

Christmas in July

**Christmas in July
Wednesday
July 29, 2026
6 p.m.**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
Verses 1 & 3

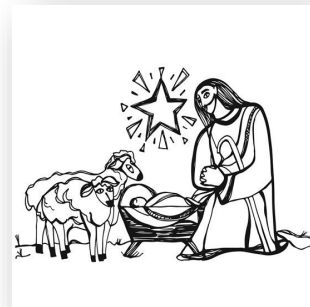
ELW #283

1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest. *Refrain*



WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE

GATHERING SONG

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"
Verses 1 & 3

ELW #270

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

LITANY

Sing to God something brand new!

For God has done wonderful things!

God has not forgotten to love us all!

Even the ends of the earth have heard!

Make a joyful noise!

Break forth in song!

With strings and horns,

sing praise to the Holy One!

With the roaring sea and everything in it!

With all the land and everything in it!

The floods clap their hands.

The hills sing for joy.

Thank God! God is coming to set everything right:

Justice for everyone, everything fair.

Sing to God something brand new!

For God has done wonderful things!



Welcome to Worship at Trinity Lutheran

Whether this is your first time worshipping with us, or if you regularly attend, we are very glad that you are with us! Today, we gather to worship God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The church is not a building – it is you, the people. So "church," thanks for showing up today. If you look around what you will see are imperfect people. Some with smiles, some with broken hearts, some with secrets they are ashamed to share... and yet all of us together are the "church."

We are thankful you are here. Through God's Holy Spirit we pray you hear a word of grace and hope today.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Incarnate God,

on this day we give you thanks for sending your Son to bring light to our darkness. Grant that we, like the angels over Bethlehem, may sing your praises in our hearts and lives. Amen.

READING: ISAIAH 9:2-7

²The 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
Verses 1 & 2

ELW #288

**1 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!**

**2 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 forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!**

GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-20

The holy gospel according to Luke, chapter 2, beginning with verse 1.
Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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. To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

My thoughts on the scripture
and message

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S TIME/SERMON

Pastor Martha HarriSon

HYMN OF THE DAY/OFFERING

"Joy to the World"
Verses 1 & 2

ELW #267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

**Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

**Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

"Away in the Manger"
Verse 1

ELW #277

**1 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.**

Please pray for Amy, Rod, Melissa, Hal, Ken, Betty, Jan, Dwight, Donna, Carol, Mark, Blair, Marsha & Genevieve.

Verse 3

**3 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.**

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSIONING FOR SABBATICAL

On the seventh day God rested and celebrated all of creation. God surveyed all that God had made and said, "It is good."

Pastor Mark, we work together in ministry here at Trinity, and have much to celebrate. We celebrate your encouragement, direction, and leadership in our work together as God's people in this place. Of this ministry together we say with confidence, "It is good."

We send you now on this Sabbatical journey confident that God will bless your every step, refresh your spirit, renew your mind, strengthen your body, and return you to us empowered for our continued task of ministry here at Trinity, in Bismack, and in the world.

We will miss you, even as we faithfully carry out with joy and hope the ministry to which we are called. As you attend to your Sabbatical, please know that our thoughts and prayers will be with you, that we support you in every way, and that we look forward with joy to your return.

Pastor Mark: *I, too, look forward to that day when I will return and share in our ministry together. I will miss you as well, and I will pray for you whenever you come to mind. Thank you for creating this opportunity for a time of Sabbath rest in my ministry.*

Go, now, with our blessing, and with the blessing of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, + Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

“Go Tell It on The Mountain”

ELW #290

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!**

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

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

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

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2026

RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM is in memory of Jerry Leer, and G.O. and Gay Leer, given by Julie Leer.

OUT OF DARKNESS WALK - Our Mental Health and Substance Abuse Task Force will be sponsoring a team for the Out of Darkness Walk again this year. The walk is on Sunday, September 13th, at the Capitol Grounds. The Out of Darkness Walk raises funds and awareness for suicide prevention. Please join our team! All are welcome! Follow this link for more information on how to join us: <https://afspwalks.donordrive.com/teams/393805>. You can also make an online donation at this page as well.

ONLINE GIVING - Giving has never been easier! Open your camera on your phone and scan the QR code. It will take you right to Trinity's online giving site. You can choose to give via credit card or bank account. Try it out today!



SCAN ME

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Wednesday 7-29 CHRISTMAS IN JULY

6 PM - Christmas Worship in Sanctuary

6:35 PM - Meal served in Fellowship Hall

Friday 7-31

10 AM - Theology and Coffee in Conference Room

Saturday 8-1

10 AM - Grief Group in Conference Room

Sunday 8-2

8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary

9:30 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall

10:30 AM - Worship in Community Center

Monday 8-3

2 PM - Ladies' Bible Study in Conf. Room

Tuesday 8-4

9 AM - Quilters in Quilters' Room

5 PM - Worship & Music Committee in Conf. Room

6 PM - Community Builders Comm. in Conf. Room

Wednesday 8-5

6 PM - Worship outside at Peace Chapel


BACKPACK BLESSING
Sunday, August 16 @ 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, August 19 @ 6 p.m.
Students of all ages, teachers, bus drivers, etc. are invited to join us for worship with a special blessing and tag to add to your backpack as a gift.

