

~ LEADING WORSHIP ~

Presiding Minister- Reverend Steven S. Billings

Assisting- Michael Stapleton

Lector- (4:00) Larry Olsen
(6:30) Mary Howden

Crucifer- (4:00) Mitchell Schrampfer
(6:30) Mike Stapleton

Torches- (4:00) Carrington & Walker White
(6:30) Jayci & McKaylin Mansfield

Christ Candle- (4:00) Cody Hanby
(6:30) Kayla Olsen

Holy Scriptures- (4:00) Alex Schrampfer

Organist- Nancy Lephart

Choir Director- Michael Peitsch

*Pastor Billings, along with the Faculty, and Staff
of Trinity Lutheran Church and School of Menasha
wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas!*

Christmas Vespers on

THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Friday, December 24, 2010

4:00 pm & 6:30 pm

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

300 Broad Street, Menasha, Wisconsin

Trinity, Menasha is a fellowship of Lutheran Christians being empowered by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and His Sacraments to encourage, refresh, and strengthen both adults and children in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, while sharing His love with those who do not know their Savior.

PRE-SERVICE	Music by the Franklin Family	
PRELUDE	Mary's Boy Child	S. Tucker
RINGING OF BELLS		
SPECIAL MUSIC	Glory to the Lord	Praise Four
PASTORAL GREETING		
HYMN	It Came Upon the Midnight Clear	
1	It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, From heav'n's all-gracious king." The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.	
2	Still through the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled, And still their heav'nly music floats O'er all the weary world. Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov'ring wing, And ever o'er its babel sounds The blessèd angels sing.	
3	All you, beneath your heavy load, By care and guilt bent low, Who toil along a dreary way With painful steps and slow: Look up, for golden is the hour, Come swiftly on the wing, The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the angels sing.	

- 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By prophets seen of old,
When down into the circling years Came Christ as was foretold.
His word of peace shall to the earth God's ancient promise bring,
And all who take this gift will hear The song the angels sing.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

- P** The Advent season has been a time for preparation.
C **The preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus.**
P The Advent candles burn to reflect the Love of God, and His Peace,
C **The Joy of our salvation and the Hope we have of eternal life.**
P Tonight we light the CHRIST candle, representing the life of our Lord among us.
C **So come Lord Jesus - dwell in us this Christmas.**

OPENING VERSICLE

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
P Make hast, O God, to deliver me;
C **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**ALL: 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.**

ALL: Praise to you O Christ, King who comes to save us.

VERSICLE HYMN **Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**

- 1 Gentle Mary laid her child, Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undefined, To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race, Who have found His favor.
- 2 Angels sang about His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ringing.
- 3 Gentle Mary laid her child, Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined, But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!

COLLECT FOR PEACE

- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,
give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our
hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being
defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

HYMN OF BLESSING **Silent Night, Holy Night**

- 1 Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.,
Glories stream from Heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!
- 3 Silent night, holy night, Son of God, loves pure light.
Radiant beams from thy Holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus Lord at thy birth, Jesus Lord at thy birth.

BENEDICAMUS

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the Communion
of the + Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **Amen**

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

M. Burkhardt

2 Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

OFFERING

O Holy Night

KYRIE

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

LORD'S PRAYER

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

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your Spirit

COLLECT FOR THE EVE OF CHRISTMAS

P O God, because You once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant that we who have known the mystery of that Light here on earth may come to the full measure of its joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen

PSALM

Psalm 110:1-4

P The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool."

C The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter.
Rule in the midst of your enemies!

P Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.

C The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind,
"You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

ALL: 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.

HYMN OF RESPONSE The People That in Darkness Sat

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| 1. The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been. | 2. To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness
The gath'ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear
Their harvest treasures home,
Their harvest treasures home, |
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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF RESPONSE The People That In Darkness Sat

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| <p>3. To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is giv'n,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All pow'r in earth and heav'n,
All pow'r in earth and heav'n,</p> | <p>4. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored,
The God by all adored.</p> |
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EPISTLE

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

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| L O Lord, have mercy on us. | C Thanks be to God! |
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<p>Gallery Choir Sings (4:00) (6:30)</p>	<p>In the Bleak Midwinter Masters In This Hall</p>
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HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.*

C **Glory to You O Lord**

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there

was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

REPSONSORY FOR ADVENT

P Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous branch.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

P In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

SERMON HYMN	Once in Royal David's City	LSB 376
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SERMON	"Walking In Darkness"	<i>Isaiah 9:2-7</i>
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CANTICLE

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| <p>P Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense,
C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.</p> |
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CANTICLE HYMN	What Child Is This
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| <p>1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!</p> |
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