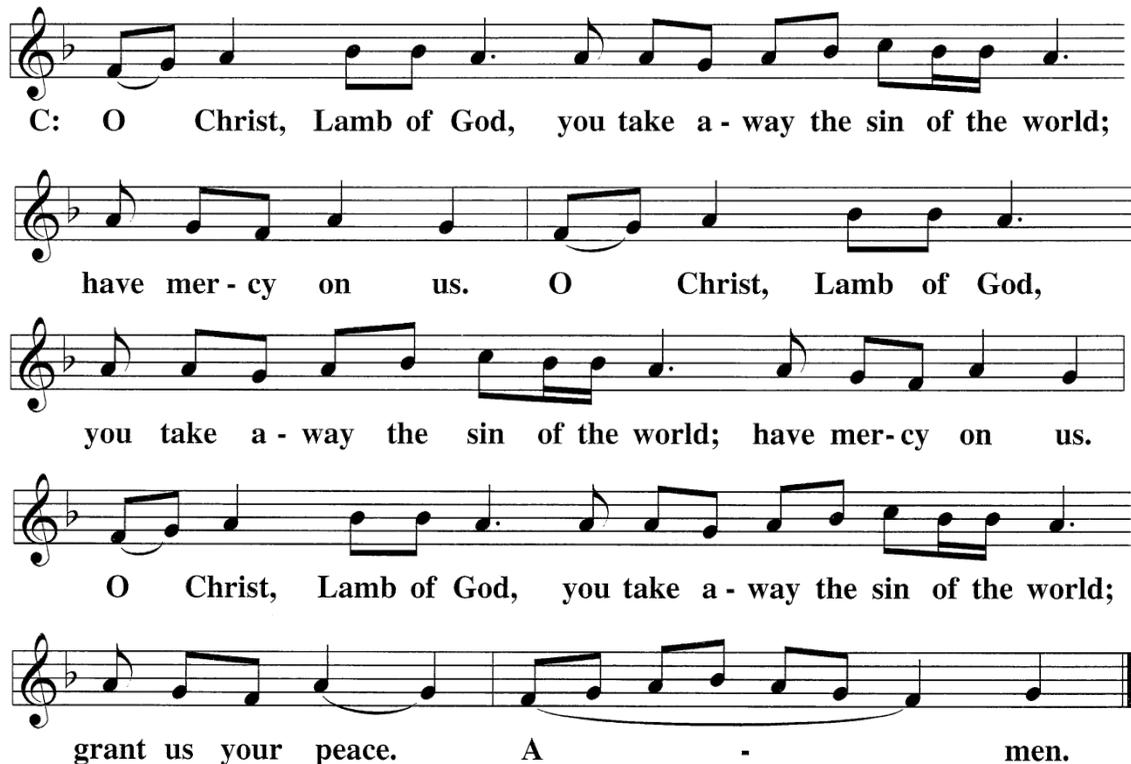
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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."

P: 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.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

P: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: 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.

HYMN

57 - "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Announcements:

HOLY COMMUNION: The Bible teaches us that Holy Communion is a public demonstration of participants' united confession of the Bible's teachings (1 Cor. 10:17). Since we strive to follow all that the Bible teaches, we believe that members of this congregation or the WELS or ELS synod are united in the true teaching and may commune together. All guests should speak with a pastor before Communion, to first determine if unity of faith exists. We're eager to establish a unity of faith and to declare this oneness at Communion with you. Members of the congregation are to indicate their intention to commune in the friendship registration booklet. Prayers for before and after Communion and worship are on pages 10-11 in the hymnal.

NEW YEAR'S EVE Holy Communion worship service will be celebrated Friday, December 31, at 7:00pm. Close the year praising your Lord for all His grace to you in 2021!

THERE IS ONLY one worship service tomorrow, December 26, and next Sunday, January 2, both at 9:30 a.m. There will not be Sunday school or Bible class either Sunday. Take the time to enjoy your family and friends.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES are ready for pick up by the south entrance. Please check them for accuracy, particularly addresses. Corrections may be made by contacting Clark Inniger or the school office. You may begin using the new envelopes in January. If you have any questions, please contact Clark Inniger at 419-306-0127 or email cdinniger@roadrunner.com.

WHO LIKES GAMES?? The Outreach committee is planning a game night on January 16, 2022 (yes-2022!) from 3-7:00pm in the school. There will be a supper at 5:00. Sign up on the sheet in the back of church. You better join us! Sounds like a great time. Thank you, Outreach Committee- you're all doing a fabulous job!

MORE GAMES: The annual Euchre Tournament is back. This year, Immanuel is hosting on January 29th. Watch for more details and time in the bulletin. Let's support our church. Go team! Beat Immanuel!!

OPEN GYM: The school's gym continues to be available for those wanting to play basketball indoors on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 - 4:00 PM. All children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Please change into dry, non-marking athletic shoes before entering the gym to help keep our gym floor in good condition.

MOON, STARS, AND NIGHT-TIME: Bring your infants, toddlers, and preschoolers to Mornings with Mommy on January 3 or Tuesday, January 4 to learn about the moon, stars, and night-time. Meet in the church basement at 9:30 to explore moon sand, paint a night-time sky, cut play-dough stars, and build a rocket. Register online at tlcjenera.org or call 262-391-7994. You can see pictures from our previous sessions at facebook.com/trinitymwm.

The fifth candle (white) is called the Christ Candle. It symbolizes the fulfillment of prophecy, the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior and the Light of the world. Read Luke 2:1-20.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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MONEY COUNTERS for this morning through January 1 are the members of Steve Rausch's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, January 2, will be the members of Warren Pratt's Undershepherd group.

GREETERS	today are:	Barb Roidt & Ruth Marquart
	Tomorrow:	Joe & Jean Spaeth
	Next Sunday:	Dwight & Norma Rader

*May
the miracle of that
first Christmas
renew your heart
with Joy*