



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM  DECEMBER 22, 2024

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www.trinitynicollet.org



A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Band Students of Deena Lindstrom

- Emmeryn Helgeson, Clarinet..... "The First Noel" arr. by M. Williams
"O Come O Come Emmanuel" arr. by M. Williams
"Joy to the World" Handel arr. by M. Williams
- Elena Enter and Ahna Lendt,
Alto Saxophone "The First Noel" arr. by M. Williams
- Eli Knutson; Clarinet..... "Christmas Joy" arr. by John O'Reilly
- Isaiah Baumann; Baritone..... "Angel Gabriel" arr. by V. Floeter
"On Christmas Night All Christians Sing" ... arr. by V. Floeter

Piano Students of Mrs. Lori Enter

- Hazel Krohn O Come All You Faithful (Duet) Nicolaus Herman
O Come Little Children J.A.P.Schulz
- Charlie Johnson..... He Is Born, The Heavenly Child (Duet)..... Traditional
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (Duet) Edith M.G. Reed
- Lyla Johnson Silent Night Franz Gruber
Hark the Herald Angels Sing..... Mendelssohn

ORDER OF SERVICE

Stand

L(eader): In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C(ongregation): Amen.

Opening Dialogue

selected verses from Psalm 65

L: Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion;

C: to you our vows will be fulfilled.

L: You who answer prayer,

C: to you all people will come.

L: When we were overwhelmed by sins,

C: you forgave our transgressions.

L: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!

C: We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

L: The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;

C: where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

L: O Jesus Christ, your manger is our paradise at which we now recline. There, O Lord, we find the Word made flesh for us; there, O Lord, your grace brightly shines. Move us by your Spirit to depend on you alone; enable us to be of good cheer; keep us steadfast in the midst of sorrow; fix our hearts on you, our greatest treasure. For in you and through faith in you we possess a lasting crown and look forward to honor beyond measure in the eternal glories of heaven. We ask these things in your name, our Savior and

C: Amen.

Be seated

Welcome and Introduction

Pastor Micah Plocher

Opening (Processional) Hymn

362 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

st. 1, 2, 5 congregation • st. 6 all

1. THE DAWN OF TIME

NARRATION:

“In the beginning . . .” These familiar words from Genesis launch the account of God creating the universe. The eternal God, who knows no beginning and no end, created time.

KINDERGARTEN - 2ND GRADE:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day (Genesis 1:1,3-5).

NARRATION:

From there we hear about the creation of water and sky, land and vegetation, stars and planets, and all animals in the sky and in the waters and on the land. And then God created humans.

3RD - 4TH GRADE:

Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them (Genesis 1:26-27).

NARRATION:

After creating the first man and woman, God established marriage and gave humans their purpose. He blessed these people, named Adam and Eve, and said to them:

5TH GRADE:

“Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it.

6TH - 7TH GRADE:

They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so (Genesis 1:28-30).

NARRATION:

God also made a way for humans to show their love for him—he gave them a command that they could follow.

5TH - 8TH GRADE:

The LORD God commanded . . . “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die” (Genesis 2:16-17).

NARRATION:

The record of the dawning of time concludes with these joy-filled observations:

PRESCHOOL - 8TH GRADE:

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good (Genesis 1:31).

CONGREGATION:

Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame (Genesis 2:25).

Hymn Response

504 We Sing the Almighty Power of God, st. 1

Sung by 1st - 8th Grade

2. THE DAWN OF HOPE

NARRATION:

It was not long before the perfection and joy in all of God’s creation were shattered, and God’s perfect relationship with humans was severed. It began in heaven. In the last book of the Bible, we are told that shortly after God created all that there is, a rebellion took place, led by an angel of light who became an agent of darkness.

3RD - 4TH GRADE:

War broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him (Revelation 12:7-9).

NARRATION:

Back in the first book of the Bible, we hear what this devil, Satan, did next. He seeded doubts and spread lies. He did only what his fallen nature could do: deceive, harm, and relentlessly pursue the spiritual death of God’s beloved children.

1ST - 2ND GRADE:

Girls: Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made.

Boys: He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

Girls: The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

Boys: "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:1-5).

NARRATION:

And then it happened. Love for following God's command not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was replaced by rebellion against his command. Eve ate. Adam accepted her offer of the fruit and also ate. Sin and all its evil effects had entered the world. Adam and Eve realized they were naked, and they felt shame. They heard God walking in the garden and hid in fear. They avoided any blame for their wrongdoing at all cost.

Hymn Response

574 *The Tree of Life*, sts. 1,2

Sung by 5th - 8th Grade

NARRATION:

Adam and Eve's rebellion had immediate and severe consequences:

ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS:

To [Eve, God] said "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you" (Genesis 3:16).

ALL MEN AND BOYS:

To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return" (Genesis 3:17-19).

NARRATION:

A great darkness had come over and into creation—not in physical light but in life now and forever. Pain, curses, adversities, tiring and aggravated daily effort, broken relationships, and worst of all—physical death and eternal separation from God for eternity. The prophet Isaiah sums up this darkness that by nature is at the center of every human soul and into which all are born:

6TH - 7TH GRADE:

Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God.

5TH GRADE:

Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness (Isaiah 8:21-22).

NARRATION:

Can there be any hope after this great and eternal fall? After meriting nothing but distress, death, and eternal darkness? Yes! Returning to Genesis, we immediately read this promise from God, graciously given to Adam and Eve after their fateful choice:

3RD - 4TH GRADE:

The LORD God said to the serpent, . . . “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel” (Genesis 3:14-15).

NARRATION:

There it is . . . the dawn of hope! The first promise of a Savior who would crush the devil and redeem humanity from his evil grasp. The prophet Isaiah repeats this promise with greater detail:

CONGREGATION:

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned (Isaiah 9:2).

KINDERGARTEN-2ND GRADE:

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

5TH - 8TH GRADE:

Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever (Isaiah 9:6-7).

ALL:

The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:7)

Song Response

“For Unto Us” by Dennis and Nan Allen

Sung by Preschool - 8th Grade

3. THE DAWN OF JOY

NARRATION:

A promise made is only good if it is kept. God repeated the promise of a Savior for hundreds of years, offering more details about the circumstances of the Savior’s appearing and keeping it central in the minds and hearts of his people as they endured the many ups and downs of their sin-filled existence. But would it ever happen? Would the Savior ever appear? Generation after generation died still waiting. Would God ever fulfill that promise? Would he keep it? The gospel writers report the details. When the time was right, God sent his messenger to a young virgin named Mary.

3RD - 4TH GRADE:

God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end” (Luke 1:26-28,31-33).

PRESCHOOL:

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” (Luke 1:34).

KINDERGARTEN - 2ND GRADE:

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God” (Luke 1:35).

NARRATION:

A pregnant virgin? Yes, just as Isaiah foretold. But that would cause quite a stir in the community—an unmarried woman found to be pregnant! Matthew records the commotion and God’s faithfulness to his salvation promise and plan.

ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS:

Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly (Matthew 1:18-19).

ALL MEN AND BOYS:

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him (Matthew 1:20-21,24).

NARRATION:

Trusting in God's promises, Mary and Joseph moved forward to the blessed day of the Savior's birth. Luke records the final details of that first Christmas.

ALL MEN AND BOYS:

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register (Luke 2:1-3).

PRESCHOOL - 8TH GRADE:

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child (Luke 2:4-5).

ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS:

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them (Luke 2:6-7).

Hymn Response

340 Away in a Manger

Sung by the Congregation

NARRATION:

When Jesus—the world's long-promised and only Savior—was born, God ensured that the news began spreading immediately. Luke continues his report:

5TH - 8TH GRADE:

There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger” (Luke 2:8-12).

NARRATION:

“To you.” Those words know no bounds of time or culture, of status or reputation, of sin or shame or guilt. This event wasn’t just for the shepherds—it’s for all of us too! Jesus was born to be your Savior and mine . . . the dawn of joy for all the world! Such joyous news calls for glorious praise. And the shepherds saw and heard just that.

PRESCHOOL - KINDERGARTEN RECITATION:

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

ALL:

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests” (Luke 2:13-14).

Hymn Response

350 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, sts. 1,2

Sung by Preschool – 8th Grade

4. THE DAWN OF “CHRISTIANS”

NARRATION:

The good news of the long-awaited birth of the Savior had a remarkable effect on these shepherds. Luke tells us:

3RD - 4TH GRADE:

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

ALL:

“Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about” (Luke 2:15).

PRESCHOOL - 2ND GRADE:

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger (Luke 2:16).

Hymn Response

345 *Where Shepherds Lately Knelt*, sts. 1,2

Sung by 1st - 8th Grade

NARRATION:

And what did the shepherds do after finding Jesus in the manger? Luke tells us that “they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child” and that they returned to their fields and flocks “glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told” (Luke 2:17-18). The birth of Jesus was a turning point in history, from waiting on the fulfillment of a promise to sharing the news of a promise fulfilled. They wouldn’t be called Christians until some decades later, but the birth of Jesus was the dawning of a new name for the people of God, followers of the God-man, Jesus. Luke tells us in his other book in the Bible, Acts:

5TH - 8TH GRADE:

For a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch (Acts 11:26).

NARRATION:

Like the shepherds that first Christmas night, God’s believers share throughout the world the good news of sins forgiven in Jesus. And the Lord blesses that effort. Luke shares this report about those first-called Christians:

5TH - 8TH GRADE:

Those who had been scattered by persecution . . . traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. The Lord’s hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord (Acts 11:19-21).

NARRATION:

The good news that began at Christmas culminated in Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Jesus’ death in our place redeemed us from all our sin. His resurrection defeated death forever. This salvation is ours. This free gift is ours to share with everyone.

ALL:

Joy has dawned for you, for me, for all!

Hymn Response

352 Joy Has Dawned, sts. 1-3

Sung by Preschool – 8th Grade, Congregation sings vs.4

Thank Offering Anthem

My Soul Shall Magnify the Lord (Magnificat)
Arranged by Kieth & Kristyn Getty and Stewart Townend

TLS Hand Chime Choir

The members of Trinity Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and throughout the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

*At this time, we ask both members and guests to fill out the **friendship register** found at the end of each pew. When you've written your information, please pass it to the next person until everyone has had a chance to sign it. Thank you for helping us serve you with the gospel!*

Stand

Prayer

Almighty God, you made the night of Jesus' birth shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

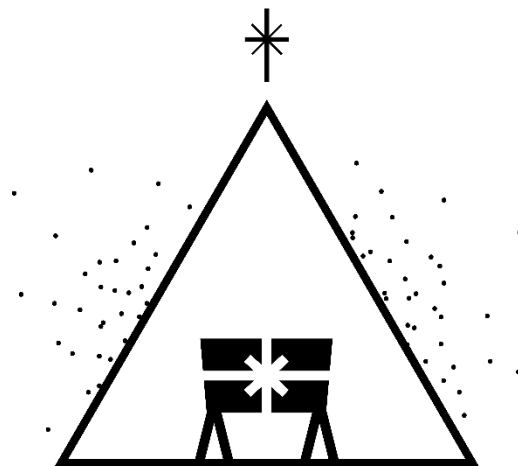
The Lord look on you with favor and — give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Congregational Hymn

353 Joy to the World



THE GIFT OF GOD

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT TRINITY

Christmas Eve at 3:30 PM
Christmas Eve at 7:00 PM
Christmas Day at 9:00 AM

WORSHIP AT THE MANGER
CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL WORSHIP
CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL WORSHIP

THANK YOU to all those that served this afternoon – streaming and A/V techs, ushers, accompanists, preservice musicians, and more. Thanks also to all those that donated poinsettias. They may be picked up anytime between Christmas Day and New Years Day.

POINSETTIAS Thank you to everyone that donated a flower! They may be picked up after the Christmas Day Service on Wednesday. There are bags for protection in the side room.

LADIES' GUILD: Due to New Year's Day holiday on Wednesday, we decided to change our Ladies' Guild meeting to the Second Thursday, **January 9th, 2025** to allow everyone a better opportunity to attend if they are celebrating the New Year. Also, we are having a speaker coming from IVY HOUSE in New Ulm, a Christian, faith-based non-profit that unconditionally serves families by providing temporary care available 24/7 when parents need extra support. *"Sharing God's love with families by providing a safe and caring place for kids to stay."*

2024 Poinsettia: In memory of or in honor of:

Connie Anderson-R	Jim
Justin Aschenbrenner-R	My gift
Jared & Marissa Baumann-R	Isaac Baumann
Lois Barrer-P	Norm & Grand-daughter, Karissa Bode
Mark & Joni Becker-P	Daughter Madison
Susie Blaalid-R	Alvin & Selma Resoft & Elaine Blaalid
Gregg & Lois Bode-W	Our gift
Roger Bruns & Family-R	In Memory of Lois Bruns
Chris & Rochelle Compant-P	Our gift
Dean & Kaye Compant-R	Our Parents
Ardie & Lori Enter- P,W	Lincoln Tews & Steve Enter
Fred & Dianne Froehlich, Jim & Sonja Shay-W,W	Fritz & Ardella Froehlich/ Siblings, Joanne & Lorenz
Tom & Mary Grefe-R	Herman & Darla Mae Grefe
Tom & Mary Grefe-R	Larry & Rita Tomes
Merl & Sally Gleason-R	Marlen & Mildred Krohn
Gail Groebner-P	Sister, LouAnn Zimmerman
Rick & Mary Hulke-W	Our Parents
Nels & Tina Knutson-R	Jolaine Burmeister
Elaine Krohn-R	Arnold Krohn
Larry & Shirley Krohn-W	Our Parents
Marvin & Laurie Krohn-R	Parents
Seth & JoElyn Krohn-R	Molly Mannion
Warren & Rachel Krohn-W	Rev. Ralph Polzin
Warren & Rachel Krohn-R	Melvin & Vivian Krohn
Dick & Donna Lange-W	Our Parents
Harold & Pat Mead-R	Richard Muesing & Tom Voeltz
Randy & Wendy Nielsen-R	George and Doug Poehler
Jim & Jenny Otto-R	Our Parents & Sisters
Darlene Poehler-P	George Poehler, Doug Poehler
Alloyd & Elaine Schilling-R	Parents & Sister Carol
Jim & Sonja Shay-R	Jamie & Nathan Shay
Joel, Reniece & Daniel Shult-P	Duane Shult, Carl & Roberta Schneidereit, Mark Shult
Mary Voeltz-R	Larry Voeltz
Dean & Kathy Wels-R	Our Parents
Glenn & Donna Wiens-P	Parents & Daughter-In-Law & Brother
David & Kim Zimmerman-R	Delroy & Ida Zimmerman, Parents
Phil & Karen Wingen-R	In memory of Chad

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sun. (12/22)	9:00 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Coffee & Fellowship
Tues. (12/24)	3:30 pm	Worship at the Manger
	7:00 pm	Service of Lessons and Carols
Wed. (12/25)	9:00 am	Christmas Day Worship
Sun. (12/29)	9:00 am	Worship/New Years Celebration

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday 9:00 am	167
<i>Sunday streaming</i>	18
Advent 6:30 pm	61

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday 10:45 am	23
Kids in Christ	20
Monday 7:00 pm	8
Monday Virtual	2

SUNDAY GIVING

General Fund	7425.50
Vanco	3812.15
Capital	276.60

PREACHER: Pastor Micah Plocher

BULLETIN: Paul & Mandi Russow (21) and Parents Dale & Karen Lachmiller (50) for their Anniversaries

ACCOMPANIST: Lori Enter

SPECIAL THANKS to all others who served in worship today, including our video and screen coordinators, ushers, greeters, and soloists.



TRINITY EV.
LUTHERAN
NICOLLET, MN

December 2024

Pastor Micah Plocher

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
December 1 9 am Worship /Comm 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C	2 NO WORSHIP through DEC. 7 pm Bible Study	3 7:00 pm Elders 3:15 pm Faculty	4 3:30 pm NPS Catechism 6:30 pm-Advent Midweek Worship	5 11:30 pm Ladies Guild Christmas Party at Pizza Ranch	6 8 am TLS Chapel	7 9:00 am Christmas Decorating
8 9 am Worship 10:45 Christmas for Families	9 7 pm Bible Study	10 6:30 pm Chori Practice	11 3:30 pm NPS Catechism 6:30 pm-Advent Midweek Worship	12 7:00 pm Mens Bible Study	13 8 am TLS Chapel	14 10:30 am Christmas Door hanging 7:00 pm Women, Wine & Word
15 9 am Worship/Comm 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C	16 7 pm Bible Study	17 3:15 pm Faculty 6:30 pm Chori Practice 7:00 pm Board of Ed	18 3:30 pm NPS Catechism 6:30 pm-Advent Midweek Worship 7:30 pm Council Meeting	19	20 8 am TLS Chapel	21
22 9 am Worship //Children' s Christmas Service 10:30 am Fellowship	23 NO TLS through Jan. 3	24 Christmas Eve 3:30 pm Worship at the Manger 7:00 pm-Lessons & Carols	25 Christmas Day 9:00 am Christmas Day Worship/Choir sings	26	27	28
29 9 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	30	31	January 1 New Years Day	2 1:30 pm Ladies Guild 7:00 pm Board of Ed	3	4