



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MINNEAPOLIS

## WELCOME TO ALL

### ***Holy Trinity gathers on the Sacred land of the Dakota People.***

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 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.

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

+invites the congregation to stand

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## GATHER

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### PRELUDE

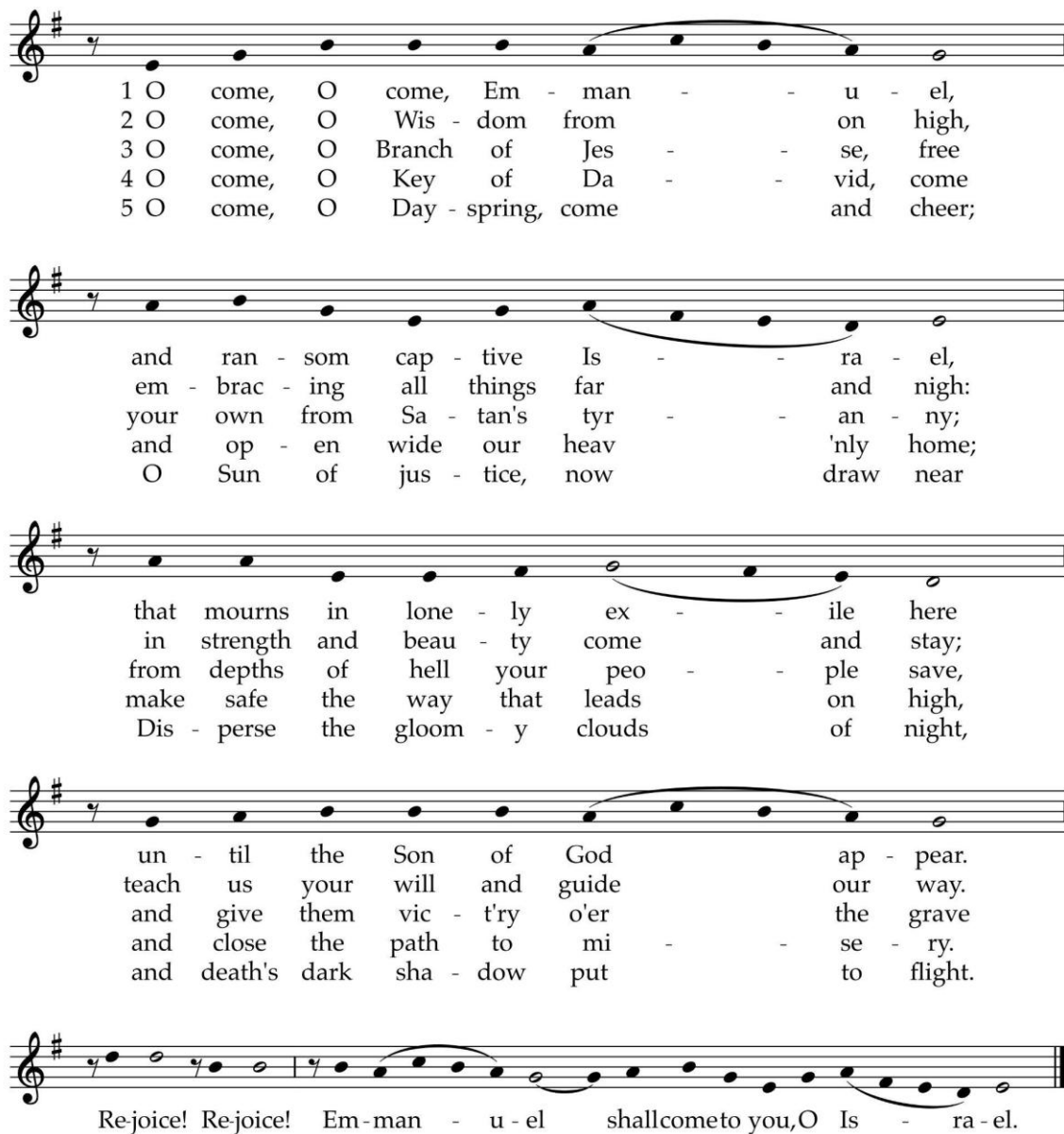
O Come, O Come Emmanuel  
Of the Father's Love Begotten  
Sarah Grudem, harp

arr. Ray Pool  
arr. Ray Pool

+GATHERING HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high,  
 3 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free  
 4 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come  
 5 O come, O Day - spring, come and cheer;

and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
 em - brac - ing all things far and nigh:  
 your own from Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny;  
 and op - en wide our heav 'nly home;  
 O Sun of jus - tice, now draw near

that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 from depths of hell your peo - ple save,  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave  
 and close the path to mi - se - ry.  
 and death's dark sha - dow put to flight.

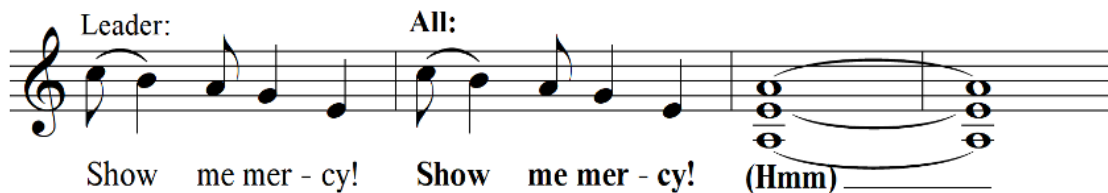
Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

**+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**

*The Canaanite Woman's Song*



Let us kneel before God, praying: Show me mercy! **Show me mercy!**

We shout for justice! Show me mercy! **Show me mercy!**

We beg for healing! Show me mercy! **Show me mercy!**

We cry for your help! Show me mercy! **Show me mercy!**

We demand your presence! Show me mercy! **Show me mercy!**

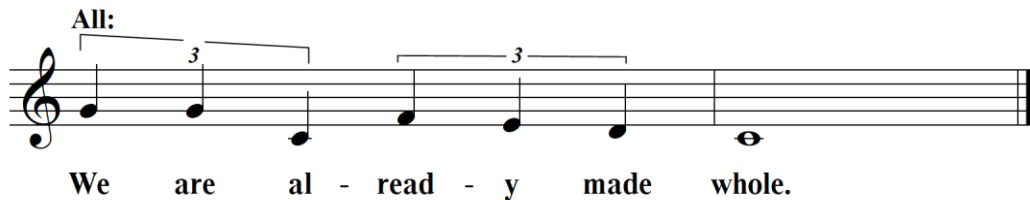
Let us rise together.

Jesus says: Great is your faith!

Let it be to you as you desire.

You are already made whole.

You are already made whole. (Matthew 15:21-28)



## +CANTICLE OF PRAISE

### Mary's Song

*Refrain*

Leader:                      All:                      Leader:                      All:

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, with all our hearts, with all our hearts.

Leader:                      All:                      Leader:                      All:

Come, wor - ship God, come, wor - ship God, with all our praise, with all our praise.

All:                      3                      3

Our spir - its join with Mar - y, sing - ing her song of praise to  
Stor - ies of God's great mer - cy each gen - er - a - tion shares. New  
In Je - sus there is prom - ise, help - ing us on our way. The

to refrain

God, whose name is ho - ly, with arms — ful - ly raised.  
hope for low - ly peo - ple: we know that our God cares.  
Spir - it al - ways guides us; we trust what she will say.

## +LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Blessed are you, God of hosts, for you promised to send a son, Emmanuel, who brought your presence among us; and you promise through your Son Jesus to save us from our sin. As we light these candles, turn again to us in mercy; strengthen our faith in the word spoken by your prophets; restore us and give us life that we may be saved. O house of David, come,  
**let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen.**

## +PRAYER OF THE DAY

Immanuel, God with us, you are a confounding delight! Already, the universe bears great signs of your goodness; teeming ocean depths and airy midnight heights, all while stirring within us, as well. Now sober us, with the essential, scandalous sign of your presence in unexpected silhouettes. And stretch wide our arms with courage to receive you in new visions of your kingdom arriving. Keep us, like Joseph, from dismissing too quickly the unconfirming and the uncomfortable. For your greatest of gifts come to us as these: unexpected, open, and vulnerable. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WELCOME

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## WORD

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ANTHEM

*I Wonder As I Wander*  
Sarah Grudem, harp

arr. Carlos Salzedo

FIRST READING

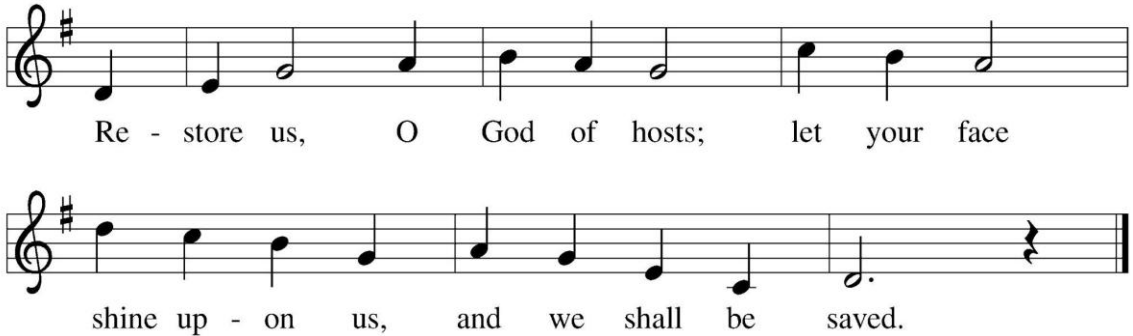
*Isaiah 7:10-16*

Here ends the reading. Blessed are they who seek wisdom;  
**who treasure her ways and follow her paths.**

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

Wayne L. Wold

**Refrain** (First time: cantor, then all)



Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.  
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us. **Refrain**

Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.  
O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?  
You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.  
You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.  
Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. **Refrain**

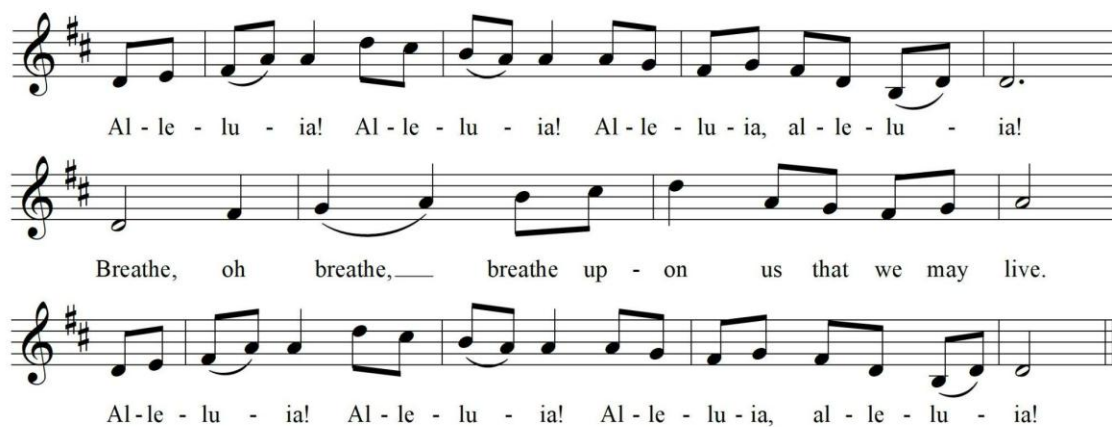
SECOND READING

*Romans 1:1-7*

Here ends the reading. Blessed are they who seek wisdom;  
**who treasure her ways and follow her paths.**

**+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia*



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Breathe, oh breathe, — breathe up - on us that we may live.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The musical notation is written on three staves in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is a simple, joyful tune. The first staff contains the first line of the Alleluia, the second staff contains the second line, and the third staff contains the third line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

**+GOSPEL READING**

*Matthew 1:18-25*

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.  
**Praise to you, Word of life!**

**SERMON**

+HYMN OF THE DAY

*In a Far-Off Place, Jesus Comes*



1 In a far - off place, Je - sus comes to earth.  
2 For the poor in heart, Je - sus comes to earth.  
3 In our deep - est night, Je - sus comes to earth:



Sheep and cat - tle grace the site. As the  
Hum - ble shep - herds start the news. For each  
ra - diant star to light our way. Sum-mer's



an - gel songs be - gin, like the whis - per of the wind,  
home-less in - fant born, for the meek and those who mourn,  
heat or win - ter's chill, with a warm and lov - ing will,



na - ture's hope a - wakes a - gain; Je - sus comes.  
for the wear - y and the worn, Je - sus comes.  
to a world that needs him still, Je - sus comes.



## **+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us profess our faith:

**We believe in you, O God,  
who spoke all life into being,  
author of heaven and earth,  
architect of time,  
quilter of the cosmos.  
You shape our bodies  
from the dust of the ground,  
and by your breath we are given life.**

**We believe in you, O God,  
who became incarnate in Christ Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
truly divine and truly human.  
You lived among us  
to reveal your justice,  
died among us  
to break the bonds of sin and death,  
and were raised among us  
to bring abundant life.**

**We believe in you, O God,  
who transforms us by the Holy Spirit,  
draws us into community,  
moves us to action,  
and inspires us to hope against hope.  
You breathe new life  
into a fallen world  
and equip us to proclaim  
the good news of resurrecting love.**

**All thanks and praise to you, O God, our beginning and our end. Amen.**

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)*

In the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival. Stir our spirits through the gifts of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers, as together we proclaim your advent among us. God of grace,

**Hear our prayer.**

The earth breaks forth in singing as it heralds the Messiah's coming. Fill our hearts with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. God of grace,

**Hear our prayer.**

You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. God of grace,

**Hear our prayer.**

When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of depression, or who are ill, especially Wilson Murray; Dorothy Kelly; Kathy Ekwall's friend, Mark Caffrey; Nikki Randolph-Martinez; Carol Kelly; Mary Petersen; Mary Petersen's friends, Jean Ebrahimi and Lenny Garber; Mary Heltsley; Tre Tellor's mom Jill; Tina and Neela; Rick Lathrop; Karen Batdorf's sister Marie; Mike Kelly; Josie Tober; and those we hold in our hearts or speak with our voices now (*the congregation may name loved ones in need of God's care*). God of grace,

**Hear our prayer.**

Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless young children and new parents. Guide us in ways that provide safety for all children and those who care for them. God of grace,

**Hear our prayer.**

*You are invited to offer spoken petitions.*

*At the conclusion of your petition, please close with "God of grace,"  
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.**

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# MEAL

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## +PEACE

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

*The people may greet one another with a sign of God's peace.*

## OFFERING

*A Stable Lamp Is Lighted*  
Adult Choir; Sarah Grudem, harp

Mark Sedio

A stable lamp is lighted whose glow shall wake the sky;  
the stars shall bend their voices, and every stone shall cry.  
And every stone shall cry, and straw like gold shall shine;  
a barn shall harbor heaven, a stall become a shrine.

This child through David's city shall ride in triumph by;  
the palm shall strew its branches, and every stone shall cry.  
And every stone shall cry though heavy, dull, and dumb,  
and lie within the roadway to pave his kingdom come.

Yet he shall be forsaken, and yielded up to die;  
the sky shall groan and darken, and every stone shall cry.  
And every stone shall cry, for hearts made hard by sin:  
God's blood upon the spear-head, God's love refused again.

But now, as at the ending, the low is lifted high;  
the stars shall bend their voices, and every stone shall cry.  
And every stone shall cry, in praises of the child  
by whose descent among us the worlds are reconciled.

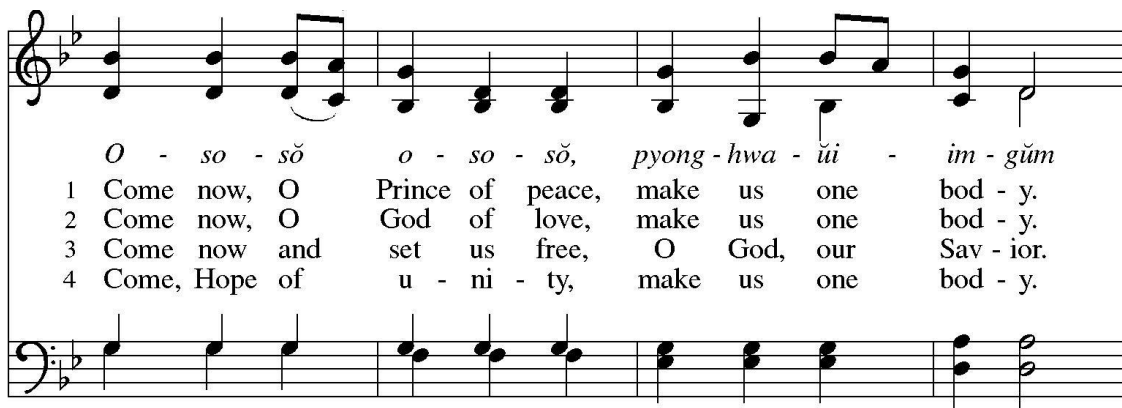
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*Baskets will be passed in the sanctuary. If you prefer to donate to the mission and ministry using Venmo or card, the QR codes can be found on the back page of the bulletin.*

+OFFERTORY HYMN

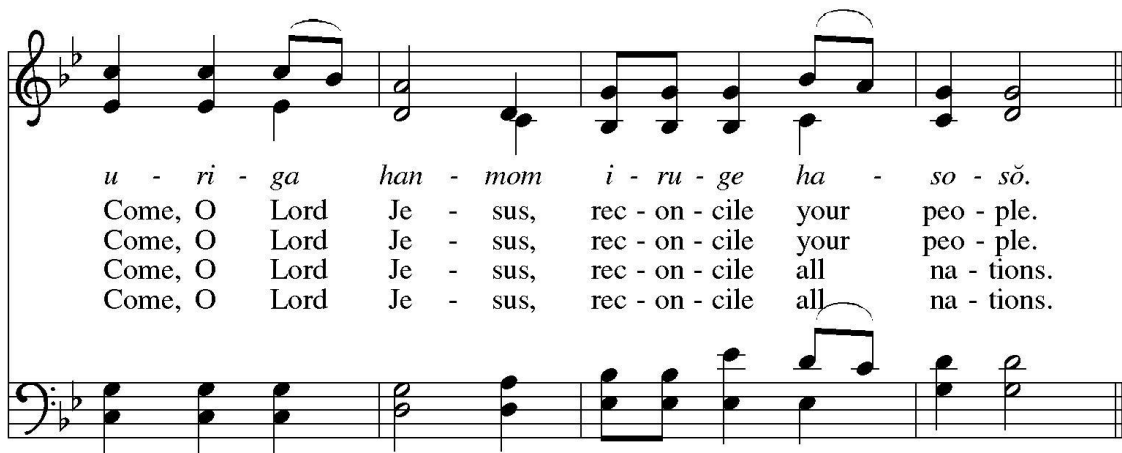
*Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

*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**

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

**Amen.**

**+GREAT THANKSGIVING**

God is here!

**The Spirit is with us!**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them to our God!**

Let us give thanks to the Holy One and Holy Three!

**It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

And now we give you thanks for all we have received through the life, death, and resurrection of our savior Jesus Christ. In Christ you became incarnate in a human body. By your flesh we are freed from sin, death, and all that holds us captive. You have been revealed to us as one who breathes, and you breathe into us new life. Therefore with all heaven and earth, we shout with joy:

+SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of power, God of might.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est! Bles - sed is the one who

comes in the name of our God. Ho - san - na in the

high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which Jesus was betrayed.... Do this for the remembrance of me. Groaning in expectation with all of creation, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again**

Breath of God, in this bread and cup you bring new life to your church.

**Breathe on us, that we may live!**

May your Spirit intercede for us with sighs too deep for words, so that we might be made one body in Christ.

**Breathe on us, that we may live!**

Revive our faith, infuse us with your peace, and reveal to us your justice, so that we might witness to the resurrection in all that we say and in all that we do.

**Breathe on us, that we may live!**

All thanks and praise to you, O God, Holy One and Holy Three.

**Amen!**

## +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.**

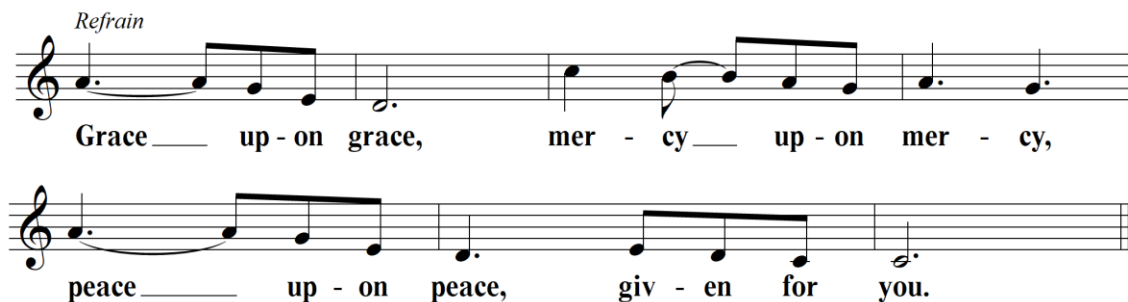
**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**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.**

## +GRACE UPON GRACE

*Refrain*



Grace \_\_\_\_ up - on grace, mer - cy \_\_\_\_ up - on mer - cy,

peace \_\_\_\_\_ up - on peace, giv - en for you.

The Word made flesh dwells among us, full of grace and truth. *Refrain*

Behold our Savior who frees us from the sin of the world. *Refrain*

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION INVITATION

All are welcome at the table. This is Christ's table where no one is a stranger.

For those worshiping at home, 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.**

*All are welcome at the table.*

*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 your pew, please let an usher know.*

## HEALING STATION

*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 ANTHEM

*What Child Is This?*  
Sarah Grudem, harp

arr. Ray Pool



## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

## Come to Be Our Hope, O Jesus



*Español:* 1 Tú, Je - sús, nues - tra es - pe - ran - za, ven y  
 2 Ven, y te - je un mun - do nue - vo ca - mi -  
*English:* 1 Come to be our hope, O Je - sus, come to  
 2 Come to build your new cre - a - tion through the



li - bra nues - tro ser. Ni - ño,  
 nan - do en la ver - dad, pa - ra  
 set your peo - ple free. From op -  
 road of ser - vant - hood; give new



na - ce en - tre no - so - tros, ven y da - nos tu po -  
 que, por fin, el pue - blo vi - va en ple - na li - ber -  
 pres - sion, come, re - lease us, grant us your true lib - er -  
 life to ev - 'ry na - tion, chang - ing e - vil in - to



der. Ven li - ber - ta pri - sio - ne - ros de in - jus -  
 tad. Ven, Je - sús, a - bre el fu - tu - ro de tu  
 ty. Come, re - lease from ev - 'ry pris - on those who  
 good. Come and o - pen our to - mor - row for your



ti - cia y a - flic - ción; ven, re - ú - ne nues - tros  
 rei - no de a - le - grí - a. Ven, de - rrum - ba es - te gran  
 suf - fer in our land. In your love we find the  
 joy - ful reign so near. Take a - way all hu - man



pue - blos en a - mor y en com - pren - sión.  
 mu - ro que hoy se - pa - ra no - che y dí - a.  
 rea - son still to live and un - der - stand.  
 sor - row; give us hope a - gainst our fear.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

### *Christ, Our Peace*

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is in the Treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the Bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staves. The first line of music ends with a double bar line. The second line of music ends with a double bar line.

## +BLESSING

May the deep breath of God revive you with joy, infuse you with peace, and fill you with hope.  
**Amen.**

## +POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.  
**Amen.**

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# SENDING

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## +SENDING HYMN

### *Canticle of the Turning*

*Children and youth are invited to join the worship leaders as they recess  
and gather at the rear of the sanctuary to share the dismissal.*

My soul cries out with a joy-ful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . . work great . . . things in me,  
From the halls of pow'r to the for-tress tow'r, not a stone will be left on stone.  
Though the na-tions rage from . . . age to age, we re-mem-ber who holds us fast:  
and my spir-it sings of the won-drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
and your mer-cy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
Let the king be-ware for your jus-tice tears ev-'ry ty-rant . . . from his throne.  
God's . . . mer-cy must de-liv-er us from the con-quer-or's crush-ing grasp.  
You fixed your sight on your ser-vant's plight, and my weak-ness you did not spurn,  
Your ver-y name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,  
The hun-gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the food they can nev-er earn;  
This sav-ing word that our fore-bears heard is the prom-ise which holds us bound,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be a-bout to turn?  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is a-bout to turn.  
there are ta-bles spread; ev-'ry mouth be fed, for the world is a-bout to turn.  
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turn-ing the world a-round.  
*Refrain*  
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.  
Wipe a-way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

## **+BENEDICTION**

The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit and grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

**Amen.**

## **+DISMISSAL**

Go in peace! Love your neighbors!

**Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*  
Sarah Grudem, harp

arr. Charles E. Peery

*You are invited to the Community Room  
(located at the rear of the worship area) for a time of conversation and refreshments.  
Today we have Sambusas from a local restaurant!*

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Bulletin Art: Nicolette Faison | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* Text: 'Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum', Köln, 1710; tr. composite

Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent. Text sts. 2, 5 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

Prayer written by Rev. Rebecca Gamble as part of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Minneapolis, MN) expansive prayer project.

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*Psalm 80: Psalm refrain reproduced from 'Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary'*

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*"In a Far-Off Place, Jesus Comes"* Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953. Music: TENTH NIGHT, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952

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*"Come Now, O Prince of Peace"* Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope. Music: OSOSO, Geonyong Lee

Text and music © Geonyong Lee

*"Come to Be Our Hope, O Jesus"* Text: Jaci Maraschin, 1929-2009, Portuguese and English; Spanish tr. Jorge Rodríguez

Music: JESUS NOSSA ESPERANÇA, Marcílio de Oliveira Filho, 1947-2005

Text © 1987, 1989 World Council of Churches. Music © 1989 Marcílio de Oliveira Filho, admin. World Council of Churches

*"Christ, Our Peace"* Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Music: CHRIST, OUR PEACE, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 2007 GIA Publications, Inc.

*"Canticle of the Turning"* Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat

Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional. Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406

612-729-8358      htlcmpls.org

**LITURGY SETTING TODAY: *SIGHS TOO DEEP***

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<b>Preacher</b>	Doug Mork (he/him)
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her)
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Katy Benson (she/her), Linda Berglin (she/her)
<b>Crucifer</b>	
<b>Cantor</b>	Caren Hiatt (she/her)
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Tom Skold (he/him)
<b>Ushers</b>	Chris Amundson (he/him), Julie Cahoy (she/her), Tom Cahoy (he/him)
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Libby Olstad (she/her), Keith Olstad (he/him)
<b>Coffee Servers</b>	Connie Adam (she/her)
<b>Video Operator</b>	Jan Mehlhoff (she/her)
<b>Counters</b>	Annie Hines (she/her)
<b>Closer</b>	Roberta Shaw (she/her)

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### STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her), *Lead Pastor*  
David Larson-Martínez (he/him), *Associate Pastor*  
Doug Mork (he/him), *Part-time Associate Pastor*  
Kathy Ekwall (she/her), *Communications &  
Congregational Coordinator*  
Nolan Gusdal (he/him), *Building Maintenance*  
Phil Radtke (he/him), *Cantor*  
Kaia Ellis (she/her), *Financial Administrator*

### STAFF, CONTINUED

Sue Roberts (she/her), *Publications Coordinator*  
Edgar Alvarez (he/him), *Custodian*  
Dana Simms (he/him), *Custodian*  
Logan Olson (he/him), *Handbell Director*  
Andrew Winfield (he/him), *Accompanist*

### LEADERSHIP

Anne Beschnett (she/her), *Council President*  
Sandra Hisakuni (she/her), *Council Vice President*  
James Nysse (he/him), *Council Secretary*  
George Henry (he/him), *Council Treasurer*

# COMMUNITY INFORMATION

## **SAMBUSAS IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM AFTER WORSHIP**

Sambusas from a local restaurant will be for sale (sliding scale of \$2-10) in the Community.

## **MAKE YOUR YEAR-END GIFTS**

We invite you to make your final contributions for the current fiscal year at this time. Please note: the office will be closed on December 31. If you are dropping off a donation for 2025, it needs to be received on or before Tuesday, December 30. Thank you for all you share with Holy Trinity!

## **COMMITMENT CARDS FOR 2026**

We invite members and friends to consider making a financial commitment to the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity for 2026. Your gifts will allow us to support our dedicated staff, offer our space for community use, sustain our commitment to neighborhood recovery, and continue organizing for the wellbeing of all—especially in divisive times. You may pledge online or by filling out one of the pledge cards found in the Community Room.

## **HOLY TRINITY DELIVERS MEALS ON WHEELS DECEMBER 29-31, JANUARY 2**

Holy Trinity volunteers will deliver meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels on Monday-Wednesday and Friday, December 29-31, January 2. Volunteers pick up meals at 11:15 a.m. at Nokomis Square (50<sup>th</sup> St. and 35<sup>th</sup> Ave. S). Meal delivery takes about one hour. Contact Mary Engen to sign up for part or all of the week.

## **SUGARCANE SHOWING SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 11:30 A.M.**

Please join us in the Bartsch Room on Sunday, January 18, at 11:30 a.m. for a showing of the award-winning debut feature documentary from Julian Brave NoiseCat and Emily Kassie. *Sugarcane* is a groundbreaking investigation into an Indian residential school. More information to follow. Sign up in the Community Room.

## **PASTOR DAVID ON SABBATICAL DECEMBER 31, 2025–MARCH 25, 2026**

Sabbaticals are a benefit extended to all regular staff at Holy Trinity, and I am grateful for and looking forward to mine! For me this will be a time of leaning into rootedness, connecting with heart languages, and traveling to places where friends and family live. I am sure that this time away will allow me to return re-energized for all the faithful work we do in our community.

During my time away, the committees I relate to will be able to call on one of the pastors for their needs. Children and Family, Youth, AMMPARO/Immigration, and Music in the Garden Committees will relate to Pastor Doug. Nurturing Relationships, Caring for Creation, and Palestine/Israel Committees will relate to Pastor Ingrid.

Thank you for making sabbaticals a priority at Holy Trinity!

## C H U R C H   S C H E D U L E

Monday, December 22	6:30-8:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, December 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	4:00 PM 9:00 PM	Family-friendly Worship Service Worship Service led by Adult Choir
Thursday, December 25 <i>Christmas Day</i>		Building is Closed
Friday, December 26		Building is Closed
Sunday, December 28	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 PM	Adult Forum Worship Service of Holy Communion Swahili Service

### ADULT FORUM

*9:00 a.m. each Sunday*

### TODAY                      “Intergenerational Cookie Decorating”

Join us in the Community Room for a fun *intergenerational* event as we decorate cookies together! All supplies will be provided—just bring your creativity and sweet tooth. This joyful gathering will take the place of both the Adult Forum and Children, Youth, and Family education this week. All ages are welcome to come share in the fun, connect with others, and enjoy a sweet start to the season!

### December 28                      No Education Classes

We rejoice in God with us and enjoy rest. We will meet again on January 4, 2026.

### 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.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24  
CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**

**4:00 P.M. AND 9:00 P.M.**

Join us at 4:00 p.m. for a family-friendly service featuring  
members of the Children's Choir and Cantate  
and at 9:00 p.m. for a service led by the Adult Choir

**THURSDAY-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25-26  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

The church office will be closed, so that staff can spend time  
with their friends and families.

**WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31-JANUARY 2  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

The church office will be closed.

**D O N A T E**

We are grateful for your donations that allow us to build community in this corner of  
Minneapolis and beyond!



Venmo



Credit/Debit Card