

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Trinity Lutheran Church

December 24, 2024 4 p.m.

Prelude.....Organist

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candle Reading.....Noah & Sara Schroder

Opening Hymn..... "Angels We Have Heard on High".....#132

Confession of Sins

C: Almighty God, Before you all hearts are opened, all desires are known and no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may love you with a whole heart and praise your everlasting Name. We acknowledge that we have a sinful nature, and instead of doing good, we have often done wrong. Grant us forgiveness, according to the grace and mercy that comes through your Son, Jesus. Help us to live a righteous and holy life. In His Name we pray, Amen.

Christmas Litany (read responsively)

Gracious, generous God:

On this day we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ, Your Son,
Your Self in human form.

We celebrate the Son of God.

We are transfixed by the story of Jesus.

We looked for a warrior;

You sent a baby.

We looked for royalty;

You were born to peasants.

We looked for power

You showed us meekness.

We looked among rulers and politicians;

You were found among cattle and shepherds.

We looked for military victory;

You gave us resurrection.

We looked for riches;

You gave us selflessness.

We looked for a king;

You gave us a servant.

We worship Jesus, the humble hero of God's Redemption Story.

May we become more sensitive to the themes of that story

**seeking peace,
humbling ourselves,**

looking for glory in lowly places.

May we recognize our part in the story,

our place as Christ-followers

our calling to gentleness and humility

our opportunities to give our most profound gifts.

May we grow ever more like Jesus, and live in the light of His presence
and example. **Amen.**

Hymn....."O Little Town of Bethlehem".....#141

First Lesson **Isaiah 7:10-14** **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.

Hymn....."What Child Is This?".....#137

Second Lesson **1 John 4:7-16** **7** Beloved, let us love one another, for love
is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.
8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.
9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his
only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.**10** In this is
love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to
be the propitiation for our sins.**11** Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought
to love one another.**12** No one has ever seen God; if we love one another,
God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.**13** By this we know that we
abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.**14** And we
have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the
world.**15** Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in
him, and he in God.**16** So we have come to know and to believe the love that
God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and
God abides in him.

Gospel **Matthew 1:18-25** **18** Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this
way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came
together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to
shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.**20** But as he considered these things,
behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph,

son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"(which means, God with us).²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,

²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Chris

Message... "From Alarm to Astonished"... Matt. 1:18-25... Pastor Chris

Offering Hymn..... "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #145

Our prayer for Christmas:

Dear Jesus, You have brought to our dark and dingy world your true Light of love. May Your illumination of all souls bring us to true knowledge of You and Your will, and the courage to practice what you teach now and in the days to come. In Your Name we pray. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn..... "Silent Night" #147

Candle-lighting (please tip unlit candle to the flame of the lit candle)

Benediction

Please remember in prayer: Sue Sandvig, Orville & Carol Sorlie, Alan Perry, Lynn Rodway, Gary Johnson, Barb Gillespie, Don Paulson, special prayers for Emmerson Paulson, Norm Gravely, Sharon Dominisse, Cassandra Sunderland (Niece of Mary Eliason), all those experiencing hardships due to the flooding in our communities as well as large parts of the Midwest, our Nation, nursing homes, hospitals, schools, and all those who are mourning the loss of loved ones.

Worship Opportunities

10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Parish Worship at Lands w/Communion

10:00 a.m. Dec. 29th Parish Worship at Romsdal



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Moe Lutheran Parish
Trinity Lutheran Church
December 24, 2024**

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