



Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Come Together Grow in Faith Serve the Lord

December 19, 2021 9:30 AM – Fourth Sunday of Advent



A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Rev. Steve Wilco
Associate to the Bishop

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: Contemporary Worship

10:30 AM: Adult Forum with Rev. Wilco

Worship Assistants	
	9:30 Traditional Service
Musician(s)	Jonathan Bock, Dick Topping, and Jon Koelker
Counters	Bill and Julie Kath
Lector	Ken Galle
Sound System/Live Stream	Mark Donahue & Franklyn Vosburg

This Week At Holy Trinity			
Day	Date	Start	Event
Wednesday	12/22	09:30 AM	Bible Study
		05:30 PM	Holden Evening Prayer
Thursday	12/23	08:00 AM	Property Team
Friday	12/24	04:00 PM	Christmas Eve – Family Worship
		08:00 PM	Christmas Eve – Candlelight Worship
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 8	16	
Sunday, December 12	95 (In-Person) + 21 (online) = 116	\$3,754.95
<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: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

Next week: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Notes on today's services

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

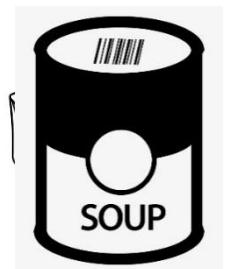
Pop-Up Pantry

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

After worship - 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.

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.

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! The 8:00 PM Service will be livestreamed on htelc.com. We hope to record the 4:00 PM service and post the video online shortly after Christmas.

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.

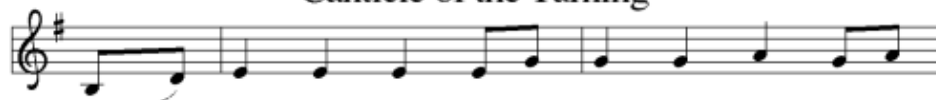
Starting January 9th, the Transition Team will be seeking your help in completing the Congregation Assessment Tool, or "CAT." This tool will help the synod to match us with a pastor, so we are asking for as much participation as possible in a timely manner. There will be a two-week window in which to complete the CAT. We thank you in advance for your participation. Feel free to contact any of the team members listed below with any questions. *Cheryl Brigham, Jessica Feeley, Eileen Kackenmeister, Jeff Morrison, Dan Scammon, Rebecca Schrumm, Byrl Short, and Audrien Soeum.*

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent – Sunday, December 19, 2021 — 9:30 a.m.

Gathering Song ELW 723 — Please stand as able—

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 -



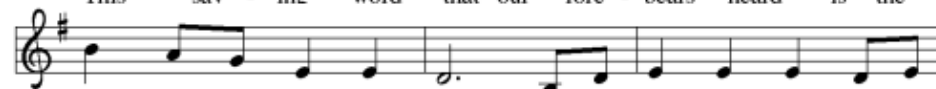
God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



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



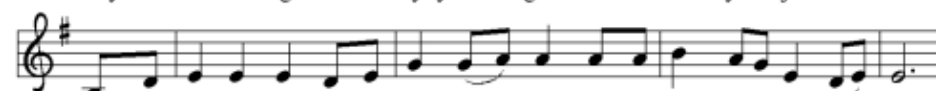
weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



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.
 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.**

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 binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father 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 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.

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 Micah 5:2-5a

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

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 1:39-45 [46-55]

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my

Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting,
the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed
that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

[

⁴⁶And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

]

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

—Please be seated—

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: Nurturing God, you give us life and care for our every need. Use the church's gifts and ministries for your service, bringing your word to all who seek your transforming grace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Creator God, you proclaim your boundless love for all that you have made. Renew barren lands, polluted waters, and melting ice caps. Make us servants of your creation that brings forth abundant life. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Faithful God, we lift all those whose work puts them in harm's way for the sake of others, especially first responders and those serving in the military 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: Gracious God, you fill the hungry with good things. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Guide us to share your bounty with those who hunger or live in poverty. We pray especially for those whose names we say out loud or silently. —A brief silence—
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.

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

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

P: Body of Christ, given for you.

Blood of Christ, shed for you.

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 247

— Please stand as able—

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Ososǒ, Ososǒ



O - so - sǒ o - so - sǒ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm

- 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
- 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
- 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
- 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sǒ.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
Music: OSOSÓ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
Text and music © Geonyong Lee

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.