

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in honor of the Nativity of our Savior and in memory of family members by Dr. Georgia Lou Huff.

OUR THANKS

We are grateful tonight for Jonathan Dickson sharing his gift of musical talent during the worship service as the saxophonist. Jonathan is the son of Sandi Dickson and the late John Dickson. We are also grateful for his fiancé, Lacy Miller, who is sharing her amazing voice with us.

Sunday, December 31

One-Combined Worship

10:00 a.m.

No Sunday School or Potluck Meal.

All offerings to be credited to 2023 must be received or postmarked by December 31ST. Offerings received after this date cannot be credited to 2023.

The 2024 offering envelopes are in the Narthex please ask an usher for your offering packet.



Early reminder, 2023 annual reports are due on or before Sunday, January 8. All 2023 Committee Chairs are to turn in a report to the church office.

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Presiding Minister..... | The Rev. J. Chris Fischer |
| Organist/Music Director..... | Jill Helgeson |
| Acolyte..... | Joshua Fischer |
| Lector | Jane Cahaly |
| Communion Assistant..... | Amy Goodson |
| Ushers | Chris Caldwell & Mike Oates |
| Video/IT Engineer..... | Connor Caldwell |

(we stand)
*The Hymn

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

Hymn # 283

WE OFFER PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

*The Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*The Kyrie (sung responsively)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

*The Hymn of Praise

“Glory To God In The Highest”

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(Refrain)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. (Refrain)

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. (Refrain)

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. (Refrain)

*The Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, You made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus’ presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of His glory; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Lighting of the Christ Candle
The First Lesson
Psalm 96 (sung responsively)
The Second Lesson

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung in unison)

Alleluia. I am bringing you good news of great joy for ' all the people, to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messi-' ah, the Lord.

Alleluia. (Luke 2:10-11)

*The Holy Gospel

Sermon

“WHAT CHILD IS THIS?”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of the Day

“Away In A Manger”

*The 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.**

back cover
back of cover
back cover

John 1:1-14

Hymn # 277



Poinsettias may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. service.
(Please leave the three white poinsettias in the manger as they remain in the Sanctuary throughout the Christmas season.)



TO THE HONOR AND GLORY OF GOD & IN MEMORY OF:

| | |
|--|--|
| James Adams | by Connie Adams, Julie & Jamie |
| Al & Doris Stokes & Steve Culbreath | by Sid & Rette Stokes |
| Bill Christmas & Craig Lockhart | by Kevin Lockhart |
| Craig Lockhart | by Connor Caldwell |
| Florence Chute | by Leon Chute |
| Family, past & present | by Kati Smith |
| Their parents - Mr. & Mrs. Harold Holmes | by Bob & Susan Straup |
| Their parents - Mr. & Mrs. Allen Straup | by Bob & Susan Straup |
| The Rev. & Mrs. Luther Ballentine | by Mike & Bobbi Metz |
| Mr. & Mrs. B. L. Metz, Sr. | by Mike & Bobbi Metz |
| The Rev. “Jack” Fischer & Mac Thomas | by Pastor, Beth, Joshua, Jacob & Katie Fischer |
| Her parents - Jack & Doris Richardson | by Diane Richardson |
| Dan Corrigan | by Jamie Corrigan |
| Dianne Calloway | by Shelley Carroll, and Claude Calloway |
| The Dafoe Family and the Humyn Family | by Bill & Chris Dafoe |
| Gary & Elizabeth Vinson | by Bob & Jean Vinson |
| Their parents | by Robert & Vicki Allen |
| Judy Fritsche | by Sophie M. O’Connor |
| Tatiana Mitutenko | by Sophie M. O’Connor |
| Joseph O’Connor | by Sophie M. O’Connor |
| Mr. & Mrs. Anton Rudawski | by Sophie M. O’Connor |
| Dick Martley | by Betty Martley |
| Bob Potter | by Jane Potter |
| Bob & Virginia Potter, and Willard & Audrey Vircks | by Jane Potter |
| Allan Cole | by Chris & Anna Caldwell |
| Bill and Frances Christmas | by Chris & Anna Caldwell |
| Bill and Betty Caldwell | by Chris & Anna Caldwell |
| His father – Kevin P. Hartle | by Thomas Hartle |
| Their parents - Neal & June Cain and Earl & Lourine Korn and son, Peter Korn | by Dave & Nancy Korn |
| Their parents - Mr. and Mrs. Harold H. Rasche & Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hannahs | by Dave & Sue Rasche |

TO THE HONOR AND GLORY OF GOD & IN HONOR OF:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Chris & Anna Caldwell | by Connor Caldwell |
| Carolyn Culbreath | by Sid & Rette Stokes |
| Their Children and Grandchildren | by Dave & Nancy Korn |
| To the Honor and Glory of God | by Dave & Nancy Korn |

The Communion (Continuous method-Please follow the directions of the ushers.)

All baptized believers are invited to commune with us tonight. Children not yet receiving Holy Communion are invited to come with their families to receive a blessing. On the way up, you are to pick up a cup and bring it to the altar. Prefilled cups in the center of the tray contain grape juice; otherwise wine will be dispensed at the altar into empty cups. Gluten free wafers are available as needed. Please notify the Pastor. To have the elements brought to you for communion, please notify an Usher. It would be helpful if you would sit on the front pew or on the aisle. As you go to the altar for communion, you are invited to dip your fingers into the water of the Baptismal Font and make a sign of the cross on your forehead in remembrance of your baptism.

*The Communion Blessing

*Post Communion Hymn ***“Now, Lord, You Let Your Servant”***

Pastor Fischer

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**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled,
My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared
In the sight of ev’ry people: a light to reveal you to the
Nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

*Lighting of Candles:

The ushers will light the candles of the first person in each row. Please pass the light to everyone in the row. Tip unlighted candles into a flame to pass the light.
Please do not tip lighted candle.

*The Hymn

“Silent Night”

See Insert

German Verse – Virgil Hobbs

*The Benediction

May you 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. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*The Closing Hymn

“Joy To The World”

See Insert

(candles are extinguished)

*The Dismissal

Postlude

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

-Mendelssohn/Cummings

(*) Congregation stands (k) Congregation kneels

**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.**

The Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation. (we kneel) *The Leader concludes each petition with “Lord In Your Mercy,” and the response is, “Hear our Prayer.”*

*The Christmas Peace Is Shared

The Offering is Received

Offertory Anthem

“Christmas Comes Anew”

- Walter Ehret

Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel.

Glory be to God, now let your praises swell.

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King, Noel!

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King.

Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel!

Came the voice of Angels, “Shepherds, haste and see.

Born in Bethlehem, a blessed Lamb for Thee.

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King, Noel!

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King, sing we Noel!

Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel.

In the manger bed the shepherds found the Child.

There with kindly Joseph was the Mother mild.

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King, Noel!

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King, sing we Noel!

Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel.

Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel.

Glory be to God, now let our praises swell.

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King,

Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King.

Christmas comes anew, let us sing Noel!

*The Offertory Hymn

“Let the Vineyards be Fruitful”

MEAL

*The Prayer (The congregation responds with AMEN.)

*The Great Thanksgiving (sung responsively)

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 our thanks and praise.**

*Preface of the Day

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise (Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding) ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Sanctus (sung by all)

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

* The Eucharistic Prayer (Lead by the minister with congregational responses.)

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 in me.

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Hymn #181

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,

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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.**

*The 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.

*The Communion Hymn (sung by all)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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(we sit)

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

209 Broad Street
Anderson, SC 29621

Ministers: People of Holy Trinity
The Reverend J. Chris Fischer, Pastor

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*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a family of Christians saved by God's grace
to proclaim the good news to our community and to the world by word and action.*

FESTIVAL EUCHARIST (11:00 p.m.) Christmas Eve 2024

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

(We kneel for prayer upon entering the pews.)

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *“O Holy Night”* soloist - Lacy Miller

The Brief Order of Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (we kneel)

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. **We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



PSALM 96

Sing to the Lord ' a new song;

Sing to the Lord, ' all the earth.

**2Sing to the Lord, bless the name ' of the Lord;
Proclaim God's salvation from ' day to day.**

3Declare God's glory -' mong the nations

And God's wonders a- ' mong all peoples.

**4For great is the Lord and greatly ' to be praised,
More to be feared ' than all gods.**

5As for all the gods of the nations, they ' are but idols;
But you, O Lord, have ' made the heavens.

**6Majesty and magnificence are ' in your presence;
Power and splendor are in your ' sanctuary.**

7Ascribe to the Lord, you families ' of the peoples,
Ascribe to the Lord hon- ' or and power.

**8Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the 'holy name;
Bring offerings and enter the courts ' of the Lord.**

9Worship the Lord in the beau-'ty of holiness;
Tremble before the Lord, ' all the earth.

**10Tell it out among the nations: “The ' Lord is king!
The one who made the world
So firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peo-'ples with equity.”**

11Let the heavens rejoice, and let the ' earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that ' is therein.

**12Then shall the trees of the wood shout for joy
at your com-'ing, O Lord,
for you come to ' judge the earth.**

13You will judge the ' world with righteousness
and the peoples ' with your truth.

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

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.
³You 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.
⁴For 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.
⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶For 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.
⁷His 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.

Psalm 96

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

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

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

¹⁴And 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.