

# THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*



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Preludes: *Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ* by Johann Pachelbel  
*In dulci jubilo* by Johann Michael Bach  
*Adeste Fideles* by Bret A. Heim

## OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN

*Hymnal Page: 384*

### Divine Service Setting Three

*Hymnal page: 184*

## INTROIT

*Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6*



**P:** The Lord be with you. **C:** **And with thy spirit.**

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C:** **Amen.** **Sit**

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

**Isaiah 52:7-10**

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of him who brings Good News,  
who publishes peace, who brings Good News of happiness,  
who publishes Salvation,  
who says to Zion, **“Your God reigns.”**  
The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;  
together they sing for joy;  
for eye to eye they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted His people;  
He has redeemed Jerusalem.  
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.

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord. **C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **CHORAL RESPONSE (Choirs)**

***O Holy Child, We Welcome Thee*** by Carl Halter

O Holy Child, we welcome Thee, With happy lays Thy birth we praise.

Sleep softly in Thy bed, sweet Child,  
The night is bright with heav'nly Light.

O Child divine, our Savior dear, Lead us in love to heav'n above.

## EPISTLE

## Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, Whom He appointed the Heir of all things, through Whom also He created the world. He is the Radiance of the Glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the Word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

***“You are my Son, today I have begotten You”?***

Or again,

***“I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son”?***

And again, when He brings the Firstborn into the world, He says,

***“Let all God’s angels worship Him.”***

Of the angels He says,

***“He makes His angels winds, and His ministers a flame of fire.”***

But of the Son He says,

***“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
the Scepter of Uprightness is the Scepter of Your Kingdom.  
You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed You  
with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions.”***

And,

***“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,  
and the heavens are the work of Your hands;  
they will perish, but You remain;  
they will all wear out like a garment,  
like a robe you will roll them up,  
like a garment they will be changed.  
But You are the same, and Your years will have no end.”***

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord. **C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Stand**

**HYMN & GOSPEL PROCESSION**  
**LET OUR GLADNESS HAVE NO END**

*Hymnal Page: 381*

*(ALL: Stanzas 1-2, 4; Choir: 3)*

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**John 1: 1-18**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**C:** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. 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.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the Light, that all might believe through Him. He was not the Light, but came to bear witness about the Light.

The true Light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became Flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John bore witness about Him, and cried out, "*This was He of Whom I said, 'He Who comes after me ranks before me, because He was before me.'*") And from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace and Truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, Who is at the Father's side, He has made Him known.

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C:** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## CHORAL RESPONSE (Choir)

*God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen* by David Willcocks

*Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All others doth efface:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

**NICENE CREED**

*Hymnal page: 191*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**WE PRAISE YOU, JESUS, AT YOUR BIRTH**

*Hymnal page: 382*

*ALL: stanzas 1-2, 4-7; Choir: 3*

**SERMON**

**OFFERTORY**

*Hymnal page: 192*

**OFFERING (Handbells)** *Adeste Fideles* by Thomas E. Lock

**PRAYER**

### RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



If this is your first attendance at Trinity, we kindly ask that you speak with one of the Pastors before receiving the Lord's Supper.

*We believe* the Lord's Supper to be a participation in the body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins. *We teach* that under bread and wine Jesus delivers life and salvation to His church. *We confess* Jesus desires you to partake in this meal, and He instituted the Holy Ministry to serve His gifts with care.

The Holy Apostles warn us in the Scriptures not to receive the Supper to our harm, thereby the Pastors would hope to know who you are and where you are from before they serve you what Christ has given. We are in fellowship with the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. If you are a member in good standing of one of our churches you can expect to be welcomed to our rail.

If you need help or prayer, would like to learn more about our congregation, or about attending Holy Communion in the future we will be honored to speak with you about these things.

See Matthew 26:26-28, John 20:19-23, 1 Corinthians 11:16, 26-28, Acts 2:42

## Service of the Sacrament

**PREFACE**

*Hymnal page: 194*

**SANCTUS**

*Hymnal page: 195*

*It is appropriate to make the sign of the cross at: 'Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord.'*

**LORD'S PRAYER**

*Hymnal page: 196*

*During the Lord's Prayer it is appropriate to make the sign of the cross at  
'Deliver us from evil.'*

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

*Hymnal page: 197*

**AGNUS DEI**

*Hymnal page: 198*

**DISTRIBUTION**

*During the DISTRIBUTION the following hymns will be sung from the hymnal page shown:*

**O SING OF CHRIST** 362

**O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL** 379

**HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING** 380

**COME, YOUR HEARTS AND VOICES RAISING** 375

*After the Distribution, the pastor shall dismiss the communicants with the following blessing:*

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart **+** in peace. **C: Amen.**

*Then the congregation shall turn to hymnal page 199 and sing:*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

*Hymnal page: 199*

**BENEDICTION**

*Hymnal page: 202*

**HYMN**

**NOW SING WE, NOW REJOICE**

*Hymnal page: 386*

**Postlude: Fantasia on In dulci jubilo by Johann Sebastian Bach**



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Now sing we, now rejoice,  
Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth  
Poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth  
The sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art!  
Thou my Savior art!

Come from on high to me;  
I cannot rise to Thee.  
Cheer my wearied spirit,  
O pure and holy Child;  
Through Thy grace and merit,  
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,  
Draw me unto Thee!  
Draw me unto Thee!

Now through His Son doth shine  
The Father's grace divine.  
Death was reigning o'er us  
Through sin and vanity  
Till He opened for us  
A bright eternity.  
May we praise Him there!  
May we praise Him there!

Oh, where shall joy be found?  
Where but on heav'nly ground?  
Where the angels singing  
With all His saints unite,  
Sweetest praises bringing  
In heav'nly joy and light.  
Oh, that we were there!  
Oh, that we were there!