



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH 1909

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

For Joseph

This blessing wonders about a father
who does not get a spoken word
and declares love incarnate anyway.

about his code of honor and shame,
normes weighed by drama and duty
to keep him in line and deciding quietly

about a man who couldn't imagine
a future in which they belonged to each other
until a dream interrupted what he knew

about a partner who brought her home
and a parent who saved his newborn son,
a servant who believed dreams come true.

by Meta Herrick Carlson



The Fourth Sunday of Advent
12.21.2025 | 10:00am | trinitylutheran.ws

Welcome to Trinity!

A place of love, grace, and belonging, where all, without exception, are loved, honored, valued, affirmed, welcomed, and celebrated.

If we can make you feel more at home, please speak to an usher or greeter.

As disciples of Christ working for peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and embrace all people, without exception, into the fullness of God's love. We advocate for racial, gender, queer, and economic equity. We celebrate people of all cultures, ages, races, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status, and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this community. All are invited to join us as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another.

ADULTS & CHILDREN

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex or the Gym for children. Bags for preschoolers are tied with a white ribbon. Bags for elementary age children have no ribbon. After worship, used bags may be placed in the baskets next to the stands.

A nursery hosted by a member of the Trinity staff, Beth Oswald, as well as a small group of rotating volunteers who have been trained in Trinity's Child Protection Policy is available each Sunday morning beginning at 9:45 am to care for infants and toddlers who would prefer enjoying play time instead of attending 10:00 am worship. The nursery is located on the first floor of the Pence Building. Please reach out to a greeter or usher if you need assistance.

PRAYING WITH US

We encourage you to participate fully in our service, as you are comfortable. We invite you to read aloud the **bold text**. Wherever you see (+), you are invited to cross yourself. Other actions are indicated during the service, but none are required.

LET'S GET CONNECTED

If you are new to Trinity, we are thrilled to have you here. If you would like to know more about this congregation and our ministry please share your contact information with us by filling out a Connection Card which can be obtained from the pew racks or baskets. Thank you for your presence among us.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of her parents, by Carol Elliott.

Serving Today

Susan J. Crowell,
Presiding Minister and Preacher

Patrick D. Preacher,
Assisting Minister

**Jim Parham, Organist &
Choir Director**

Lector
Geoff Reid

Prayers
Melissa Kolb

Cantor
Jeff Rehm

Guitar
Duke Barsody

Communion Assistant
Joe Druga

Acolyte
Lauren Whitworth

**Children's Worship
Opportunity**
Mark Allen, Emily Kerbuski

Nursery
Karen Craig

Praying for Possibilities
Terri Sullivan

Greeters
Mark Allen
Chris Barsody
Pattimarie Janssen
Lani Ludian
Sarah Weeks

Ushers
William Bryant
Richard Delap
Calvin Harmon
Franklin Sease

Video
Henry Wilcox

Audio
Gregg Alley



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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God Welcomes All

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you're able.

Blessed be the God of Israel (+)
who does wondrous things for all of God's beloveds.
O Loving God, in this season of waiting and longing,
we come, in honesty and vulnerability,
to admit our fears and longings to you.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our heavenly parent,
we confess that we do not always live as people preparing for the light.
We hurry through our days and ignore the quiet invitations to pause.
We cling to what is familiar and safe,
even when what is familiar and safe to some of us is deeply harmful to others
of us,
even when your Spirit calls us toward justice, mercy, grace, and courageous
love.
We name out loud before you the harm we cause -
to ourselves, to one another, to your creation -
through our inaction, our assumptions, and our fear.
Yet you come to us, again and again,
bringing strength to our weary bodies,
granting peace to our anxious hearts,
engendering hope to our perplexed spirits.
Forgive us.
Renew us.
Heal us.
Wake us to your Advent promise.
Amen.

Beloved community, hear this good news:
God draws near to you.
God brings stillness, solitude, gentle moments of healing to your advent busyness.
God shines light into the shadows of your life,
dispels the darkness of this weary, burdened world.
You are forgiven, liberated, loved.

In the name of Jesus, (+) you are made new,
made ready for the coming of Christ,
given all you need to carry Christ's light into the world.
Amen.

In the confession we admit the ways we have not lived as we were created to live, both individually, and corporately, and ask for forgiveness. The pastor declares to us the wonderful grace of God's promise of forgiveness, reconciliation, and the absolute remission of guilt.

Text: Marty Haugen,
b. 1950

GATHERING HYMN

Music: REJOICE,
REJOICE, Marty
Hauger

Text and music
© 1983 GIA
Publications, Inc.,
7404 S. Mason Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com.
800.442.3358.

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Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.



GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

And also with you.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
kindle within us the fire of your Spirit,
that we may be light shining in the darkness.
Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen.

ADVENT HYMN

Vs. 1, 2, 3, 4

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965

Music: BESANCON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose. b. 1934

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associate:

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord is with you.

and also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy One, you enter our world, not through perfection, but through chaos – into the confusion of Joseph's fear, into Mary's unexpected story, into the fragile places where life feels unsteady and uncertain. Open our eyes to see you in the middle of our own messes: in the questions we cannot answer, the relationships we cannot make work, and the hopes we are afraid to name. As we wait for the coming of Christ, may we, like Joseph, rise with courage, choosing love over fear and tenderness over hubris. Prepare our hearts to welcome your light, right where life is most messy, trusting that this is exactly where you choose to send your child to be born; through Jesus, the Christ, whose birth is drawing near. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

God Speaks to Us Through a Living Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰YHWH spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹“Ask a sign of YHWH MOST HIGH; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put YHWH to the test.” ¹³Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore God will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two rulers you are in dread will be deserted.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The prayer of the day covers the wide variety of human longing and responsibilities of the church and humanity.

We follow a three-year cycle of readings called a Lectionary. These are lessons being heard in congregations from many denominations throughout the world on this day.

The divine name, YHWH (pronounced YAH-wey), is the English transliteration of the four consonants of the original Hebrew. This is the name God spoke to Moses out of the burning bush, and is an ancient and extremely holy name for God. One of its possible meanings is “I am that I am.”

The Psalm is a hymn or poem. The psalms cover the whole range of the relationship between God and God's people. The Book of Psalms, while a "book" of the Bible, consists of 150 hymns intended to be sung.

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship* Year A © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

Accompanied by Child Protection trained adults, children are invited to leave worship after the children's sermon to go hear the scripture read in ways more appropriate for their age. Using lectionary stories heard in worship each Sunday, the children not only hear scripture, but enjoy a related activity such as a game, craft, or music. Children return to worship during the sharing of the peace and in time to participate in the celebration of Holy Communion.

PSALM

Psalm 80:1-7; 17-19

Psalm
Refrain



- ¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.
- ² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.**
- ³ Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ⁴ **O LORD | God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? R**
- ⁵ You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.
- ⁶ **You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**
- ⁷ Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ¹⁷ **Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.**
- ¹⁸ And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
- ¹⁹ **Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. R**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

A Gift for the World



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand as able. Verses. 1 and 4.

Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge,
1702-1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD,
Thomas Haweis, 1734-
1820

During worship, there is always a reading from a Gospel. We stand to indicate the importance we place on Jesus' words and actions.

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel from God appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel from God commanded; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

God in the Middle of the Mess

HYMN OF THE DAY

Love Has Come

Please stand as able.



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible,
b. 1950

Music: UN
FLAMBEAU, F.
Seguin, *Recueil de
noëls composés en
langue provençale*,
1856

Text © 1996
Integrity's Hosanna!
Music (ASCAP), c/o
Integrity Media, Inc.,
1000 Cody Road,
Mobile, AL 36695.



APOSTLE'S CREED

God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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 INTERCESSION

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

In the anticipation of your Nativity, make room in our hearts for your arrival. Stir our spirits through the gifts of this congregation's artists, musicians, poets, worship leaders, and preachers, as together we proclaim your advent among us. As we watch and we wait,
receive our prayer.

How can the earth keep from singing as it heralds the Messiah's coming? Come, Lord Jesus! Fill us with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. Lift our voices as you do the cardinals and sparrows. Fill our hearts and our spirits with the joyful singing of your creation in anticipation of the arrival of our Savior. As we watch and we wait,
receive our prayer.

Continued on following page.

In the Creed, we respond to the proclamation of God's Word by affirming the historic faith of the Church. We "believe" (from the Latin credere, literally "to put one's heart into") because we offer our trust in the story of God's creating, redeeming, and remaining with the world. "We" believe because the church as a whole, the Body of Christ, carries and strengthens the faith of each individual. Also note that when it is not capitalized, the word "catholic" is defined as universal or inclusive.

The Prayers of Intercession are always responsive, because everyone gives voice to the supplications. We include prayers for others throughout the world, in our Synod, and those connected to our congregation.

You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors both near and far. Bless the organizations this Congregation has supported this Advent season including Fostering Great Ideas, United Ministries, and Mental Health America, as well as those we support year-round. As we watch and we wait,

receive our prayer.

With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease. Bring swift comfort to those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery, medical procedures, or treatment for illness. Bless chemotherapy technicians and those who serve the weak and dying in hospice. As we watch and we wait, O God,

receive our prayer.

When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Bring hope to parents suffering from infant loss and to those whose children suffer with disabilities. Comfort those of us facing unknown and unspoken challenges, uphold all who are anxious, who experience the struggle of depression, and uplift the Queer, Trans, and marginalized as they face an uncertain holiday among family who may not be affirming. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... As we watch and we wait,

receive our prayer.

Surround expectant parents and new parents with communities of love and support. Bless parents and caregivers, granting them an abundance of patience, as children find themselves home from school. Protect us from the chaos, God! Guide those who parent to that allow children to thrive and feel the depths and richness of true love. As we watch and we wait,

receive our prayer.

Shepherd the leadership of this congregation just as you shepherded those who journeyed to the manger on that holy night. We give you thanks for the ministries of Pastor Crowell, Pastor Parham, Patrick, Angie, Kay, Karen, Henry, Roy, Jerry, and Beth as they busily prepare for our celebration of your Nativity. Fill hearts with gladness in the sights, sounds, and tastes of Christmas worship in the coming week. Continue making this community a place where all, without exception, truly know they are welcome among us. As we watch and we wait, As we watch and we wait,

receive our prayer.

We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service. Strengthen our earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your love. As we watch and we wait,

receive our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.



PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated.

God Invites Us to the Table

OFFERING

The Yearning

Adult Choir

Music: Craig Courtney, Text: Susan Benthall Boersma

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow

There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide
and in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow.

There is a yearning for the promised One, the Firstborn of creation.

There is a yearning for the Lord who visited his own,
and by his death for sin atoned, to bring to us salvation.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of his appearing

There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased
and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts the yearning.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

The Peace has been exchanged in worship since the time of the first Christians. It is a profound act to offer the miraculous peace of God to one another before we join in communion with God and each other.

The Offertory is when we bring our gifts of bread, wine, money, and our very selves to present to God as our initial act of thanksgiving. This collection is a visible reminder that our whole lives are God's, and a part of what God has given us we give back in thanksgiving for all that we have and all that we are. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to our website trinitylutheran.ws, by scanning the QR code, or texting [TLLCGIVE](https://tllcgive.com) to 73256.



Music: Cameroon
traditional, arr
John L. Bell

OFFERING HYMN

You Came Down

Text: Cameroon
traditional adpt.

Arr. © 1986 Iona
Community, admin.
GIA Publications, Inc.

1 You came down that we may have love; you
2 You came down that we may have light; you
3 You came down that we may have peace; you
4 You came down that we may have joy; you

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff has a 7/8 time signature. The melody features a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure.

came down that we may have love; you came down that we may
came down that we may have light; you came down that we may
came down that we may have peace; you came down that we may
came down that we may have joy; you came down that we may

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. It features two triplet markings over eighth notes in the treble staff.

have love;
have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - e - ver - more.
have peace;
have joy;

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a final chord and a fermata. The bass staff continues with a triplet of eighth notes.

Let us pray, Eternal God,
**you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.
Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,
and make us messengers
of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.
We ask this through Christ our Savior.
Amen.**



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, God of pow - er, God of
might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed is the one who
comes Blessed! Blessed! in the name of God.

The Sanctus (holy, holy, holy) recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, overwhelmed by the presence of God in the sanctuary, and these words were sung by the people as Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The Sanctus reminds us that this is an offering of the whole creation, which joins in singing these praises.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus gave to his followers when they asked him to teach them to pray. It links our daily bread to the spiritual food we receive in Communion.

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.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

In an effort to further embrace Trinity's mission of welcome, affirmation, and hospitality, both wine and grape juice are available in the split chalice.

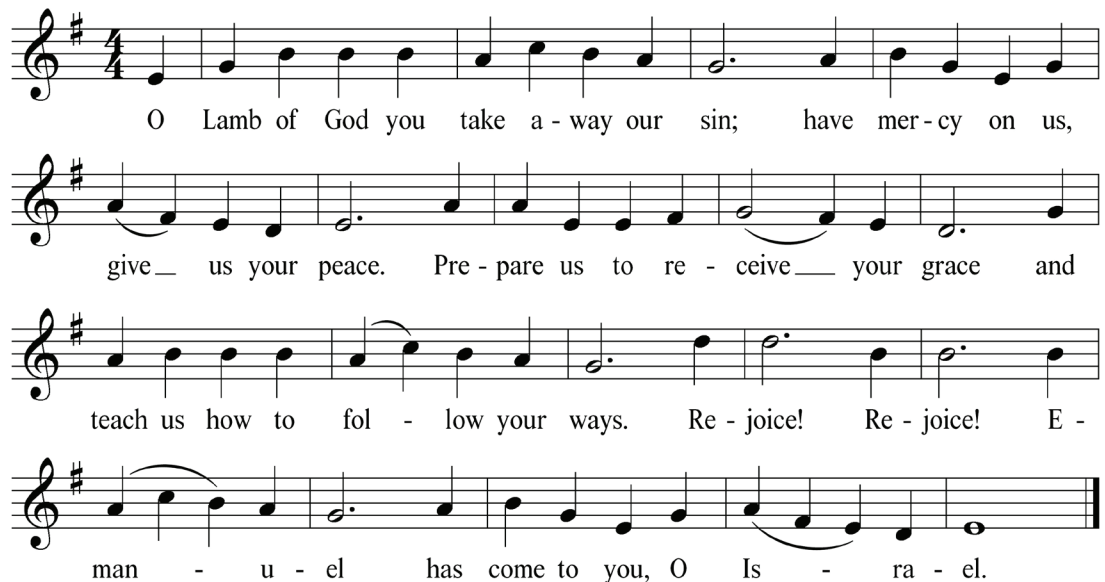
COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Both wine and grape juice are available in the split chalice— wine in the larger section and grape juice in the smaller section. Christ's grace and forgiveness is found in the bread, wine, and grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available.

At the direction of the ushers, worshippers are invited to move to the front of the center aisle to dip the wafer into the chalice to receive Communion by intinction.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Lamb of God



O Lamb of God you take a-way our sin; have mer-cy on us,
give us your peace. Pre- pare us to re- ceive your grace and
teach us how to fol- low your ways. Re- joice! Re- joice! E-
man- u- el has come to you, O Is- ra- el.

From
Everlasting Light

© Text 2011
Rev. David Eck



Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

1 Re - joyce, re - joyce, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.

The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

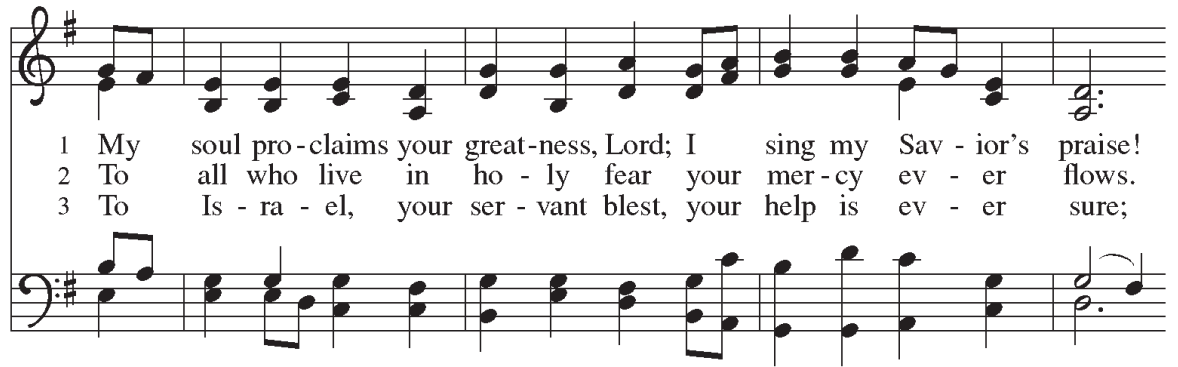
Laurentius Laurenti,
1660-1722; tr. Sarah
B. Findlater, 1823-
1907.

Music: HAF TRONES
LAMPA FARDIG,
Swedish folk tune

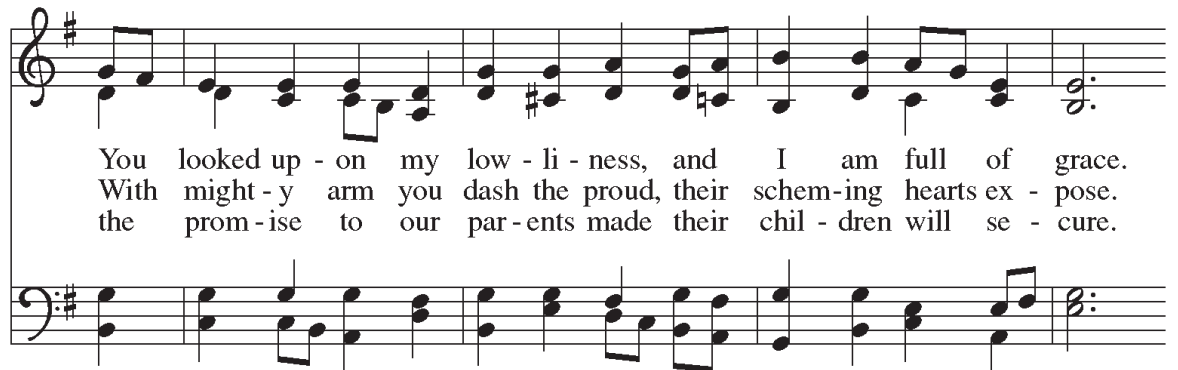
Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificus: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-195 texte 1990 Augsourg rortress.

Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

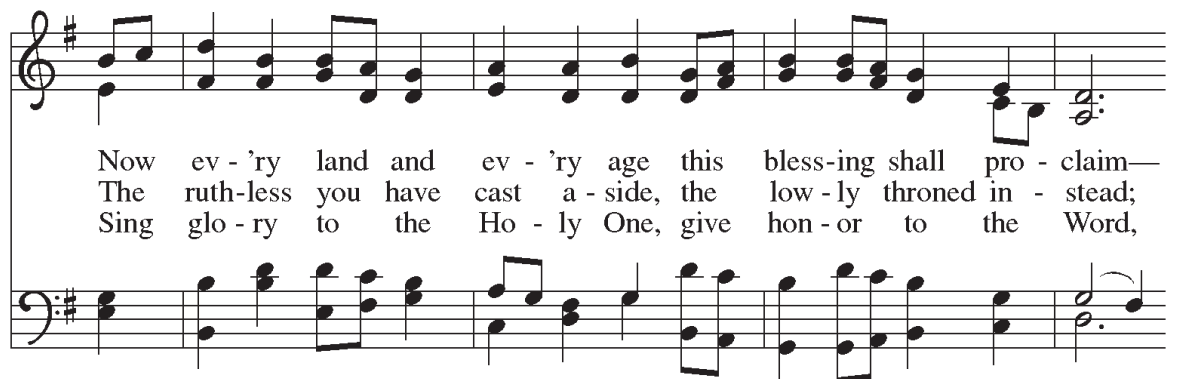
My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



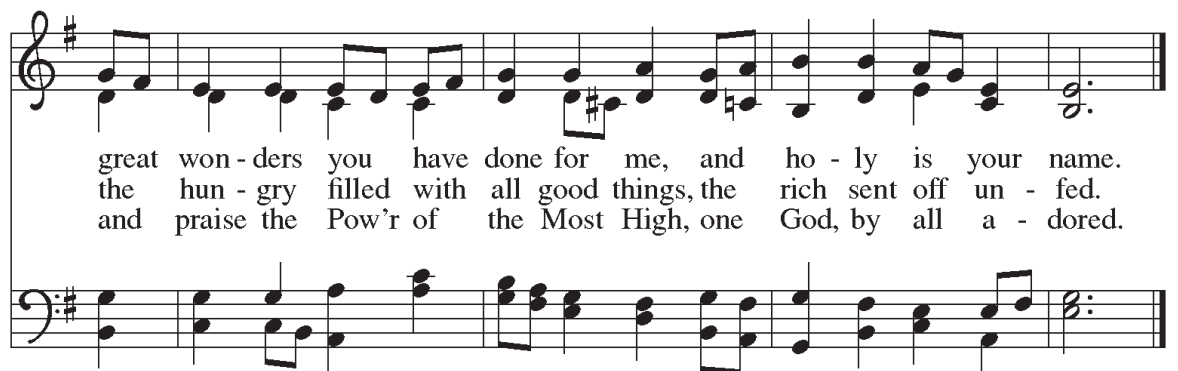
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.



Unexpected and Mysterious



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.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961

Music: ST. HELENA, Calvin Hampton, 1938-1984

Text © 2002 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Music © 1977 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com.

Text: Charles Wesley,
1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON,
W. Walker, *Southern
Harmony*, 1835

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Light Dawns on a Weary World

Text: Mary Louise
Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF
PEACE, William P.
Rowan, b. 1951

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7404 S. Mason Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com.
800.442.3358.

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P. Rowan, admin. GIA
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7404 S. Mason Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60638.



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in won-der ech - oes sha - lom.

Please stand as able.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of unfolding hope,
We thank you for this meal that nourishes and strengthens us
and for the loving presence of Christ made known among us.
As we journey from this meal,
may the promise of advent take root within us;
the promise that light grows in the shadows,
that justice can flourish in weary places,
and that peace is possible, even now.
Walk with us as we wait, as we watch, and as we work
for the coming of Emmanuel-
God with us, love through us, peace for all God's beloveds.

Amen.

After Communion,
we give thanks for
being part of the
communion of God's
life and for being fed
so that we may go
out to feed and serve
others in our world.

God Sends Us to Love and Serve the World

BLESSING

May this holy meal strengthen our hope,
awaken our longing for justice,
and kindle Christ's light within us.
As we journey through advent,
may love guide your steps,
peace shape your lives,
and joy fill your hearts
as God blesses you (+) this day and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Please stand as able.

Joy to the World

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 its 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.

Text: Isaac Watts,
1674-1748

Music: ANTIOCH,
George F. Handel,
1685-1759, adapt.;
arr. Lowell Mason,
1792-1872

DISMISSAL

Beloved Community...

Go now into the world as people who trust
that God shows up in the middle of real life –
in the questions, the complications, the holy mess.

Like Joseph, may you walk with courage,
choosing compassion over fear and presence over perfection.

And, as you go, may Emmanuel – God-with-us –
meet you in every scary, uncertain place
and make room in you for hope to be born again.

Go in peace. Christ is coming.

Thanks be to God.

Having heard the Gospel and having been fed at communion, the final act of our common worship is the Dismissal. It is not an afterthought, but an integral part of the service. Jesus' final action on earth was to send his followers into the world to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them to obey all he had commanded. And so we are sent out into the world to proclaim the Good News and be Christ's hands and feet on earth.



Church Staff

Susan J. Crowell

Senior Pastor

Kay M. Cook

Office Manager

James C. Parham, III

Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Henry W. Wilcox

Accountant and Digital Media Manager

Patrick D. Preacher

Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator and
Pastoral Associate

Karen M. Craig

Administrative Assistant

Angie H. McCormack

Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

Roy L. Cook

Facilities Manager

Jerry R. Wesley

Coordinator for Mental Health Wellness

Beth C. Oswald

Nursery Attendant

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Jaime Fivecoat

Jeff Rehm

Mike Boliek, *Treasurer*

Angie Hager

Margaret Roth

Donna Potts, *Secretary*

Deirdre Hixson

Kerry Sease

Lexi Thomas-Harewood, *Youth*

Dean Hybl

Chris Sorenson

Carl Brune

Patrick Morgan

Chris Wannemacher

Danny Fagala

Richard Moose



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Activities & Opportunities

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Roger Brown (partnered to David Foster) — discharged

Sandy Cannon-Spencer — 5239 Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Hospital

Sandra Hamann — Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Hospital

Deirdre Hixson — discharged

