

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



WHEN THE WORLD WAS DARK

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

7:30 PM

Prelude

Call to Worship

***Hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel; verses 1-4* #257**

***Litany**

Leader: Light looked down and saw darkness.

Congregation: “I will go there,” said Light.

L: Peace looked down and saw war.

C: “I will go there,” said Peace.

L: Love looked down and saw hatred.

C: “I will go there,” said Love.

L: So the Lord of light the Prince of Peace the King of Love came down and crept in beside us.

***Hymn: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* #283**

Gospel: Luke 2.1-20 Page 832 in black pew Bible

Sermon

Reading: From Isaiah 9 Page 555 in the black pew Bible

***Hymn: *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* #282**

***Prayer (adapted from Prayers for Prisoners at Christmas by Dietrich Bonhoeffer)**

L: O God, we call to you. Help us to pray. We cannot do so alone.

In me it is dark, but with you there is light.

C: I am lonely, but you do not abandon me.

L: I am faint-hearted, but from you come my help.

C: I am restless, but with you is peace.

L: In me is bitterness, but with you is patience.

C: We do not understand your ways, but you know the right way for us.

L: Father in heaven,

C: Praise and thanks to you for the quiet of the night.

L: Praise and thanks to you for the day.

C: Praise and thanks be to you for all your goodness and faithfulness in our lives.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, you were poor and miserable, imprisoned and abandoned as I am.

C: You know all human need, you do not forget me and you seek me, you want me to recognize you and turn back to you.

L: Lord, we hear your call and follow. Holy Spirit,

C: Grant me the faith that saves me from despair and vice. Grant me the love for God and others that purges all hate and bitterness.

L: Grant me hope that frees us from fear.

Our creator and Savior, this day belongs to you. Our time is in your hands.

C: Our creator and Savior, you know me and all my ways and actions. You hate and punish evil in this and every world. You forgive sins for anyone who asks. And you love the good and reward it on this earth with a clear conscience and in the world to come with the crown of righteousness.

L: Before you, we remember all those we love and all those in need of your love and presence. Lord, have mercy.

C: Lord, whatever this night and the coming day brings, your name be praised. Amen.

A Reading: *Cries of the Spirit* Hildegard of Bingen

Offering

Reading: from the first chapter of the gospel of John

***The Great Thanksgiving**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn . .

Hymn: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

#270

Eucharistic Prayer

***Lord's Prayer**

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.

Communion

Prayer after Communion

Sharing of the Light

Hymn: *Silent Night*

#281

(congregation lights candles)

***Benediction**

We leave in silence, sharing the peace of Christ, The Light come in the world!