



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2022

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINNEAPOLIS

WELCOME TO ALL

*The people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church wish to extend a special welcome to all visitors!
Please leave your name and phone number on the visitor card found in the pew.*

*We are committed to the inclusion of all people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice **open communion**, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.*

Children are full participants in this congregation's worship, educational, and community life! The Mary Martha Room is a quiet space for infants needing to nurse or to nap. For active toddlers, the Community Room has a Children's Corner with books and a table at which to play. Our ushers are ready to assist you in finding the place that best fits your family's needs.

***Accessible and all-gender restrooms** are located in the nursery on the 2nd floor and in the basement.
Single-use, all gender restrooms are located on the 1st floor.*

*For over forty years, this congregation has advocated for the **full welcome, inclusion, and equity** of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the church and the community. We invite all people into lives of authenticity, integrity, and wholeness.*

***Hearing assist devices and large-print bulletins** are available. Ask an usher if you are interested.*

*Our **services are livestreamed** on Vimeo and Facebook every week. The live shot includes the main floor of the sanctuary. Our members who watch from home love to see their friends at church! If for privacy reasons you prefer not to be on camera, the balcony is outside of the camera's range.*

*We continue to monitor case counts, vaccination rates, and updated research on **COVID-19** to inform our precautions and are especially aware of changing patterns with regards to new variants. We are deeply grateful for this community's care for and attentiveness to one another, especially for the vulnerable in our midst. The most important thing you can do to care for the community is **stay home if you feel any symptoms**, regardless of vaccination status. If you need help finding a vaccine, speak to a pastor today.*

*If you are seeking **pastoral care**, please speak to a pastor today.*

GATHER

+invites the congregation to stand

PRELUDE

The Cherry Tree Carol
Jan Mehlhoff, Flute

Appalachian
arr. Mizzy McCaskill
& Dona Gilliam

REFLECTION

First Coming

Madeleine L'Engle

*He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace.
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.*

*He did not wait for the perfect time.
He came when the need was deep and great.
He dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine.*

*He did not wait till hearts were pure.
In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
he came, and his Light would not go out.*

*He came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.*

*We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!*

+GATHERING HYMN

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

Please stand and face the cross at the rear of the sanctuary.



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;
crown you with light, be strong and gen - tle and car - ing.
soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - 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.

+GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the burning sand and thirsty ground: you called John into the wilderness to announce a new creation far from palaces of royal power; make us ready for your intensity, the judgement that opens our senses to the poverty of our world and calls to life what lingers in death; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WELCOME

WORD

+HYMN

All Earth Is Hopeful



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra, al Sal - va - dor
1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co, a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

Old Testament Page 678

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

Anne Krentz Organ

My soul proclaims your greatness, O Lord; I sing my Savior's praise!
Great wonders you have done for me, and holy is your name.
My soul proclaims your greatness, O Lord; I sing my Savior's praise!
You looked upon my lowliness, and I am full of grace.
Now every land and every age this blessing shall proclaim
great wonders you have done for me, and holy is your name.

To all who live in holy fear your mercy ever flows.
With mighty arm you dash the proud, their scheming hearts expose.
The ruthless you have cast aside, the lowly throned instead;
The hungry filled with all good things, the rich sent off unfed.

To Israel, your servant blest, your help is ever sure;
the promise to our parents made their children will secure.
Sing glory to the Holy One, give honor to the Word,
and Praise the Power of the Most High, one God, by all adorned.

SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

New Testament Page 221

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

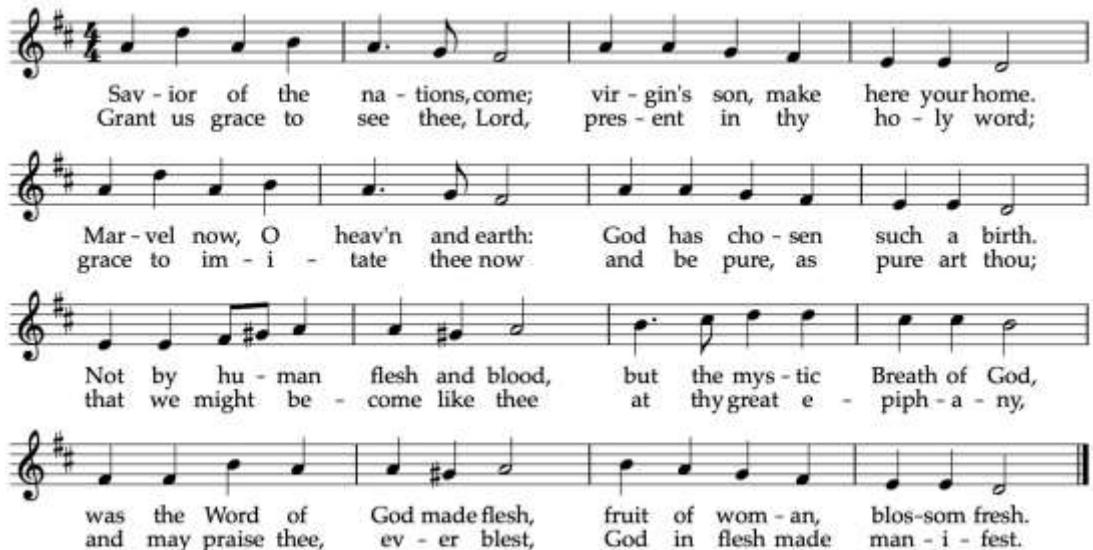
Come, O Jesus

Garry A. Cornell

Come, O Jesus, Come, O Jesus, Come, O Jesus, be the way, the life everlasting.
Come, O Jesus, come this way and break the rock that hides my road so we can walk where the rock is.
Come, O Jesus, come this way and wipe the tear that hides my face so we can walk where the tear is.
Come, O Jesus, come this way and calm the war that hides my peace so we can walk where the war is.
Come, O Jesus, come this way, come burst the grave that hides my life; so we can walk where the grave is.

+GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

Savior of the Nations, Come



Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;

Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;

Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
and may praise thee, ev - er blest, God in flesh made man - i - fest.

+GOSPEL READING

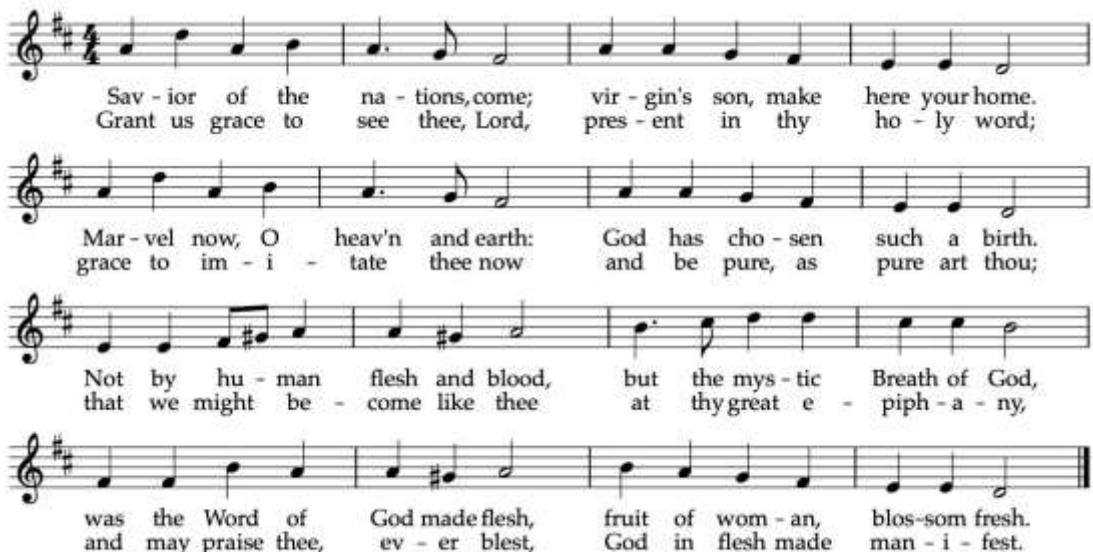
Matthew 11:2-11

New Testament Pages 10-11

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

+GOSPEL RECESSIONAL

Savior of the Nations, Come



Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;

Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;

Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
and may praise thee, ev - er blest, God in flesh made man - i - fest.

In Bethlehem on Christmas morn,
 The lowly gem of love was born.
 Bright in her crown of fiery star,
 Judea's town shown from afar.
 Hosannah!
 For bird and beast He did not come,
 But for the least of mortal scum
 Who lies in ditch? Who begs his bread?
 Who has no stitch for back or head?
 Who wakes to weep, lies down to mourn?
 Who in his sleep withdraws from scorn?
 Ye outraged dust, on field and plain,
 to feed the lust of madmen slain;
 The manger still outshines the throne;
 Christ must and will come to his own.

Christus Natus Est is a setting of a poem of the same title by African American poet Countee Cullen (1903-1946), a major figure of the Harlem Renaissance. As I read Cullen's poetry, I found myself transported back in time, imagining the hope of Christ's birth in the lives of my forefathers and mothers as they struggled for equality, justice and freedom during the time of slavery through the Civil Rights Movement. A spiritual that was very familiar to and impactful for me as a child was "Go Down Moses." Because its message is so well aligned with Cullen's poetic rumination, and because it points back to the biblical place and time about which Cullen speaks, it seemed fitting as a musical underlay. Christus Natus Est expresses both the angst of hope deferred and expectation of hope for that which is to come—both of which are exemplified in the birth and return of Christ. Cullen powerfully addresses and questions societal woes with such poignant words as "For bird and beast He did not come, but for the least of mortal scum. Who lies in ditch? Who begs his bread? Who has no stitch for back or head? Who wakes to weep, lies down to mourn? Who in his sleep withdraws from scorn? Ye outraged dust, on field and plain, to feed the lust of madmen slain." His answer for all of these is the latin text "Christus Natus Est" (that is: for these Christ is born). I believe that as the poet agonizes over the injustices in the world, he hopes in the return of Christ, heard in the phrase "Christ must and will come to his own." Cullen resolves that life's ills will remain until Christ returns to his own—not as the innocent child in the manger but as a warrior for freedom and justice.

--Rosephanye Powell

+INTERCESSIONS

Liz Blood

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

(silence)

Creator God, who set the stars in their places and directs the course of the planets; who robed this earth with a thin garment of air, making it a haven of **beauty in life**; we thank you for the gift of air. Create in us such a sense of wonder and delight in this and all your gifts that we receive them with gratitude, care for them with love, and generously share them with all your creatures, to the honor and glory of your holy name. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You calm and quiet us, eternal God, as a mother holds her children close; all people have refuge in the shadow of your wings. Spread over us the shelter of your peace. Hold before us the wisdom of your cross where we are drawn to you not by might or power, but by your boundless love and forgiveness. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God, our healer and our refuge, we pray for all who suffer from gun violence. With your mercy, bind up their wounds, restore their bodies, and heal their hearts. Comfort the mourners and embrace the lonely. With your might, empower us to change this broken world. Make us advocates for a stable society, alive with hope in you. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Oh God, in your divine mystery you call your people to live in peace with all. We pray for an end to racial and ethnic prejudice. Free the church from constricting traditions. Free our society from centuries of violence against the other. Break down the walls that separate your people. Call us to repentance for our sins of racism and prejudice, known and unknown. Transform discrimination into a passion for justice. Guide us to nurture a society that embodies reconciliation and cooperation among all. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray today for all those in need of your tender care, especially Pastor Angela; Keith Olstad; Peter Schroeder and the entire Schroeder family; Cliff Brown; Jack Hanson; Lois Eid's friends, Ras and Marian Erdahl; Dorothy Kelly; Mary Petersen's friend, Joe; Cori Gershon; Marcea Mariani; DeWayne Townsend III; Marlene Peterson; Mary Heltsley; Mark Symchych; and those we name now, either silently or aloud (*the congregation may name loved ones in need of God's care*). In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

*You are invited to offer spoken petitions.
At the conclusion of your petition, please close with "In your mercy,"
To which the congregation will respond, "Hear our prayer."*

In this Advent Season we pray for patience as we wait these weeks — patient like the farmer waiting for the precious crop from the earth. Help us to use this waiting time to think about the meaning of this special time and to reflect it in our thoughts and in our celebrations and interactions with family and friends. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and hopes, God of mercy and justice, as we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

MEAL

+PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

You are invited to exchange words and signs of friendship and love with those around you.

OFFERING

O Come, Little Children
Jan Mehlhoff, Flute

J.A.P. Schulz
arr. Mizzy McCaskill
& Dona Gilliam

+OFFERTORY HYMN

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Communion servers are invited to come forward at this time.

O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, 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 - sŏ.
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.

+OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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, O God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+SANCTUS



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. Blest is the one who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

COMMUNION INVITATION

The Iona Community

The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed.

Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

All are welcome at the table. For those worshipping at home and those who prefer to commune with individual packets in your pews, hear these words spoken for you: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the server.

An usher will direct you down the center aisle, where you can pick up a communion cup. You are invited to stand or kneel in front of the table, beginning from the middle and moving toward the outside. After you have received the bread and the wine, please return to your seat by way of the side aisle, where an usher will receive your communion cup.

If you wish to receive communion from a pastor in your pew, please let an usher know.

HEALING

Today you are also invited to receive a blessing for healing during the communion distribution time. Come if you wish to seek prayer for yourself, on behalf of someone else, or for a place in the world.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

God Bestows on Every Sense



1 God be - stows on ev - 'ry sense beau - ty as hope's
 2 Catch a fleet - ing glimpse of grace in an un - ex -
 3 Vi - brant pic - tures in our dreams, brushed with crys - tal
 4 In a burnt and black - ened field bro - ken ground be -
 5 God makes all cre - a - tion new, turn - ing back what



ev - i - dence: signs of what the earth will
 pect - ed place: just a taste, the small - est
 col - or schemes, van - ish from a wak - ing
 gins to yield ti - ny, frag - ile sprouts of
 peo - ple do, build - ing up what we de -



be just be - yond what we can see.
 crumb of the ban - quet yet to come.
 mind, leav - ing just a trace be - hind.
 green: hints of for - ests yet un - seen.
 stroy, sing - ing sor - row in - to joy.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The image shows two systems of musical notation for the hymn 'Wait for the Lord'. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (one sharp). The first system contains the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.' and ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note. The second system contains the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!' and also ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

+BLESSING

The body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

+POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

ANTHEM

Joy to the World

arr. Jonathan D. Campbell

Joy to the world! Christ is coming soon.
No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground,
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.

+SENDING HYMN

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

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

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.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

+BENEDICTION

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

arr. Paul Manz

*You are invited to the Community Room
(located at the rear of the worship area) for a time of conversation and refreshments.*

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” Text: marty Haugen, b. 1950. Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.

“All Earth Is Hopeful” Text: Alberto Taulé, 1932-2007; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946
Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé.

Spanish text and tune © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCSP Publications
“Come Now, O Prince of Peace” Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope. Music: OSOSO, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
Text and music © Geonyong Lee

“God Bestows on Every Sense” Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979. Music: ALL CREATION NEW, Anthony Giamanco, b. 1958
Text © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 2018 Augsburg Fortress

“Wait for the Lord” Text: Taizé Community. Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc.

“Joy to the World” Text: isaac Watts, 1674-1748

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

Cover Art by Moyers, Mike. *The Days Are Surely Coming, from Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57137> [retrieved December 8, 2022].

Original source: Mike Moyers, <https://www.mikemoyersfineart.com/>.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406

612-729-8358 ✠ htlcmpls.org

LITURGY: *ELW SETTING FOUR*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

8:45 AM

11:00 AM

Adult Choir and Trinity Singers	Preacher	Adult Choir and Trinity Singers
Doug Mork	Presiding Minister	Doug Mork
Crucifer		
Karen Batdorf	Assisting Minister	Wayne Vetter
Rick Liedholm, Sally and David Kohlstedt	Communion	Kris Christians, Kari and Tom Kleven
Ginny and Chuck Jordan, David Broberg, Chris Engen	Ushers	Joy Nelson, Jeff Olsen Biebighauser, Kathy Hollander, Rod Johnson
Carol and David Berg	Altar Guild	Roberta Shaw, Kathryn Howe
Mary and Chris Engen	Coffee Servers	Sarah Wieben, Sue Roberts
Jennifer Frenzel, Annie Hines	Counters	Pam Kildahl, Wayne Vetter
	Closer	John Sulzbach

Copyright permission is granted under annual copyright license A-704054 with OneLicense, Chicago IL.

STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen, *Lead Pastor*
Angela Khabeb, *Senior Associate Pastor*
Doug Mork, *Part-time Associate Pastor*
Pam Wetterlund, *Communications &
Congregational Coordinator*
Nolan Gusdal, *Building Maintenance*
David Rojas Martinez, *Community Engagement
and Education Coordinator*
Phil Radtke, *Cantor*
Kaia Ellis, *Financial Administrator*

STAFF, CONTINUED

Sue Roberts, *Publications Coordinator*
Erik Gerhardt, *Accompanist*
Kathy Ekwall, *Custodian*
Dennis Nordholm, *Custodian*
Logan Olson, *Gloria Ringers Director*

LEADERSHIP

David Broberg, *Council President*
Gretchen Lund, *Council Vice President*
Connie Adams, *Council Secretary*
Scott Cole, *Council Treasurer*

P A R I S H I N F O R M A T I O N

ADVENT SUPPERS AND EVENING PRAYER SERVICES CONTINUE DECEMBER 14

All are invited to partake in the Advent soup suppers on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. in the Community Room.

This year, there are two opportunities to engage in worship on Wednesday evenings:

- The first is designed for parents and their young children to engage together in an interactive Advent reflection. It will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the gym.
- We will also gather at 7:00 p.m. for a Service of Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary. People of all ages are invited to worship, including young children.

PASTOR ANGELA ON LEAVE

Pastor Angela is on leave. To honor this time of rest, we ask you to refrain from emails, phone calls, and text messages (even the most kind and loving ones!). Your prayers are, of course, welcome and appreciated.

PAM WETTERLUND TO RETIRE THIS MONTH

Pam Wetterlund will be retiring from her position as Communications and Congregational Coordinator at Holy Trinity at the end of December. Pam has been with us since May 2019. She didn't get much time to settle in before COVID came barreling into Minneapolis in March 2020, causing big changes in the way we served the congregation. Then came May 2020 and the murder of George Floyd that set off an Uprising that touched not only Holy Trinity and the surrounding community deeply and profoundly, but also people throughout the world. During all this upheaval and change, Pam has served as a steady, anchoring presence in the office.

Pam is leaving full time employment to free up more time for self-care as she prepares for knee replacement surgeries next year. She will stay on part time for a while in the new year while she trains in her replacement, Kathy Ekwall! We'll follow up soon with a more complete bio of Kathy Ekwall. Watch for a future announcement of a retirement party for Pam.

WELCOME TO KATHY EKWALL

The Personnel Committee, prior to launching a public search for her replacement, asked Kathy Ekwall (our 27-year weekend custodian) if she'd be willing to consider the job. Kathy has a graphic design degree. She has a lot of experience with project management. She knows this community well and the building even better. She's a wonderful human being. Much to our delight, she agreed! She'll begin her work here with us in January 2023. While we're sad to say farewell to Pam, we know Kathy will capably serve Holy Trinity.

SAVE THE DATE FOR HOLY TRINITY'S ANNUAL MEETING, JANUARY 29, 11:15 A.M.

The 119th Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29, following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. A Zoom option will be available. There will be one service only that Sunday.

FINAL LIFE TOGETHER SESSION

Please sign up in the Community Room for the final session: *Survive and Even Thrive in a Minnesota Winter*. Kari Kleven will host a candlelight gathering in her home on Thursday, December 15, at 6:30 p.m. to share companionship and encouraging ideas with each other.

FUNERAL FOR JEANNE SALMON

Jeanne Salmon's funeral will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on Friday, December 23, at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will follow the service.

GIVING STATEMENTS EMAILED NEXT WEEK

Giving statements will be emailed the week of December 11. This statement will include all giving between January 1 and November 30, 2022. Please pay special attention to the amounts given, dates, and categories. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Kaia Ellis (kellis@htlcmps.org). As always, thank you so much for your generous support of Holy Trinity.

LETTER PENNED BY WEDNESDAY BOOK GROUP

(Led by Matt Floding, Bryan Holloway, and David Kohlstedt)

We have been enjoying an energized discussion of *Refugia*. One outcome has been a letter, signed by 13 group participants, sent to Mayor Frey addressing the Urban Farm at the Roof Depot site.

The article referenced can be found at this site: <https://www.nature.org/en-us/magazine/magazine-articles/meera-bhat-equity-interview/>

Dear Mayor Frey,

We urge you to support the East Phillips Urban Farm Initiative at the Roof Depot site.

In our view, the city of Minneapolis has an opportunity to address a pollution challenge and climate justice through this visionary effort.

In the enclosed article by Minneapolis resident Meera Bhat and with the Nature Conservancy, she makes the case for equity in conservation.

Yours and the council's response can be a model for making hard choices in favor of the health of persons and the climate.

You have our strongest support in making our city a model guided by the highest principles and where every citizen experiences them daily through the policies, character, and ethos of Minneapolis.

Yours sincerely, Members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Adult Book Discussion Group

MEALS ON WHEELS DECEMBER 19-23

Holy Trinity volunteers will deliver meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels Monday-Friday, December 19-23. Volunteers pick up meals at 11:15 a.m. at Nokomis Square (50th St. and 35th Ave. S.). Meal delivery takes about one hour. Contact Mary Engen (612-721-7181 / engenmary@yahoo.com) or sign up in the Community Room for part or all of the week.



SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, and NEW YEAR'S DAY

Wednesdays, December 14, 21 – Advent Suppers and Evening Prayer Services

5:30-6:45 p.m.: Advent soup suppers in the Community Room.

5:30-6:30 p.m.: Worship opportunity for parents and their young children to engage together in an interactive Advent reflection in the gym.

7:00 p.m.: Service of Evening Prayer in the sanctuary for people of all ages.

December 14: Peace in the Neighborhood

Reflection: Jamie Schwesnedl from Moon Palace Books, on the Longfellow Community

Musician: Immanuel David, flute

December 21: Peace in our Hearts

Reflection: Peder Kjeseth, on the complexity of deep grief in a season of joy

Musician: Bob Aldrich, guitar

Wednesdays, December 14, 21 – Book Discussion on *Refugia Faith*, 5:30-6:45 p.m.

Sunday, December 18 – Adult Forum Featuring the Advent Hymn Sing

Sunday, December 18 – Sunday School Advent and Christmas Program at 11:00 a.m.

Friday, December 23 – Church Office Closes at Noon

Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00 and 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 25 – ONE SERVICE at 10:00 a.m. on Christmas Morning

Sunday, December 25 – No Adult or Youth Education Classes

Monday, December 26 – Church Office Closed

Sunday, January 1 – ONE SERVICE at 10:00 a.m. on New Year's Day

Monday, January 2 – Church Office Closed

P A R I S H S C H E D U L E

Monday, December 12	6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Adult Choir Morris Park Players Concert at Holy Trinity
Tuesday, December 13	11:00 AM 6:45 PM	Worship Readings Discussion Big Meeting Night
Wednesday, December 14	5:30 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM 5:30 PM 5:45 PM 7:00 PM	Advent Supper Book Discussion Children's Choir Rehearsal CYF in Gym Gloria Ringers Rehearsal Evening Prayer Service
Thursday, December 15	8:00 AM 6:30 PM	Encore at Turtle Bread <i>Life Together</i> at Kari Kleven's
Saturday	1:00-4:00 PM 7:00 PM	Children's Advent Practice <i>From Age to Age</i> Choir Concert at Holy Trinity (<i>freewill offering at the door--\$15 suggested</i>)
Sunday, December 18	8:45 AM 10:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 2:00 PM	Worship Service of Holy Communion Adult Forum Youth Rehearse in Sanctuary Worship Service of Holy Communion (<i>Youth lead worship</i>) Swahili Service

ADULT FORUM

10:00 a.m. each Sunday in the Library

TODAY “Advent and Christmas Customs and Practices”

Participants will share personal customs for the holidays.

December 18 “Advent Hymn Sing” in the Bartsch Room

So many hymns, so little time! We'll use the forum hour to get a few more Advent hymns in before the season is over. We meet in the Bartsch Room this week.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia for the altar area at Christmas, please contact the church office (612-729-8358 or office@htlcmpls.org). Cost is on a sliding scale from \$0-30. Donate according to your ability. The Christmas Eve bulletins will list the names of sponsors and the loved ones they are remembering or honoring.