

The Word became flesh and lived among us

JOHN 1:14

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church 331 Weldon Street Latrobe, PA 15650

724-537-4450 www.trinitylatrobe.com Pastor Jason Felici & Pastor Jess Felici Pastor Emeritus Jeffrey Schock

> Second Sunday of Christmas January 3 & 4, 2026

Welcome to Worship!

Pastors:

Rev. Jason Felici

Rev. Jess Felici

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The *worship bulletin* is intended to help guide us through our worship. Sections in **bold** print are for congregation response. Throughout the bulletin you will note two symbols that denote when the congregation is invited to stand (\triangle) or be seated (∇) as your body allows. *Large print copies* of our worship service and *wireless sound enhancers* are available.

We believe our risen Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of *Holy Communion* and we extend our Lord's invitation to all who are baptized to share in this meal.

Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please contact an usher if you need *communed in the pew*.



The Second Sunday of Christmas January 3 & 4, 2026

Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 8:15am (Broadcast, 98.7FM, 107.5FM, 1480AM, 910AM; Livestream @www.trinitylatrobe.com), Sunday 10:45am

Service of Holy Communion

(ELW Setting 3)

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

Prelude and Silent Prayer

Anthem: "God's Delight at Bethlehem" O'Brien Choir

10:45am "Innkeeper" Emerson Youth Choir

Welcome and Announcements

(at the end of the bell peal, please stand or remain seated as your body allows)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

▲ Confession and Forgiveness

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

Amen.

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God, we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

God's grace upon grace flows over you.

+ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.
Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!
Amen.

▲Gathering Hymn

"Once in Royal David's City"

ELW #269

(please turn and follow the cross in procession)

▲ Greeting

Rejoice! I bring good news for all people.

To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

▲Hymn of Praise

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

ELW #289

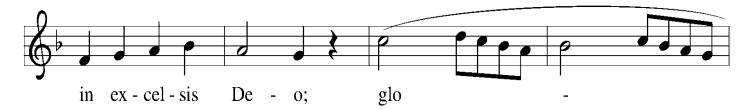


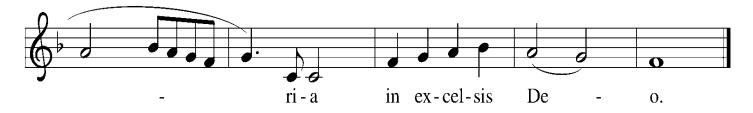
- 1 An gels we have heard on high, sweet ly sing ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju bi-lee? Why your joy ous strains pro-long?
- 3 Come to Beth le hem and see him whose birth the an gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re-ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains. What the glad-some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song? come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.









▲Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

▼Children's Message

▼First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Jeremiah spent most of his career criticizing Israelites for their injustice and idolatry, and warning of judgment to come. However, once that judgment actually occurred – with the destruction of the Temple and the exile of much of the population to Babylon – his message changed drastically. Now he promised, beyond hope, return from exile and a rebuilding of Israel as a nation.

⁷ Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. 9 With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. 10 Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock." ¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. 12 They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. 14 I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

▼Psalm 147:12-20 (Leader/Assembly; Saturday, spoken; Sunday, sung)

This psalm serves as an apt response to Jeremiah's hopeful message, affirming God's continuing love for Jerusalem and the Israelites.

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your chil-dren within you.

God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

15 God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.

God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

17 God scatters | hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?

The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

19 God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judg-ments to Israel.

²⁰ The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

▼Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

While many letters in the New Testament are written to address particular problems in a specific community, Ephesians seems to be more general teaching, perhaps intended from the beginning for wider distribution. It has the luxury, therefore, of affirming the breadth of God's gift in Christ Jesus.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

▲ Gospel Acclamation



▲Gospel: John 1:1-18

The prologue of John gives a glimpse of many of the images the Evangelist will return to in the Gospel and in his letters: light, truth, flesh, new birth, rejection, and fullness or completion.

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

▼Sermon Pastor Marsha Adams

▲ Hymn of the Day

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

ELW #295

▲ Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People (please kneel or remain seated as your body allows)
Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

▲ The Peace

May the peace sung by the angels be with you always. **And also with you.**

(share God's peace with one another and then be seated)

Meal God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



▼Gathering of Gifts

As we move to the time in our worship where we offer our gifts to God's church, a portion of your offering supports ELCA Global Mission personnel that grow the church and walk with Christians around the world. Your dedicated missionary offering in 2026 will support our ELCA missionary in Madagascar - the Rev. Kristin Engstrom.



If you prefer, scan the QR code to give online. You may then place a giving card from the pew in the offering plate as it passes by.

▼Anthem "Jesus Comes, the Mystery Proclaiming" Beall/Carter Choir

▲Offertory

"What Child is This?"

ELW #296



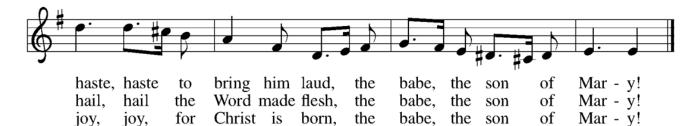
- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
- So bring him in cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing? Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing. The King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



whom shep-herds guard and This, this is Christ the king, an - gels sing; Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

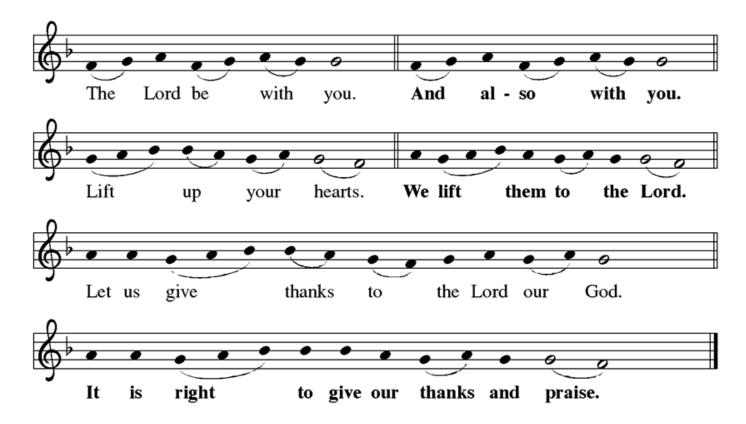


▲ Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

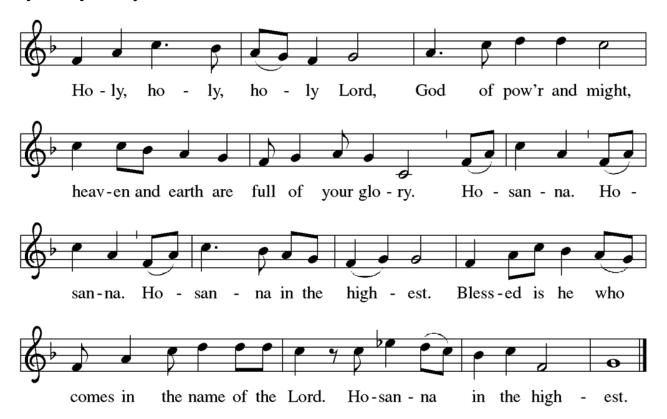
▲Great Thanksgiving



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

▲Holy, Holy, Holy



Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

▲Lord's Prayer

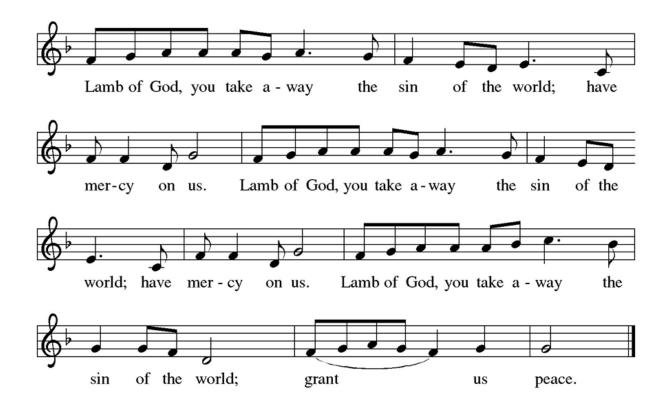
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

▲ Invitation to Communion

God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

▲ Lamb of God



▼Distribution of Communion

To receive communion, please come down the center aisle, take a cup from the tray and gather at the altar rail. Receive the bread into your hand. Wine will be poured into your cup. The communion wine is gluten free. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. For those unable to receive wine, communion cups with water are available. Leave the altar rail, place your cup on the tray and return to your pew via the side aisles. If you would like to receive communion in the pew, please contact an usher. Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing.



▼10:45am "Were You There on that Christmas Night" Sleeth Men's Choir

▼Communion Hymn

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

ELW #276

▲Prayer after Communion

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

▲ Table Blessing

Let us pray. Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

▲ Blessing

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, + bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. Amen.

▲Sending Hymn

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

ELW #290

▲ Dismissal

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

Thanks be to God.

THE BROADCAST THIS WEEK is dedicated to the Glory of God in honor of Trinity's Congregation.

Serving this Weekend

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Marsha Adams

Director of Music: Debbie Morley

Lectors: Saturday 5:30pm: Rick Conrad

Sunday 8:15am: Mark Jones **Sunday 10:45am:** Susan Vargo

Liturgical Deacons: Saturday 5:30pm: Kathe Houck

Sunday 8:15am: Kathy Ferlin, Evan StemlerSunday 10:45am: Karen Clair, Sandy Redinger

Ushers: Saturday 5:30pm: Kasha & Don Loveridge, Jay Elder, John Elder

Sunday 8:15am: Sandy Kisick, Rick Baldonieri,

Kathy & Mark Jones

Sunday 10:45am: Jill & Mike Macey, Amber & BJ Hebenthal

Acolytes: Saturday 5:30pm: Kelly Stanko

Sunday 8:15am:

Sunday 10:45am:

Tellers: Sunday 8:15am: Gary Sheppard, Nancy McHenry, Carol McIntyre

Sunday 10:45am: Jane Lawson, Marcia Salandro, Kathy Sowatskey, Tim Potter

Acolytes Scheduled for Next Week January 10 & 11

Saturday 5:30pm: Kelly Stanko

Sunday 8:15am: Sunday 10:45am:

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