



Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Come Together Grow in Faith Serve the Lord

December 26, 2021 9:30 AM – First Sunday of Christmas



A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Rev. Dr. George Koch
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.



Worship Assistants	
	9:30 Traditional Service
Musician(s)	Jonathan Bock
Counters	Barry & Phyllis Phibrick
Lector	Alice Vosburg
Sound System/Live Stream	Mark Donahue & Franklyn Vosburg

This Week At Holy Trinity			
Day	Date	Start	Event
Sunday	1/2	09:30 AM	9:30 Sunday Worship

Last Week at Holy Trinity		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Wednesday, December 15	13	\$4,369.85
Sunday, December 19	45 (In-Person) + 24 (online) = 69	
<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: 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.

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

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

Notes on today's services

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

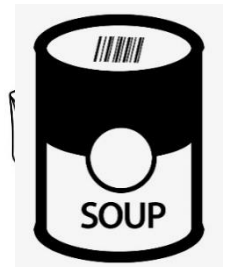
Pop-Up Pantry

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

Last Sunday, Rev. Steve Wilco hosted a short 12-minute Adult Forum about the Transition and Call Process, and gave us an update about when we might expect an Interim Pastor. The video is available on htelc.com on the homepage, or ask the Church Office to send it to you by email.

Mark Donahue will be out of the office and on vacation beginning Monday, December 27 until the end of the week. He will return to the office on Sunday, January 2.

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.*

Homebound Visitation Ministry: If you know of someone who is homebound, or sick from our congregation, please reach out to the Church Office and we will make sure that person is visited by a member of our congregation in a timely manner.

Driving Daisies: If you know of someone in need of a ride to Church on Sunday mornings, please contact the Church Office. We want to make sure anyone who wants to attend our services has the chance to attend at least once or twice a month.

Children's Tables have returned to normal, including the soft building blocks, children's books, and coloring pages. Our nursery is currently not staffed, but you are welcome to supervise your child in the nursery if you wish.

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Christmas – Sunday, December 26, 2021 — 9:30 a.m.

Gathering Song

ELW 269

— Please stand as able—

Once in Royal David's City



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.

C: Amen.

P: In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

—A brief silence—

P: Holy God,

C: we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. † In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in 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: Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, 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.

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 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

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 2:41-52

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴¹Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

—Please be seated—

Prayers of the People

P: Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

—A brief silence—

P: You come to us in gatherings of your church across the globe. Unite us with those who celebrate your birth even when they are weighed down by grief, loss, poverty, hunger, or injustice. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You come to us in the diverse splendor of the universe. Grant us the humility to trust our place in the network of creation, that we live in service to you and the natural world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We lift before you 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. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You come to us through people whom the world forgets. Poor shepherds and an imprisoned Paul announced your good news. Send your Spirit to all who are imprisoned, struggling with addiction, unwell, or in any need 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. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

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. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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: Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

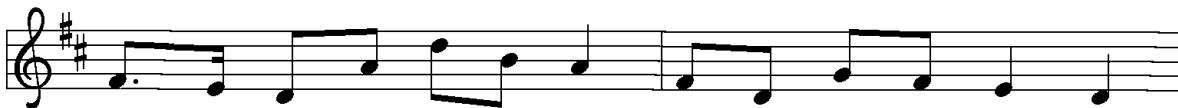
ELW 299

— Please stand as able—

Cold December Flies Away



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Text: Catalonian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953
Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalonian carol
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.

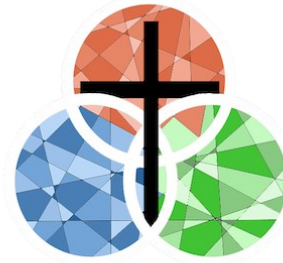
C: Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Events at Holy Trinity

Sunday, January 9

Worship: 9:30 AM

History of our Church



Sunday, January 16

Worship: 9:30 AM

Congregational Budget Meeting



Sunday, January 23

Worship: 9:30 AM

Annual Meeting



Sunday, January 30

Worship: 9:30 AM

Reconciling in Christ Celebration

