



WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1505 College Avenue, Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310-4861

Reverend John Flamme, Guest Pastor
E-mail: tlchurchlcms@yahoo.com
Bible Classes and Sunday School, 9:00 AM,

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Divine Service 10:15 AM

MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 2
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

THE UNION OF HUMAN AND DIVINE IN THE INCARNATION

AS WE GATHER

Why do Christians wait for Christmas instead of jumping into the season head first (like the rest of our culture)? It is so unnatural to wait---especially when we know what is coming. But waiting is the mark of Christian faith and life. Believers in the promise of God waited until finally flesh would contain the Son of God and the promise of redemption would be fulfilled in the face of the Child, born of Mary.

Still we wait, not to visit again the manger, but to welcome Him whom the Spirit has revealed on the wood of the cross. He is the long expected Jesus who came once, who still comes among us in His Word, His water, and His bread and wine with His body and blood, and who will come again. While we wait, we proclaim Him. As John once called Him, Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, so do we proclaim Him, the Lamb of God, whose death means life and whose life means hope.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN LSB 344 "ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY" (STAND ON LAST VERSE)

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite
Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love.

People and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 1Thessalonians 5:8

Pastor: So no faith, hope, and love abide, these three:

People: but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13

Pastor: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

People: Our God comes; He does not keep silence.

Pastor: Prepare the way of the Lord:

People: make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Pastor: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness:

People: let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

Psalms 50:2-3a; Isaiah 40:3, 45:8

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: We confess together

People: Lord and giver of life, light and salvation---we come before You this evening ready to confess our sins of thought, word and deed which have offended You. We have often not been eager to tell others that Christ is coming again. Help us to cast off the works of darkness, to sincerely repent of all evil in our lives and to be prepared for the coming of the King. Forgive us Lord

Pastor: God who is full of grace and kindness has heard your cry for mercy. For the sake of the great King who died in your stead, all your sins are forgiven and forgotten. Walk now in the brightness of His light. In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit

**People Amen. Christ was promised to come, He came, and He will come again—
Come Lord Jesus!**

+WORD+

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 40:1-11 (ESV)

(The prophet speaks of the messenger of hope God will send to His people)

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of

the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” ⁶A voice says, “Cry!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” ¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-21 (ESV)

(God sent the world what it needs the most, a Savior)

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

SERMON HYMN LSB 376 “ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID’S CITY” (VERSES 1, 2, 4, & 5)

- 1 Once in royal David’s city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
 Where a mother laid her baby
 In a manger for His bed:
 Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven,
 Who is God and Lord of all,
 And His shelter was a stable,
 And His cradle was a stall;

With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

- 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heav'n above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

- 5 Not in that poor, lowly stable
With the oxen standing by
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–95, alt.
Text: Public domain

SERMON

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN LSB 341 “LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES”

VERSES 1-3

- 1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring;
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise
Your joyful songs of praise.
- 2 A righteous Helper comes to thee;
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings;
Therefore the earth is glad and sings.

To Christ the Savior raise
Your grateful hymns of praise.

- 3 How blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes
To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless sun of joy is He
Who comes to set His people free.
To God the Spirit raise
Your happy shouts of praise.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

PRAYER

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our pastor in Christ and all servants of the Church and for all the people of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our public servants, for the government, and those who protect, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who labor to bring peace, justice, health, and protection, in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for the increase of peace, let us pray for the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the faithful who have gone before us with the sign of faith and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: Alleluia.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Almighty God, as You visited Your grace to the Virgin Mary that she should become the mother of Your Son, so visit us with Your grace that we may join in her song of praise and thanksgiving all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever

People: Amen.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the (+) Son and the Holy Spirit bless and preserve you.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN LSB 370 ***“WHAT CHILD IS THIS”***

- 1 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!
- 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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98
Text: Public domain

SILENT PRAYER