

*Trinity Lutheran Church
Brewster, NY*



Service of Lessons & Carols

*First Sunday after Christmas
December 31, 2023 @ 9:30 AM*



WELCOME as we gather in the name of God! Whether we are physically present with one another or gathering remotely, we know that Christ is truly present in our midst.

We welcome our visitors today. If you are looking for a church home and want to know more about living together as Christians, please contact Pastor Boyd during the week.

If you know of others who are in need of signs of God's love and grace, who are curious and/or questioning, who would like to experience the peace of Christ – please invite them to join us for worship in person or through our social media channels. They may also contact the church office (trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) and/or Pastor Jen (revjedyer1@yahoo.com).

You are invited to worship with us each week. There is a spoken in-person service on Thursdays at 12 noon and on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. as well as via Facebook Live on Trinity's Facebook page. Services may also be viewed on Comcast channel 21 at 11 am (note, they are a week behind). The service will be posted later on our YouTube page. The weekly bulletin is posted on our website:

Website: <http://trinitybrewsterny.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Trinity-Lutheran-Church-Brewster-NY-160570420670756>.

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view_as=subscriber

PARENTS: *Please help your children follow the worship service, including standing up with the assembly. Thank you.*

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INTRODUCTION

As we begin a new year, we hear the familiar story of Jesus' birth – a narrative that invites us to hear the story from new perspectives. May these voices enrich our lives of faith

+ GATHERING +

Prelude - *Sonata in C* Dmitri Stepanovich Bortniansky

Welcome and Announcements

The assembly stands

Call to Worship

A child is born, a child to save us

We share the news with great joy!

A child is born, a child to challenge us

We share the news with great joy!

A child is born, a child for the world

We share the news with great joy!

CAROL: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" 288

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;

Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forever more.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

Music: German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795-1856

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Greeting

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Precious Jesus, **as we gather this day, may we hear your love spoken in worship and through each one of us. May the light of your grace shine brightly in the world. Amen.**

The assembly is seated

Introductory reflection

Pastor Jen Boyd

VOICES OF CHRISTMAS

ROMAN SOLDIER (Luke 2:1-5) They come to me to register their ordinariness. That is the purpose of this Census. Not to show how much wealth there is to exploit. Not to count heads. But to demonstrate once and for all that we're in charge. They line up in front of people like me and register their ordinariness. They make a mark at our disposal. They are at our disposal. These people need to understand that it is we who have the big ideas, not them. We give them concessions – they can worship their puny god, they can keep their holy places 'pure' – but they are to be in no doubt what power really looks like. These people believe that their god will deliver them. From what? Us, I suppose. They call us oppressors, exploiters, all the easy names. They talk of salvation and hope. Every now and then a few of them rebel. Because the weak like things simple – good versus evil, black versus white. As if we're the enemy. The true enemy is superstition. We bring civilization and development. We lift them out of superstition. When they pray for salvation they are rejecting the light of reason. They're fools. They line up and give their names and professions. Peasants, the lot of them. None more pathetic than the carpenter and his pregnant wife. He stood there and could barely mumble his name. His wife shook with pain. It was a disgrace that he couldn't provide for her better. And her fit to pop, too. Bethlehem. The City of Kings they call it. This carpenter was in Bethlehem because he was descended from King

David. Or some such nonsense. You want a metaphor for how ridiculous this country is? This city no longer produces kings. It produces scared little men and women like the carpenter and his wife. Pieces in other people's games. I feel sorry for the kid this couple will have. To be born into poverty and superstition. It would be better if he were never born.

CAROL: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" ELW 279 (vs 1 & 4)

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above them deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

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A VILLAGER (Luke 2:6-8) Hospitality. It's part of our faith. We're supposed to be hosts as God is host – to welcome strangers as God welcomes the stranger in the land. As if it were that simple. A Roman told me once that in his language 'hospitality' comes from the same root as both enemy and guest. Now that makes sense. Because there's nothing pure about hospitality. Someone always wants something. Can anything be freely given? Freely received? I don't know why I ignored my instinct when the couple knocked on my door. There'd been dozens of them. All day, every day, for a week. Forced to travel for the sake of a census. I was sympathetic, of course. The regime was making ridiculous demands on decent people. But I had nothing. I had barely enough for my own family. I'd told most of these refugees to head to the camp at the edge of town. The conditions were terrible, but it was the best we could offer. Our community was overwhelmed. It was late and when I heard the knock it was all I could do not to tell them just to clear off. Though not so politely. But they kept knocking. Demanding hospitality I thought. I thought of what my Roman friend had said about hospitality. I went and answered and launched into my spiel. 'Sorry, we've got no room, blah ...' The couple simply stood there and waited for me to finish. They were so exhausted.

The man almost wild with exhaustion. The woman – well, the girl – breathless. She was in pain. I thought she was hurt. Then I saw she was extremely pregnant. The man said, ‘Please.’ I was angry. I felt manipulated. Couldn’t they see I had nothing? Couldn’t they get it that I’d had people like them banging on my door all day for a week? They stared at me. ‘I can’t help. Sorry,’ I said. ‘My wife,’ the man said, pointing at her belly. I was sick of sob stories. I began to shut the door. ‘Wait.’ It was the girl. It was the shock of hearing a female voice that stopped me. The women don’t usually speak. ‘Please,’ she said. ‘For the baby. Somewhere dry. For when it comes.’ I looked at her. She was a kid, but she was tough. She had nothing left except a determination to get the baby born. I stared at her. Nodded. I showed them to a shelter out back. It was adequate. It was dry. ‘You’ve blessed God,’ the girl said. ‘When he comes, he will bless you.’

CAROL: “Away in a Manger” ELW 277

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: James R. Murray, 1841-1905

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MARY (Luke 2:1-7) I wish I could stop it all here. Just now. Where it's only Joseph and the baby and me. I wish I could stop it all here. Now that the pain is gone and the baby is out of me and I have him in my arms asleep. All of us exhausted. Joseph keeps smiling and weeping. I doze – dreaming I'm holding a child – and wake to find I am. I wish I could stop it all here. Just hold the world back. To simply enjoy knowing this child is ours. Is mine. That he is special as he is. If I didn't believe what I'd been promised, it wouldn't make any difference. I'd still say this child was God. As much as any child is God. I don't care what he's going to become. I don't care if he's a god or not. I just care that he's here with us. He's made it. He's safe. And he's ours. And yet, he's not. He is God's own Son.

CAROL: "When Mary Hugged Her Newborn Son (tune: Tallis Canon)

**When Mary hugged her newborn son,
She pondered all that God had done.
Could she know all her child would be —
The life he'd bring humanity?**

**When shepherds heard the angel's joy,
They went to find that baby boy.
Could they see there in Bethlehem
A friend to outcasts just like them?**

**When wise men came with gifts to share,
They saw young Jesus playing there.
Could they behold in one so small
God's gift most precious of them all?**

**God, make us faithful, humble, wise
To know that Jesus changes lives.
May we be open to the way
That he would change our lives this day.**

Tune: Thomas Tallis, 1561 ("All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night")

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JOSEPH (Luke 2:1-8) It's stupid, but I hadn't thought he'd be so light. I can

fit him in the palms of my hands. If I couldn't see him, I'd barely believe he was there. My son. That's what Mary says I should call him. My son. And from the moment he appeared, as he screamed in his tiny voice, I knew he was. What's happened is too big for me. For my world. Mary talks of God and miracles. Mary says this little one will save us all. He's already done that for me. I could have turned my back and let Mary go when she told me she was pregnant. No one would have blamed me. They'd have said it was what she deserved. She'd have fallen so far. I'm still not sure what I believe. But I believe in Mary. And I believe in this child. He is so helpless. He is so beautiful. Is this what it's like to hold God in your hands?

CAROL: "What Child is this" ELW 296 (vs. 1 & 2)

**What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
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!**

**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!**

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: English ballad, 16th cent.

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ANGEL (Luke 2:8-14; Genesis 18:1-15 & 32:22-31) People are unpredictable. One day you're fed honey cakes. Another you're wrestled to the ground and expected to pronounce a blessing. I thought I'd have to threaten this lot – this gang of grubby men and women who live in the wilderness and spend far too much time alone with animals. A rough lot, who see wolves in shadows, who attack first and ask questions later. I thought I'd have to show them magic tricks. Lights in the sky. A heavenly choir. I thought I might need to take a sword to one of their throats. Instead they were intrigued. There's a reason shepherds have always been closely associated with God and the Kingdom. They live on the edges and in the lonely places. They get how it is for God. They know God is most at home away from the palaces and glory. They know that God is at work in the dark and the dark is dazzling and beautiful. They saw my clothes and my skin and knew that I was gloriously strange. They knew that God had come to be with them. After that it was easy. No need for magic. No need for heavenly choirs. I strode up to their leader – an old woman with hardly any teeth – and pointed out the way. She nodded. As if in that moment she was in touch with the shepherds of old who'd spent long nights in conversation with angels. She smiled her toothless grin and said, 'So this is it, then? The poor shall see God and God will see them?' I nodded. She placed a hand in mine and said, 'Lead on.'

CAROL: "Angels we have heard on high" ELW 289 (vs. 1 & 2)

**Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria In excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria In excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Text: French carol; tr. H.F. Hemy, The Crown of Jesus Music, 1864

Music: French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

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SHEPHERD (Luke 2:8-20) We had no business being here. Our place is out

in the hills and wilderness. Or guarding the sheepfold. The glory we know is seen in clear night skies, the stars uncountable. The goodness we know is in a job well done. It gets cold out on the hills and everyone sees strange things. In the dark a bush becomes a wolf. But I've never seen the stars become angels before. But we have seen another glory too. We know we're not always loved, us shepherds. Some say we're not respectable. Others think we're the symbol of God's love. No one ever quite sees us for what we are: women and men trying to do a difficult job, wanting a bit of respect. But that's the glory of what we've seen. Not the glory of a sky turned to song. Not the glory of the kings and queens of old. Not even the glory told in the Scriptures. We saw a child. And the child saw us. That night we were not disreputable. We were not the symbols of Israel. We were just men and women. Because that's what a baby does. He's not interested in anything other than being loved and cared for. He responds to love. The parents let me take him in my hands. My unwashed and greasy hands. I held the holy child and the holy child held me.

CAROL: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" ELW 282 (vs. 1 & 3)

**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, good will to all, from heav'n's all gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

**And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow;
Look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
Oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!**

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876

Music: Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900

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MAGI: (Matthew 2:9-12) I've been looking at the night sky my whole life. I've dreamed I've walked the length of the Milky Way. I thought, as a child, that it was the path to heaven. Do stars tell us anything? They tell us about the visions of the powerful and ambitious for sure. Like 'Berenice's Hair'. A constellation named in honor of an Egyptian Queen. Or the Pleiades. The daughters of Zeus. Stars show us our dreams and our projections. I have my own theory. They are just light. Light from another time, another age. Light reaching us. Pointing the way. That's what I

thought when we saw the star. That's what convinced me to leave home. That's what I found to be true. After the countless miles, the dead-ends, and finally our discovery of the child. A star gives itself to show the way. It dies in its giving. It is the grace that has no concern for itself. It might be named in honor of the powerful, but it offers itself for all. And it pointed us to the true light of the world.

CAROL "The First Noel" ELW 300 (vs. 1, 3, 5)

**The first Noel the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

Refrain

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.**

**And by the light of that same star
Three wisemen came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went
Refrain**

**Then entered in those wisemen three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Refrain**

Text: English traditional

Music: English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901

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A CREED FOR CHRISTMAS: *Darkness and Light:*

**We believe in God,
robed in splendor,
veiled in mystery,
ruler alike of darkness and light.**

**We encounter God in Jesus Christ,
who was tortured and put to death,
but whose radiance could not be quenched;
whose touch brings a blaze of color to a dull, drab world:
reviving the weary,
healing the wounded,
dazzling the satisfied.**

**We walk with God,
guided by the light of God's loving spirit,
who enters the shadowed places of our hearts
and leads us into truth and life.**

**We wait for God,
and for the fulfilment of God's promises,
for the time when the darkness will hold no fear
and the light will no longer blind,
but creation will be made whole once more
and God's peace will reign forever. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gathered in the light of Christ's birth, we offer up our prayers for the church, the world and all those who are in need.

Brief silence

God of all generations, as we have heard the voices of Christmas, may the story that they share inspire us as we seek to live out our faith. Immanuel, God with us, **hear our prayer.**

We are of one family with all of creation, interdependent with one another for our survival. Make us good stewards of all that you have made, working for the protection and care of water, plants, and animals. Immanuel, God with us, **hear our prayer.**
Remind all who lead of their responsibility to those they serve, and give

them a heart for peace and justice for all your earthly family. Immanuel, God with us, **hear our prayer.**

So many struggle with illness of body, mind, or spirit. Send your healing to all who suffer, especially to **Stig, Heidi, Janice, Bert, Joseph, Peter, Rebecca, Kyle, Judy, Maisa, Jim, Mary, Debbie and Bill and for all those who have no one to name them and for those who do not know Christ's name.** Give strength to the families who support and care for them. Immanuel, God with us, **hear our prayer.**

We are of one family with people all over the world. Make us committed to sharing our resources so that all people might have life abundantly. Immanuel, God with us, **You hear our prayer.**

We remember with gratitude all the saints who have come before us, faithful members of the Body of Christ, who continue to lead us by their example. Immanuel, God with us, **hear our prayer.**

Other intercessions may be offered here silently, aloud or online in the comments

Pastor: In faith, hope, and love, we lift our prayers to you, in the name of your promised savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated

+ MEAL +

OFFERING

Anthem - *Comfort Ye My People* Dmitri Stepanovich Bortniansky

Offering Hymn: "In the Bleak Midwinter"

294

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone,
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign,
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wiseman I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894

Music: Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

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Offering Carol

"Love has come"

292



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: F. Seguin, *Recueil de noels composes en langue provencale*, 1856

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OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed Lord, **you have given us your greatest gift— your very Word come to earth, to live with us and through us; you have filled us with your grace and truth— your holy child sent to free us from our bonds. How can we repay such divine generosity? Receive our thanks and praise. As you have given to us, so now we share your gifts and your grace with a world in need. May this offering help bring your light and love to those who still wander in darkness. Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Gathering around the table as we celebrate new life borning,
we remember so many stories shared around tables;
tables where bread is broken and cup is poured out,
where families gather and generations share,
where stories are remembered, refined, reshaped.

Gathering around the table remembering that holy night,
we remember the story of the sacred daring to share our life,
the story of the holy donning human flesh and dwelling among us,
a story that is at once both ethereal and earthly.

For in the night ...do this in remembrance of me

Gathering around the table on this Christmas night,
we break the bread and remember the paradox
that it is in our brokenness that we become whole;
we fill this cup and remember the abundance
discovered in each new sharing of our sacred stories.

Come, holy Spirit, come.

Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.

Bless all of us in our eating and drinking

that our eyes might be opened,

that we might recognize the Spirit rising in our midst

indeed, in one another.

Come, holy Spirit, come. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

And so, remembering all that we have been given, we are bold 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**

COMMUNION

The mystery hidden for the ages
is revealed for us in this meal.

Come, behold and receive your God. **Thanks be to God!**

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The assembly is seated

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AND BLESSINGS

All the baptized are welcome to feast in the Eucharist. You may receive only the bread or wine and still experience the full benefit of our Lord's meal. Those who do not receive bread or wine are invited to come for a blessing.

All members and visitors, please complete a Record of Communion card (in the pew racks) and hand it to an usher as you come forward.

Ushers will direct you to come forward at the appropriate time.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION:

"That Boy-child of Mary"

293

Refrain

**That boychild of Mary was born in a stable,
A manger his cradle in Bethlehem.**

**What shall we call him, child of the manger?
What name is given in Bethlehem? Refrain**

**His name is Jesus, God ever with us,
God given for us in Bethlehem. Refrain**

**How can he save us, how can he help us,
Born here among us in Bethlehem. Refrain**

**Gift of the Father, to human mother,
Makes him our brother in Bethlehem. Refrain**

**One with the Father, he is our Savior,
Heaven-sent helper in Bethlehem. Refrain**

**Gladly we praise him, love and adore him,
Give ourselves to him in Bethlehem. Refrain**

Text: Tom Colvin; 1925-2000

Music: Malawi traditional; adapt. Tom Colvin

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**Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing;
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!**

**Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!**

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.

Music: Polish carol

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*Words for additional Communion hymns may be found on the card inside
the back cover of your hymnal.*

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you
in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give thanks, O God, that you have come to us through Jesus Christ,
both in the midst of time and history in the city of Bethlehem and in the
timeless presence of Christ’s Spirit as we receive the gifts of bread and
wine,. Send us out into the world rejoicing, ready to share you love with
the people we meet through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

Mission and Ministry Announcements

The assembly stands

BLESSING

CAROL: “Go Tell it on the Mountain”

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
Refrain**

**The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Refrain**

**Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Refrain**

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John. W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: African American spiritual
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DISMISSAL

**Love was born in a manger. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
Thanks be to God.**

Postlude - *Rondo* Dmitri Stepanovich Bortniansky

Worship notes:

Portions of the worship service are adapted from:

- + Monologues (“Star-filled Grace” by Rachel Mann, Iona books);
- + Call to worship, Creed, Prayers of Intercession (Ruth Burgess. Hay & Stardust Wild Goose Publications); Communion prayer: (Katherine Hawker **Liturgy Outside**);
- + Offering Prayer (Bill Hoppe, Ministry Matters);
- + Post-communion prayer (Ruth Duck, Flames of the Spirit)

Music Notes:

Dmitry Stepanovich Bortniansky (1751 – 1825) was a Russian Imperial composer of Ukrainian Cossack origin. He was also a harpsichordist and conductor who served at the court of Catherine the Great. Bortniansky was critical to the musical history of both Russia and Ukraine, with both nations claiming him as their own. Bortniansky is known today for his liturgical works and prolific contributions to the genre of choral concertos. He was one of the "Golden Three" of his era, alongside Artemy Vedel and Maxim Berezovsky. Bortniansky was so popular in the Russian Empire that his figure was represented in 1862 in the bronze monument of the Millennium of Russia in the Novgorod Kremlin. He composed in many different musical styles, including choral compositions in French, Italian, Latin, and Russian. His teacher, Baldassare Galuppi was the maestro di Cappella of Saint Mark's in Venice and he came to St. Petersburg at the Empress's invitation to set up a comparable chapel choir led by him, and later by Bortniansky.

Scheduled to Serve Sunday, December 31st @ 9:30 AM

Assisting Minister

Ushers

Don Icken

Lois Lawrence

Deb Lyon

Let's Wish a Happy Birthday to:

Peter Donoghue, Jan 1

Laura Defilippis, Jan 2

Decan Howard, Jan 2

Dawn Marinich, Jan 2

Andrea DeMarchi, Jan 3

Maxine Foley, Jan 4

Dylan Torlish Jan 4

Zachary Duben, Jan 5

Sara Corbi, Jan 6

Helena Cusano, Jan 7

Julius Cesare, Jan 9

Bradley Guszack, Jr., Jan 11

Luke Morello, Jan 11

Alexandra Alam el Din, Jan 13

Dunlin Stathis, Jan 13

Sarah-Marie Alam el Din, Jan 17

Robert Lee, Jan 18

Stephanie Ann Dudowitz, Jan 20

Jake Groundwater, Jan 23

Erin Markert, Jan 23

Jennifer Morello, Jan 24

Thomas DeMarchi, Jan 25

Kyle Steike, Jan 25

Daniel Minieri, Jan 27

Heather Larocchia, Jan 29

Anna Trieller, Jan 31



WELCOME VISITORS! Please sign the guest register and complete a Record of Communion card.

PARENTS OF INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN: We cherish the presence of our youngest members at worship. Restless or unhappy children can be taken to the Narthex, where worship can be heard over speakers. You are welcome to move in and out of the sanctuary as needed. Busy bags with age-appropriate activities are available for our youngest worshippers. Please return these at the end of the service.

Poinsettias & Wreath decorating Nave are given by:

- ♥ *Anna Bernstein to the Glory of God*
- ♥ *Barbara & Bruce Markert in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Barbara Roden in loving memory of Erich Roden, Ethel & Carl Moebis and Sophie Roden*
- ♥ *Bill Rieg in loving memory of his wife Sylvia Rieg*
- ♥ *Carol & Fred Fendt in thankfulness for all of God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Carol Wise with wishes of Peace and Love for all*
- ♥ *Cindy Simon in loving memory of her husband John Simon*
- ♥ *Deb Lyon prays that may our cups overflow with God's joy which we then share with all who cross our paths*
- ♥ *Debbie & Joe Efferen in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Dorothy Kafalas in loving memory of her daughter Patti Kafalas, the Rencken Family members and in honor of Howard & Dan's birthdays*
- ♥ *Franklyn & Mary Beth Commisso in memory of Frank & Elsie Commisso, Albert & Frances Jerry and in gratitude for God's small creatures*
- ♥ *Halsey Tuthill, Ciaran, Carrie, Fiona and Ciaran James Cioffi in loving memory of Elaine M. Tuthill & Harold & Anna Schaller*
- ♥ *Hilde Christofori in memory of Karl Christofori*
- ♥ *Joan Bradley in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Joanne & Don Icken in loving memory of William Goscinski*
- ♥ *Kathie Ruhs & Family in loving memory of husband, father & grandfather Larry Ruhs; we miss you!*
- ♥ *Ken & Barbara von Barga in loving memory of Helen & Robert Webers and Marie & Henry von Barga*
- ♥ *Laurie & Peter Bell in memory of Mom, Peggy & Danielle*
- ♥ *Lisa Schuldt in loving memory of Callie Lou Schroeder and in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Marilyn & Neil Platt in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Mark & Kathleen Harpster in loving memory of their parents*
- ♥ *Pat Will in loving memory of her parents Rose & Chester Stiles*

- ♥ *Paul & Michelle Zabko in memory of Joseph Zabko and in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Philip & Donyce DeRoberts in memory of Esther DeRoberts and Mary Langord*
- ♥ *Robert Fendt in memory of John & Dawn Cocker, Gary & Maria Cocker, Louis & Jane Fendt and Eileen & Harold Lyons and in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Sigrid Allen in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *Sue Ellen Kelly in loving memory of Roxane P. O'Brien*
- ♥ *Susan & Michael Stringer in memory of all their loved ones!*
- ♥ *The Baldanza Family in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *The Beal Family in gratitude for God's many blessings*
- ♥ *The Bettcher Family in memory of Jessi-Ann Bettcher and Lynda Kraus*
- ♥ *The Johnson/Zhang Family in memory of Regina "Jeanie" Johnson*



Poinsettias may be picked up after service on Christmas day and during that week, any not taken will be delivered to shut-ins/nursing homes after Christmas.

WORSHIP SERVICES — DECEMBER 2023 - JANUARY 2024

Sunday, Dec. 31, Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion, 9:30 AM

Sunday, Jan 7, Holy Communion, 9:30 AM

Sunday, Jan 14, Service of the Word, 9:30 AM

Sunday, Jan 21, Holy Communion, 9:30 AM

Sunday, Jan 28, Holy Communion, 9:30 AM

The organ prelude and preparatory time for worship begins approximately ten minutes before each service.

A complete calendar can be found at www.trinitybrewsterny.org

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS: *To add a name to Trinity's prayer list, please complete a request form located in the pew and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office. To update the list, please contact the church office: trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com; 845-279-5181.*

THE 2024 FLOWER CHART is up. To donate flowers, please print your name and phone number next to the date you would like, and Kathie Ruhs, a Flower Fund Secretary, will be in touch. Thank you for helping to beautify our sanctuary.

ANNUAL REPORTS are due on or before Friday, January 12, 2024. Please e-mail them to the office or drop a hard copy off in the staff mailbox. If you need a copy of your report from last year, also email the office: trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com

The cut-off date for 2023 contributions is December 31, 2023.

Please pick up your 2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES in the narthex. **Please make sure to use 2023 Envelopes until the end of the year and 2024 envelopes starting January 1, 2024**

Annual Congregation Meeting, January 28, 2024, 10:30 AM In order to be a voting member of Trinity Lutheran Church, you must contribute once and receive Holy Communion here once a year. To ensure that our records are accurate in 2023:

- ✓ ☐ Please use your NEW contributor number--mark each contribution with your number.
- ✓ ☐ If you wish to contribute to multiple funds in the same week, please mark your contribution accordingly, including General Fund, Mortgage, Building Improvement, or Festival Music.

RECORD OF COMMUNION: All members and visitors, each week before going up to receive Holy Communion, please complete a RECORD OF COMMUNION CARD and hand it to an usher on your way up. PLEASE PRINT. We keep these records primarily to accurately determine eligible voting members (confirmed members who, during the current or preceding calendar year to a specific congregation meeting, have communed and have made a contribution of record to this congregation).

Trinity Lutheran Church Mission Statement: As a people of God, we desire to experience the presence of God in our lives that we might be the presence of God in the lives of others.

Trinity Lutheran Church

2103 Route 6, Brewster, NY 10509; 845-279-5181;

www.trinitybrewsterny.org; Office Hrs: M-F, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Reverend Jennifer Boyd, Pastor: revjedyer1@yahoo.com; 845-279-5181

Charles A. Germain, Jr. and Dorothy R. Kafalas: Deacons

Franklyn W. Commisso, Ph.D.: Minister of Music

Sue Ellen Kelly, Office Admin: TrinLutheranOffice@yahoo.com

Peter Donoghue, Council President

Members of Trinity: Ministers to the Community & World