

Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 20, 2020
Trinity Lutheran Church
Hoyleton, IL

Preservice Music

Ringing of the Bells

Prelude

Opening Hymn: #357, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

1 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel!

2 O Come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily.
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

3 O Come, O Come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

4 O Come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

5 O Come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel!

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

Welcome

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

+Confession and Absolution+

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the
truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature
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. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have
mercy on us. 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 die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit

P: Shower, O Heavens, from above,
and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

**C: Let the earth open, that salvation
and righteousness may bear fruit.**

P: The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.

C: In them He has set a tent for the sun,

P: Which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber.

C: And like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

P: Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them,

C: and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

**C: 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.**

P: Shower, O heavens, from above,
and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

**C: Let the earth open, that salvation
and righteousness may bear fruit.**

Kyrie (sung)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Advent Cantic: #338, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2 Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

**C: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come and help us by
Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be
quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and**

reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: *2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16*

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ² the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” ³ And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

⁴ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵ “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in?’ ⁶ I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷ In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”” ⁸ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹ And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual

P: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

C: **Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

P: Behold, your king is coming to you;

C: **righteous and having salvation.**

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

Epistle Reading:

Romans 16:25-27

²⁵ Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶ but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

Alleluia!

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading:

Luke 1:26-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.

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

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge

the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Sit

Sermon Hymn: #383, "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

- 1 A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure;
The virgin bears the infant
With virgin honor pure!

Refrain:

Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"

- 2 The Word become incarnate
And yet remains on high,
And cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky. *Refrain*
- 3 While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright and angelic bands,
Rejoice, O vales and mountains,
And oceans, clap your hands. *Refrain*
- 4 Since all He comes to ransom,
By all be He adored,

The infant born in Bethl'em,
The Savior and the Lord. *Refrain*

- 5 All idols then shall perish
And Satan's lying cease,
And Christ shall raise His scepter,
Decreeing endless peace. *Refrain*

Sit

Sermon: "Secret Santa, Not-So-Secret Savior"
Romans 16:25-27

Stand

Prayer of the Church

After each petition, the response will be:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Sit

Offertory Hymn: #386, "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"

- 1 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!
- 2 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!
- 3 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!
- 4 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!

Stand

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.

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 + give you
peace.
C Amen.

Sit

Closing Hymn: #388, "Go Tell it on the Mountain"

Refrain

Go tell it in the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born!

- 1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens

There shone a holy light. *Refrain*

- 2 The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*
- 3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

Silent Prayer

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD

December 20 - 27, 2020

Sunday:

9:30am Divine Worship Service (No Communion)

Organist: Lori Brammeier

Acolytes: Annie Zalos and Chesney Ford

Elders: Bob Kroeger and Brad Maschhoff

Stream Live on [facebook.com/tlshoyleton](https://www.facebook.com/tlshoyleton) or [trinityhoyleton.org](https://www.trinityhoyleton.org)

10:25 - 11:05am Sunday School

4:00pm Virtual Children's Service Live Stream on Facebook

Monday:

No School

Tuesday:

No School

Wednesday:

No School

Thursday:

No School / Church and School Office Closed

6:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Acolytes: Kaitlynn Whaley and Gracie Schnitker

Organist: Kathy Unverfehrt

Elder: Wayne Grote

8:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Acolytes: Colt Suedmeyer and Timothy Meyer

Organist: Kathy Unverfehrt

Elder: Wayne Grote

Friday:

No School / Church and School Office Closed

9:30am Christmas Day Holy Communion Service

Acolytes: Hannah McKinney and Addie Grote

Organist: Kathy Unverfehrt

Elders: Tony Guinzy and Bill Hafford

Sunday:

9:30am Divine Worship Service (No Communion)

Organist: Kathy Unverfehrt

Acolytes: Stacie Schneider and Thomas Taylor

Elders: Steve Eickmeyer and Bob Kroeger

Stream Live on [facebook.com/tlshoyleton](https://www.facebook.com/tlshoyleton) or [trinityhoyleton.org](https://www.trinityhoyleton.org)

10:25 - 11:05am Sunday School

**The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 20, 2020**

As We Gather: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness.

Welcome to Trinity! May the Spirit of our God strengthen your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ through this service. We ask that everyone, especially our guests, would sign the attendance pad in the pew, and that guests would leave their address so that we may thank you for worshipping with us. We are happy that you have joined us, and we invite you to worship with us again and often! (Cards in the pew are for those receiving Holy Communion.)

Prayers of the Church

+health: Thretta Hassell, Ronnie Jolliff, Ferris Kasten, Bill Leutner, Helena Quaid, Esther Schaeffer, Bessie Sprehe, Brian Suedmeyer, Betty Weihe, Cheryll Krueger, Sam Smith, Bob Thorson, Janell Small, Deb (Ron) Holle, Beulah Holle, Amy Hafford, Janet Selle, Alma Muentner, LaVerne Thorson, Carlene Michael, Richard McGee, Teddy Meyer, Verdell Krueger, Leon Kuhl, Marvin Dannamann, Linda Renth (mother of MaryBeth Suedmeyer), Daryll Brammeier, Todd Twenhafel, Matthew Groh (cousin of Celeste Rueter), Jean Sergent (cousin to Rueter family), Reba Deeke (grandmother to Frankie Warren), Roy Bachmann (brother of Charlene Bachmann), and all cancer patients

+birthdays: Emma Grathwohl, Bobbi Matlock, Paige Baker, Blair Hanenberger Candace Heseman Shirley Schnitker, Toby Dehning, Camden Muentner, Samuel Smith, Marshall Kasten

+family of Anne Bachmann (aunt of Charlene Bachmann) who died in the Lord on Monday and **the family of** Eddie Beckemeyer who died in the Lord on Thursday morning.

+favorable weather and safety in the fields

+mission in ministry: Rev. Hans Trinklein / South Korea and SID Circuit Congregation Bethlehem Lutheran Ferrin

+those currently serving in our nation's Armed Forces: Michael Guinzy (Georgia), Daniel Hugel (Texas), Brett Hanenberger (Nebraska), Jesse Muentner (Texas), Chase Bourgeois (California), Issac Quaid (Guam), Isaiah Guinzy (Texas), Patty Heard-Mann (Utah), Robert Agan (South Dakota), Austin Alsept (Germany), Cody Rhine (Italy), Ward Agan (Hawaii), Caitlyn Aussieker (Japan), Colby Aussieker (Alaska), Erik Harkness (State of Washington), Daniel

Finley Brink (Colorado), Joyce Harkness (Germany), Tanya Alsept (Montana), Shaylin Quaid (Ukraine), Alex Klie (Alaska)

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher & Liturgist: Rev. Nathan Wollenberg

Organist: Lori Brammeier

Acolytes: Annie Zalos and Chesney Ford

Elders: Bob Kroeger and Brad Maschhoff

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK

Worship Service 9:30am: 72 Communed 0
Sunday School 27 / High School / Adult Bible Class

Trinity Lutheran Faculty and Staff would like to wish all a Very Safe, Blessed, and Merry Christmas. Thank you for all of your continued support and dedication given to the school and students through-out the year.

“Homecoming Hopes” is the theme for our lesson in Sunday school this week. King Artaxerxes sends Ezra as a priest and scribe to teach and lead the people at the newly repaired temple in Jerusalem. Nehemiah convinces the king to send him to Jerusalem to repair the city wall. Despite opposition from Israel’s neighbors, repairs are completed in record time. Nehemiah, Ezra, and the priests lead the people in a joyous rededication of the wall. Discuss together, “What homecoming can we look forward to as God’s children?”

The Trinity Lutheran Children’s Virtual Christmas Service will be available to stream live on facebook today, December 20 at 4:00pm.

No School December 21 - January 3 / classes will resume on January 4 at 8:10am.

School Chapel on Wednesday mornings second quarter chapel offices went to help the Washington County Irvington Food Pantry. We collected a total of 2,367 points of cash and non-perishable items. Thank you for all the donations.

Christmas Eve services will be held on December 24 at 6:00 and 8:00pm. Acolytes will be (6:00pm) Kaitlynn Whaley and Gracie Schnitker (8:00pm) Colt Suedmeyer and Timmy Meyer, organist

Kathy Unverfehrt, Elder Wayne Grote. Please contact the church office or go to our facebook page or church website to sign-up.

Christmas Day with Holy Communion service will begin at 9:30am on December 25. Acolytes will be Hannah McKinney and Addie Grote, organist Lori Brammeier, Elders Tony Guinzy and Bill Hafford. Please contact the church office or go to our facebook page or church website to sign-up.

Anyone needing or wanting an artificial Christmas tree (7ft tall) is asked to contact the church office for more details.

Please note that the New Year's Eve and New Year's Day will be identical services. New Year's Eve service will be Thursday, December 31 beginning at 7:00pm and New Year's Day Friday, January 1 beginning at 9:30am.

December is not only the end of the year but also the end of our fiscal church year. As we close this year we would like to remind you that our final money count for December and for the year will be on Monday the 28th. New Year's Eve offering can't be deposited until January so they will be recorded for 2021. If you are giving in December and want the amount to be reflected for the year 2020, please try and get it to church or the church office by December 28th. Our bookkeeping programs that are used make this a little more inconvenient for some of you and we thank you for your consideration. Thank you all for so faithfully giving during this difficult time. God's Blessings to you as this year ends and the New Year begins.

As the Christmas Season is here, we are looking ahead towards the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services. We are asking that you please sign up if you plan on attending in-person for either of the services. You may do this by contacting the church office or going on line. Thank you for your patience and understanding. If you have any questions regarding this please contact the church office.

If you are wanting to receive communion during this time we ask that you please contact the church office or Pastor Wollenberg to set up an appointment.

Just a note about Sunday school gathering in the next few weeks: Sunday school will continue as long as "in person worship" gathers in the sanitary. Pastor will dismiss the students before announcements. Teachers and students gather in the Activity Center close to 10:30 and classes dismiss near 11:05. Looking forward to sharing this Advent Season with our Sunday school families. All Sunday school children will enter the Activity Center through the south entrance doors utilizing the ramp. The Little Lambs three year old class will be in the 2nd grade class room upstairs. The PreK - First Grade class will be in the 7&8 grade classroom. This is different from past weeks, and will be continued in the future. All children will gather in the Activity Center at 11:05 to be picked up.

Stream our services LIVE on Sundays beginning at 9:30am. You may go to facebook.com/tlshoyleton. For those who don't have facebook the audio and video will be posted on our website trinityhoyleton.org around 11:30am.

Please remember to continue to give your offerings. You may do so by dropping it off in the church office Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm or mailing it to Trinity Lutheran Church PO Box 176 Hoyleton, Il. 62803.

We have some cooked sausage (8 links / \$9.50), breakfast links (20 links / \$9), ground bulk sausage (1lb / \$4) to purchase. Please contact the school office if interested in purchasing some.

Lutheran Witness Subscriptions are due at the cost of \$18. Payments can be dropped off or mailed to the church office, or placed in the offering basket at church.

Gift cards are available! Stop by the school office and pick up a form to see what all is available. Cards are available to purchase for your last-minute shopping for birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, or just every day shopping through-out the year.

Sunday Worship Services...As the Southern Illinois region proceeded to Phase 3, Pastor Wollenberg and the Board of Elders have decided to retain the church services to **75 people**. In order to adhere to the government's restrictions, we will be asking members to register ahead of time. The preferred registration option will be online. Please look for a link on our Facebook page

([facebook.com/tlshoyleton](https://www.facebook.com/tlshoyleton)) or on our website ([trinityhoyleton.org](https://www.trinityhoyleton.org)). Alternatively, you may call the church office and sign up with our church and school secretary, Jane Michael. We will continue to take registrations from Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm. When you come to your scheduled service, please wear a mask or facial covering. If you do not have one, there will be some made available at church, along with hand sanitizer. If we decide to make any adjustments or changes, we will certainly let you know. Please contact the office with any questions.

The fourth stage of the LCMS Gift Planning counselor is call "implementation." This is where the counselor helps to make sure that all the pieces are in place, all documents are signed, and beneficiary designations are correct. The counselor will not quit until your plan really is in place and is your helper throughout the process. To get your Lifetime Plan for Giving started, contact Scott Radden at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfnd.org for more information.

Listen to Worldwide KFUE.org, your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, daily worship opportunities, and current issues from a Lutheran worldview. Programs are archived at [KFUE.org](https://www.kfue.org) for 24/7 on-demand listening or AM850 on your radio. **This week on KFUE.org**, we begin our special Twelve Days of Christmas programming full of sacred music, scripture, prayers, and special talk segments. Listen to this special programming for the Christmas season from December 24 to January 6!

Life Quotes: As we look forward to Christmas dinner and the celebration of our Savior's birth, let us remember that Christ's coming into the world began with an unexpected pregnancy. Mary of Nazareth was unmarried and certainly had reason to be confused and afraid when she was asked to carry the Son of God. But she courageously let God's plan unfold for her and her Child and brought our Savior into this world, despite her uncertain circumstances.

About the Bulletin Cover: Mary is blessed and favored because she bore the Son of God. God has come in the flesh. We wonder at this mystery of salvation that has been revealed in Jesus. But above all, by the Holy Spirit, we believe and receive the salvation

accomplished for us in Jesus. For this child later died and was raised. He was despised and rejected by men with the result that we live in God's favor.