



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

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Alamosa, Colorado

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CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE & HYMN SING

***Thank you for coming tonight! We wish you & your family a very merry Christmas! Christmas is a special time of year when we celebrate the birth of our Savior into the world. What often isn't known about Jesus is that He is, according to Scriptures, fully God and fully man in one person. In Him is the connecting point between humanity and Holy Divinity. Jesus took on our human nature at Christmas, because of His great love for us. In Jesus God literally becomes what we are and in doing so He connected us to Himself forever. This priceless gift, begun on Christmas, fulfilled on the cross, and brought to its fulfillment in His resurrection and ascension, is delivered to us by faith in the water of Holy Baptism. That's where we are connected to God and born again through the Word & Holy Spirit into the family of Christ. In Jesus and His gifts of Word and Sacrament, we are connected to the great salvation that began at Christmas. Glory be to God in Highest!! Peace on earth and good-will toward man.*

Christmas Prelude

Christmas Eve Welcome

***Please stand if you're able on the last verse of the hymn. During the Opening Hymn the acolytes will light the candles on the Altar and the Advent Wreath.*

Opening Hymn

366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

Christmas Invocation

P We begin on this holy night in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

***Please be seated*

Christmas Poem

Pastor Jason Cody

Hymn

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Christmas Eve Responses

Psalm 96:11-13

P Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; Joy to the world! The Lord has come!

C let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it! Joy to the world! The Lord has come!

P Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy. All the trees in our homes, shall shine with lights of your love. Joy to the world! The Lord has come!

C He comes to judge the earth.

P He will judge the world in righteousness,
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

C The King of Israel, The Lord is in our midst! Glory to God in the Highest, and peace on earth, good will toward men.

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

Hymn

387 Joy to the World

***Please stand if you're able*

Christmas Eve Collect

P Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. You led the wise men to the child Jesus by the light of a star. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; and on this, our celebration of Christmas Eve, may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Phos Hilaron

LSB 244

P Joyous light of glory:

C of the immortal Father;

heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.

We have come to the setting of the sun,

and we look to the Christmas light of Your birth.

We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

You are worthy of being praised

with pure voices forever.

O Son of God, O Giver of life:

the universe proclaims Your glory.

P Amen. Come Lord Jesus. Amen.

***Please be seated*

+ God Comes to Us Through His Word +

Hymn

366 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–14

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask 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.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

1 John 4:7–16

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

***Please stand if you're able on the last verse of the hymn*

Hymn

368 Angels We Have Heard on High

Reading

Matthew 1:18–25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

***Please be seated*

Christmas Eve Homily

Pastor Jason K. Cody

Offering & Offertory

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Christmas Eve Prayer

From the Altar

Collect for Peace

L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.**

Candlelight Singing

***Please stand if you're able - the lights in the sanctuary will be dimmed during the hymn.*

Instructions for Candle Lighting: When an usher with a lit candle approaches your row, if you are standing near the aisle, please light your candle off the usher's candle, then light the candle of the person standing next to you. ***Important note:*** To light your candle, please tip the candle that is unlit so that the burning candle may

remain upright during lighting, this helps keep the hot wax from dripping.

Candlelight Hymn

363 Silent Night, Holy Night

Benedicamus

LSB 252

L Let us bless the Lord on this special night and always.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

***Thank you for attending our service! May God grant you a very,
very Merry Christmas!!!***

Go in His peace + Amen.

Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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