

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 4, 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 Night of Stars

Gloria Ringers

arr. Bruce W. Tippette

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again. You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire. Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abounds over all the earth. **Amen.**

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



+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





This Is the Feast



+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Dear God, when life hacks away at our dreams and injustice cuts us down and leaves us like a stump of our former hope, reveal your promise in small things, little shoots, sweet tendrils rising green. We ask this in the name of Jesus, cut down by hate and fear, risen with new life from the stump of death. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Word

FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

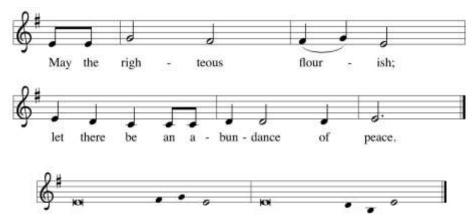
Old Testament Page 654

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

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

Robert A. Hobby

Refrain (First time: cantor, then all)



Give the king your jus- | tice, O God, and your righteousness to | the king's son;

 2 that he may rule your † people righteously

and the | poor with justice;

 3 that the mountains may bring prosperity $^{\perp}$ to the people, and the $^{\perp}$ hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy a- ¹ mong the people, rescue the poor, and crush ¹ the oppressor. *Refrain*

⁵May he live as long as the sun and ¹ moon endure, from one generation ¹ to another.

 $^6\mathrm{Let}$ him come down like rain upon 1 the mown field,

like showers that wa- | ter the earth.

⁷In his time may the ¹ righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall $^{\scriptscriptstyle \parallel}$ be no more.

¹⁸Blessed are you, LORD God, the ¹ God of Israel; you alone do ¹ wondrous deeds!

¹⁹And blessed be your glorious ¹ name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- ¹ men. Amen. *Refrain*

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-13

New Testament Pages 155-156

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



+GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:1-12

New Testament Pages 2-3

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

SERMON



+INTERCESSIONS Rachel Nevergall

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)

Our Father, Our Mother, Our Creator, be near us, we pray, as we wait in the season of Advent. There is darkness all around us, beautiful holy magnificent darkness. May we be moved by its glory. There is a sacred wonder to be found in the contrast of this season, like the twinkle of lights decorating the dark green branches or the warmth of hot cocoa after chilly outdoor play, the peaceful noise around a crowded table, or the plants still alive in the deep dark soil. We wait for you, O God. We wait and we wonder. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Oh God of the Setting Sun at the End of the Day, we pray for our church, our members, and our mission. As the day comes to a close, we draw closer together—in our homes, around the table, sharing a meal and the stories of our day. May our church community be like this family dinner table—full of nourishment, laughter, stories, and song. Let this community be a sanctuary of warmth and communion. Invite all of us into conversation, with ears to listen, safety to share, willingness to learn. May our communion table feel crowded but cozy, with plenty of seats and an abundance of food. Let the darkening sky at the end of the day stand as an invitation to gather near one another, in our church and in our world. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Oh God of the Twinkling Lights, we pray for peace. As we drape our homes in colorful lights, may we recognize the unique color each of us brings to this world. Help us to use our skills, our knowledge, our positions in society, and our strength in Christ to support our neighbors. Just as every bulb on a strand of lights is required for the circuit to glow, remind us of the power in working together for justice. And as we stand in awe at the beauty of bright lights against the night air, squealing with joy and breaking into carols, remind us that peace does not have to be quiet. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Oh God of the Vast Night Sky, we pray for our leaders. Staring up into the great expansive universe of leadership can be intimidating. The responsibility of decision making is wide and the people in their care are as many as the stars in the sky. And yet Your leadership, oh God, is greater. You are everywhere and you lead the way. Even when the answers are hidden in the wilderness, teach us to trust our leaders. Remind us that just as you created the great earth, we, too, are made to be creators of great change. In your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Oh God of Nourishment, we pray for the sick and suffering. When we sip bowls of black bean soup or drink cocoa as rich as melted chocolate bars, we feel warm and fed. May this same warmth fill those who ache with pain of body, mind, and spirit. Bring nourishment of rest and recovery. Heal us and our loved ones with the rich color of your mercy. We especially pray for the family of Jason Santa Ana, son of Ann White, upon his death; the family of Jeanne Salmon, upon her death; Keith Olstad, hospitalized; 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."

Receive our prayers, God of mercy and justice, as we wait in wonder of your holy darkness, 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

Coventry Carol Gloria Ringers arr. Julie Stitt

+OFFERTORY HYMN

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Communion servers are invited to come forward at this time.



+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



+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 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 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.

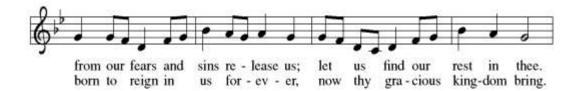
If you wish to receive communion from a pastor in your pew, please let an usher know.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



- 1 Come, thou long-ex pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
- 2 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child, and yet a king;

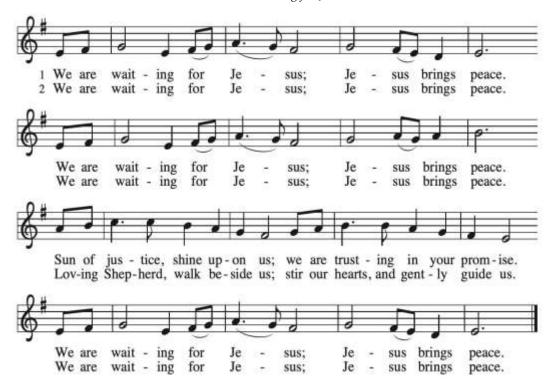






DISTRIBUTION HYMN

We Are Waiting for Jesus



+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.

Amen.

SENDING

+SENDING HYMN Prepare the Royal Highway 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near! 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king! 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom-ised king! no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove. 4 His is ev - 'ry hill and val - ley lev - el pear! Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing! na - tion Your king, yet ev - 'ry its trib - ute too may bring. His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love. glo - ry, fore - told Then greet the King of in sa - cred sto ry: God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you! ing: All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing -So your praise be sound-ing for kind-ness so a - bound - ing: Refrain Ho-san-na to the Lord. ful - fills God's word! he

+BENEDICTION

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

Amen.

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing Gloria Ringers

arr. Cathy Moklebust

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

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621 "Psalm 72" Refrain reproduced from 'Psalter for Worship Year A' © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

"Be Thou My Vision" Text: Irish 8th-10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; vers. Elenor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.

Music: SLANE, Irish tune

"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

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Music: W. Walker, 'Southern Harmony', 1835 "We Are Waiting for Jesus" Text: John Helgen, b. 1957. Music: John Helgen. Text and music © 2013 Augsburg Fortress "Prepare the Royal Highway" Text: Frans Mikael Franén, 1772-1847; tr. 'Lutheran Book of Worship'

Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.

Text: © 1978 'Lutheran Book of Worship', admin. Augsburg Fortress

Prayer of the day written by Pastor Heidi Neumark as part of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Minneapolis, MN) expansive prayer project. Used by permission.

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
Ingrid Rasmussen	Preacher	Ingrid Rasmussen
David Rojas Martinez	Presiding Minister	David Rojas Martinez
	Crucifer	Wayne Vetter
Caren Hiatt	Cantor	Caren Hiatt
Carol Masters	Assisting Minister	Tom Skold
Kevin Proescholdt, Sue Roberts, Amy Froiland-Parada	Communion	Katy Benson
Julie and Tom Cahoy, David Broberg, Chris Engen	Ushers	Kathy Hollander, Rod Johnson, Joy Nelson
Mary Engen, Ginny Jordan	Altar Guild	Doris Gbala
Jean Swanson, Kevin Proescholdt	Coffee Servers	Roberta Shaw, Connie Adams
Julie Cahoy, Chuck Jordan	Counters	Deb Helmel, John Sulzbach
	Closer	Rod Johnson

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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

MAKERS AND BAKERS ADVENT BAZAAR TODAY

Shop today in the Community Room from 9:45-11:00 a.m. and support the youth of Holy Trinity. All proceeds help to support summer youth trips.

FINAL LIFE TOGETHER SESSION

Please sign up in the Community Room for the final session: *Survive and Even Thrive in a Minnesota Winter*. Winter can be long in Minnesota. Advent and Christmas bring opportunities for gathering and celebration, but many of us experience some dread as we face the long nights and cold months of 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. Sign up in the Community Room by Sunday, December 11.

ADVENT SUPPERS AND EVENING PRAYER SERVICES CONTINUE DECEMBER 7

God has chosen to make a home among us. In our joys and sorrows, in our longing for healing and justice, in our gathering for worship, God promises to embrace us in love.

All are invited to partake in the Advent soup suppers on Wednesdays 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.

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.

YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Every year Holy Trinity anticipates and relies on a year-end increase in offerings that helps support the work of the church. This holiday season, please consider making an additional contribution to Holy Trinity or to our special appeals, Bright Stars of Bethlehem, the Lift Garage, and/or ELCA World Hunger. To donate online, click here. Please remember: contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2022, to be counted as a 2022 donation. Thank you!

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.

NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL:

JESUS CHRIST YESTERDAY, TODAY, FOREVER

Friday, December 9, 4:30 and 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, December 10, 8:00 p.m.

In the two thousand years since Jesus' birth, humans in every era have considered what this birth meant for them. Even now, this meaning continues to evolve in our lives. This year's Christmas Festival will draw from the past twenty years of David Cherwien's Christmas programming and its musical embodiment of the Incarnation. Tickets are \$33 and can be purchased from their website. Watch a free livestream of the concert at NLCA.com Friday, December 9, 8:00 p.m.

TO: HOME: MORRIS PARK SINGERS CONCERT MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 7:00 P.M.

The Morris Park Singers want to especially welcome the Holy Trinity community to their second seasonal concert, *To: Home.* The work will be performed in the Holy Trinity Sanctuary on Monday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m.

This concert is a "pay what you can" performance, with a suggested donation of \$10/ticket but don't let a lack of funds keep you away! Enter the "price per ticket" when making your purchase (There is a \$1 minimum per ticket). For more information and to purchase tickets, click here.

VOICES OF HOPE TO PERFORM AT HOLY TRINITY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 7:00 P.M.

Voices of Hope invites you to attend a festive Winter Sing on Thursday, December 8, at Holy Trinity. Voices of Hope builds choral singing communities inside Minnesota prisons and in the wider Twin Cities community. Learn about their work, sing familiar holiday favorites, and help to create a holiday video that will be shared inside the Shakopee and Stillwater correctional facilities.

The evening will begin with a hearty meal. If you're able, please bring a dish to share. Soup and bread will be provided. Everyone is welcome. Thursday, December 8, 6:00-9:00 p.m. (meal at 6:00 p.m., singing at 7:00 p.m.) at Holy Trinity Lutheran. Please RSVP here.

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

Wednesdays, December 7, 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 7: Peace in the Home

Reflection: Pam Kildahl, on the experience of domestic violence Musician: Kathe Jarkë, cello

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 7, 14, 21 - Book Discussion on Refugia Faith, 5:30-6:45 p.m.

Sunday, December 4 – Advent Worship at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 11 – Adult Choirs Sunday at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

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

Sunday, December 18 – Sunday School Advent and Christmas Program

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

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

PARISH SCHEDULE

Monday, December 5	6:30 PM	Adult Choir/Trinity Singers Rehearsal	
Tuesday, December 6	2:00 PM	Knitting Group	
Wednesday, December 7	5:30 PM	Advent Supper	
	5:30 PM	Book Discussion	
	5:30 PM	Children's Choir Rehearsal	
	5:30 PM	CYF	
	5:45 PM	Gloria Ringers	
	6:00 PM	Cantate! Rehearsal	
Sunday, December 11	8:45 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion	
	10:00 AM	Adult Forum	
	10:00 AM	Children and Youth Education	
	11:00 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion	
	2:00 PM	Swahili Service	

ADULT FORUM

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

TODAY "Lutheran Liturgy" Jan Mehlhoff

The order of our Lutheran worship has not changed in centuries. Pastor Jan Mehlhoff will lead us through the service explaining why the passing of the Peace (which is not the seventh inning stretch), Lord's Prayer, and other elements are where they are, which parts are optional, and why they may be used for a certain season and more.

December 11 "Advent and Christmas Customs and Practices"

Participants will share personal customs for the holidays.