

# Christmas Eve

December 24, 2025 ▪ 7:00 pm

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## Welcome to Trinity Church

We are committed to being a loving and welcoming community centred in the good news of Jesus. We invite you to join us for worship and to take up your place with us on our journey. We'd be glad of your presence and grateful for your company!

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**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

23 Church Street ▪ New Hamburg, Ontario ▪ N3A 1J1

**Phone** (519) 662-1810 ▪ **E-mail** [mail@telc.ca](mailto:mail@telc.ca) ▪ **Web** [www.telc.ca](http://www.telc.ca)

# Holy Communion

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## Gathering

	Prelude	Variations sur «In dulci jubilo» – <i>Denis Bédard</i>
Christmas Proclamation		
Processional Hymn		<b>O Come, All Ye Faithful</b> , page 4
Greeting		
Hymn of Praise		<b>Angels We Have Heard on High</b> , page 6
Prayer of the Day		

## Word

	Reading	Isaiah 9:2-7, page 7
Gospel Acclamation		<b>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly, stanza 1</b> , page 8
	Gospel	Luke 2:1-20, page 9
Gospel Acclamation		<b>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly, stanza 2</b>
	Sermon	
Hymn of the Day		<b>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</b> , page 10
Nicene Creed		page 12
Prayers of Intercession		page 13
	Peace	

## Meal

	Offertory Anthem	Away in a Manger – <i>Thomas Keesekcer</i>
	Offertory Song	<b>What Child is This</b> , page 14
	Offertory Prayer	
Great Thanksgiving		
	Thanksgiving Prayer	<b>The Lord be with you</b> , page 15
	Lord's Prayer	<b>Holy, Holy, Holy</b> , page 15
	Invitation	
	Communion Songs	page 17 <i>All are invited. All are welcome.</i> <b>Thanks be to God.</b> <b>While Shepherds Watched</b> , page 18 <b>Once in Royal David's City</b> , page 19 <b>'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime</b> , page 20

Prayer after Communion

Post-Communion Carol

**Joy to the World**, page 21

## Sending

Candle Lighting	John 1:1-14
Candle Lighting Music	VOM HIMMEL HOCH – <i>Walter L. Pelz</i>
Blessing	
Sending Song	<b>Silent Night, Holy Night!</b> , page 22
Dismissal	<i>Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.</i>
Postlude	<b>Thanks be to God.</b> Joy to the World – <i>Franklin D. Ashdown</i>

## Serving Today

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**Presiding Minister:** Rev. Tanya Varner

**Assisting Minister:** Amy Courtney

**Acolytes:** Emma Ramer & Lillian Krause

**Greeter:** Bob Pearson

**Ushers:** Ken Seltzer & Tom Hinz

**Altar:** Nancy Brodrecht

**Musicians:** Jamie Courtney, Trinity Christmas Choir

**Technology:** Krista Straus

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*We acknowledge that we gather for worship on the traditional territories of the Neutral, Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Mississauga peoples.*

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## Processional Hymn

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faithful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## Hymn of Praise

## Angels We Have Heard on High

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.

Refrain  
Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors

and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

### **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

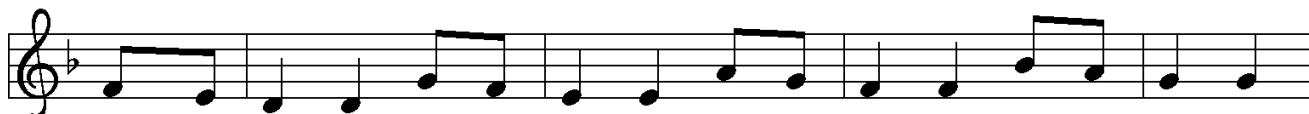
*Stanza one is sung before the Gospel; Stanza two after the Gospel.*



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

## Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<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, 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!”

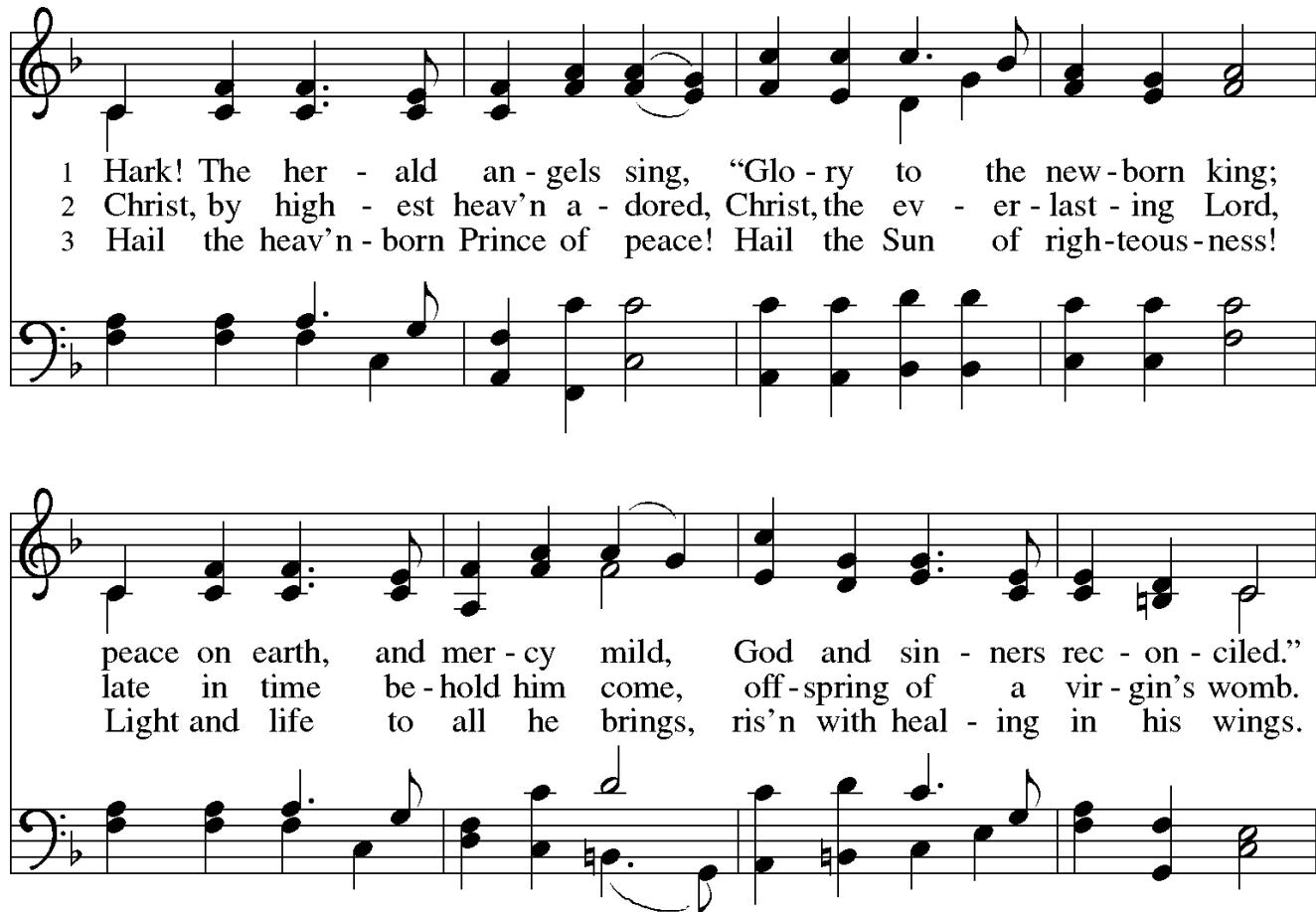
<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has

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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Hymn of the Day

### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

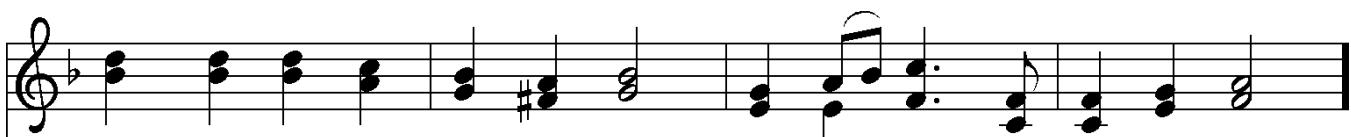


1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav’n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

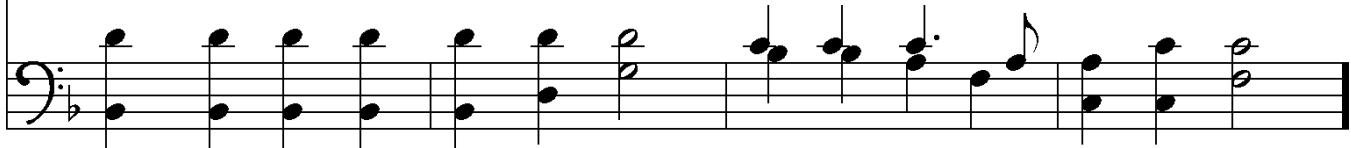
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled.”  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with heal - ing in his wings.



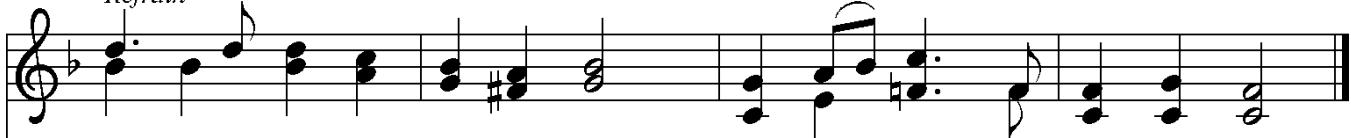
Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



*Refrain*



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"



## Nicene Creed

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**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,  
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 Intercession

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Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming.

O God, who is with us, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night.

O God, who is with us, **hear our prayer.**

Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war. Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares, especially in Ukraine, Russia, Gaza, Israel, Sudan, Myanmar, Syria, Cameroon, Thailand, Cambodia.

O God, who is with us, **hear our prayer.**

Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another, especially those who are sick or struggling.

O God, who is with us, **hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, that all find shelter and warmth.

O God, who is with us, **hear our prayer.**

Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus.

O God, who is with us, **hear our prayer.**

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you,  
O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus  
Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## Offering Song

## What Child is This



What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

## Dialogue

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The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

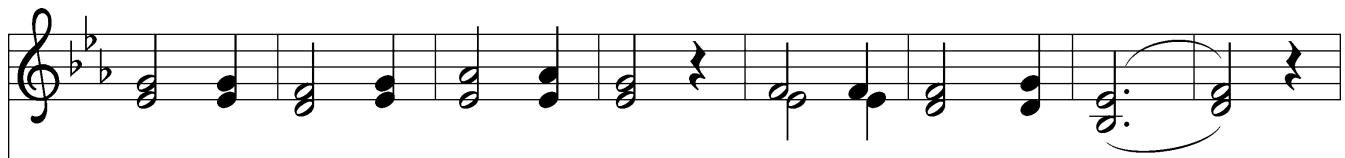
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

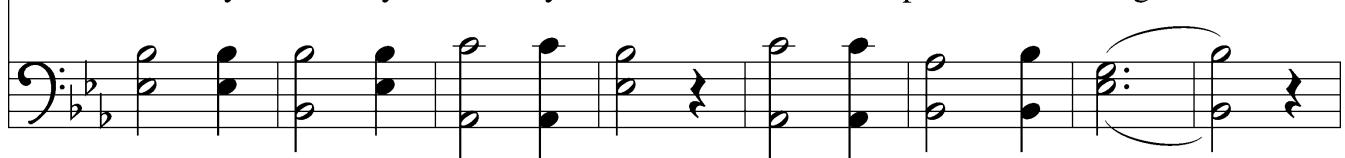
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Holy, Holy, Holy

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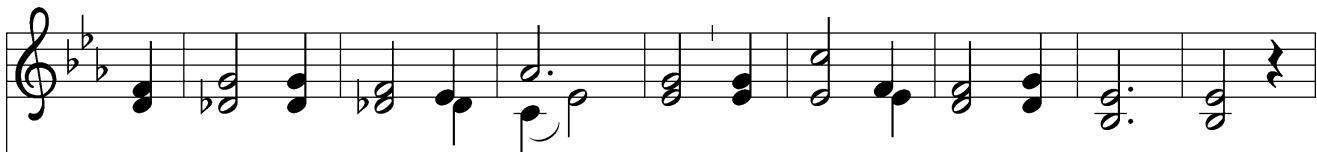
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



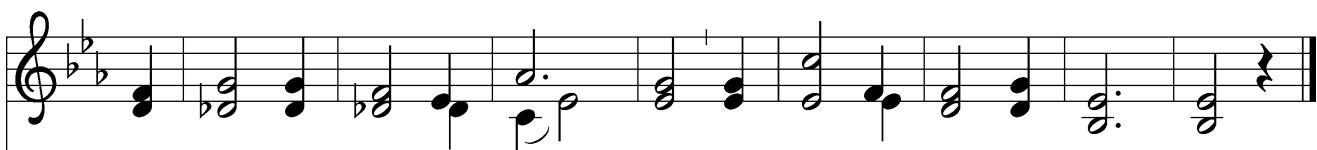
heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



## Lord's Prayer

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**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## Communion Song

## While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

1 While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all  
 2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had  
 3 "To you, in Da - vid's town this day, is  
 4 "The heav'n - ly babe you there shall find to

seat - ed on the ground, the an - gel of the  
 seized their trou - bled mind: "Glad tid - ings of great  
 born of Da - vid's line the Sav - ior, who is  
 hu - man view dis - played, all hum - bly wrapped in

Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.  
 joy I bring to you and hu - man - kind.  
 Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign:  
 swath - ing bands, and in a man - ger laid."

5 Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:

6 "All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace; good will to all from highest heav'n begin and never cease!"

## Communion Song

## Once in Royal David's City

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,  
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem-ing love;  
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand-ing by,

where a moth-er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:  
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;  
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth-er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.  
with the poor and meek and low-ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

## Communion Song

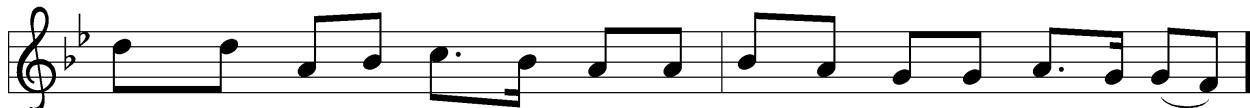
## 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime



1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time when all the birds had fled, that  
2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a  
3 The ear - liest moon of win - ter - time is not so round and fair as  
4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel - song is true; the



God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -  
rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but  
was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The  
ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan-d'ring hunt - ers heard the hymn:  
as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:  
chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.  
kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



*Refrain*  
Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

## Post-Communion Carol

## Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing. joy.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.  
 heav'n and na - ture sing, and

# Sending Song

# Silent Night, Holy Night!

*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
 1 *Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,*  
 2 *Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake*  
 3 *Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,*

*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

*Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

*Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

## **+** Sunday to Sunday

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24 – Wednesday	5:00 pm	<b>In-Person Worship + Christmas Eve</b>
	7:00 pm	<b>Hybrid Worship + Christmas Eve</b>
25 – Thursday		Christmas Day (church office closed)
26 – Friday		Boxing Day (church office closed)
27 – Saturday	7:30 pm	AA
28 – Sunday	9:30 am	<b>Hybrid Worship + Lessons and Carols</b>
	10:30 am	Coffee, Juice, and Conversation

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## **+** Year-End Offerings

We are grateful for the generosity of those who support our mission and ministry at Trinity through gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

If you are considering an extra financial donation as the year winds down, perhaps to our General Fund or Major Capital Expenditures Fund, please note that all offerings must be received by Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> to appear on your 2025 tax receipt.

## **+** Offering Envelopes

Boxed sets of weekly offering envelopes for 2026 are now available for pick up in the narthex. If you have not received boxed offering envelopes before and would like some, please contact the church office. (Givers on pre-authorized remittance, PAR, do not receive envelopes.)

## **+** Pastoral Care

Pastor Tanya will be on vacation from December 29<sup>th</sup> to January 11<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Stephen Larson will be on call for any pastoral emergencies and can be reached at 519-574-2464.

## **+** Candle Lighting

During tonight's worship service, in-person worshippers may participate in the lighting of individual candles prior to singing Silent Night. An usher will come to each pew to light the candle of the person closest to the centre aisle. Please then share the light with everyone in your pew. Candles can be extinguished after Silent Night and can be deposited in bins as you depart. At-home (online) worshippers are invited to each light a candle in their homes.

## **+** Online Donations

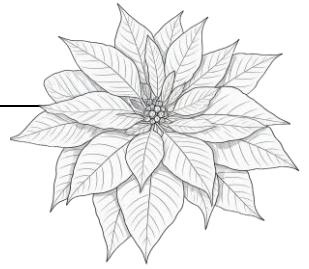
Trinity is grateful for all donations to support our mission and ministry in New Hamburg, Wilmot Township, and beyond.

We offer several options for donations besides via the offering plate during worship. Visit [telc.ca/donations](http://telc.ca/donations) for details including **e-transfers**, the best choice for one-time online donations.

## **+** Annual Meeting & Annual Report

Trinity's Church Council has set the date for our next annual meeting, Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:45 am. Please join us for our yearly review of mission and ministry and as we look ahead to the coming year. For those folks who normally submit reports and information for the Annual Report, please note that the deadline for submissions is Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Reports in electronic format are preferred and can be sent via email to Jamie Courtney in the church office: [courtney@telc.ca](mailto:courtney@telc.ca).

# Poinsettias



Thank you to all those who assisted with the purchase of poinsettias in memory of loved ones this Christmas season.

**Gwen & Wilson Abraham**

*Diane Abraham*

**Larry Keller**

*Mary Ann Keller*

**Ruth Haveling**

*Lynn & Keith Thompson*

**Nancy Arbuckle**

*Jim Arbuckle*

**Larry Goring**

*Diane Goring*

**Hunter Becker**

*Ross & Jane Eichler*

**Sid Cheeseman**

*Richard & Jo-Anne Schwass*

**Jack & Helen Pearson**

*Robert Pearson*

**Phil Heinze**

*Carolin Heinze*

**Howard & Esther Schwass**

*Richard & Jo-Anne Schwass*

**Bruce Hammer**

*Anne Hammer*

**Jim Eichler**

*Gerry & Kathy Eichler*

**Chris & Dick Ritz**

*Rick & Janice Ritz*

**All the Saints**

*Lisa Hagen & Randy Thomson*

**Art Long**

*Jeannette Long*

**Betty & Oscar Keller**

*Rick & Janice Ritz*

**Erna & Werner Borch**

*Hans & Katharine Borch*

**Barry Kalbfleisch**

*Julie Kalbfleisch*

**Stephanie May**

*Rick & Janice Ritz*

**Paul & Margaret Ludolph**

*Hans & Katharine Borch*

**Marlene Yutzi**

*Del Yutzi & Judy Hahn-Yutzi*

**Larry Keller**

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