



# Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Come Together Grow in Faith Serve the Lord*

**December 29, 2019 11:00 a.m.**

**First Sunday of Christmas**

## **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.**



Rev. Tim Krick, Pastor

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(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
<b>Musical Director</b>	Jon Koelker	Ken Galle
<b>Musical Accompanist</b>	Jonathan Bock & Dick Topping	Jonathan Bock
<b>Liturgical Deacon</b>	Alice Vosburg	TBD
<b>Lector</b>	Margareta Claesson	Bonnie Sanders
<b>Acolyte</b>	Eric Berg	Isabella Clemmons
<b>Ushers</b>	Paul Eide & TBD	Ron Indorf & Donna Elliott
<b>Counters</b>	Anggrin Sihombing & Mike Gass	Ron Indorf & Donna Elliott
<b>Greeters</b>	Margareta Claesson & Yvonne Topping	Larry & Bonnie Sanders
<b>Roving Greeter</b>	Paul Goransson	Rani Marcus
<b>Chalice Bearer</b>	Jo Whiting	Leslie Darling
<b>Sound System</b>	Franklyn Vosburg	Mark Donahue
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Linda Edwards	Julie Moore
<b>Coffee Set Up</b>	Scott Carson	
<b>Coffee Clean Up</b>	Bob & Judy Hollister	

This Week At Holy Trinity				
Day	Date	Start	Event	
Tuesday	12/31	04:00 PM	8:30 Choir Rehearsal	
Wednesday	1/1	<b><i>NO WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP</i></b>		
Thursday	1/2	09:00 AM	Property Team	
Sunday	12/29	<b>08:30 AM</b>	<b>8:30 Sunday Worship</b>	
		10:00 AM	11:00 Choir Rehearsal	
		<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>11:00 Sunday Worship</b>	

Last Week at Holy Trinity		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Wednesday, December 18	<b>22</b>	See Next Week's
Sunday, December 22	<b>94 (8:30) + 43 (11:00) = 137</b>	Bulletin

**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](https://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 Believeau, Jackie Kohlhase, Franklyn Vosburg, Grover Marshall, Brendan Podszus, Jean Klein, Jerry Schock, Shirley Jackson, Sue Anderson, Margareta Claesson, Mark Believeau, 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), 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](mailto:office@htelc.com).*

## Lectionary (Readings)

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

**Next week:** Jeremiah 31:7-14; Sirach 24:1-12;  
Psalm 147:12-20; Wisdom 10:15-21;  
Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:[1-9] 10-18

## Notes on today's services

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

**(Isaiah 63:7-9)** God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

**(Psalm 148)** The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

**(Matthew 2:13-23)** In a dream, Joseph is warned to flee to Egypt to protect the infant Jesus from the jealousy of Herod.

## Announcements

**Christian Sympathy to Grover Marshall and family.** Grover's brother, Richard Marshall, passed away on Wednesday, December 18.

**Christian Sympathy** to Bernie Olsen and family. Bernie's niece's husband Dave died suddenly in a workplace accident on Thursday, December 19.

**Mark Donahue** will be out of the office on December 31 & January 1. He will return to the office on Thursday, January 2.

**Pastor Tim** will be out of the office from now until the end of the week. He will return on Sunday, January 5.

**Advent Banners** are needed to come down today between services. If you're willing to help take them down, please meet Glenn Oswald in the Sanctuary after fellowship today.

**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."

### **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.

**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

*First Sunday of Christmas – Sunday, December 29, 2019 - 11:00 a.m.*

## Gathering

### Confession & Forgiveness

— Please stand as able—

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, Love from the beginning, Word made flesh, Breath of heaven.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

—A brief silence—

P: Merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have resisted your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to try again. Amen.**

P: Dear people of God, hear the good news: Christ the Savior is born! You are loved and forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all. Rejoice in this love and share it with the world.

C: **Amen.**

## O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*

*Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,*  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



*ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.*  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## Greeting

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

C: **And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: **O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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 63:7-9

<sup>7</sup>I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,  
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,  
because of all that the Lord has done for us,  
and the great favor to the house of Israel  
that he has shown them according to his mercy,  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

<sup>8</sup>For he said, “Surely they are my people,  
children who will not deal falsely”;  
and he became their savior  
<sup>9</sup>in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel  
but his presence that saved them;  
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

—Please be seated—

L: A responsive reading from Psalm 148

L: <sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.

**C: <sup>2</sup>Praise the Lord, all you angels;  
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

L: <sup>3</sup>Praise the Lord, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.

**C: <sup>4</sup>Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**

L: <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
who commanded, and they were created,

**C: <sup>6</sup>who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

L: <sup>7</sup>Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;

**C: <sup>8</sup>fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

L: <sup>9</sup>mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;

**C: <sup>10</sup>wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds;**

L: <sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;

**C: <sup>12</sup>young men and maidens,  
old and young together.**

L: <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted,  
whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

**C: <sup>14</sup>The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for  
all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near  
the Lord. Hallelujah!**

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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

Gospel Acclamation

ELW 282

— Please stand as able—

It Came upon the Midnight Clear



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,  
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,  
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876  
Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

## Gospel

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, Chapter 2 [13-23]

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

<sup>16</sup>When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup>“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

<sup>19</sup>When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup>“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>There he made his home in a town called

Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

—Please be seated—

Hymn of the Day

ELW 296

— Please stand as able—

### What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

## Prayers of the People

LD: Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

—A brief silence—

LD: Praise is on our lips and in our hearts, Holy One, for the gracious deeds and acts that you have bestowed upon your church. Give to your whole church open hearts that we might work together to share your good news in Christ Jesus. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

Y: We bless you, Ruler of all, for the communities and nations of which we are a part. Gather into your arms the many peoples of the world and grant humility to all leaders, so that all may find blessing and peace. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

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. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

Y: O Holy One, you overcame death and freed us from all fear. Give courage to all who are afraid and comfort to all who suffer in any way. Give patience and compassion to those who provide care. We pray especially for those whose names are said out loud or silently.

—A brief silence— Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

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. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **The Sharing of God's Peace**

P: May the peace of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – which passes all understanding, be with you all.

**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. Please be seated after the Sharing of God's 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 681, verse 3 & refrain

## We Plow the Fields and Scatter



3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



the seed-time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank-ful hearts.

### *Refrain*



All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.



We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740–1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817–1878, alt.

Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800



## Offertory Prayer

LD: Generous God, you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord.

**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.

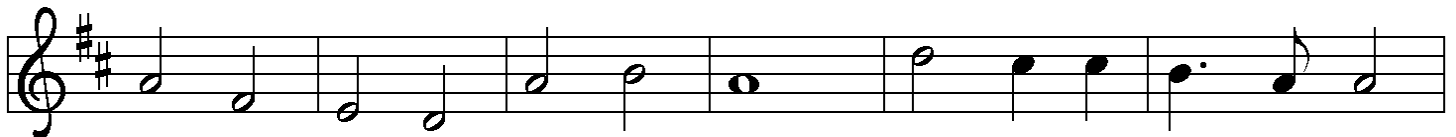
**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## 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

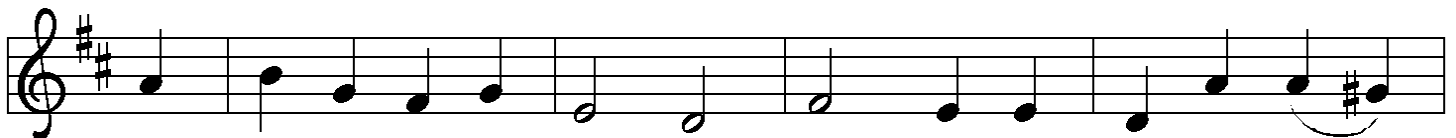
—ELW pg. 153—



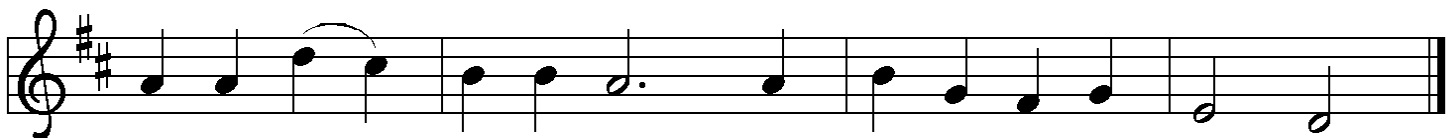
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. 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.

**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.**

# Invitation to Communion

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

## Communion

ELW pg 154

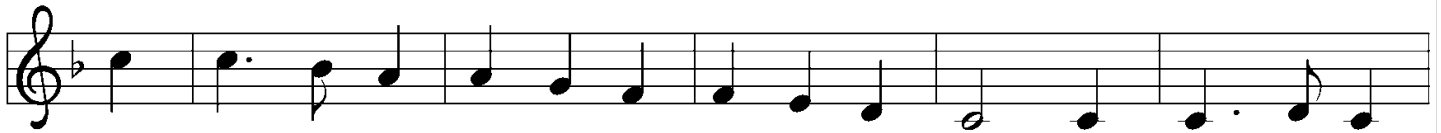
— Please be seated—

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.

## 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 277**

### Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

## Silent Night, Holy Night! *Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!*



*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



*Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



*Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*  
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

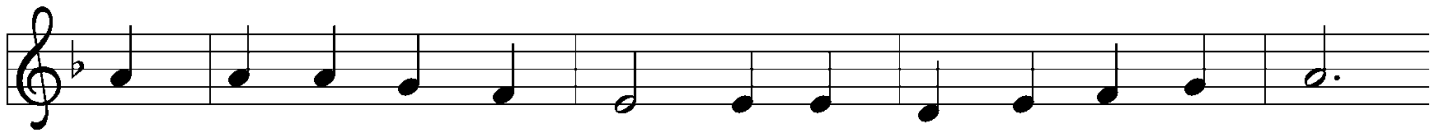
## O Little Town of Bethlehem



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
 while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.  
 So God im-parts to hu - man hearts the bless-ings of his heav'n.  
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.  
 O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

## **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**

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.

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 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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872



## Benediction

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

**LD:** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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