

*Light*



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*Christmas Eve*

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**December 24, 2018**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
38801 Blacow Road  
Fremont, CA 94536  
Church: (510) 793-6285

December 24, 2018  
5 pm and 9 pm – Christmas Eve  
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity  
Web Site: holytrinityfremont.org

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*“Joy to the world, the Lord is come . . .”  
With joy we greet you in the name of Christ.  
Your presence helps add to the happiness of Christmas.  
Welcome one and all!*

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### Singing Bowl

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

### PRELUDE

[5pm & 9pm] . . . *“He Is Born”* – Michael Keating and Leilani Camara

### GATHERING WORDS

*P: Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy.*

**All: To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.**

*P: This will be a sign for you; you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.*

**All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace! Let us go now to Bethlehem.**

### WELCOME

Please Stand

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING . . . *“Love’s Pure Light”*

Choir: Creator of the stars of night,  
Thy people’s everlasting light,  
Jesu, Redeemer, Savior of all,  
Hear thy servants when they call.

All: O come, O come, Em - man - u -  
el, and end this gloom of night. Bring  
hope to the world, bring peace to the  
earth, and fill us with love’s pure light.

### LITANY . . . *The Light of Christ*

L: For those walking in darkness, a new light has dawned.

**All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting hope.**

L: For those living in fear and dread, a new light has dawned.

**All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting peace.**

L: For those living in hopelessness and despair, a new light has dawned.

**All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting joy.**

L: For those living in loneliness, a new light has dawned.

**All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.**

Candle is lit



*P:* Tonight, we light all the candles as we celebrate the birth of Christ. The first candle of hope. The second candle of peace. The third candle of love. The fourth candle of joy. They all remind us that Christ is our light and the source of eternal hope, everlasting peace, boundless love, and endless joy. Tonight we light the Christ candle, which reminds us that God's perfect gift was sent to us that we might have life abundant and everlasting. Joy to the world and peace on earth. Let us worship Christ, the newborn King.

**All:** Today we celebrate God's gift of love and remember that we have been commanded to love others as God loves us.

**All:** O come, O come, Em - man - u -  
el, and end this gloom of night. Bring  
hope to the world, bring peace to the  
earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

Choir: Bring hope and joy and peace,  
And fill us with love's pure light.

## CLOSING PRAYER OF CANDLE LIGHTING

*P:* Gracious God, tonight as we gather together to conclude our Advent journey, we celebrate that new light has dawned.

**All:** A child is born and that child is our light and the source of our joy.

*P:* He brings hope into the world, and the promise of peace on earth.

**All:** Jesus is love incarnate, love divine, and we thank you dear Lord for this, the most perfect gift imaginable. Joy to the world! Christ is born! Amen.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*L:* In the midst of a silent night sky, a star beckons:

**All:** Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

*L:* In the midst of a tranquil field, an angel proclaims:

**All:** Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

*L:* In the midst of our loneliness and pain, God calls:

**All:** Rise up, children, and follow.

*L:* With the promise of new life, Christ whispers:

**All:** Rise up, children, and follow.

**ENTRANCE HYMN . . . "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful" vs. 1, 3**  
- Green Book #45

## INVOCATION

*P:* God of light and love,

**All:** shine upon us this Christmas Eve and in the year ahead.

*P:* Guide us out of darkness and into your joyous light.

**All:** May our lives reflect your glorious love, that others may see your Christmas Spirit in us, each and every day of our lives. Amen.

## GREETING

*P: The grace and loving-kindness of our Savior Jesus Christ, word made flesh, born of the Virgin Mary, is with you all.*

**All: And also with you.**

Be Seated

**HYMN . . .** “*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*” vs. 1, 2  
- Green Book #60

## A CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

L: O wondrous God of the stars,

**All: we come tonight with breathless wonder, to see the babe who will change our lives.**

L: We hear the names Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace,

**All: and we are in awe.**

L: You have touched the earth this night with your unconditional love.

**All: Touch our hearts and minds and souls, that we may never tire of this story, or take it for granted.**

L: Make this night holy again.

**All: Amen.**

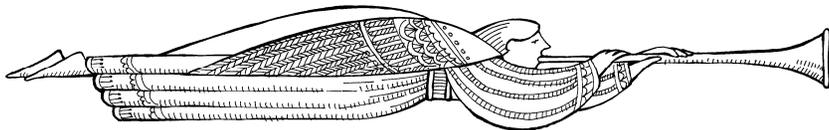
## SPECIAL MUSIC

[5pm] . . . “*The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy*”

– Art Kuhlmann and Leilani Camara

[9pm] . . . “*Sing Gloria*” - Choir

Please Stand



Reader: Don't be afraid! Look! Listen!

**All: God brings us good news, wonderful news for all people in the words of Christmas.**

Reader: The Christmas reading is from the second chapter of Luke

**All: Glory to God in the highest heaven.**

## THE CHRISTMAS READING . . . Luke 2:1 – 20

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. 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. 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. 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. 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." 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!" 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. 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. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Reader: There was gratitude in Joseph's heart for a stable warm and dry.

**All: Is there gratitude in our hearts?**

Reader: There was song in the air when the angels announced Christ's birth.

**All: Is there a song in our hearts?**

Reader: There was joy in Mary's heart as she wrapped her son in swaddling clothes.

**All: Is there joy in our hearts?**

Reader: May it be so, O God.

**All: May it be so.**

Be Seated

**CHILDREN'S TIME . . . Pastor Tim**

Please Stand

**HYMN**

[5 pm] . . . "Go Tell It on the Mountain" vs. 1, 2  
- Green Book #70

[9 pm] . . . "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" vs. 1, 2  
- Green Book #54

Be Seated

**A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE . . . Pastor Tim**

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

L: Christ comes to babies, angels and shepherds, sages and kings, old and young. This ancient story comes with promises of peace and love for all.

**All: May our offering be a sign of peace and love as we share our gifts with God.**

**THANKFUL OFFERING**

**MUSIC DURING OFFERING**

[5pm] . . . "One Small Child" – Karen Narveson and Leilani Camara

[5pm] . . . "One Small Child" – Madison Billmann and Leilani Camara

Please Stand

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE . . . tune: "In the Bleak Midwinter"**

**All: What can I give him, poor as I am?**

**If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;**

**If I were a wise man I would do my part;**

**Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

L: Light of love, fill the world with the hope of your salvation. As we offer you our deepest gratitude for the birth of your Son,

**All: we bring you the gift of our very lives.**

L: Join our hearts to the joy of the angels and shepherds,

**All: as we send our offering out into the world, that others may share the joy of this holy night. Amen.**



## THE PRAYERS

L: As heaven and earth rejoice, let us pray for the needs of the church and all the world. Your great compassion, O God, has increased our joy. Give us gratitude each day for your light and the bread of life. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Because you are a God of healing and renewal, you make whole what is broken. We beg your mercy on all who find this time of year a burden. Strengthen the grieving and comfort those who struggle with addictions. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: We give thanks for those before us who witnessed to your presence, taught us to pray, and strengthened us in the truth, and all with whom we share the feast of eternal life. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: By the power of the Holy Spirit, you have given us to each other to encourage and challenge. Give us hearts that remember your Christmas gifts beyond this night. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## THE PREFACE . . . *tune: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"*

L: Oh, may the good Lord be with you.

**All: And may the Lord be with you too.**

L: Lift your hearts to God in praise.

**All: To the Lord our hearts we raise.**

L: Let us offer praises true.

**All: It is fitting so to do: Gratefully we sing to the Lord, our King!**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*P: Creating God, in the beginning was the Word. You spoke the Word and the world came into being. The Word you spoke was hope. The Word you spoke was justice. The Word you spoke was love. Throughout the years the prophets echoed your Word, promising a child who would bring light to our darkness, a child who would bring endless peace to our world of violence. With joy we sing . . .*

## THE SANCTUS . . . *tune: "From Heaven Above"*

**All: As light breaks forth, we sing your praise  
To you, Redeemer of our days,  
For we have found in Jesus' birth  
Good news of peace and human worth.**

## CONSECRATION

*P: In the fullness of time, you sent your Word to us. A child was born in a stable. A star shone, leading the world to the child. Angels came to shepherds with good news and songs of praise.*

**All: There was great joy for all people, for Jesus Christ was born: Savior of the world, hope of the nations, light for all creation.**

*P: The baby grew into a man who healed the sick, reached out in compassion. Taught your ways, and proclaimed your truth. On his last night with his friends, he gave us one more gift – the gift of a meal for remembering; the gift of a meal for hope and joy. And so, Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, sharing the nourishment of body and spirit. He said to them: "Take, eat and remember. I am Emmanuel, God with you." After supper Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, and shared it with his friends. He said to them: "Drink this. This is a cup of blessing, a*

*cup of forgiveness. This is God's gift, offered in love."*  
*And so, we ask your blessings on these ordinary things:*  
*gifts of the earth, gifts of the bread and fruit of the vines.*

**All: Make them be for us Jesus Christ, gift of love,  
Emmanuel, hope of the nations.**

*P: Send your Spirit upon us this night, that we may be the  
faithful body of Christ, sharing the gift of your love with  
grateful hearts and joyful minds.*

**All: Bless us this night and forevermore.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus  
taught us:*

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your  
kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in  
heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us  
our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save  
us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For  
the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now  
and forever. Amen.**

### FRACTION RITE

*P: Joy to the world! Our Savior has come.*  
**All: Let every heart receive our Redeemer!**

Be Seated

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Holy Communion is open to all.  
Walking communion is down the center aisle.  
Please receive the elements and return to your seat.  
Grape juice is white, wine is red.  
If you desire communion brought to you,  
please let an usher know.

### COMMUNION HYMNS

*"The First Noel" . . . . . Green Book #56*  
*"O Little Town of Bethlehem" . . . . . Green Book #41*  
*"What Child Is This" . . . . . Green Book #40*

Singing Bowl

Please Stand

### POST COMMUNION BLESSING

*P: On this night, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save  
us.*

**All: As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good  
news for all people.**

*P: Let the gladness of this meal have no end*

**All: as we share with others the joy that fills us; through  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### THE THANKSGIVING . . . tune: "I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"

**All: Lord, let Your servants go in peace,  
Your Word had been fulfilled:  
Our eyes have seen the Light increase  
Which for the world You willed,**

**For Israel's Light, the promised One,  
Now shines for all to see.  
To God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Be praise eternally!**

Be Seated



## CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

*P: The God who said, "Let there be light," has caused light to shine in our hearts.*

**All: That light is the glory of God reflected in the face of Jesus Christ.**

*L: As our candles are a sea of light lit from the one light of Christ, so may we the people of God reflect Christ's light and love in this world.*

**All: Amen. May it be so.**

The pastor lights candle from the center candle.  
Ushers light their candles from the pastor's candle,  
then light the candle of the worshiper next to the aisle.

The lit candles should NOT be tipped –  
tip the *unlit* candle when lighting from a neighbor's candle.

## MUSIC DURING CANDLE LIGHTING

[5pm] . . . "Wexford Carol" – Keith Hillesland and  
Leilani Camara

[9pm] . . . "Candle Carol" – Choir

HYMN . . . "Silent Night"

**All: Silent night, holy night!**

**All is calm, all is bright**

**Round yon virgin mother and child.**

**Holy Infant, so tender and mild,**

**Sleep in heavenly peace,**

**Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night!**

**Shepherds quake at the sight;**

**Glories stream from heaven afar,**

**Heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!**

**Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night, holy night!**

**Son of God, love's pure light**

**Radiant beams from your holy face,**

**With the dawn of redeeming grace,**

**Jesus, Lord, at your birth,**

**Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

## LITANY

*P: God of light, you shine in the deepest darkness.*

**All: Christ is born!**

*L: Praise God that the light of our Savior shines so brilliantly in the darkness.*

**All: Christ is born!**

*P: Arise! And, may the light of Christ radiate through us to our needy world.*

**All: In God there is no darkness! Christ is born!**

**Alleluia! Amen!**

## BLESSING

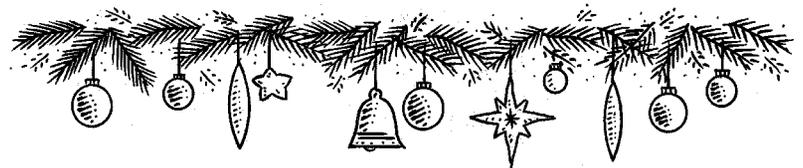
*P: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. God bless you now and forever.*

**All: Amen.**

Please Stand

SENDING OUT HYMN . . . "Joy to the World" vs. 1, 2

- Green Book #39



## COMMISSIONING

L: Once we walked in darkness.

**All: Tonight we walk in the light of Christ.**

L: Once we wandered with no one to lead us.

**All: Tonight we follow the Prince of Peace.**

L: Once we felt lost and forsaken.

**All: Tonight we sing the glory of our salvation.**

L: Once we were weary from work and worry.

**All: Tonight we are reborn with Christ, through God's glorious love. Merry Christmas!!**

## POSTLUDE

[5pm & 9pm] . . . "Christmas Morning" – Carmen Blair, Dean Sieglaff and Leilani Camara

### Special Thanks to . . .

Those who helped decorate the church this Christmas Season;  
Those who helped with tonight's worship experience;  
Those whose musical talents enriched our services;  
*YOU* for sharing your evening  
at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

**We hope to see you at our Single Carol Service  
on December 30<sup>th</sup> at 10 am!**

**We invite you to join our regular Sunday Services.  
Regular service schedule resumes January 6<sup>th</sup>.**

8:45 am - 21st Century Traditional Service  
10 am - Sunday School  
10:15 am - Adult Forum  
11 am - Service of Living Praise  
(Childcare provided at both services)

## The Poinsettias decorating our sanctuary are given to the Glory of God by the following:

The Anderson Family – *in memory of  
Richard Charles Anderson, Elmer & Violet Anderson,  
and Ralph & Marilyn Wieters*

David & Sandy Barron – *for the love of family and friends*  
Carmen Blair – *in memory of Ed Blair*

Carmen Blair – *in memory of Amy & Harold Krantz*  
Ellen, Michael, Cassie, Katarina, Anthony & Rebecca Di Paola  
– *in memory of Susan Morgan*

Cheryl Hall – *in memory of Gary Hall*

Cheryl Hall – *in memory of Howard Hall*

Keith Hillesland & Richard Taylan – *in memory of  
Harold Hillesland*

Pastor Tim, Debbie, Jacob & Rachel Huff – *in honor of  
families and friends*

The Huff Family – *in honor of the Holy Trinity faith community*

Art & Cheryl Kuhlmann – *in memory of our parents*

Donna Lee – *in memory of Venice Lee*

The MacFarlane Family – *in honor of our many friends*

The MacFarlane Family – *in memory of parents and  
grandparents*

The Miedema Family – *in memory of family members  
who have passed*

Kate Mills – *for all those promoting peace in the world*

The Pickerings – *our parents*

The Thormoto Family – *in memory of Aki Sakamoto*

John & Faye Williams – *in memory of Mabel Aiken*

