

Advent

December 22, 2019

*When the angels had
left them and gone into
heaven, the shepherds
said to one another,
"Let us go now to
Bethlehem and see this
thing that has taken
place, which the Lord
has made known to us."
Luke 2:15*



Advent Setting

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

C God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder our love of you, that when Christ comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever more. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Shout for joy, all of the heavens and earth rejoice for this news! The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it. For as it was promised by our forefathers.

C Rejoice! Shout for joy! See our king is coming. He is righteous and brings salvation to the whole of the earth.

P The voice of the messenger echoes from the desert, calling us to prepare the way of the Lord and to make a path on which he may come into our lives. Let us confess our sins, so that our crooked paths may lead us straight to your humble resting place with Christ.

P Gracious Lord Jesus,

C you come to us with the good news of salvation, but too often we fail to notice. You come to us day by day, yet we close the doors of our hearts when it seems convenient to do things our own way. We ignore your presence in our lives and the ways you lead us in moments of need. We have failed to act justly, to love with mercy, and to walk humbly just as you did. Forgive us, merciful Lord. May we live so that the world will know that you have come. Amen.

P In the example of John the Baptist, we hear the promise of the Lord that is to come and his warning: "Change your hearts and lives today! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!" (*Matthew 3:2*) I therefore declare yours sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***ELW 257****LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

Advent Four:

P We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent stands for the coming of our Lord. The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall be named Emmanuel (God Is With Us). *Isaiah 7:14*

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

KYRIE

ST. THEODULPH (151 G)

Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!

Hail in the time ap - point - ed his reign on earth be - gun!

He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,

to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.

HYMN OF PRAISE

TRURO

Lift up your heads, you might - y gates; be - hold, the
Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
So, come, my Sov - 'reign, en - ter in; let new and

King of Glo - ry waits; the King of Kings is
tem - ple set a - part from earth - ly use for
no - bler life be - gin; the Ho - ly Spir - it

draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
guide us on, un - til our glo - rious goal is won.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

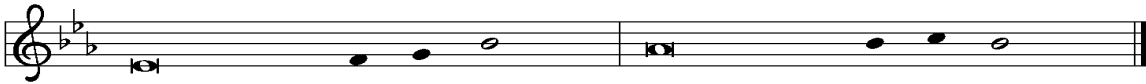
¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Sung responsively



¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and | come to help us.

³Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD | God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray?

⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.

⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.

¹⁸And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 1:1-7

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The image shows a musical score for the Gospel Acclamation. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics 'Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the treble staves. The music features a simple, melodic line with some rests and a final cadence.

P The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-25

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. ²⁰Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. ²¹She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

PASTOR ANDREW PATTY

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW HYMN 279

Please stand for the final verse of the hymn.

MAGNIFICAT

P In the words of Mary, let us proclaim our joy in the coming of Christ.

C **My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy. The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A Hear your church, O God, as we pray for all who belong to Jesus Christ, especially the congregations of Hope Lutheran in St. Charles, Christ & Trinity Lutheran in Sedalia, and Our Savior Lutheran in Salem, Missouri, and St. John Lutheran in Salina, Kansas. Where the church is scorned, preserve it; where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Hear your earth, O God, as we pray for its healing and care. Protect the grapevine and the mighty cedar, the mountains and seas and all that is in them. Give life, that all life may call on your name. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Hear the nations, O God, as we pray for those who hold power and authority over people and lands. Help those who create and uphold good laws and those working to reform what is unjust, that the world might better reflect your grace. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Hear those in need, O God, as we pray for all who face uncertainty: refugees and immigrants, those who are imprisoned, and those without work, housing, food, or health care. Bring good news to all in need of hope. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Hear this community of faith, O God, as we pray for families and friends who gather in this season, for travelers and hosts, and for those who will work or serve others this Christmas. Let the peace of Emmanuel, God-with-us, shine in every heart. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Hear us as we pray for Troy Pomeroy, Jeff Longren, and Cindy McGinnis as they celebrate their birthdays this week, and for Andrew Carpenter, Dustin Carpenter and Debbie Pomeroy as they remember their baptisms. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Hear all who mourn, O God, as we remember the lives of our beloved dead. Encourage the living to learn from our ancestors in faith as we follow your call. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Let us greet one another with God's peace.

Please be seated.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERING

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,

God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

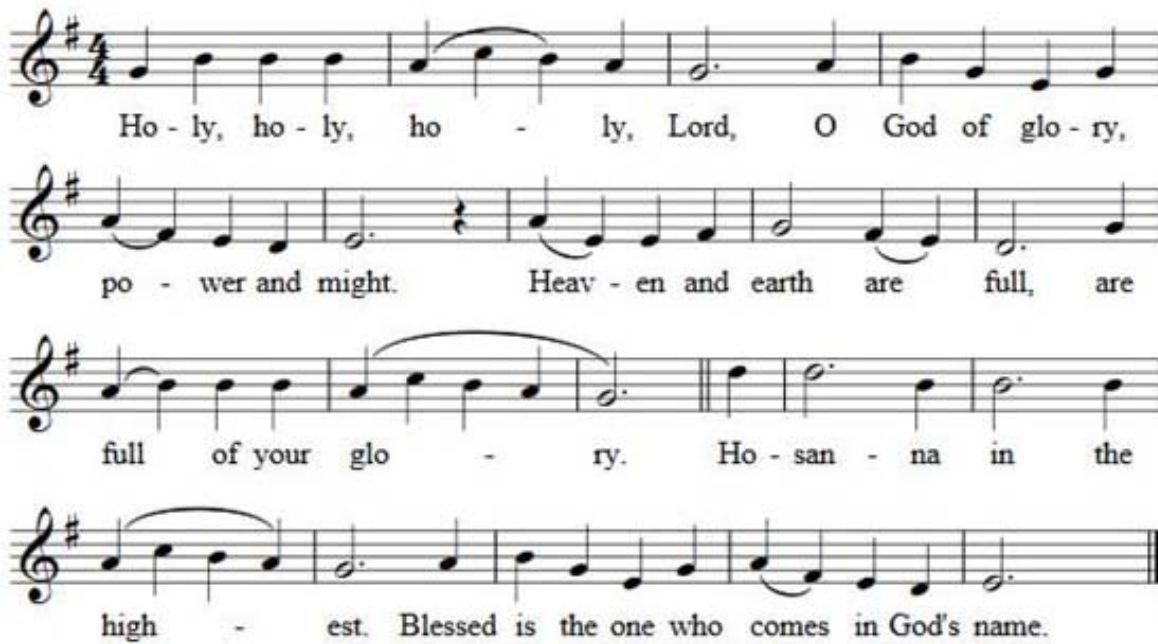
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P 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:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P 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.

P 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.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

C Come among us.

P Bless this meal.

C May your Word take flesh in us.

P Awaken your people.

C Fill us with your light.

P Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P 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

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

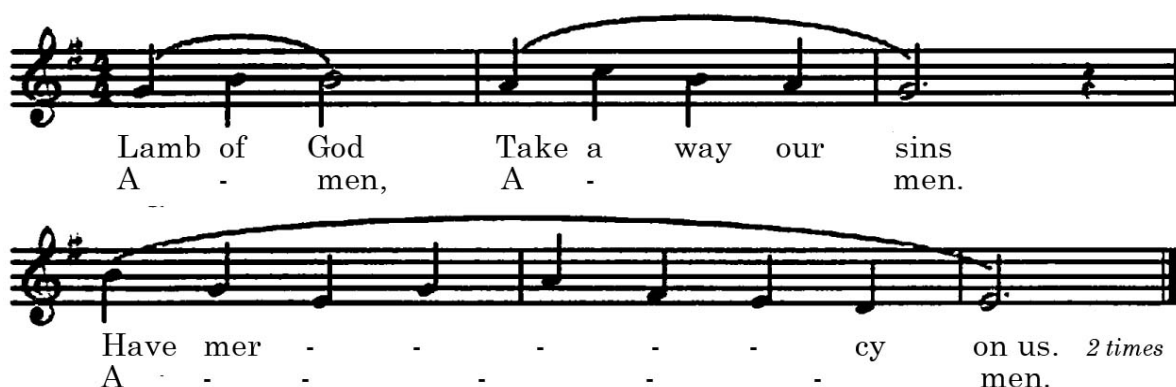
C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come now with joy to Emmanuel's table. Feast at the banquet of hope and love.
Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

We invite all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior to share with us in Holy Communion. All are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available as an alternative to wine. Everyone is invited to receive communion or a blessing. Hands cupped open indicate a desire to receive communion; hands closed reflect a desire to receive a blessing. We now have gluten-free communion wafers available. If gluten-free is your preference, please let the pastor know when you are at the communion rail.



COMMUNION HYMNS

Eat This Bread
O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW HYMN 472
ELW HYMN 279

Please stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A God of abundance, we give you thanks that in this holy meal you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words and our work in your name invite others into your bountiful grace. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior.

C Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

P May God, who gathers us in love, lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice. May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom. May God, who fills us with good things, lead you in pathways of equity and abundance. The blessing of the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW 267

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*Welcome to worship at Trinity!
Thank you for joining us for worship.
We hope that you, members and visitors,
found the Spirit of God in our midst.
If you are interested in becoming a member
of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, or
have other questions, please contact the
church office at 785.233.0767*

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Dec. 22..... Adult Sunday School..... 9:15 AM
 Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM
 Mon., Dec. 23 Women's AA.....5:00 PM
 Tues., Dec. 24..... Christmas Eve Worship.....5:00 PM
 Wed., Dec. 25 Christmas Day
 Women's AA.....5:30 PM
 Thurs., Dec. 26.....Men's AA7:00 PM
 Sunday, Dec. 29 Adult Sunday School..... 9:15 AM
 Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM
5th Sunday Special for Central States Synod



PLEASE NOTE: the date of our annual meeting has changed to January 26, 2020, immediately after worship. Work on the annual report booklet will begin in early January. **The deadline to submit reports to be included in the booklet is now January 6th.** You may review the index of previous reports to see what reports are needed, or you may call the office, 233-0767.

Worship Assistants									
Date	Greeter(s)	Usher(s)	Musicians	Lector	Acolyte	Altar Guild	Coffee Hosts	Assisting Minister	Presiding Minister
December 22, 2019	Vickie Jacobs	Ted Murphy	Laurie Jackson & Loretta Hoerman	Diane Bottorff	Duane Pomeroy	Team 2	Bob & Pam Kobbeman	Bob Horton	Pr. Andrew Patty
December 29, 2019	Chuck Sodergren	Diane Bottorff	Mitchell Bean	Marcy Carlson	Cindy McGinnis	Team 2	Don & Charlotte O'Brien	Walt Laughlin	Pr. Andrew Patty



Christmas Eve worship will start at 5:00 pm on
December 24th.
This will be a time of music, scripture, prayer,
and candlelight.
Please come; all are welcome.

Thanks to everyone who generously provided poinsettias to beautify our sanctuary during this Christmas season. Please remember to take them home with you after the Christmas Eve worship service.

Sunday, December 29th, we will take up a 5th Sunday Special collection for the benefit of the Central States Synod. The Synod has experienced a shortfall in income so we have designated this 5th Sunday Special for their benefit. Watch for special envelopes in your bulletin next Sunday.

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS						
Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/ Communion
Nov. 24	\$1,855.00	\$142.00	\$1,997.00	-\$2,648.00	-\$651.00	44/43
Dec. 1	\$743.00	\$100.00	\$843.00	-\$2,648.00	-\$1,805.00	25/23
Dec. 8	\$5,869.00	\$112.00	\$5,981.00	-\$2,648.00	\$3,333.00	50/48
Dec. 15	\$7,155.00	\$16.00	\$7,171.00	-\$2,648.00	\$4,523.00	24/24
The money shown in the "Other" column is restricted and not available for our general fund.						
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead	
		Oct 2019	\$10,081.95	-\$20,727.61	-\$10,645.66	
		Jan. - Oct	\$100,689.86	-\$116,755.04	-\$16,065.18	



The mission of
**Trinity Evangelical
 Lutheran Church**
 is to

- worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- serve those in need, and
- reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!

Together in Community • **L**iving with Christ • **C**aring for Neighbors

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

725 SW Buchanan St. • Topeka, Kansas 66606

Phone: 785-233-0767 • Email: office@topekatlc.org

Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday

Noon to 5:00 PM Wednesday

Telephone: (785) 233-0767

Congregation Council

Pr. Andrew C. Patty _____ 423-748-9922			
President Diane Bottorff _____	271-7131	Bob Horton _____	640-5345
Vice President Mary Heald _____	221-2790	Curt Lewis _____	286-2728
Secretary Laurie Jackson _____	224-9683	Dean McGinnis _____	272-0255
Treasurer Bob Kobbeman _____	478-0381	Ted Murphy _____	817-0372