

Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist  
December 27, 2020  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Hoyleton, IL

*St. John's Day has been traditionally celebrated by Christians each year on December 27. John was a fisherman who was called into ministry when he was young. Jesus called John into His inner circle of disciples, inviting him to witness the Transfiguration and then to accompany Him as He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night before the crucifixion. John went on to author the Fourth Gospel as well as three epistles and also the book of Revelation. While, according to tradition, all of the other disciples were martyred for the faith, John was the only disciple who lived to be an old man. Even though he did not lose His earthly life on account of the Gospel, he did suffer through exile to the island of Patmos.*

*John's writings are especially helpful in causing us to reflect on the two natures of Christ - God made flesh in the incarnation. It is for that reason that it is appropriate to recognize John on the third day of Christmas!*

Preservice Music  
Ring of the Bells  
Prelude

Opening Hymn: #523, "O Word of God Incarnate"

1 O Word of God incarnate,  
O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,  
O Light of our dark sky:  
We praise you for the radiance  
That from the hallowed page,  
A lantern to our footsteps,  
Shines on from age to age.

2 The Church from You, dear Master,  
Received the gift divine;  
And still that light is lifted  
O'er all the earth to shine.  
It is the chart and compass  
That, all life's voyage through,  
Mid mists and rocks and quick-sands  
Still guides, O Christ, to You.

3 O make Your Church, dear Savior,  
A lamp of burnished gold  
To bear before the nations  
Your true light as of old!  
O teach Your wand'ring pilgrims  
By this their path to trace  
Till, clouds and darkness ended,  
They see You face to face!

Welcome

Stand  
Invocation

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

+Confession and Absolution+

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.  
C **who made heaven and earth.**  
P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,  
O Lord, who could stand?  
C **But with You there is forgiveness;  
therefore You are feared.**  
P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon  
Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness  
and confess before God and one another that we have sinned

in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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: These are written so that you may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,

**C: and that by believing you may have life in His name.**

P: It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

**C: to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;**

P: to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,

**C: and Your faithfulness by night,**

P: to the music of the lute and the harp,

**C: to the melody of the lyre.**

P: For you, O LORD, have made me glad by Your work;

**C: at the works of Your hands I sing for joy.**

P: How great are Your works, O LORD!

**C: Your thoughts are very deep!**

**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: These are written so that you may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,

**C: and that by believing you may have life in His name.**

### Kyrie (sung)

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

### Gloria in Excelsis

To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.

## Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Merciful Lord, cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed in the doctrine of Your blessed apostle and evangelist John, may come to the light of everlasting life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Sit*

First Reading:

*Revelation 1:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, <sup>2</sup> who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. <sup>3</sup> Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

<sup>4</sup> John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood <sup>6</sup> and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual**

P: Your Word is a lamp to my feet

C: and a light to my path

P: How sweet are Your words to my taste,

C: sweeter than honey to my mouth!

P: My heart overflows with a pleasing theme

C: my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

Epistle Reading:

*1 John 1:1-2:2*

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— <sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup> My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup> He is the propitiation for our sins, and not ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

These things are written that you may believe

That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gospel Reading:

*John 21:20-25*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>20</sup> Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” <sup>21</sup> When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?” <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!” <sup>23</sup> So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”

<sup>24</sup> This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

<sup>25</sup> Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in one 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: #517, “By All Your Saints in Warfare”

1 By all Your saints in warfare,  
For all Your saints in rest,  
Your holy name, O Jesus,  
Forevermore be blest!  
For You have won the battle,  
That they might wear the crown;  
And now they shine in glory  
Reflected from Your throne.

8 For Your belov'd disciple,  
Exiled to Patmos' shore,  
And for his faithful record,  
We praise You evermore.  
Praise for the mystic vision,  
Through him to us revealed.  
May we, in patience waiting,  
With Your elect be sealed.

*Stand*

- 3 Then let us praise the Father  
And worship God the Son,  
And sing to God the Spirit,  
Eternal Three in One,  
Till all the ransomed number  
Fall down before the throne,  
Ascribing pow'r and glory  
And praise to God alone.

*Sit*

**Sermon:** "The Eagle Has Landed" - 1 John 1:1-22

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

*After each petition, the response will be:*

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

*Sit*

**Offertory Hymn: #385, "From East to West"**

- 1 From east to west, from shore to shore,  
Let every heart awake and sing  
The holy Child Whom Mary bore,  
The Christ, the everlasting King.
- 2 Behold, the world's Creator wears  
The form and fashion of a slave;  
Our very flesh our Maker shares,  
His fallen creature, man, to save.
- 3 For this how wondrously He wrought!  
A maiden, in her lowly place,  
Became, in ways beyond all thought,  
The chosen vessel of His grace.
- 4 And while the angels in the sky  
Sang praise above the silent field,

To shepherds poor the Lord Most High,  
The one great Shepherd, was revealed.

*Stand*

- 5 All glory for this blessed morn  
To God the Father ever be;  
All praise to You, O Virgin-born,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

**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: #383, "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

Silent Prayer

- 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 becomes incarnate  
And yet remains on high,  
And cherubim sing anthems  
To shepherds from the sky. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

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

- 3 While thus they sing your Monarch,  
Those bright 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*

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

THIS WEEK WITH OUR LORD

December 27 - January 3, 2020

**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 or trinityhoyleton.org

10:25 - 11:05am Sunday School

**Monday:**

No School

7:00pm Finance Board Meets

**Tuesday:**

No School

**Wednesday:**

No School

**Thursday:**

No School

7:00pm New Year's Eve Service

Organist: Lori Brammeier

**Friday:**

No School / Church and School Office Closed

9:30am New Year's Day Service

Acolytes: Carly Kasten and Rylee Brammeier

Organist: Lori Brammeier

Elder: Brad Maschhoff

**Sunday:**

9:30am Divine Worship Service (No Communion)

Organist: Kathy Unverfehrt

Acolytes: Annie Zalos and Timmy Meyer

Stream Live on facebook.com/tlshoyleton or trinityhoyleton.org

10:25 - 11:05am Sunday School

The First Sunday after Christmas

December 27, 2020

**As We Gather:** 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.

**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, Ferris Kasten, Bill Leutner, Helena Quaid, Esther Schaeffer, Bessie Sprehe, Brian Suedmeyer, Betty Weihe, Don Schneewind (father of Pam Bierbaum), LaVerne Thorson, Bob Thorson, Cheryl Krueger, Sam Smith, Janell Small, Deb (Ron) Holle, Ronnie Jolliff, Beulah Holle, Amy Hafford, Janet Selle, Alma Muentner, 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), and all cancer patients

**+birthdays:** Sharon Kasten, Doug Hassell, Travis Schnitker, Brandon Emrick, Jeff Gerstkemper, Seth Morris, Pam Neuhaus (December 30), Sophie Lamczyk, Jaxon Suedmeyer

**+celebrating anniversaries:** Jim and Helena Quaid, Kevin and Mia Hugel

**+family of** Elizabeth Marschall of Germany who passed away on Sunday from complications of Covid 19. Aunt to Dee Howe, Carol Weist, and Hank Rueter and **family of** Roy Bachmann (brother of Charlene Bachmann) who died in the Lord on December 19 and received his Christian burial on Saturday

**+favorable weather**

**+mission in ministry:** Rev. Joel Fritsche / Dominican Republic and SID Circuit Congregation Trinity Lutheran Centralia

**+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), 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: Kathy Unverfehrt

Acolytes: Stacie Schneider and Thomas Taylor

Elders: Steve Eickmeyer and Bob Kroeger

### **OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK**

Worship Service 9:30am: 75 Communed 0

Sunday School 27 / High School / Adult Bible Class

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

**In this weeks Sunday school lesson**, “A Nativity Night,” Mary and Joseph travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem, where a simple stable serves as the birthplace for the promised Christ Child. Angelic hosts announce the birth of the Savior to ordinary shepherds, who hasten to worship the child. Having seen the Savior in the flesh, the shepherds quickly spread the news of His birth. Ask one another, “How can we share the message of the birth of the Savior today?”

**The Trinity Lutheran Children’s** Virtual Christmas Service is available to stream live on facebook.

**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 28<sup>th</sup>. 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 28<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**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.

**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.

**The Altar Guild** ask that NEXT Sunday, January 3 please pick up your Poinsettia following church. If you cannot make it at this time, the church will be open during the week of January 4 from 8:00am - 4:00pm.

**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](https://www.facebook.com/tlshoyleton). For those who don’t have facebook

the audio and video will be posted on our website [trinityhoyleton.org](http://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://facebook.com/tlshoyleton)) or on our website ([trinityhoyleton.org](http://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](mailto:Scott.Radden@lfnd.org) for more information.

**Listen to Worldwide KFUO.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 [KFUO.org](http://KFUO.org) for 24/7 on-demand listening or AM850 on your radio. **This week on KFUO.org**, we celebrate our Savior's birth during the 12 Days of Christmas with music, prayer, scripture, and programming for the season. Hear this special programming through January 6!

**Life Quotes:** The slaughter of the innocents continues in our time...done not out of anger, but because the arrival of these little ones is deemed inconvenient or too expensive or sometimes simply because they are not the 'right' sex. We, like Rachel, weep over our lost children. But mourning their loss does not mean that we do not fight to end this assault on the sanctity of life. The holy birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, which has transformed the world for good in so many ways, gives us hope that abortion, too, can be ended.

**About the Bulletin Cover:** How joyously Simeon must have exclaimed as he held the Savior of the world in his hands! We are not told how long Simeon waited to see the Messiah, but what a divine peace that God gives in this little child. Christ has come to die and rise in order to bring life, and this means peace for those who wait on the Lord. Because Jesus has come to us, our lives are in God's hands!