

Service of Lessons and Carols  
December 31, 2017



Welcome to all – especially visitors!!! **It is no accident that you are here today!** You are an answer to our prayer. We have been praying for you, and believe that God has brought you here because God wants to touch your life.

If you need some help to make your worship with us more accessible, please see an usher for assistance. A transport chair and large print bulletins are available if you have need for them.



**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*GATHERING HYMN: *Angels We Have Heard on High***  
(ELW 289)

**\*DIALOGUE**

- P** Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.
- C** **By day and night he shines for all to see.**
- P** Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty
- C** **that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**
- P** God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,
- C** **so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**
- P** Jesus is the light of the world.
- C** **Jesus is the light of our lives.**
- P** Sing to God a new song!
- C** **A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

## \*GREETING

☞ The Lord be with you.

☞ And also with you.

## \*OPENING PRAYER

☞ Gracious God of heaven and earth, you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—a beam of light that shines through Jesus. Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts.

☞ Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

### First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18 - Katherine Dennis

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.”

And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

First Carol: *Joy to the World* (ELW 267 - st. 1 &4)

Second Reading: Micah 5:2-5a - Terry Eberly

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,

in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.

Second Carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (ELW 279 - st. 1)

### Third Reading: Luke 1:26-35, 38 - Carol Snyder

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>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 ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born<sup>[a]</sup> will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

<sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

**Third Carol: *What Child Is This* (ELW 296 - st. 1 & 3)**

**Fourth Reading: Matthew 1:18-25) - June Ecker**

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son;<sup>[b]</sup> and he named him Jesus.

**Fourth Carol: *Away in a Manger* (ELW 277)**

**Fifth Reading: Luke 2:8-20 - Kellen Stevens**

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> the Lord.<sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Fifth Carol: *Angels from the Realms of Glory* (ELW 275 - st. 1 & 2)**

**Sixth Reading: Matthew 2:1-11 - James Lobley**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,<sup>[b]</sup> and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah<sup>[c]</sup> was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd<sup>[d]</sup> my people Israel.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men<sup>[e]</sup> and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,<sup>[f]</sup> until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped,<sup>[g]</sup> they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On

entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**Sixth Carol: *We Three Kings of Orient Are* (insert)**

**Seventh Reading: John 1:1-14 - Ruth Strausbaugh**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life,<sup>[a]</sup> and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own,<sup>[a]</sup> and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,<sup>[a]</sup> full of grace and truth.

**Seventh Carol: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (ELW 288 - st. 1 & 3)**

*Please stand.*

**\*RESPONSIVE PRAYER**

- A** It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.
- C** **Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**
- A** In his light, draw all to the manger
- C** **to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

- A** In his light, draw all to the manger
- C** **to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**
- A** In his light, draw all to the manger
- C** **to sing for joy with the angels.**
- A** In the brightness of his life
- C** **cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.**
- A** It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.
- C** **In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life. Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

- P** The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C** **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERING**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands.*

**\*DOXOLOGY (TUNE: O TANNENBAUM)**

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**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
In ev'ry generation.  
Praise him all creatures here below,  
Who gives to us salvation.  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Let all creation praise the Lord  
With love and adoration.**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A** Good and loving God,  
**C** we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,  
who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace.  
As you have blessed us with your gifts,  
let them be blessing for others.  
With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven  
we shout for joy at the coming of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

- A** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.

**\*BLESSING**

- P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.  
**P** May we be filled with the wonder of Mary,  
the obedience of Joseph,  
the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the determination of the magi,  
and the peace of the Christ child.  
May the triune † God  
bless us now and forever.  
**C** Amen

**\*SENDING HYMN: *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (ELW 290)**

**\*DISMISSAL**

- A** Go in peace. Christ is with you!  
**C** We will. Thanks be to God!

**POSTLUDE**

*Worship is ended; our service begins.*

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– PRAYER AND SUPPORT –

**Remember to write the name(s) of persons for whom prayer is needed on the pad in the rear of the church!** The names will be included in the Intercessory Prayers this morning. If you forget to put someone's name on the list, there is an opportunity to say the name during the prayers.

**Special prayers for:** Nurses, Doctors, and all professionals who provide care for pregnant women and newborn babies

**College Students:** Remember Madi Kreitz in your prayers!

**GenNow Disciples:** Hailey Sherman, Taylor Sherman, Kellan Stevens, Taylor Kuhs, and Darius Kuhs

– UPCOMING EVENTS –

**LUNCH BUNCH** goes out on Sundays after worship for lunch (except on Sundays when we have Coffee & Conversation).. Please join us next Sunday st China Maple as we resume this activity after a holiday break.



**NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY GAME NIGHT** is **tonight** at Pastor Pam and Ed's home. Come anytime beginning at 5:00. Soup and sandwiches are what's for dinner. Bring your favorite munchie to share and your favorite beverage of any kind!! You are also welcome to bring your favorite game.

- TELC MISSION WORK FOR NEAR AND FAR –

**“NEW NEIGHBOR BASKETS”** are now available for pickup at the church any Sunday morning. All you need to do is pick up the basket, deliver it, and have good conversation with your new neighbor. God is sending us out to do a new thing—help us reach out to our community!



**BLESSING BOXES:** The boxes on the outside wall beside the church entrance doors are for reaching out to our community with love and kindness. One box will serve as a library and the other as a pantry. It is time to fill them up!! It's easy! Bring what you can and put your donations in the designated box at the rear of the sanctuary and we'll fill the Blessing Boxes as needed. Folks can take what they need and replace it when and if they can. Examples for donations would be any type of book that will fit in the library box. The pantry box will be for non-perishable foods like: granola bars, cereal, cans of soup, individual rolls of toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, diapers, etc. Anything suitable that will keep well and fit in the box. Let's show people we are a caring congregation.

**MEANDERING MARTIN!!** He is ready for any adventure you'd like to take him on! He is waiting patiently in the narthex. Choose either the paper Martin or the wooden Martin, follow the simple instructions, take along a Martin Luther biography to get to know him better, and show our monk the beauties of God's world. He will not protest.

– FAITH FORMATION –

**ADULT FORUM:** Have you ever wanted to see the places Paul traveled to during his ministry? Would you like to learn more about the world's first theologian? Beginning January 7, we will be using Adam Hamilton's study called "The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul." In the DVD that accompanies the study, he shows the viewers many of the places Paul traveled. Come and join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30! Don't forget to bring your favorite morning beverage!

**- STEWARDSHIP -**

*Sharing the abundance of God's gifts to us of time, talents and wealth with others*

**R3 GENEROSITY ACADEMY:** We have the opportunity to enter into training for developing a stewardship program here at TLC! There will be 4 sessions beginning January 2 at Salem Lutheran in Marion, January 16 here at Trinity

**Kitchen Renovation Fund:** Help us fill up the pot!! Our goal is \$8,000 for the renovation of the kitchen. Watch the progress on the "coffee pot chart" at the rear of the sanctuary. The current total is approximately \$3,400.

**Building Fund envelopes** are available on the windowsill near the sanctuary entrance. Please use them to make your Kitchen Renovation Donation! Mark your envelope for the **Kitchen**.



**2018 sponsor charts** for flowers, bulletins and sanctuary lamp candles are available on the Stewardship bulletin board in the hallway off the narthex. The sanctuary lamp candle sponsor spaces are on the altar candle chart.



The altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and are placed by Teresa Papoutsis in celebration of a Happy New Year.

# Back to BASICS™

**GETTING BACK TO BASICS in 2018:** Trinity began its Redevelopment process with a set of **Guiding Principles** that was written, agreed upon and set at the May 31, 2014 meeting. As is commonly the case with things like this, as time has passed these guiding principles have slid into the corners of our minds and we don't really think about them very often, if at all. In the New Year 2018 we will be "Getting back to basics" as we make and implement a plan for the future of our congregation in the next stages of our Redevelopment. The **Guiding Principles** are "...the values we hold onto no matter what." (May 31, 2014 minutes of the Redevelopment Team). They are:

- Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.
- We will grow in our faith by praying and studying God's word.
- We will love one another as Christ loves us and welcome all.
- We will help and serve others in our congregation, our community, and the world.
- We will be true to our beliefs and face conflicts with compassion.
- We will strive to bear witness to Christ in our world.



**- December 31-January 6 -**

Tuesday.....6:30 p.m. - Evangelism Committee  
 Wednesday .. 1:00-3:00 p.m. - Wednesday in the Subway  
 Wednesday ..... 7:00 p.m. - Creative Christian Ladies

**- January 7-13 -**

Sunday ..... 9:30 a.m. - Youth Class & Adult Forum  
 Sunday ..... 10:45 a.m. - Holy Communion  
 Monday..... 7:00 p.m. - Worship & Music Committee  
 Wednesday .. 1:00-3:00 p.m. - Wednesday in the Subway  
 Wednesday ..... 7:00 p.m. - Creative Christian Ladies  
 Thursday ..... 10:00 a.m. - Parlor Talks at Parlor House  
 Thursday ..... 6:30 p.m. - Congregation Council  
 Friday..... 6:00 p.m. - Dinner at Monterey Pass Pub & Eatery



**- Our Stewardship -**

	Current Fund
Last Week	\$1,066
Year to Date	\$42,402
Attendance Last Sunday - 30	
Attendance Christmas Eve - 76	
Does Not Include E-Giving Offerings	

**- Current Income/Expenses -  
To November 30**

Income	\$147,861
Expenses	\$113.033
Above reflects \$100,000 bequest and e-giving offerings.	

**- SERVING THIS MORNING -**

Ministers..... The Disciples of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 (1 Peter 2:4-10)

Ruth Strausbaugh..... Worship Leader  
 Teresa Papoutsis..... Assisting Minister  
 Brenda Rice, Jenny Rice, Rhonda Rice ..... Musicians  
 Richard Berklite ..... Usher  
 Al Bingman..... Usher  
 Adrian Kuhs ..... Usher  
 Melissa Leaper..... Usher  
 Anita Bingman, Cindy Sherman, Barbara Stefanic..... Altar Care  
 Earl Duffey..... After-Church Lock-up  
 Marie Seidel & Linda Weddle ..... Offering Tellers

**- JANUARY 7 -**

Pastor Pam Illick ..... Presiding Minister  
 Earl Duffey ..... Assisting Minister  
 Charles Strausbaugh ..... Lector  
 Brenda Rice, Jenny Rice, Rhonda Rice ..... Musicians  
 Amy Dennis..... Usher  
 Linda Fleagle ..... Usher  
 Judi Rice ..... Usher  
 Amy Dennis & Linda Fleagle ..... Altar Care  
 Richard Berklite ..... After-Church Lock-up  
 Sally Berklite & June Ecker ..... Offering Tellers

**Six Marks of Discipleship**

Daily Prayer  
 Weekly Worship  
 Bible Reading  
 Service  
 Spiritual Friendships  
 Giving

## We Three Kings of Orient Are

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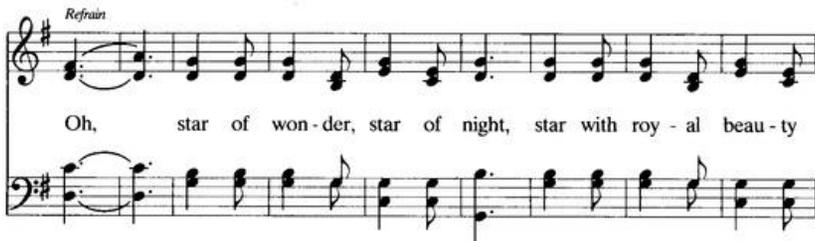


1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a -  
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a -  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri -

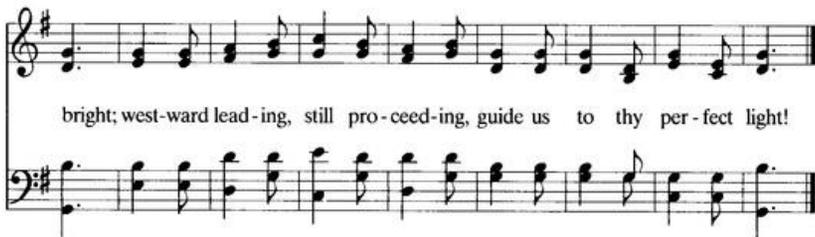


far, field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 gain; king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 nigh; prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 fice; heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty



bright; west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891, alt.  
 Music: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT  
 8 8 4 4 6 and refrain

## Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Like us on Facebook

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- Our Mission -

The mission of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rouzerville,  
 Pennsylvania is to build, strengthen, and increase our faith  
 community to better love and serve God – and the world community  
 – with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



- Our Vision -

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a flourishing, Spirit-filled,  
 Christ-centered home for all.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
 Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.