



LESSONS & CAROLS

FEATURING:

- THIEL COLLEGE CHOIR
- HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH CHOIR

Sunday, Nov. 23, 2025
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

A CONCERT IN THE FRIENDS OF MUSIC SERIES

Cover art: A portion of the Central *Nativity* panel of the Advent Triptych 2025 by John August Swanson, 1985-1988
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Order of Service

Organ Voluntary: Reprise on *E'en so, Lord Jesus quickly come*

Paul Manz

Processional Hymn

§ *All stand*



§ *The choirs alone sing verse 1 & 2.*

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.

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.

§ *All sing:* **And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honor and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden,
in whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.**

**For he is our childhood's pattern:
day by day like us he grew;
he was little, weak, and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew:
and he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him
through his own redeeming love,
for that Child so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.**

Not in that poor lowly stable
with the oxen standing by
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high,
when, like stars, his children, crowned,
all in white shall wait around.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander

Music: *Irby*, Henry John Gauntlett, arr. by David Wilcocks

§ *Remain standing.*

Welcome & Bidding Prayer from the Pastor

The Lord's Prayer

ALL 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect § *Response: Amen.*

§ *The congregation sits.*

Choir anthem: *Advent* from *Advents Och Julsånger*, op. 33

Zion's daughters lift your eyes as heaven's kingdom now is near.
Shout Hosanna in the highest! Lo, your king is coming here.
God, His son to earth has sent. Sing with joy, this Advent.

Spread His path with palms and flowers, open wide your heart to Him.
Trust in Him whose love empowers light and life in every limb.
Blessed day of His descent, sing for joy, this Advent.

Never cease this jubilation, like the roaring of the sea.
We will shout with every nation: Hosanna David's Son!
King of Glory heaven sent. Sing for joy, this Advent!

Words: Paul Nilsson; trans. Birgit Jacobson

Music: Otto Olsson



FIRST LESSON

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-22

The Director of Parish Ministry reads the lesson.

God creates man and woman to live in obedience to Him in the Garden of Eden.

Choir carol: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

The tree of life my soul hath seen
Laden with fruit and always green
The tree of life my soul hath seen
Laden with fruit and always green
The trees of nature fruitless be
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
His beauty doth all things excel
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought
And pleasure dearly I have bought
For happiness I long have sought
And pleasure dearly I have bought
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil
Here I will sit and rest a while
I'm weary with my former toil
Here I will sit and rest a while
Under the shadow I will be
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit does make my soul to thrive
It keeps my dying faith alive
This fruit does make my soul to thrive
It keeps my dying faith alive
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Words: anon. 18th century English

Music: Elizabeth Poston



SECOND LESSON

Genesis 3:1-15

A chorister reads the second lesson.

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Hymn

§ *Sung by all, standing.*

I - sa - iah in a vi - sion did of old the Lord of hosts en - throned on
high be - hold, whose splen - did train was wide out - spread un - til its stream - ing
glo - ry did the tem - ple fill. A - bove God's throne the shin - ing ser - a - phim
with six - fold wings did rev - 'rence un - to him. With two each ser - aph hid his
glo - rious face, and two a - bout his feet did in - ter - lace, and with the
oth - er two he soared on high, and one un - to an - oth - er thus did cry:
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly
is the Lord of hosts! His glo - ry fill - eth all the earth!" The beams and lin - tels
at their cry - ing shook, and all the house was filled with bil - lowing smoke.

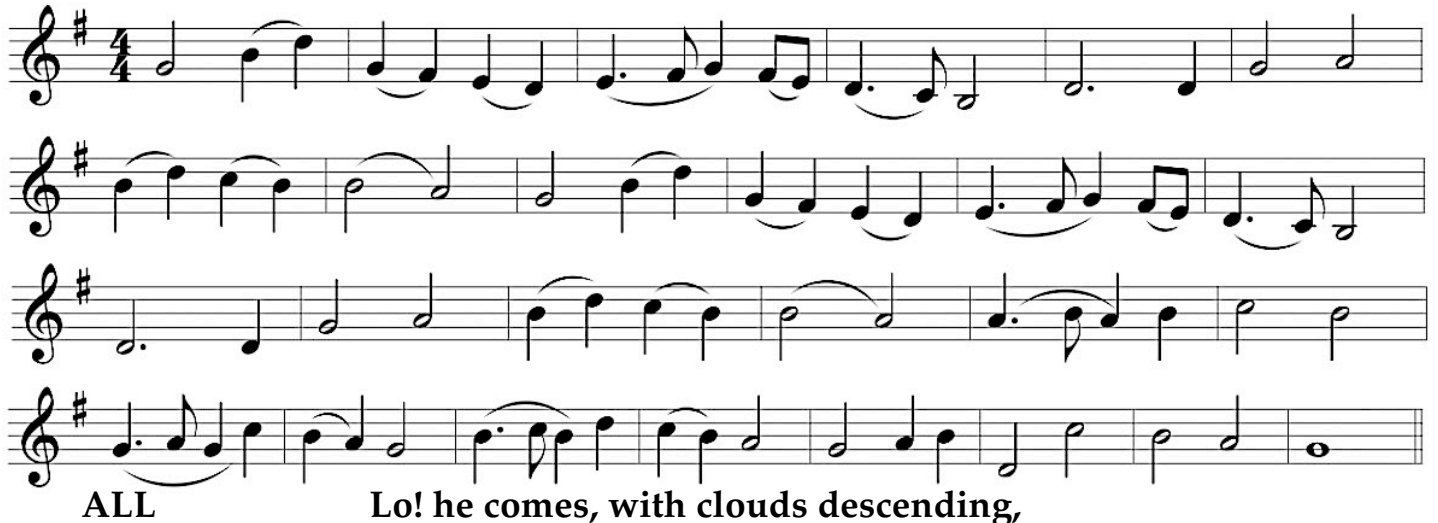
Words: Martin Luther; tr. Martin H. Franzmann

Music: *Jesaia, dem Propheten*, Martin Luther

§ *Remain standing.*

Hymn

§ *Sung by all, standing.*



Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain;
Thousand, thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshipers;
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture,
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea! Amen! let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne!
Savior, take the power and glory;
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
thou shalt reign and thou alone.

Words: Charles Wesley
Music: *Helmsley*, Augustine Arne

§ *The congregation sits.*



THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

The President of Thiel College reads the lesson.

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

Choir anthem: E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come

Peace be to you and grace from Him
who freed us from our sins,
who loved us all and shed his blood
that we might saved be.

Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord,
the Lord, Almighty God,
who was and is and is to come;
sing Holy, Holy Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
for Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
and night shall be no more;
they need no light nor lamp nor sun,
for Christ will be their All!

Words: Revelation 22:5, adapt. Ruth Manz

Music: *E'en so Lord Jesus quickly come*, Paul Manz



FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

A former Thiel College President & member of the church reads the lesson.

The prophet foretells the coming of the savior.

Hymn

§ Sung by all, standing.



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

5 O come, O Key of David, come
 and open wide our heav'nly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 add close the path to misery. *Refrain*

6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer"
 O sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*

7 O come, O king of nations, come,
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:
 refresh the hearts that lone for you;
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israël,
 that mourns in lonely exile here
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Words: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710, tr. composite

Music: *Veni Emmanuel*, French Processional Chant Book, 15th cent.

§ *The congregation sits.*



FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-9

A Professor Emeritus and parish & choir member reads the lesson.

The Spirit of the Lord rests upon the Holy One.

Choir carol: Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
as men of old have sung.

It came a floweret bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Words: trad. German, trans. Theodore Baker

Music Jan Sandström

An Offering is taken to benefit the Thiel Choir European Tour this Spring.



CAROL

§ Sung by all, standing.

Refrain

O ti-dings of com-fort and joy, com-fort and joy; O ti-dings of com-fort and joy.

God rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Savior Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power When we were gone astray: *Refrain*

From God our heavenly Father A blessèd angel came,
And unto certain shepherds Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born: The song of God by name: *Refrain*

The shepherds at those tidings Rejoicèd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding In tempest, storm, and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway This blesséd Babe to find: *Refrain*

But when to Bethlehem they came, Where at this infant lay,
They found him in a manger, Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling Unto the Lord did pray: *Refrain*

Now to the Lord sing praises, All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas All others doth deface: *Refrain*

§ *The congregation sits.*



SIXTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-58

A Thiel College Board of Trustees & parish member reads the lesson.

The angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

Choir anthem: Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads his vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the presence as with ceaseless voice they cry.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high! Amen.

Words: Liturgy of St. James, para. by Gerard Moultrie

Music: *Picardy*, arr. Gustav Holst



SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-20

A Lecturer of English & church member reads the lesson.

Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and shepherds.

Choir anthem: Lux Arumque

Lux calida gravisque pura velut aurum
Et canunt angeli molliter modo natum.

*Light, warm and heavy, as pure as gold,
And the angels sing softly to the newborn.*

Words: Edward Esch

Music: Eric Whitacre

Hymn

§ *Sung by all, standing.*



1 Un - ex - pect - ed and mys - te - rious is the gen - tle
2 In a mo - men - tar - y meet - ing of e - ter - ni -
3 We are called to pon - der mys - t'ry and a - wait the



word of grace. Ev - er - lov - ing and sus - tain -
ty and time, Mar - y learned that she would car -
com - ing Christ, to em - bod - y God's com - pas -



ing is the peace of God's em - brace. If we fal - ter
ry both the mor - tal and di - vine. Then she learned of
sion for each frag - ile hu - man life. God is with us



in our cour - age and we doubt what we have known, God is
God's com - pas - sion, of E - liz - a - beth's great joy, and she
in our long - ing to bring heal - ing to the earth, while we



faith - ful to con - sole us as a moth - er tends her own.
ran to greet the wom - an who would rec - og - nize her boy.
watch with joy and won - der for the prom - ised Sav - ior's birth.

Words: Jeannette M. Lindholm
Music: *St. Helena*, Calvin Hampton



EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

A choir & parish member reads the lesson.

*The wisemen are led by the star
to Jesus.*

Choir anthem: A Gallery Carol

Rejoice and be merry in song and in mirth!
O praise our Redeemer, all mortals on earth!
for this is the birthday of Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation, His praises we sing.

A heavenly vision appeared in the sky;
vast numbers of angels the shepherds did spy,
proclaiming the birthday of Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation: his praises we'll sing.

A very bright star in the sky did appear,
which led the wise men from the East to draw near.
they found the Messiah, sweet Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing.

And when they were come, they their treasures unfold,
and unto him offered myrrh, incense and gold.
so blessed forever be Jesus our King,
who brought us salvation, His praises we'll sing!

Words: Old Dorset Church-gallery Book
Music: *Gallery Carol*, arr. Marlowe Johnson

Candle Lighting



§ *The congregation stands.*



NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-18

The Campus & Parish Pastor reads the lesson.

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Choir anthem: The Word was God

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
The same was in the beginning with God.
all things were made by him; and without him was not anything.

Words: John 1:1-18

Music: Rosephayne Powell



Advent Triptych : Epiphany – Nativity – Shepherds by John August Swanson

Hymn

§ Sung by all, standing.

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts

Music: *Antioch*, English 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason

Officiate: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Collect

§ *Response: Amen.*

§ *Remain standing.*

Recessional: The Pastor, Readers, & The Thiel College Choir leave the chancel in procession.

Postlude: Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel*

Adolphus Hailstork

Everyone is invited to a reception in Brath Hall
located in the basement.



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The Pastor
The Reverend Brenda Martin

The Crucifer
Catherine Mott

The Readers

- 1st Lesson – Don Acenbach, Thiel College, 1977, Dir. of Parish Ministry
2nd Lesson – Bryanna Mong, Thiel College, 2028
3rd Lesson, Dr. Susan Traverso, 20th President of Thiel College
4th Lesson – Dr. Robert Olson, Thiel College 1960, Honorary 2009, 18th President of Thiel College,
member of HTLC
5th Lesson – Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson Thiel College Professor Emeritus of Religion and Inaugural
Director of the Dietrich Honors Institute, member of HTLC
6th Lesson – Catherine Mott, Thiel College Board of Trustee, member of HTLC
7th Lesson- Sean Oros, Thiel College 2015, Lecturer of English, member of HTLC
8th Lesson – Trey Wilt, Thiel 2023, member of HTLC
9th Lesson – Rev. Brenda Martin, Thiel College Campus Minister, Pastor of HTLC

The Music Director
Steve Repasky

The Thiel College Choir Director
Brianne Samson

Thiel College Choir Members

Savanah Adams	Markus Dixon	Bryanna Mong	Ashley Ross
Dominick Baker	Kaden Drew	Mariah Moody	Alyssa Sherman
Hyeonha Booh	Jacob Farley	Ryan Pacious	Dwayne Simpkins
Adam Burse	Lillian Groover	Kendra Pennington	Hannah Smail
Ariel Carney	Savanna Hoalcrafft	Pereston Peterson	Samantha Stine
Ticey Carr	Jacob Hoffmann *	Abigail Porrin	Summer Stitt
Ronald Chambers	Marah Householder	Zion Reitnauer-Norris	Rowan Thomas
Marley Chapman	Neira Laird	Kaylee Reynolds	Daisy Woods
Kyleigh Coy	Charlle May	Meldoy Robinson	
Bereket Debebe	Laci McCloe	Nathaniel Robinson	
Imogen deBlois	Joyce Metz	Madison Rodgers	* Celesta

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Choir

Sue Auchenbach	Billie Hollenbaugh	Hannah McKinney	Don Rasely
Fran Black	Dave Hollenbaugh	Collen McNally-Harris	Curtis Thompson
Mary Beth Bradley	Liz Lewis	John Myers	Kathryn Thompson
			Trey Wilt

Ushers

John Logan - John & Mary Moore

Hospitality

Linda Armstrong - Beth Harpst - Jim & Jennifer Martin
Bonnie Massing - Ed Pitcher - Catherine Richardson