

Christmas Day Worship Service
(The Nativity of Our Lord)



Sunday, December 25, 2022
8:00 A.M.

Trinity Lutheran Church
1900 Marie Foster Street
Selma, AL 36703

Pastor Steven Washington

Trinity Lutheran Church

1900 Marie Foster Street, Selma

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E-Mail: washing54@gmail.com**Church President:** Mr. Edwin Peeples**Website:** tlc1900.org**Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.****Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.****The Nativity of Our Lord****December 25, 2022****The Lord Has Bared His Holy Arm****As We Gather**

The long wait is over—the Savior is born! For many people, the days, weeks, and even months have been filled with anticipation for Christmas. For children, it may be an anticipation of gifts; for others, it may be long-awaited family time enjoyed and all the season brings. For all, we pray the Good News of a Savior born this day in the city of David is the overarching reason to celebrate. Others in history had to wait a much longer time for their Christmas joy. Approximately seven centuries before “the Word became flesh” (John 1:14), Isaiah would be inspired by the Spirit to proclaim to the people, “The Lord has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God” (Isaiah 52:10). Though the people of Isaiah’s day would not experience Christmas as we do, they would hold on by faith to the anticipated promise of salvation through our Savior who was to come. For us, we give thanks that salvation has come. In the Son of God wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger, and with the mission for humanity set before Him, “The Lord has bared His holy arm” (Isaiah 52:10). May this promise fulfilled increase our Christmas joy as God still comes to us today in His Means of Grace, that we not only see but often celebrate the salvation of our God.

PREPARATION**380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***sts. 1, ref, 2*

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 “Glory to the newborn King;
 Peace on earth and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled!”
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With the_angelic host proclaim,
 “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” **Refrain**

**ref Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! **Refrain**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Text: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Lighting of the Wreath

Psalm 100

P On this holy day, we light the Christ Candle as we rejoice in the birth of our Savior Jesus, the Word made flesh, the Child of Bethlehem. The Christ Candle is a symbol of His presence among us. In the words of the psalmist, we, the people of His pasture, celebrate the birth of our Good Shepherd.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

C Serve the LORD with gladness!

P Come into His presence with singing!

C Know that the LORD, He is God!

P It is He who made us, and we are His;

C we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

P Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!

C Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

P For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever,

C and His faithfulness to all generations.

The candles are lit.

Opening Sentences

John 1:1, 4–5, 9; Isaiah 9:6; 52:10

P In the beginning was the Word,

C and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P In Him was life,

C and the life was the light of men.

P The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

C The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

P For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

C and the government shall be upon His shoulder,

P and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

C Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

P The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

C and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Confession and Absolution

John 1:4–5; Isaiah 52:10

P Jesus, Word made flesh, You came to dwell among us, but the darkness of our sin separates and we often fail to bask in the light of Your presence.

C We are sinful and unclean; 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 neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

P John writes in our Gospel lesson, "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Heavenly Father, too frequently we live in the darkness of unbelief.

C Forgive us, Lord, for those sins we know, and those sins we do not know.

P For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

C Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to be born into this world and in our flesh for us, to live a perfect life we can never attain, and to give His life as a perfect sacrifice for you. For His sake, He forgives you all your sins. Christ was born to live for us, to die for us, that we by faith will rise with Him in victory. He was born as our Savior to forgive. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
C and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

WORD

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
 Most merciful God, You gave Your eternal Word to become incarnate of the pure Virgin. Grant Your people grace to put away fleshly lusts, that they may be ready for Your visitation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:15–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

sts. 1, ref, 2

1 O come, all ye faithful,
 Joyful and triumphant!
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
 Come and behold Him
 Born the king of angels: **Refrain**

**ref O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him,
 Christ the Lord!**

2 Highest, most holy,
 Light of Light eternal,
 Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
 Son of the Father
 Now in flesh appearing! Refrain

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.; John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Offering

SACRAMENT

Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Distribution Hymn

387 Joy to the World

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
 Let earth receive her King;
 Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
 And heav'n and nature sing,
 And heav'n and nature sing,
 And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
 Let men their songs employ,
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow
 Nor thorns infest the ground;
 He comes to make His blessings flow
 Far as the curse is found,
 Far as the curse is found,
 Far as, far as the curse is found.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Text: Public domain

Communion**Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

- P Let us pray.
 Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C Amen.

363 Silent Night, Holy Night

- 1 Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85

Text: Public domain

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WELCOME - A warm welcome to everyone! If you are our GUEST, it is a pleasure to have you worshipping with us. **BLESSINGS!**

PASTOR'S VACATION – I will take my final week of vacation for this year following Christmas Day Worship Service.

PRAYER HOUR – Please join us each Saturday at 11 a.m. for prayer. Dial 1/681-999-0264; Access Code 391959#. Also, I invite you to go on our website and view our monthly newsletters and other information. On there you will also see a complete listing of prayer requests/concerns.

“Happy Anniversary”

26th Mr. & Mrs. Donald & Barbara Brown

27th Mr. & Mrs. Edwin T. & Deborah Peeples

27th Pastor Steven & Dr. Cheryl Washington

“Happy Birthday”

28th Alma J. Ware



Wednesdays – 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

GROUP NA, – Open Meeting*

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1900 Marie Foster Street, Selma, AL

*Classroom 3 (Ring outside doorbell)

Selma AL-Anon Family Group

This is a mutual support group for those who have been affected by another person's drinking. Some of us come to meetings because a spouse or partner has struggled with alcoholism. For others, the problem drinker is a parent, child, or grandchild. Sometimes it is a brother, sister, or some other friend or relative. The meetings are Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1900 Marie Foster Street, Selma, AL in the first classroom on the left.

Christmas Day (December 25) – Jesus Christ, You are the incarnate Word of God, who is God and was with God from the beginning. From nothing, You created all things and rule over it all. You are the light of the world in which nothing is hidden. Renew our joy and gladness of heart as we celebrate Your birth, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Engraved on His Hands

As we remember the birth of our Lord Jesus today, we also remember Isaiah's teaching that just as mothers do not forget their nursing children, so the Lord will not forget us.

Isaiah 49:15-16

~Christmas Blessings~

***May you and your family have a blessed
Christmas and a joyous New Year!***