



Trinity Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023

9:30 am Worship

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

304 E. Ferris St.
Galesburg, IL 61401
“the welcome place”

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2023
--

Introduction

God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David’s throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel’s greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, “Count me in.” We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, “Count us in.”

+++ GATHERING +++

Prelude The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Kevin Sadowski

Welcome, Announcements & **Friendship Registries-Please Sign In.**

(Stand)

Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Confession and Forgiveness

Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.

**We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.**

We are complicit in systems of exploitation.

We choose comfort over courage.

**We are careless with creation's bounty.
Look upon us with mercy.
Turn our hearts again to you.
Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world.
Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance:
God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.
In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all.
Amen.

Gathering Song ELW#248

People, Look East

Greeting

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

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Praise to you, O God, who lives with us,
sharing our flesh and bones.
As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed,
so we dream and wait for you.
Bless us and let your face shine upon us,
more radiant than these candles,
and more dear than all else we seek.
Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good,
and banish all our fears.
We pray in the name of Emmanuel,
your promised child and our Savior.
Amen.

Four Advent Candles are Lit

Kyrie

WOV Setting 4

A In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

peace from a-bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For the peace of the whole world, the well - be - ing of the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their

C Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Sit)

+++ WORD +++

First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build

me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm ELW #251

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



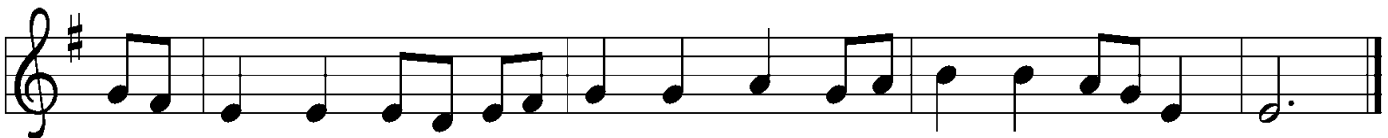
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer-cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom-ise to our par-ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low-ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Second Reading Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation We Are Waiting for Jesus

ACS #905



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Gospel Luke 1:26-38

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 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. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” 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. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” 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.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Sit)
A Virgin Unspotted *William Billings* *Vocal Quartet*

Children’s Message
Sermon

Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes

(Stand)
Hymn of the Day ELW #272 *Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming*

Nicene Creed

Let us join together in the confession of our faith.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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 ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
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,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

(Sit)

Prayers of Intercession.

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

You promise mercy to Abraham and Sarah and their descendants forever. Bring your church into thoughtful, caring, and collaborative relationship with those of other faiths. Strengthen our shared values, that we work together in caring for our world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

As fields and crops lie dormant, bless them with holy rest. Prepare them to thrive, that they provide abundant food in due season. Protect animals who hibernate and provide for all who scavenge for food in the lean season. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You raise up the lowly and cast down the arrogant. Teach humility to all in positions of authority. Break down systems of oppression, especially systems that perpetuate inequity and exclusion. Do not allow wealth, power, or pride to become idols that obscure your call to justice. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Look with favor upon all who cry out to you. Accompany with tenderness all who are afraid or ill especially Dena, Jean, Bev, Annie, and Sherry. Rescue all who experience abuse or who live under threat of violence, especially refugees, immigrants, and asylum-seekers in search of a safe and stable home. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You are pleased to make your home among us. Make our homecomings joyful as we gather with friends, families, and chosen families in celebration. Grant safety to all who travel. Sustain the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services and other ministries that assist in setting up new homes. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Blessed are you for Mary and all your servants in every generation who lived according to your promise of mercy. Strengthen us by their example until the revelation of your glory is made known. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We offer to you these prayers as well as those we now name to you either aloud or in our hearts. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.
Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

+++ MEAL +++

(Sit)

Offering Song Of the Father's Love Begotten
Senior Choir

John Rutter

(Stand)

Offering Prayer

God our provider,
by your merciful hand
abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.
Let them be a sign of your steadfast love
and faithfulness for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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.

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.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
 the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Christ taught us

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.

Come, take your place at the table.

All are welcome to receive communion at Trinity Lutheran Church. If you wish to receive you may come forward as dismissed by the usher and will be given a wafer in the center aisle. Then you may take a small cup from the tray. Red wine is along the outside, and white grape juice is located in the center of the tray. Gluten-free bread is also available. Place empty cups in the bowls located at the side aisle as you return to your pew. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, you may indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest as you come forward.

(Sit)

Distribution of Communion

Lamb of God

WOV Setting 4



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Lo, How a Rose Is Blooming

Adr. Kousemaker

Post Communion Hymn ELW #490 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav' - n - ly food.
comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

(Stand)

Prayer After Communion

Generous God,
in bread and cup you have revealed your glory
for all people to see together.
Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim
your good news of liberation and release,
brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

+++ SENDING +++

Blessing

The God of peace bless you,
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,
and the anointing of the Spirit † remain upon you
now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song ELW #267

Joy To The World

Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Joy to the World

John Leavitt, Charles Ore

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003928. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

As you leave, please take a moment and greet one another.

Worship Participants

Audio: Grant Robinson

Video: Sarah Brakenbury

Usher: Roger & Melissa Williamson

Communion Setup: Hillary Hoffman

Assisting Minister: Julie Wiegand

Reader: Mark Holmes

Wine Server: Janet Page, Jennifer Holmes

Closing Duties: Grant Robinson

Acolyte: Julia Robinson

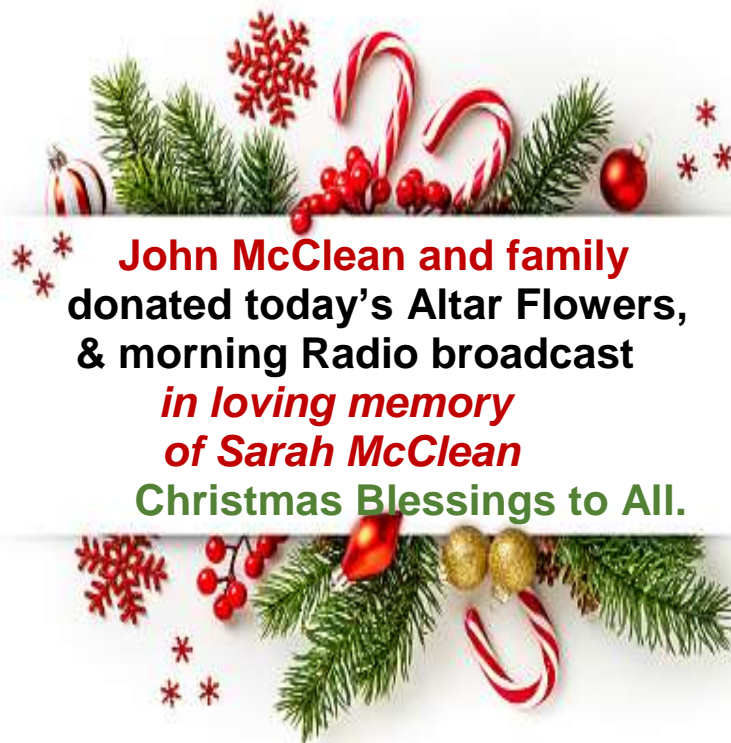
Advent Wreath: Brian & Liz Erdahl and Family

Organist: Bette Mohr

Director of Choirs: James Hutchings

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes

Vocal Quartet: Sarah Brakenbury, Nick Elders, Hillary Hoffman,
James Hutchings



John McClean and family
donated today's Altar Flowers,
& morning Radio broadcast
in loving memory
of Sarah McClean
Christmas Blessings to All.

Announcements

The last Deposit of the Year is Saturday, December 30, 2023.

******All annual reports of committees and organizations must be submitted to the church office NO later than January 8th.******

Choir Practice - Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, resuming January 10th

Bell Choir Practice will re-start at 11 am on Sunday, January 14th

Prayers: If you need prayer for yourself or a loved one, please fill out the salmon-colored slips in the Narthex and drop them into the collection plate.

Current Prayer List:

Dena Garrison <i>(daughter of Hilma McDorman)</i>	Prayers for peace & comfort
Sherry Glas	Prayers for comfort & health
Bev Powell	Prayers for healing & recovery
Annie Maier	Prayers for healing (surgery)
Donna	Prayers for comfort & peace (cancer)

Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes, Pastor, Out-of-office: Friday
Cell phone: 618-803-8778
Church Office: Phone 309-343-4191
Hours 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, Monday-Friday
1st & 3rd Saturdays, Worship at 5:00 pm, Holy Communion
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am; Holy Communion Sunday; Facebook
Radio Ministry at 9:30 am on WRAM – 1330 AM
www.trinitygalesburg.org
trinitylutheran@trinitygalesburg.org

Vision Statement
Developing Disciples – Connecting to Christ

Mission Statement
Led by the Spirit, we receive Christ's love, share God's forgiving grace, and reach out to welcome, encourage and serve all.

Welcome Statement
Members of Trinity Lutheran Church are freed by the Gospel to seek reconciliation and wholeness in a world that is frequently an unloving place. We extend welcome to all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, whether believer, doubter, or seeker. In Christ's love we invite you, so that led by the power of the Holy Spirit we will join together to strive for racial equity, justice, peace and love in all the earth.

- Our Guiding Principles**
1. Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior.
 2. We faithfully worship through Word and Sacrament.
 3. We invite and welcome everyone.
 4. We engage all generations in education and ministry.
 5. We serve local and global communities.

Trinity Lutheran Church

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

Bonnie Campbell

In loving memory of

Lester & Erma Peterson, Johnny Peterson, & Danny Campbell Family

Bruce, Denise Foote, & Family

In loving memory of

Robert & Virginia Hellenga, Marjorie Hellenga, & John & Carolyn Noonan

Heather Hellenga

In loving memory of

Carl & Anna Hessler, Earl & Jennie Reynolds, & Junior Reynolds

John & Wilma Hessler

In memory of

& Barbara Knees
Earl & Frances Hoffman, & Warren & Virginia Hosler

Ted, Hillary Hoffman, & Family

In loving memory of

Loved Ones

LaMae Icenogle, & Mark & Lori Chezem

In memory of

Marlene Zimmerman

Crystal Johnson

In memory of

Steve Johnson, & Max & Joan Boynton

Kristy Johnson

In loving memory of

Loved Ones

JoAnn Lakis

In loving memory of

Loved Ones

Dan & Mary Lou Lindberg

In loving memory of

Shirley & Gladys Wright

Janis Wright Meyers

In loving memory of

Parents & Grandparents

Janet Page

In memory of

Family & Friends

Brenda Patterson

In honor & memory of

All of our Loved Ones

Layton & Nancy Sandall

In honor & memory of

Jim Shafer

Anna & Lisa Shafer

In loving memory of

Jack & Shirley Simkins, David & Mary Sue Youngren, & Kenneth & Marian Wright
Our beloved Masden & Simpson parents

Tom & Marcy Simkins

In loving memory of

Laura Zidlicky & Margaret Wahl & Family

Dave & Carol Simpson

In memory of

Helen, John, & Margaret Wilds, Jim Rita, Joe, & John Wiegand, & Jane Tibita, & Dominic Othieno
Kim Eun Jung & Song Young Kook

Jolynn Wahl

In memory of

Mike, Julie, Joe, Maggie, Stella, & Penelope Wiegand

In honor of
In loving memory of

In Honor of