



Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Come Together Grow in Faith Serve the Lord



December 22, 2019 8:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY

Your presence at worship is a gift! Take a moment to introduce yourself to someone near you. To our visitors, we offer a special welcome and invite you to sign the visitor's sheet near the entrance. Please allow us to get to know you by staying for refreshments and fellowship.

If you are new to Holy Trinity, please turn the next page for more information.

**WHAT
CAN'T
WAIT**



ADVENT 2019



Rev. Tim Krick, Pastor

www.htelc.com

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PastorTim@htelc.com

office@htelc.com

(603) 436-1704

Today at Holy Trinity

8:30 AM: Contemporary Worship **9:30 AM:** Fellowship **11:00 AM:** Traditional Worship

Worship Assistants		
	8:30 Contemporary Service	11:00 Traditional Service
Musical Director	Jon Koelker	Ken Galle
Musical Accompanist	Jonathan Bock & Dick Topping	Jonathan Bock
Liturgical Deacon	Tom Bernth	Franklyn Vosburg
Lector	Paul Goransson	Ken Galle
Acolyte	Micah Krick	Avani Pakasi
Ushers	Jim & Kathy McKenna	Ron Indorf & Donna Elliott
Counters	Jim & Kathy McKenna	Ron Indorf & Donna Elliott
Greeters	Paul & Helen Goransson	Jerry & Jill Schock
Roving Greeter	Susan Bock	Bonnie Sanders
Chalice Bearer	Kurt Kasik	Rani Marcus
Sound System	Tommy Monareh	Mark Donahue
Altar Guild	Julie Moore	Rani Marcus
Coffee Set Up	Lois Laurence	
Coffee Clean Up	Alice & Franklyn Vosburg	

This Week At Holy Trinity			
Day	Date	Start	Event
Tuesday	12/24	04:00 PM	Dover Friendly Kitchen
		04:00 PM	Christmas Eve – Family Service
		08:00 PM	Christmas Eve – Candlelight Service
		10:30 PM	Christmas Eve – Candlelight Service
Thursday	12/26	09:00 AM	Property Team
Sunday	12/29	08:30 AM	8:30 Sunday Worship
		10:00 AM	11:00 Choir Rehearsal
		11:00 AM	11:00 Sunday Worship

Last Week at Holy Trinity		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Wednesday, December 11	40	
Sunday, December 15	121 (8:30) + 54 (11:00) = 175	\$8,254.30

Emergency Contact Information: Please call the church office at **(603) 436-1704** and wait for the voicemail options. When instructed, press **6**, and you will be immediately transferred to Pastor Krick's cellphone.

Worship Information

A Warm Welcome as you worship with us today! Whether you are here for the first time or a long time member, know that you are welcomed in Christ's Name, joined to be with us, Christ's Body the Church, as we worship God.

Children: We love having children worship with us! We invite parents or caregivers to sit with their child(ren) around one of our children's worship tables where they can be a part of our service and engaging in quiet activities. If your child gets restless, an usher can show you and your children to our fully staffed **Wiggle Room (Nursery)** where your children can play until they are able to return. **One of the attendants will give you a pager in case your child needs you.**

Communion: It is our privilege to welcome you to the Lord's Table! We welcome all who are baptized and wish to receive the promise offered in the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Christ, to come and share in receiving Holy Communion. As you come to the Lord's Table, know that it is Christ who invites you to receive the bread and wine, the body and blood. If you do not wish to receive communion but would like to receive a pastoral blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest and the pastor will bless you instead.

Prayer Requests: Prayer Request Cards are available at the usher's stand, or can be filled out using our website under the **Need Help** page. Simply hand your prayer request to the Pastor or an usher.

Worship Photos & Videos may be taken for the purpose of posting in the media of our congregation. The photographer's credit will be provided and any image will be removed upon request. Parents are asked to fill out a release form concerning images of minors and no minor's pictures will be used without consent.

Personal Hearing Systems are available from an usher for anyone who has difficulty hearing and understanding the service. **Visual Problems?** In addition to the large print bulletins, we can offer you bulletins on your tablet or smartphone. See the Church Office for details.

Missed Last Week's Service? Our weekly Sermon is available to listen on our website, **htelc.com**, under Worship, and Recent Sermons. Subscribe to our podcast on iTunes & Stitcher.

Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/holytrinityevangelicallutheranchurch

Congregational Council & Leadership

Dave Smith, Council President

Cristina Dolcino, Vice President

Linda Edwards, Treasurer

Krissy Thistleford, Secretary

Joan Bauer, Council at Large

Julie Moore, Council at Large

Paul Karl, Council at Large

TBD, Worship & Music Team

Lara Scammon, Faith Formation Team

Dot Kasik & Pam Shaw, Library Team

David Arrington, Stewardship Team

Cheryl Brigham, CaringConnections

Ron Indorf, Domestic Social Ministry

Kurt Kasik & Cristina Dolcino, International Social Ministry

David Mercer, Property Team

Prayer Concerns

Please include the following in your daily prayers:

Members & Attenders

Health Issues: Edna Di Nola, Leah Waldschlagel, Hazel Larson & Family, Mary Kuck, Tina Waterman, Robert & Sally Rindfleish, Susan Rindfleish, Emily Beliveau, Jackie Kohlhase, Franklyn Vosburg, Grover Marshall, Brendan Podszus, Jean Klein, Jerry Schock, Shirley Jackson, Sue Anderson, Margareta Claesson, Mark Beliveau, Pastor Linn Opderbecke.

Homebound: Madeline Brandt, Marie Edin, Everett Nelson, Carol Saufley, Shirley Bauer, Edith Rowan.

Military: Josh Bretz, Matthew Hanrahan, Brendan Podszus, Jacob Schankis, Jessica Chabot.

Friends

The Vocell Family (Jeremy & Krystal Small's friends), Jamie Stevens (Jill Larson's sister), Matthew Seeley (Elinor Young's niece's partner), Kari King (Stephanie Goupil's sister), Cinda DeWerff & Linda Aten (Rich Wilcox's sisters), Judy Sieg (Geri Sieg's daughter-in-law), Marion Viole (Joyce Rivore's friend), Caleb Gray (Andy & Nancy S Gray's grandson), Garnet D. Wilcox (Rich Wilcox's brother), Nancy Burpee (Dave and Joyce Rivoire's friend), Jill Hanrahan (Leslie Darling's daughter-in-law), Richard Marshall (Grover Marshall's brother), Fred Keen (Rich Wilcox's brother-in-law), Todd Abild (Julie Moore's brother), John Barry (Tracy Barry's son), Lynn Geraci & Judi Thomson (Jill & Jerry Schock's friends), Martha Laperle (Betty King's friend)

Prayers will be listed for 6 weeks unless told otherwise. If you would like a prayer concern listed in the bulletin, please fill out a Prayer Request at the Usher's table or contact the Church Office at office@htelc.com.

Lectionary (Readings)

This week: Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;
Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

Next week: Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148;
Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

Notes on today's services

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

(Isaiah 7:10-16) An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

(Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19) Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)

(Matthew 1:18-25) Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

Announcements

Mark Donahue will be out of the office from Monday, December 23 through Thursday, December 26. He will return to the office on Sunday, December 29. He will also be out of the office on 12/31 & 1/1.

Pastor Tim will be out of the office after Christmas Eve, and will return after the New Year. Pastor George Koch will be our supply Pastor on Sunday, December 29.

Upcoming Reconciling in Christ Forums: Please find below a list of all upcoming forums for RIC. If you've missed a forum, you can find a DVD of each forum in the Church Library, under the Prayer Shawls. Some of these dates are tentative and are subject to change.

- Sun. 1/12 & Wed. 1/15: Rev. Amanda Nelson educates us on what the terms LGBTQIA and other new language means.
- Sun. 2/16 & Wed 2/19: Dr Skip Small will be here to present "A Pediatrician's understanding of LGBTQ."

Alternative Gifts Cards/Catalogs: Do you think about making the celebration of Christmas more meaningful? Why not purchase an alternative gift for those who really need them and send a nice card that has the "story" of the gift to a family member or friend. Look for the Alternative Gifts Catalogs and cards at a table on Sunday mornings or in the church office. Please use the order envelopes provided to help us distribute funds as requested.

Christmas Eve Worship Services will be as follows: *4:00 PM* family service; *8:00 PM* candlelight service; *10:30 PM* candlelight service. All are welcome!

Poinsettia Order Forms are now available in your bulletin. Place your order form with a check (payable to Holy Trinity & "Poinsettia" in memo line) or cash in the offering basket or to the church office. Please put any unused order forms on the Usher's table or Children's tables to be reused for the future.

Looking for a new Worship Assistant Scheduler: After seven years, David Reinhard is retiring from his volunteer position of Worship Assistant Scheduler, and the Church Office is looking for someone to step in as his replacement. With the help of Sign Up Genius, the task isn't very difficult or time consuming, and Dave is willing to train his replacement. If you're interested, please see Mark in the Church Office.

Dover Friendly Kitchen will be held on Tuesday, December 24 at 4:00 PM, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Dover, across from the library. All are welcome to volunteer on Christmas Eve to help feed the hungry in the Dover area. For more information, please see Jill Schock, Bonnie Sanders, or the Church Office. Anyone willing to bake an extra dozen cookies are welcome to drop off their cookies with the Church Office. We love to give the hungry at the Dover Friendly Kitchen an extra helping of cookies to take home for Christmas. Please drop off cookies by Sunday, December 22 at noon with the Church Office.

Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, January 26 between our services. In preparation for our Annual Meeting, we will meet between services on Sunday, January 19 to discuss the 2020 Budget. Annual Meeting team reports are due by Sunday, January 19.

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Sunday, December 22, 2019 — 8:30 a.m.

Call to Worship

P: We are courageous

C: When we are vulnerable.

P: We are courageous

C: When we are honest with ourselves.

P: We are courageous

C: When we extend words of welcome.

P: We are courageous

C: When we invite others to sit with us.

P: We are courageous

C: When we proclaim the love of God to a broken world.

P: We are courageous

C: When we say that love cannot wait.

P: So let us be courageous—

C: Let us worship Holy God.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Gracious God,

C: **we long to be as courageous as Mary and Joseph—
Brave enough to trust your call,
And strong enough to hold onto one another.
There are so many places in the world that could use our
courage. You know them, but we do too.**

So when fear takes over, forgive us.

When our knees shake and our words fail, forgive us.

When self-hatred is easier than self-love, forgive us.

When walls are more convenient than peace, forgive us.

When pessimism is more convenient than hope, forgive us.

**When our comfort is more important than our neighbor, forgive
us.**

You invite us to be courageous. Forgive us. Amen.

P: While we name what the world and we can't wait for during this Advent season, because of the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven for waiting passively and waiting for God to be the one to act on our behalf. May the peace that comes to us in forgiveness dwell in our hearts and minds throughout our lives.

C: Amen.

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
 Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358.
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Greeting

P: May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Amen.

WORD

The remaining lessons appointed for use on this Sunday are located in the announcements of this worship booklet. You are invited to read them during the collection of offerings or Communion. You are also invited to take this booklet home with you and read the lessons and prayers as part of family worship or individual devotions.

First Reading

—Please be seated—

L: A reading from Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord 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 the Lord himself 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 kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

—Please be seated—

L: A reading from Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

L: ¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**C: ²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

L: ³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

**C: ⁴O Lord God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

L: ⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**C: ⁶You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

- L: ⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- C: ¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**
- L: ¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
- C: ¹⁹**Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**
- L: Word of God, word of life.
- C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

The children are invited to come forward to join the Pastor at the Chancel for a message.

ELW 240, verse 4

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Gospel Acclamation ELW 533, verse 5 — Please stand as able—

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

Gospel

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, Chapter 1:18-25

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸Now 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 with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him 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. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

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

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

—Please be seated—

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



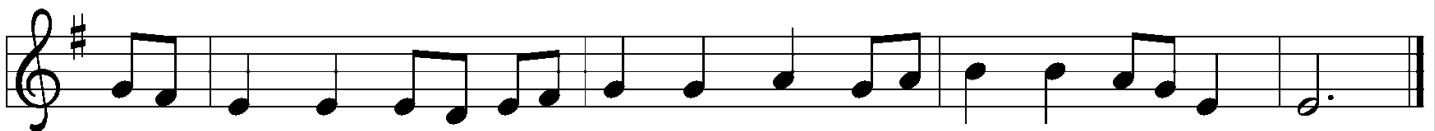
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer-cy ev - er flows.
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



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.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Prayers of the People

LD: Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

—A brief silence—

LD: Hear your church, O God, as we pray for all who belong to Jesus Christ. Where the church is scorned, preserve it; where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Y: Hear your earth, O God, as we pray for its healing and care. Protect the grapevine and the mighty cedar, the mountains and seas and all that is in them. Give life, that all life may call on your name. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

LD: We lift before you all those whose work puts them in harm's way for the sake of others, especially first responders and servicewomen and men who are stationed around the world. Allow all people to return home safely and keep them close to you. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Y: Hear those in need, O God, as we pray for all who face uncertainty: refugees and immigrants, those who are imprisoned, and those without work, housing, food, or health care. Bring good news to all in need of hope. We pray especially for those whose names are said out loud or silently. —A brief silence— Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

LD: We pray for our partners in mission and ministry: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Bishop James Hazelwood and the New England Synod, Pastor Livingstone Msungu and the Isimani congregation in Tanzania, Fundaninos

Orphanage in Guatemala, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, Imanuel Indonesian Lutheran Congregation, Ascentria Care Alliance and Camp Calumet. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

The Sharing of God's Peace

P: The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The congregation is invited to exchange expressions of peace with those near them. Please remember to greet the children too. You may be seated after the passing of the peace.

MEAL

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.

Offertory Song

ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to You: we are an of-fer-ing Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our
hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours: we are an of-fer-ing
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we
give to you, we give to you. We lift our
voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You: we are an
of-fer-ing Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are Yours: we are an of-fer-ing We are an of-fer-ing

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WLLC License #1460478

Offertory Prayer

LD: Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger.

C: Amen.

The Celebration of Holy Communion

As you come to the Lord's Table, know that it is Christ who invites you to receive the bread and wine, the body and blood. There will be a single communion station. You will receive a wafer (gluten free wafers are available). Next you may drink from the common cup, or you may take a pre-filled glass of non-alcoholic wine. Please put the glass in the basket at the end. If you would like to receive communion, but you are unable to come forward, please ask someone to talk to the ushers and we will bring communion to you.

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: 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 call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

—pg. 190—



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Feel free to use the version of the Lord's Prayer you are most comfortable with.

P: Now, as our Lord taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.

Invitation to Communion

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

Communion

pg. 191

—Please be seated—



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Hymns:

While others are communing, you are invited to sing a communion hymn or to meditate on the readings and prayers for the day. **Communion Hymn #1: ELW 250**

Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph - ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm
that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

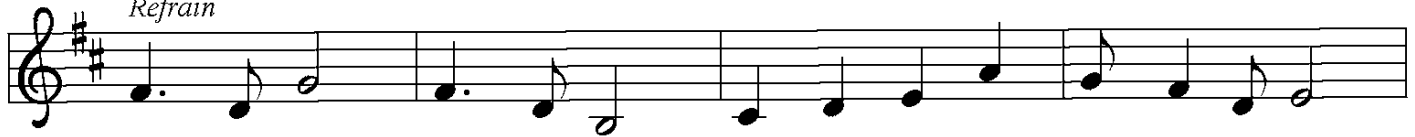
Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

Refrain



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joice in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - diant, nev - er turn a - way.
- 3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.

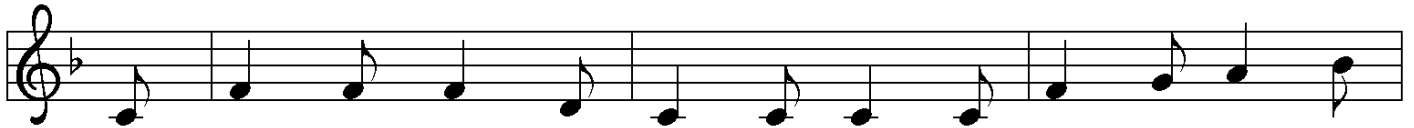
Refrain



in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joice!
 God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.
 Those who seek the Lord will lack noth - ing; taste, and have your fill.
 Rise to tell God's great - ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; *With One Voice*, stanzas, based on Ps. 34
 Music: STONERIDGE, Jeremy Young
 Text and music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Sending of Communion

— Please remain seated—

P: Gracious God, whose mercy endures from generation to generation: Bless those who go forth to carry your Word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers who are homebound. In your love and compassion, nourish and strengthen them with hope through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

Rites of Passage and Announcements

—Please remain seated—

The congregation is invited to share birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant events in the life of its members. Subsequently, brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the congregation's participation in God's mission in the world.

Benediction

—Please stand as able—

Please move across the aisle and join hands.

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

—Please remain standing—

LD: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

As we exit the sanctuary and begin fellowship, the choir will sing the Postlude.