

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

4000 – 30th Street

at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road

Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

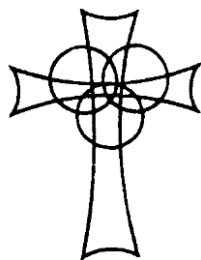
The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor

Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340

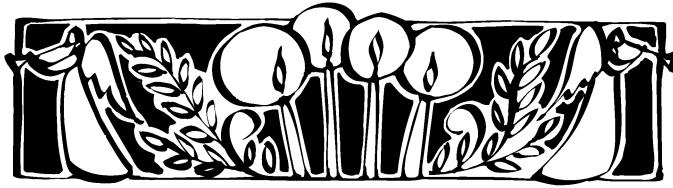
Church Web Site: www.tlcmr.org



A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Fourth
Sunday
in Advent



DECEMBER 18, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

In the Name of Jesus Christ, Welcome! The Pastor and People of Trinity Lutheran are glad that you are joining us in worship today. During this Advent Season we rejoice in the coming of Jesus Christ among His people, not only in His birth as a man, but also as we receive Him as even now He comes to us in His Word and Sacraments and as we wait for His coming again in glory. We pray that you will meet your Savior in our worship today as we joyfully celebrate Him who comes among His people, Jesus Christ our Lord.

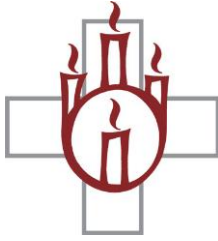
PRAYER UPON ENTERING WORSHIP

Stir up Your power, Lord Christ, and come. With Your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONCERNING HOLY COMMUNION

Lutherans believe that in this Sacrament the very Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ are present in, with, and under the physical elements of bread and wine. And this Sacrament is distributed to the Baptized of the Church who believe in the Presence of Christ in the Sacrament, sincerely repent of their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this Holy Meal. Those who are present at this celebration who are baptized, have been instructed in the meaning of this Supper, and believe likewise are welcome to commune with us at this Altar today. Anyone who desires, child or adult, may come forward to receive a blessing.

Persons who have questions about what Lutherans believe or have any spiritual concerns are asked to speak with an Usher so that they can direct you to the Pastor so that you may speak with him before communing.



**THE DIVINE SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT
IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT**

*Divine Service, Setting Four
Lutheran Service Book
Page 203ff*

✠ *In the Name of Jesus Christ* ✠

✠ **The Preparation** ✠

The Flute & Piano Prelude

“Arise, O Christian People”

The Words of Welcome

The Congregation rises.

The Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 354

“Arise, O Christian People”



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
 now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–62; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.

Tune: New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein, 1598, Hamburg, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Invocation:

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

The Confession of Sins and Absolution:

- P** The hour has come to wake from sleep,
- C** **for salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.**
- P** The night is far gone; the day is at hand.
- C** **So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.**

From Romans 13:11-12

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The Introit of the Day

Psalm 130:5-8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1

P Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.

C I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

P my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

C O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

P And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.



The Kyrie Eleison:

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



The Salutation and Collect of the Day:

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Congregation is seated.

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



The Epistle

Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Trinity Singers

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

The Congregation rises.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostles' Creed:

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
 And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and
 was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints;
 the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life ✠ everlasting.
 Amen.

The Congregation is seated.

The Hymn of the Day

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 357

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
 all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
 tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
 give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain

Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

- 5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon

God With Us

The Congregation rises.

The Prayer of the Church:

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P** Come, O God, and strengthen Your Church and its witness to Your Son. Raise up pastors, missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers that the Good News of Your Son's appearing may be made known to all. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Come, O God, and renew in us faith and trust in the Gospel of Your Son, that our congregation, the Mekane Yesus congregation, and our sister congregations may boldly bear His presence to the communities and people where we live and serve. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Come, O God, and grant wisdom to the rulers of the nations, that the cause of peace and justice may be advanced, and Your people may worship you with freedom. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Come, O God, and give Your peace to our broken world, that strife and enmity among peoples may cease. Grant Your protection to those who promote the cause of peace, especially the members of our Armed Forces and the civilians who assist them. And grant Your comfort to their families who must patiently wait for their return. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Come, O God, and grant protection and knowledge to those who care for us. Protect all police, firefighters, and other emergency workers, who place themselves at risk for the benefit and safety of others. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Come, O God, and watch over and guide the children You have made. Protect all those who travel, especially in this holiday season, that their ways may be made safe and their homecomings joyful. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Come, O God, and be present with those who are suffering in body, mind, or in spirit. Especially we remember _____. Comfort all those who wait for healing, and strengthen all doctors and nurses in their care of those in need. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Come, O God, and give peace to the sorrowing. Grant that those who mourn the death of loved ones or grieve any sort of loss in life may know and feel the power of Your presence and confess You as their Emmanuel—God with us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

P Come, O God, and bring great joy to those who rejoice in Your loving-kindness. Along with _____ and all those who have received blessings from You, we give You thanks and praise for being the true Giver of every good and perfect gift. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Come, O God, and be among us to hear and answer our prayers. To Your wise and fatherly care we commit _____ and all of the other thoughts, prayers, petitions, and concerns that we lay before You from the things unspoken and hidden in our hearts... We ask You to indeed hear all of our prayers, and to grant us all that we need according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Come, O God, and let us see Your presence among us at the Table of the Body and Blood of Your Son. Grant that in this Sacrament, as we receive the Gift of the life and forgiveness won for us by Jesus, we would also be strengthened in faith towards You and encouraged in love and compassion towards our neighbor. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Come, O God, and unite us in faith with Adam and Eve, Katharina von Bora Luther, St. Thomas, and all those who have gone before us in the faith, that we may look forward with hope to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace:

P In the tender mercy of our God, the Dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

C **And also with you.**

The Congregation is seated.

✠ The Service of the Sacrament ✠

The Hymn of Preparation

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 352

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
 2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
 3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
 4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head
 That, set free from doubt and dread,
 I may cling to You in faith,
 Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again
 As the glorious king to reign,
 I with joy will see Your face,
 Freely ransomed by Your grace.

*Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text and tune: Public domain*

The Congregation rises.

The Preface Dialogue:

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

The *Sanctus*:

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer:

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks because His future coming was proclaimed by the prophets. The Virgin Mother bore Him in her womb with love beyond all telling. John the Baptist was His herald and made Him known when at last He came. In His love, Christ has filled us with joy, as we prepare for to celebrate His birth, so that when He comes He may find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder and praise. As we wait, we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His Body and Blood, given us to eat and to drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins, and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory. Hear us as we pray in His Name and as He has taught us:
- C** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord:

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The *Pax Domini*:

- P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**



The Agnus Dei:

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

The Congregation is seated.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is celebrated in this place in the joyful confidence that Jesus Christ Himself comes to us to give us in bread and wine His very Body and Blood to offer to us the forgiveness of sins. All Baptized Christians who have been instructed in the meaning of this Sacrament and confess with us Christ's Real Presence in this Holy Meal are welcome to commune with us at this Altar. A fuller explanation of what Lutherans believe concerning Holy Communion may be found on page one of this worship folder.

Holy Communion is distributed to the congregation in a continuous manner in front of the altar. Please follow the direction of the ushers to make your way to the Altar. The Sacrament is distributed in the following way...Please extend your hand to the Pastor to receive the Body of Christ. Christ's Blood is then received from individual cups from the assistant (wine and white grape juice are available). After receiving, please place your empty cup into the tray at the end of the communion rail and return to your seat by way of the side aisle. Children and those not wishing to receive the Sacrament are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

Music During the Distribution: “The Time Is Near” – The Trinity Singers

After all have communed, the Pastor continues:

The Eucharistic Blessing:

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

The Congregation rises.



The *Nunc Dimittis*

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

The Post-Communion Collect:

P Let us pray.

O Lord our God, in the celebration of Your Sacrament You have given us the true Body and Blood of Your Son; grant that this Holy Supper may make us strong in the hope of our salvation, that we may joyfully await the advent of our Lord Jesus Christ in power and majesty; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The *Benedicamus* and Benediction:

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

The Hymn to Depart

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 338

“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!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven

Text and tune: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

The Postlude

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

✠ *To God Be All Praise and Glory!* ✠

✠ ✠

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from *Lutheran Service Book*

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✠ ✠

THOSE WHO SERVE US THIS MORNING IN WORSHIP

The Celebrant & Preacher

The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel

The Lector

Tracy Peele

The Communion Assistant

George Kurtzweil

The Worship Assistant

Paul Ritter

The Choir

The Trinity Singers

The Flutist

Susan Kennedy

The Parish Musician

Skip Hall

Fourth Sunday of Advent



NOTES AND NEWS

The Flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of God by Skip Hall in honor of his wife, Rachel, on her birthday.

COVID UPDATE ... The wearing of masks while in the church building remains optional, and you are free to wear or not wear them as you choose, or as your personal needs determine. We ask, in love for one another, that everyone continue to observe our “Stay Safe Rules” as printed in the bulletin and posted at the church entrances. Thank you all for your continued patience and loving concern for our Trinity Family during this time.

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS ... Thanks to a loving and generous gift by Carole Dingess, Trinity now has available four copies of the *Lutheran Service Book* in Large Print for use during worship for those who may have need of them. You may find them on the literature table at the rear of the sanctuary, and please return them there following the service.

PORTALS OF PRAYER...The January – March 2023 Portals of Prayer are available to pick up on the literature table in the rear of the nave for your devotional use at home.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES ... have arrived! This annual aid to stewardship is available for you to pick up on the literature table in the rear of the nave. If you do not see a set prepared for you and would like to have one for your use, please speak with Pastor and he will be sure that a set is ready to be given to you. The envelope in the front of the box marked Initial Offering is to be used to help offset the cost of the envelopes for the church. A suggested offering is \$12.00.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS...Help us to beautify our church by purchasing poinsettias to adorn our Lord’s Altar as we celebrate His Birth. The poinsettias will be placed on the Altar for our Christmas services, and you may take them to decorate your home after service on either Christmas Day or New Year’s Day. Each poinsettia costs \$10.00 and the order forms and dedication information are due **Today**. Order slips are available on the literature table in the rear of the nave.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY ... Over the coming holiday weekends, we will not hold our Bible Study time together for the next two Sundays. Our Bible Studies will resume on Sunday, January 8th.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS ... During the Christmas Holiday week, December 25-January 2, the church office will be closed to allow our staff to have time at home with their families. The staff will be checking the office answering machine daily for any messages. Should any pastoral emergencies arise during this time, you may also contact Pastor directly on his cell phone: 202-288-0652. The office will return to full staffing on Tuesday, January 3rd.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR ... A shoot springs forth from the stump of Jesse. Is it a sign of hope--or a threat? Listen to the Lutheran Hour next Sunday, December 25, 2022, for this message from Lutheran Hour Speaker, The Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, "A Shoot from the Stump", on WFAX 1220 AM or 100.7 FM at 11:00 AM and 10:00 PM, as well as at 5:00 AM and 6:00 PM on Saturdays. If you are out of the radio station's range you may listen on line to WFAX worldwide at WFAX.com. For more information on this media ministry, or to listen to messages on demand, visit the Lutheran Hour Ministries website at lhm.org, under "Media" and "The Lutheran Hour".

UPCOMING DATES AS WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS:

Saturday, December 24 at 7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Divine Service
Sunday, December 25 at 9:30 AM	Christmas Day Festival Divine Service <i>No Bible Class</i>
Sunday, January 1 at 9:30 AM	Divine Service with Christmas Carol Sing <i>No Bible Class</i>
Sunday, January 8 at 9:30 AM	Epiphany Celebration Festival Divine Service
Saturday, January 14 at 10 AM	Church Undecorating

OUR PRAYER LIST ... We are pleased to have an active ministry of prayer among us, attested by the weekly "O Christ, Hear Us" page in the bulletin, inviting us all to remember these persons and needs in our prayer during worship at Trinity and in our own personal prayers during the week. We kindly ask you to also help us keep this list current and up to date by letting us know of any changes or deletions which need to be made. To do this please contact Pastor or the church office with a note that can be placed in the offering basket at church, or with an email.

ALTAR FLOWERS ... The flower chart for **2023** is now available for you to donate floral arrangements to adorn the Lord's Altar in honor of special occasions or in memory of loved ones. The chart can be found on the bulletin board in the narthex. The donation for a single arrangement is **\$35.00** (this is an increase from previous years). If you have any questions, please contact Rona by calling the church office or by email (trinity-elc-office@verizon.net).

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS ... In our weekly Prayer of the Church, the final petition is dedicated to all of the Faithful Departed who are now with the Lord and a part of the Church Triumphant. As a part of this remembrance, we recall by name the saints who are on the calendar of Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations of our church and remembered during the current week. Some have asked for more information about these saints; so, biographies for each saint, along with a prayer and suggested Scripture readings, are now available for you on our church website.

THIS WEEK'S FEAST AND COMMEMORATIONS...

December 19 **Adam and Eve**, *First Parents*

December 20 **Katherina von Bora Luther**, *Wife of Martin Luther*

December 21 **St. Thomas**, *Apostle*

Visit <http://tlcmr.org/worship/celebrating-the-saints/> where you can learn more about the cycle of saints' days on the church calendar and find the biographies for each saint listed by month.

Announcements Regarding Worship at Trinity

Since the onset of the Covid Pandemic, required and necessary changes were made to some of our worship practices for the health and safety of our members. As the world has begun to move from the pandemic into the endemic phase of this continuing health situation, some of our members have asked if we might be able to return to some of our pre-pandemic practices. In response to those requests, the following decisions were approved at our Annual Voters Meeting to begin on **Sunday, January 15th**.

Worship Materials: We will return to using the hymnals as our principal worship aid, and on most Sundays the bulletin will contain only the order of service in outline and the portions of the service which change weekly (Introit, Collect, Scripture Readings, etc.). We will continue to publish the order of service in full on the church website for the benefit of those who are worshipping with us online.

Communion Distribution: We will once again receive the Sacrament at the Communion Rail. Owing to our livestreaming setup, we will use only the rail on the lectern side. Also, both the common and individual cups will be offered for communicants to receive the Lord's Blood. Please know that you are welcome to receive the Sacrament in the manner which you feel most comfortable.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes, please speak with Pastor or with any member of the Ministry Planning Group. We thank our Trinity Family for their patience and understanding as we have gone through this time together and as we move further forward into the "new normal" that we and the world find ourselves in.

COMPASSION CENTER NEWS... Our Compassion Center is open and is once again serving members of our community with their needs for food and clothing. Please see the full page announcement in the bulletin for more information. If you are able to volunteer during the Center's open hours, please contact Elma. Thank you all for your continued help and support and prayers.

In an effort to keep the cupboards full at the Compassion Center during this time of great need in our community we will continue to need your generous donations of food. All non-perishable foods are welcome, and especially needed items include:

Peanut Butter; Pasta; Pasta Sauce; Macaroni & Cheese; Canned Tuna and Chicken;
Canned Fruit; Soup.

There is also a need for diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, and 6.

Donations can be dropped off at the Center during Center hours. And you can also leave your donations at church, and we will make sure that it is delivered to the Compassion Center. Thank you for your loving and generous support.

Elma Pervaiz, Coordinator, LMS Compassion Center, Hyattsville, MD



PREPARING FOR THE COMING WEEKEND ...


The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24, 2022


Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25, 2022

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-18



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE



The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord

Christmas Eve – Saturday, December 24, 2022

Candlelight Worship Service with Holy Communion at 7:00 PM

Christmas Day – Sunday, December 25, 2022

No Adult Bible Class

Festival Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9:30 AM

The Feast of the Circumcision and Holy Name of Jesus

New Year's Day – Sunday, January 1, 2023

No Adult Bible Class

Festival Worship Service with Christmas Carol Sing and Holy Communion at 9:30 AM

Celebration of The Epiphany and The Baptism of our Lord:

The First Sunday after the Epiphany – Sunday, January 8, 2023

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class at 8:30 AM

Festival Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9:30 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Trinity Stay-Safe Rules

- ❖ If you are sick, PLEASE STAY HOME, and please get under a doctor's care.
- ❖ If you are over 65 or immunocompromised, please be careful, follow the rules here at church, or feel free to stay home with God's blessing and ours. (We'll be here when you are ready to come back to worship.)
- ❖ While in the church building, wearing of a mask is optional. In love and care for one another, use your best judgment with regards to current health guidelines as to whether or not you wear a mask.
- ❖ Physical Distancing Requirements have been lifted, so you are free to sit where and as you wish. Use your own best judgement as to how close you wish to sit to others.
- ❖ Wash your hands often. 20 seconds with soap and water. Hand sanitizer is available for you to use as well. Try not to touch your face.
- ❖ Cough and sneeze into a tissue or into your elbow.
- ❖ Please, no handshaking. Use an elbow bump or wave for now.
- ❖ All Worship materials are printed for each service. As we will not be reusing them, please take them home with you to recycle.
- ❖ Offerings will not be collected during the service. Please place your offering in the basket on the table in the rear of the nave, or continue to mail in your offering to the church office.
- ❖ Holy Communion will be distributed in a continuous fashion using individual wafers and cups. Please follow the direction of the usher to go forward and receive the Sacrament, and please keep a distance in line between persons.

Thank you all for your continued patience and concern for one another during this time.



Hyattsville Compassion Center

*A shared ministry of
Redeemer & Trinity Congregations
and the Lutheran Mission Society*

Ms. Elma Pervaiz, Center Coordinator
Center Phone Number: 301-277-2302, ext. 23

*Located on the campus of Redeemer Lutheran Church
3799 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland*

We are happy to announce that our Compassion Center has reopened!

Our operating hours are:
Monday: 10 AM – 4 PM
Tuesday: 10 AM – 4 PM
Wednesday: 10 AM – 2 PM

Food and Clothing Ministry is available by appointment
during the center's open hours.
Please call Elma to make arrangements for us to assist you.

The thrift center will be open during our operating hours
with the following safety guidelines:

- Masks must be worn at all times
- Please observe social distancing
- Number of persons in the center at a time will be limited

In-Kind Donations for the thrift center are limited at this time
owing to reduced staffing at the center.

If you have donations, please contact Elma at the center
before bringing your items during center hours.

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18 – 25

May Be Subject to Change

Today	<i>The Fourth Sunday in Advent</i>
	8:30 AM Bible Study
	9:30 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion (at church in person and via Facebook Live)
	10:45 AM Trinity Singers Rehearsal
	12:00 PM EECMYM Worship (at church in person)
Monday	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Compassion Center Open
Tuesday	9:00 AM—Noon Church Office Open
	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Compassion Center Open
Wednesday	9:00 AM—Noon Church Office Open
	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Compassion Center Open
Thursday	9:00 AM—Noon Church Office Open
Saturday	<i>The Nativity of our Lord: Christmas Eve</i>
	7:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Eucharist
Next Sunday	<i>The Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day</i>
	<i>No Adult Bible Study</i>
	9:30 AM Christmas Day Festival Eucharist (at church in person and via Facebook Live)
	12:00 PM EECMYM Worship (at church in person)



CHURCH STATISTICS

Sunday, December 11, 2022

Worship Attendance: 22; Communed: 21.



✠ **O Christ, Hear Us!** ✠

Intercessions for the Week of December 18, 2022

Prayers for Continued Healing and Help

For Members of Our Trinity Family:

John, Diane, Julie & Kenny, Joseph, Diane, John Tyler, Elizabeth, Waymond, Alan, August, Clara, David, Ernie, Paul, and Angela

For Those Who Have Asked of Our Prayers:

Luke, grandson of Charlie & Jean; Betty, mother of Helen;
Susan, relative of Gus & Betty; Joe, friend of Cullen; Britnany, niece of Lynda;
Juliet, mother of Ras-I; Linda, daughter of Gus & Betty;
Dennis & Caron, former Concordia School Teachers; Jari, former Concordia Teacher;
Catelyn, step-granddaughter of Ernie; Ray, relative of Kim;
Nathan, son of Art; Helen, aunt of Judy; Bernie, friend of Trinity;
Randy, friend of Pepper; Jim, friend of Judy; Jennifer, friend of Matt;
Andrew & Family, student at HES; Joan, friend of Tracy; Joseph, friend of Rona;
Sally, SED Staff; Bud, son of Carole; Robin, daughter of Vincent & Tracy;
George, friend of Dave & Joyce; Danny, friend of Dave & Joyce;
Hudson, son of Brendan

All those affected by or who are in fear of the Coronavirus Outbreak.

For our Medical Community, First Responders, and other Workers who aid us in this time.

Thanksgivings and Blessings

Alex Joynes, Anthony Ramdass, Jack Redman, Sr., Sarah McCoyer, and Patrick Sanga,
who celebrate their birthdays this week.

We Keep In Our Prayers

- ✠ Our Trinity family, our ministries, and our mission.
- ✠ Pastor Gugssa Biru and the people of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus in Maryland.
- ✠ For the Lord to continue to move the hearts of our Trinity Members to a deeper realization of our part in His mission to the world and to be *Ablaze!* with a desire to tell the Good News about Jesus with those whom we come into contact in our lives.

- ✘ For the work of our Compassion Center, for Elma Pervaiz, our center coordinator, and for Redeemer Lutheran and the Lutheran Mission Society, our mission partners.
- ✘ Our government leaders, and for the members of our armed forces.
- ✘ For peace and justice among the residents of our nation's cities and towns where there is unrest from fear and distrust.
- ✘ For an end to racism and bigotry in our nation and world.
- ✘ For all those still affected and recovering from the effects of natural disasters.
- ✘ For our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer persecution for the faith and Name of Jesus, even to the point of shedding their blood.
- ✘ For peace in our world, especially in those places that are affected by war, oppression, or acts of terror.
- ✘ For all those we know who are sick, who grieve, and who are in any need of prayer.



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
4000 – 30th Street
at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road
Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

Sunday Mornings:
Adult Bible Study – 8:30 AM
Worship with Holy Communion – 9:30 AM

*Worship Services are livestreamed on Facebook Live
For more information, please visit the church website.*

Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340
Church Web Site: www.tlcmr.org
The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor



*We Are a Member Congregation of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

