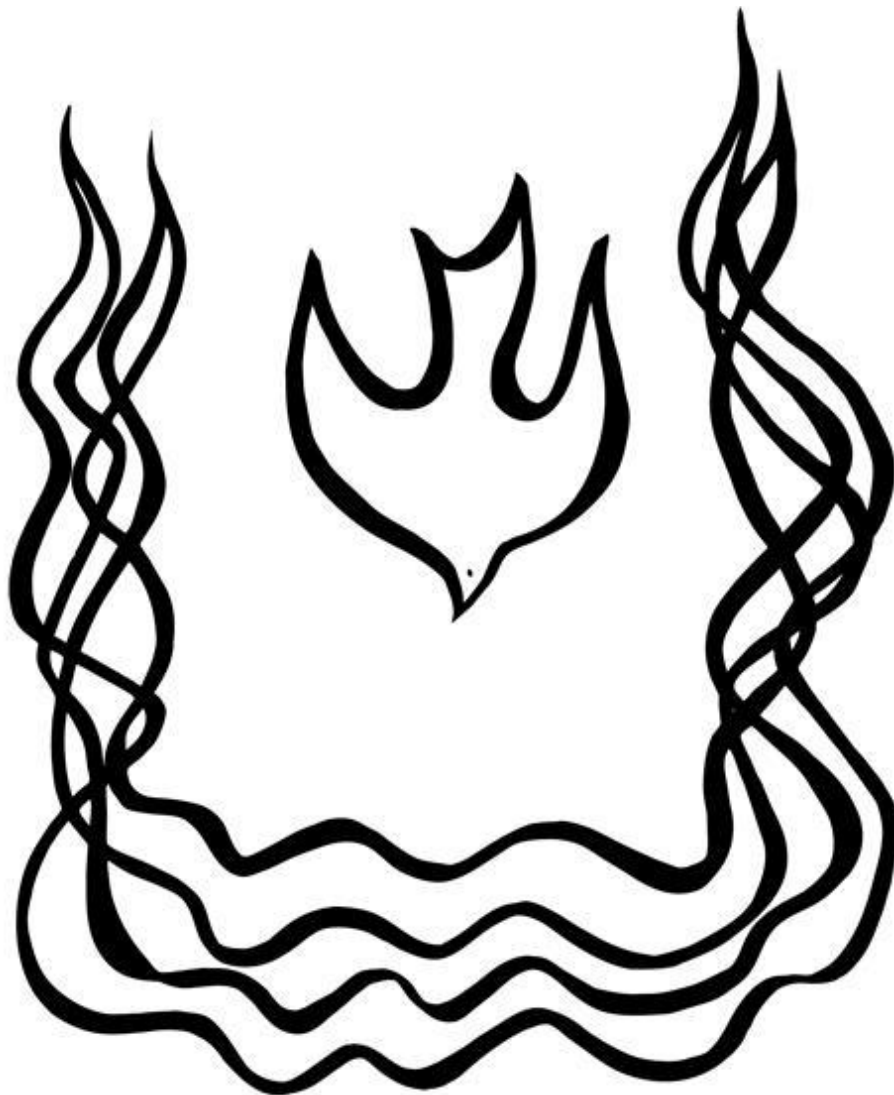




Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Come Together Grow in Faith Serve the Lord

December 12, 2021 9:30 AM - Third Sunday of Advent



A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Rev. Amanda Gerkin-Nelson
Supply Pastor

office@htelc.com
(603) 436-1704

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. 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.

Children: We love having children worship with us! During worship over the summer, our Nursery is not staffed. You may find Children's bulletins and activities on tables inside the sanctuary.

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. *Communion elements are found in a basket on the Greeters table, as we are continuing to social distance.*

Prayer Requests: Prayer Request Cards are available indoors on the Usher's Table. Simply fill one out and hand it to the Pastor, or place it in the Offering Basket.

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.

Missed Last Week's Service? Our Sunday worship service is now live-streamed on htelc.com. Watch anytime! Visit us on YouTube at youtube.com/HolyTrinityEvangelicalLutheranChurch.

Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/holytrinityevangelicallutheranchurch

Reconciling in Christ

At Holy Trinity, we welcome and affirm everyone—because God welcomes and affirms everyone—regardless of age, race, ability, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other life circumstance.

You are welcome. Your family, children, friends, spouses, and partners are welcome.

You are welcome, whether you are a believer, a doubter, or a seeker.

Your diversity and uniqueness are welcomed and affirmed into the full life of Holy Trinity.

You are wanted here.



Today at Holy Trinity

9:30 AM: Traditional Worship

10:30 AM: Fellowship

Worship Assistants	
	9:30 Traditional Service
Musician(s)	Jonathan Bock
Counters	Paul and Lauren Gianino
Sound System/Live Stream	Mark Donahue & Franklyn Vosburg

This Week At Holy Trinity			
Day	Date	Start	Event
Wednesday	12/15	09:30 AM	Bible Study
		05:30 PM	Holden Evening Prayer
Thursday	12/16	08:00 AM	Property Team
Sunday	12/19	09:30 AM	9:30 Sunday Worship

Last Week at Holy Trinity		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Wednesday, December 1	16	\$6,324.65
Sunday, December 5	78 (In-Person) + 21 (online) = 99	
<i>Midweek worship is on hiatus until we receive an interim Pastor.</i>		

Donate to Holy Trinity online by scanning this QR code with your phone's camera app:



Emergency Contact Information: Please call the church office at (603) 436-1704. As of November 14, 2021, we won't have a sitting Pastor, and we will have to use a supply Pastor for all Pastoral Emergencies.

Prayer Concerns

Please include the following in your daily prayers:

Members & Attenders

Health Issues: Franklyn Vosburg, Jerry Schock, Pastor Linn Opderbecke, Alice Peterson, George Parseghian, Sarah Meier.

Homebound: Marie Edin, Carol Saufley, Edith Rowan, Barbara Werdelin.

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

Friends

Floyd Richards (Claire Radke's neighbor), Susan Rogers (Linda Edwards' cousin), Mary Roberts (Heidi Morrison's sister-in-law), Dave Bly (Sue Althof's brother), Sharon Connors (Bonnie & Larry Sanders' daughter), Stephanie & Chuck Pelesky (Jill & Jerry Schock's friend), Casey Lavoie (Stephanie Goupil's friend), Estelle Lewis (Paulette Sirois' sister), Tony Marques (Paulette Sirois' friend), Pastors Steve and Stephanie Malcom (Jessica Feeley's friends)

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: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6;
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Next week: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Psalm
80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

Notes on today's services

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

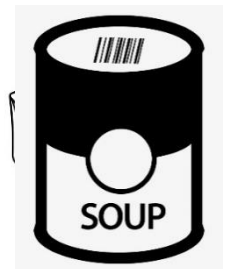
Pop-Up Pantry

Every month, the Pop-Up Pantry at Holy Trinity is requesting a different item for us to put outside on Wednesdays with the normal bags of food that we give out. This month's item is...

CHUNKY SOUPS

Please drop off your donations with the Church Office, or outside the building in the plastic bins. Thank you so much for your generous donations!

We are looking for a pair of volunteers to donate one hour on the first Wednesday of each month. You will be packing up 25 bags of pantry items prior to 8:30 AM. If you can help, please email pbsirois@gmail.com or call/text 603-781-0302.



Announcements

Baptized into Christ today at 9:30 AM is Leo Thomas Larson, son of Bruce and Elise Larson, grandson of Jill and Bill Larson.

After Worship, we will have an Advent Celebration. Our fellowship will include our congregation's favorite Christmas or Advent themed dishes.

Holden Evening Prayer: Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm during Advent for our beautiful Holden Vespers worship, with hymns written by Marty Haugen. This service will be led by Franklyn Vosburg. These services will be pre-recorded and posted Thursday mornings.

Rev. Steve Wilco, an Associate to Bishop Hazelwood, is guiding Holy Trinity through our pastoral transition. He will also be our Supply Pastor on Sunday, December 19th. After leading us in worship he will present information regarding the Transition and Call Process.

Supply Pastor Schedule: Dec. 19 - Steve Wilco Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve) - Brad Wolff Dec. 26 - George Koch

Emergency Pastoral Care: As Holy Trinity moves through the transition toward a new Pastor, pastoral care is available for home or hospital visits, emotional support, and church ceremonies. Please contact Mark in the Church office and he will provide you with the Contact Pastor information during daytime and after work (emergencies) hours. Email office@htelc.com or call (603)436-1704.

Christmas Eve Worship Services will be as follows: *4:00 PM* family service; *8:00 PM* candlelight service. There will be *NO 10:30 PM service* this year. Pastor Brad Wolff will be presiding during these services. All are welcome!

Looking for that perfect present? For many years Holy Trinity has been providing life-changing scholarships for students in our partner community of Isimani, Tanzania. These scholarships enable these students to improve their lives and the lives of their community. The average cost for a year's education is \$450; any tax-deductible contribution is valued. Send your donation to the church office or offering plate. For more information, contact Helen Goransson or Kurt Kasik.

Holy Trinity's Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 23rd following a short fellowship after the 9:30 service. At this meeting our 2021 Annual Ministry Allocation Plan will be reviewed and the 2022 Ministry Allocation Plan will be presented. In addition, an update will be presented about the work done with the Church membership and our Church Constitution. Following a discussion, votes will be taken regarding this work along with the acceptance of new Church Council members, our 2022 Ministry Allocation Plan, and who will be the representatives for the ECLA Assembly in August. In addition, an update will be given about the Transition Team's work with time allotted to ask questions. As always, we will hold an adult forum on Sunday, January 16th following the 9:30am service. Digital and printed information about the topics will be available at this meeting and your participation is strongly welcomed. At this time the Church Council is planning for an in-person Annual Meeting (last year's Annual meeting was on Zoom). Should the weather be severe the "snowdate" for our Annual meeting will be on the following Sunday, January 30th. If you have any questions or comments please contact the Council President Cristina or Mark in the Church Office. You can also email Cristina at foggdrive@yahoo.com

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Advent – Sunday, December 12, 2021 — 9:30 a.m.

Gathering Song

ELW 242

— Please stand as able—

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.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

—A brief silence—

P: God for whom we wait,

C: **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

P: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C: **Amen.**

Welcome and Notes on this Service

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 the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Amen.

Children's Message

—Please be seated—

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

ELW 240, verse 3

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



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



Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

L: A reading from Isaiah 12:2-6

L: ²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might, and has become my
salvation.

**C: ³With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

L: ⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the nations; proclaim that
this name is exalted.

**C: ⁵Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.**

L: ⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

— Please stand as able—

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 3:7-18

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of
vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits
worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have
Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to
raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the
trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and
thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

—Please be seated—

Baptismal Hymn

ELW 453 v. 1 & 4

—Please remain standing—

Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the baptismal font while the congregation sings the baptismal hymn.

Baptized and Set Free



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956

Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner

Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

The Baptism

—Please be seated—

Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font. The assembly is seated.

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

The presiding minister addresses parents or others who bring for baptism children who are not able to answer for themselves:

P: **Bruce and Elise**, Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have **Leo Thomas Larson** baptized into Christ? If so, answer I do.

Response: **I do.**

P: As you bring **Leo Thomas** to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with ***him*** among God's faithful people,
bring ***him*** to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach ***him*** the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten
Commandments,
place in ***his*** hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture ***him*** in faith and prayer,
so that *all your children* may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

PARENTS, do you promise to help Leo Thomas grow in the Christian faith and life? If so, answer, I do.

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the sponsors.

P: **Brett and Laine**, as Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Leo Thomas in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? If so, answer, I do.

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

P: People of God, do you pledge to help pass faith to Leo Thomas and to support and pray for *him in his* new life in Christ?

C: **We do.**

Profession of Faith

— Please stand as able—

The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptism as well as the parents and sponsors of young children. The assembly joins in the responses.

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

At the font, the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- P: Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.
- P: Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.
- P: By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- P: Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

The presiding minister baptizes each candidate. The candidate is immersed into the water, or water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

- P: **Leo Thomas**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

- P: **Leo Thomas**, you belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. -
Alleluia.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

P: Sustain **Leo Thomas**, with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

P: **Leo Thomas**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

A lighted candle may be given to each of the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:

P: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly.

P: Let us welcome our newly baptized brother – **Leo Thomas**

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Prayers of the People

P: In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

—A brief silence—

P: Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace to congregations and seminarians in the midst of transition. Guide the work of candidacy and call committees. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Creating God, your Spirit brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Breathe life into us, that we are inspired to live in harmony with one another and the planet. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Rejoicing God, 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.

P: Nurturing God, you come near in times of worry and need. Cradle us in your arms, that we trust you and are not afraid. Attend to any who are hungry, imprisoned, or ill this day. We pray especially for those whose names we say out loud or silently.

—A brief silence—

Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: 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 and Imanuel Indonesian Lutheran Congregation, Ascentria Care Alliance and Camp Calumet. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

The Passing of the Peace

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Our offering plate is located at the entrance of the Sanctuary. After the service, please make your offering there.

Offertory Hymn

Church Choir

Offertory Prayer

P: Together, let us pray.

C: God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

Amen.

The Celebration of Holy Communion

While we gather during the Pandemic, we will receive communion with a pre-filled communion cup and wafer. Communion cups can be found in the Narthex.

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.**

Words of Institution

(Sung; response by congregation)

P: In the night that Jesus was betrayed, by one of his own, He took the bread and blessed it as He said, “here’s my body broken for you.”

He took the cup and raised it up on high, bowed His head and prayed. And then He said, “My blood for you is shed. A cleansing stream to wash your sins away.”

C: **Come and see the glory of the Lord, come behold the Lamb. Come and taste the mercy of the King, bowing down before Him. For He is Lord above the heavens. Lord in all the earth. Lord of all the angels. Worthy to be served. Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord.**

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, 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

We will now take 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.

Sending of Communion

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.**

Ministry Minute from the Transition Team

Announcements, Birthdays and Anniversaries

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.

Sending Hymn

ELW 267

— 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 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

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

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Events at Holy Trinity

Sunday, December 19

Worship: 9:30 AM

Pastoral Transition Forum with
Rev. Steve Wilco



Friday, December 24

Family Service: 4:00 PM

Candlelight Worship: 8:00 PM



Christmas Eve

Sunday, January 23

Annual Meeting



ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Sunday, January 30

Reconciling in Christ
Celebration



Upcoming Concerts at Holy Trinity

Amare Cantare Concert: 12/15 7:30 PM Tickets: amarecantare.org

Rockingham Choral Society: 12/18 7:00 PM

Tickets: rockinghamchoral.org/winterconcert

Tickets are not sold at Holy Trinity.

We recommend purchasing tickets online before the show.