

# *"The Begotten of God"*

Rev. Timothy D. Smith

*Christmas Day*

9am Sunday, December 25, 2022 in the Upper Sanctuary  
Trinity Lutheran Church & School, Wausau, Wisconsin

CHRISTMAS DAY  
“THE BEGOTTEN OF GOD”

REV. TIMOTHY D. SMITH  
9AM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022

**FOCUS** The long wait is over—the Savior is born! For many people, the days, weeks, and even months have been filled with anticipation for Christmas. For children, it may be an anticipation of gifts; for others, it may be long-awaited family time enjoyed and all the season brings. For all, we pray the Good News of a Savior born this day in the city of David is the overarching reason to celebrate. Others in history had to wait a much longer time for their Christmas joy. Approximately seven centuries before “the Word became flesh” (John 1:14), Isaiah would be inspired by the Spirit to proclaim to the people, “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” (Isaiah 52:10). Though the people of Isaiah’s day would not experience Christmas as we do, they would hold on by faith to the anticipated promise of salvation through our Savior who was to come. For us, we give thanks that salvation has come. In the Son of God wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger, and with the mission for humanity set before Him, “The LORD has bared His holy arm” (Isaiah 52:10). May this promise fulfilled increase our Christmas joy as God still comes to us today in His Means of Grace, that we not only see but often celebrate the salvation of our God.

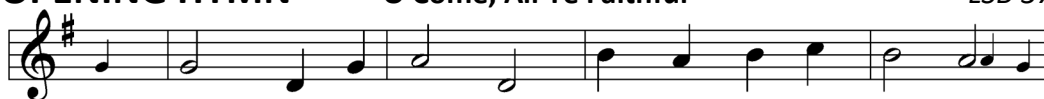
## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

## RINGING of the BELLS and WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 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*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

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## INVOCATION

**L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

*(1 John 1:8-9)*

**L** Friends in Christ, God's Word assures us: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

**ALL:** **Heavenly Father, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.**

**We have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your punishment now and forever. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, we ask You to have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**L** Good Christian friends, rejoice! Today your Lord comes in love and power, in grace and truth, offering comfort, joy, and forgiveness. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I announce the grace of God to all of you;

and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of ✠ the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a, 4*

**L** For to us a child is born,

**C** to us a Son is given;

**L** and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called

**C** Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**L** Sing to the LORD a new song,

**C** for He has done marvelous things!

**L** Make joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

**C** break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

## HYMN of PRAISE “Angels We Have Heard on High”

*LSB 368, v.1,3*



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
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.  
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.

Text and tune: Public domain

## **SALUTATION and PRAYER of the DAY**

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- L** Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## **Service of the Word**

### **OLD TESTAMENT**

*Isaiah 52:7-10*

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”<sup>8</sup> The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion.<sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.<sup>10</sup> 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.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **EPISTLE**

*Hebrews 1:1-6*

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,<sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.<sup>3</sup> He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,<sup>4</sup> having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.<sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”?<sup>6</sup> And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God's angels worship him.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **MUSICAL OFFERING**

**“God With Us”**

*Camp*

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 1:1-14*

**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has 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 bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN

**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

*LSB 380*



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 ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec-ond birth.



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

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

**"The Begotten of God"**

*Rev. Timothy D. Smith*

## NICENE CREED

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us, under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYER of the CHURCH *(After each petition, the following is said...)*

**L** Lord in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

## The LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

## GATHERING of TITHES and OFFERINGS

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.*

**VISION STATEMENT:** *To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

## MUSICAL OFFERING

# Service of the Sacrament

## PREFACE

*2 Timothy 4:22*

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- L** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- L** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

- L** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



## SANCTUS HYMN



O ho - ly, ho - ly Lord of hosts, Your praise the earth is sing - ing.



Ho - san - na, blest is He who comes, sal - va - tion to us bring - 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 Ma - ry.

Text: adapt. James R. Pierce. Copyright © 2013 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## WORDS of INSTITUTION

### PAX DOMINI

**L** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## AGNUS DEI HYMN



O Lamb of God who takes a - way The whole world's sin, have mer - cy.

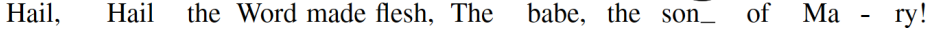


O Lamb of God, grant peace to us, That we from sin may be free.



Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you.

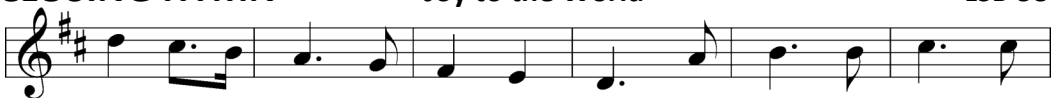




## CLOSING HYMN

### "Joy to the World"

LSB 387



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
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



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
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.

Text and tune: Public domain

## POSTLUDE

PRESIDING MINISTER: *Timothy D. Smith, Associate Pastor*

ORGANIST: *Mr. Matthew Hoehne, Director of Music*

MUSICIANS: *Brett Schwantes, voice & guitar; Benjamin Schwantes, violin*

ELDERS: *Mike Hase, Dan Schwantes*

ACOLYTE:

TECH:

## WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

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### TRADITIONAL/BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

7:30am & 9am Sunday

### CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

5pm Saturday

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- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month in the Upper Sanctuary. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*
- **LARGE PRINT**—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the Narthex or you may ask the usher for one.
- **CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**—for ages 3-6 & 7-12 years, are available on the table in the Narthex.
- **NURSERY**—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery is located near the Church Lounge on Sundays. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 10:15am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 10:15am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School, our Childcare (infant through 13 years), and through our association with Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School.
- **ELEVATOR**—is located next to the nursery on the upper level. On the lower level the elevator is located across from Classroom #101, which is past the offices. Use as needed.
- **RESTROOMS**—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.
- **JOINING TRINITY**—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

### MISSION STATEMENT:

*To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.*

### VISION STATEMENT:

*To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*



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