

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 18, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and in the basement. Single-use, all gender restrooms are located on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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

Creator of the Stars of Night

arr. Michael McCabe

Classic Dreidel Song Simon, Piano

We give thanks for the diverse people who celebrate many holidays during this time of the year. We are grateful for the gifts that our Jewish siblings provide to the world, including their Hanukkah music and traditions. We uplift and honor these gifts with the musical prelude played by Simon, one of our congregation members.

## LITANY AND ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming. O Holy Darkness,

Prepare us for your coming.

We gather together to get ready for what? Only heaven knows. O Sacred Night,

## Prepare us for your coming.

We wait for when God will create a prevailing peace on earth, and natural-born enemies turn into newborn friends.

O Holy Darkness,

## Prepare us for your coming.

We get ready for God to come close by looking to Jesus, asking him to sort through all our mixed motives. O Sacred Night,

## Prepare us for your coming.

Jesus, we welcome your presence now with lit candles, whose flames bring warmth to us in sacred nighttime's waiting.

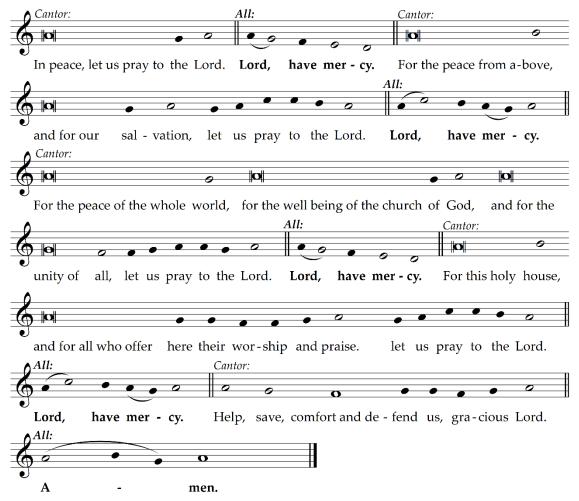
## Amen.



#### +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.** 

#### +KYRIE



+HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast



#### +PRAYER OF THE DAY

God with us, borne by Mary's flesh beyond all convention: give us the faith of Joseph to see the Spirit's work where the world sees only shame; to listen to the promise and waken to the cry of life renewed and love reborn; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.** 

Please be seated.

#### WELCOME

# WORD AND O ANTIPHONS

The Western Church has been singing the "O Antiphons" since at least the eighth century. They are magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Hebrew Scriptures to proclaim the coming Christ in the past, present, and future. We long for the Promised One!

ANTHEM	Holy Darkness	Dan Shutte	
	Holy darkness, blessed night, heaven's answer hidden from our si As we await you, O God of <mark>silence</mark> , we embrace your holy nigh	5	
Reading	Isaiah 11:1-10 The	Message Translation	
Reflection	(8:45 A.M.)		
Presentatio	ON BY TRINITY VILLAGE GRADES K-1 (11:00 A.M.)		
<b>&amp;</b> ‡€•			



O Root of Jesse,

standing as a sign among the peoples before you kings will shut their mouths, to you the nations will make their prayer: Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.

## ANTHEM

Holy Darkness

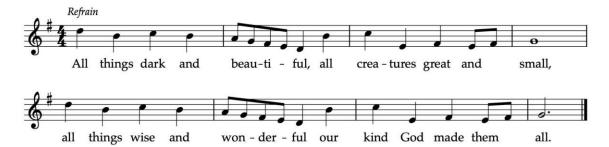
## Dan Shutte

Holy darkness, blessed night, heaven's answer hidden from our sight. As we await you, O God of *promise*, we embrace your holy night.

#### READING

#### **REFLECTION (8:45 A.M.)**

#### PRESENTATION BY TRINITY VILLAGE GRADES 2-3 (11:00 A.M.)



Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings. **Refrain** 

The purple-headed mountains, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky. **Refrain** 

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. **Refrain** 

God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. **Refrain** 

O Wisdom,

coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from one end to the other, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.

#### ANTHEM

Holy Darkness

Dan Shutte

Holy darkness, blessed night, heaven's answer hidden from our sight. As we await you, O God of *wisdom*, we embrace your holy night.

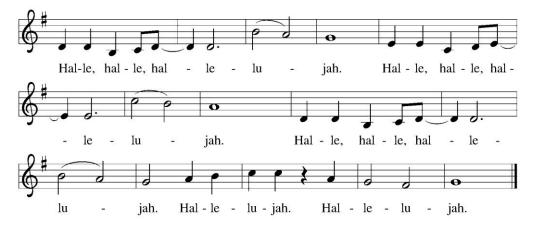
READING

Exodus 3:1-8

The Message Translation

#### **REFLECTION (8:45 A.M.)**

## PRESENTATION BY GODLY PLAY PRE-K (11:00 A.M.)



O God of revealing,

who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain: Come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free.

ANTHEM

#### Holy Darkness

Dan Shutte

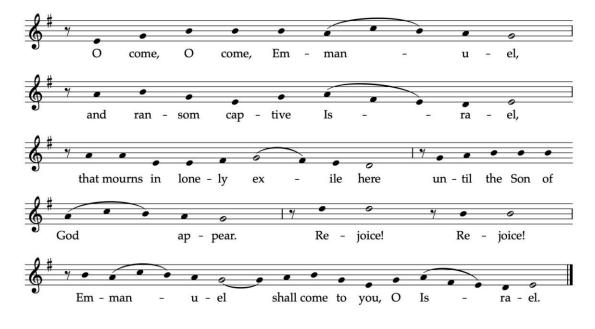
Holy darkness, blessed night, heaven's answer hidden from our sight. As we await you, O God of *revealing*, we embrace your holy night.

READING

Isaiah 12:1-6

The Message Translation

**REFLECTION (8:45 A.M.)** 



## PRESENTATION BY TRINITY VILLAGE GRADES 4-5 (11:00 A.M.)

O Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver the hope of the nations and their Saviour: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

ANTHEM

Holy Darkness

Dan Shutte

Holy darkness, blessed night, heaven's answer hidden from our sight. As we await you, O God of *friendship*, we embrace your holy night.

## +PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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)

O Immanuel–God is with us, in this season of long nights and short days, we look for signs of You and hope in You. Remind us to keep our focus on how you come to us–as a precious humble human baby born to poor teenage parents in a barn. O God,

## We wait for You in hope.

O Immanuel–God is with us, the pain, injustice, and turmoil in our world is overwhelming. We pray for your direction in how each one of us is called to be agents of peace, grace, and healing. With the Psalmist we pray: "Restore us, O LORD God of hosts, let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved." O God,

### We wait for You in hope.

O Immanuel–God is with us, you call us to you through your grace and faith. Lead us to share that grace and faith with our smaller and larger communities–knowing that the Kingdom of Heaven is here–now–in our blessed community and the beautiful creation you have given us. O God,

## We wait for You in hope.

O Immanuel–God is with us, like Joseph, even when we don't understand, lead us to follow your spirit knowing that You are with us. O God,

#### We wait for You in hope.

O Immanuel–God is with us, in this season of long nights and short days; illness, pain, hunger, homelessness, loneliness, and injustice loom ever greater and more desperate. Hold us together, bind up wounds, disperse healers into our midst. We especially raise up to you Pastor Angela; Keith Olstad; Peter Schroeder, extubated this past week, and the entire Schroeder family; Deacon David's mother, Margarita, upon the return of invasive cancer; 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; Lee Kampinen; and those we name now, either silently or aloud (*the congregation may name loved ones in need of God's care*). O God,

## We wait for You in hope.

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."** 

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.

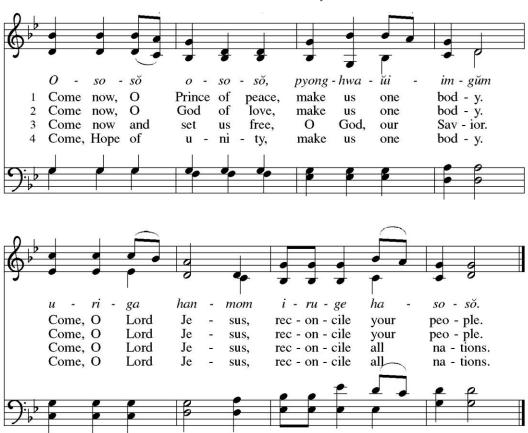
#### OFFERING (8:45)

 (11:00) Dance and Sing, for the Lord Will Be with Us Children's Choir
Dance and sing, for the Lord will be with us. Glory, hallelujah. Peace and justice soon will be with us. Glory, hallelujah. Clap your hands and sing: Glory, hallelujah. Joyful voices ring. Glory, hallelujah.
Soon a Son will come through Jesse. His delight shall be the Lord. He shall reign with truth and justice. Come, O Savior, come.

> Wolf and lamb shall rest together; calf and lion shall join as friends. Peace shall come to all the nations. Come, O Savior, come.

+OFFERTORY HYMN

Come Now, O Prince of Peace



*Communion servers are invited to come forward at this time.* 

#### +OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, you promise life in the midst of winter, and you nurture goodness in rich, black earth. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, as we continue to wait for your coming in sacred darkness. We ask this through Christ our Savior. **Amen.** 

#### +GREAT THANKSGIVING

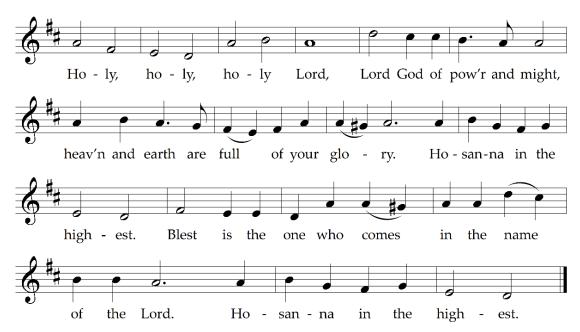
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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 promises to be born among us in order to overcome death and the grave, and open to us the way of everlasting life. This is most certainly true in daytime's joyful light and nighttime's sacred blackness. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+SANCTUS



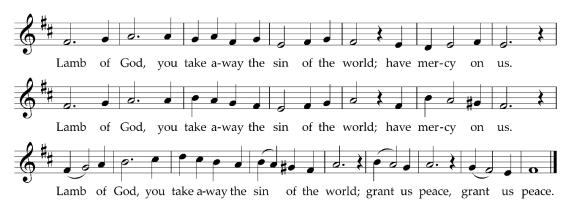
#### +WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### +LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together,

Our Creator, Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

+LAMB OF GOD



Please be seated.

#### **COMMUNION INVITATION**

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.

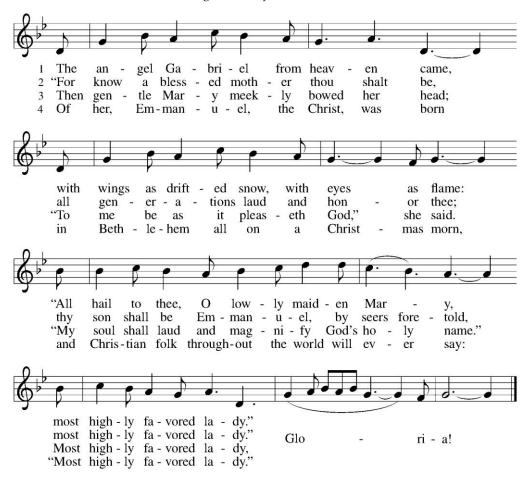
All are welcome at the table. For those worshiping at home and those who prefer to commune with individual packets in your pews, hear these words spoken for you: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

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.



#### +BLESSING

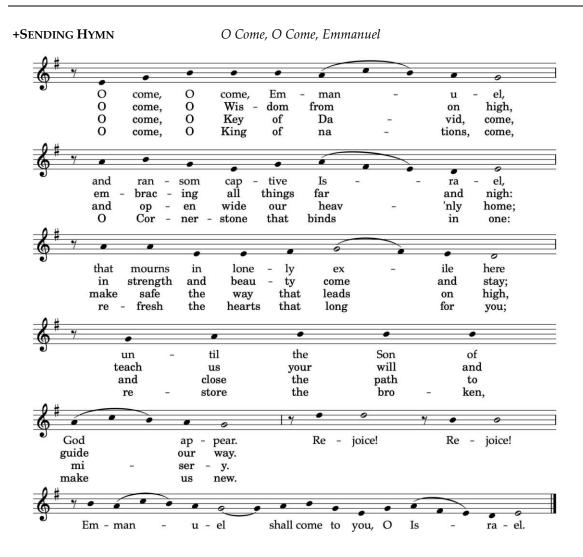
The body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.** 

#### +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 await 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



#### +BENEDICTION

God the eternal Word, promised to us as Jesus in sacred nighttime, who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ₱ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

#### +DISMISSAL

Go in peace. We wait for Jesus in holy darkness. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

People, Look East

arr. P. Radtke

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

Cover Art: Nikki Faison, "God's Holy Darkness" (1517 Media: Beaming Books), 2022. "People, Look East" Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965. Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934 Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates. Arr. © 1999 Novello & Company Ltd., London, United Kingdom "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" Music: Caribbean traditional "All Things Dark and Beautiful" Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-1895, alt. Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1874-1958 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Text: 'Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum', Köln, 1710; tr. composite Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent. "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 "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924. Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

# 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
Doug Mork	Preacher(s)	Children and Youth
David Rojas Martínez	<b>Presiding Minister</b>	David Rojas Martínez
Bob Hulteen	Crucifer	Jeff Olsen Biebighauser
Cathy Alpizar	Cantor	Cathy Alpizar
David Kohlstedt	Assisting Minister	Nicki Hines
Andrea Martin, Linda Berglin,	Communion	Melanie Townsend, Bryan Kuzel,
Andrea Hansen	Communion	David Krig
Steve Murray, David Broberg,	Ushers	Helen and Bob Norheim,
Julie and Tom Cahoy	Ushers	Kathy Hollander, Rod Johnson
Anne Beschnett, Josh Becker	Altar Guild	Doris Gbala, Kathryn Howe
Sally Kohlstedt, Joel Wiberg	<b>Coffee Servers</b>	Stephanie and Scott Cole
Joyce Peterson, Annie Hines	Counters	Deb Helmel, Pam Kildahl
	Closer	John Sulzbach

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#### 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

# PARISH INFORMATION

## ADVENT SUPPER AND EVENING PRAYER SERVICE CONTINUES DECEMBER 21

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

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 and has served as a steady, anchoring presence in the office.

## WELCOME TO KATHY EKWALL

The Personnel Committee, prior to launching a public search for Pam's 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.

## 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@htlcmpls.org). As always, thank you so much for your generous support of Holy Trinity.

## 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 <u>office@htlcmpls.org</u>). 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.

## YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

The Financial Stewardship Committee met on Tuesday evening. They would like to invite each household to consider a year-end gift. We are currently behind approximately \$23,000 in regular member giving. If you able to complete your pledge or share a little extra before December 31, church leadership would greatly appreciate it. To donate online, click <u>here</u>. *Contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2022, to be counted as a 2022 donation. Thank you!* 

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

The 119<sup>th</sup> 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.

## FREE YARN IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM

Please help yourself to yarn in the community room. This yarn makes excellent prayer shawls (but you can use it for any project you want). The yarn comes from a non-smoking home. It was donated to the knitters at Holy Trinity a few years ago but needs to find a new home.



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

## Wednesday, December 21-Advent Supper and Evening Prayer Service

5:30-6:45 p.m.: Advent soup supper 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 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 21-Book Discussion on Refugia Faith, 5:30-6:45 p.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

# PARISH SCHEDULE

Monday, December 19	6:30 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, December 20	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday, December 21	5:30 PM	Advent Soup Supper
	5:30 PM	Book Discussion
	5:30 PM	Supervised Play
	5:30 PM	Gloria Ringers
	7:00 PM	Advent Evening Prayer
Friday, December 23	11:30 AM	Funeral for Jeanne Salmon
	12:00 PM	Church Office Closes
Saturday, December 24	4:00 PM	Christmas Eve Worship
Christmas Eve	9:00 PM	Christmas Eve Worship
Sunday, December 25	10:00 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	2:00 PM	Swahili Service

# Adult Forum

10:00 a.m. each Sunday

## TODAY "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.

December 25 and January 1 NO ADULT FORUM