

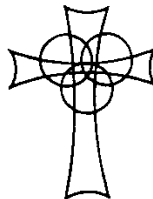
.....
 He shall



**BUILD A HOUSE
 FOR MY NAME,**
 and I will
 establish
THE THRONE
 of his
**KINGDOM
 FOREVER.**

2 S A M U E L 7 : 1 3

*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
 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*



December 20, 2020

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.

A PRAYER AS WE GATHER

Stir up Your power, Lord Christ, and come. With Your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct Your mercy, that willingly we may bear Your redeeming love to all the world, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



The Divine Service of Word and Sacrament

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

✠ *In the Name of Jesus Christ* ✠

✠ **The Preparation** ✠

Advent Music for Meditation

The Prelude

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

The Words of Welcome

The Congregation rises.

The Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 341

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

- 1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring;
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise
Your joyful songs of praise.**
- 2 A righteous Helper comes to thee;
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings;
Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise
Your grateful hymns of praise.**
- 3 How blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes
To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless Sun of joy is He
Who comes to set His people free.
To God the Spirit raise
Your happy shouts of praise.**

The Hymn continues on the next page...

- 4 **Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov'reign enter in
And new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise
For word and deed and grace!**
- 5 **Redeemer, come and open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine;
Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame
We offer to Thy name.**

Text: Public domain

The Confession of Sins:

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

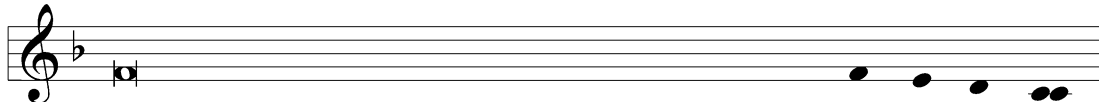
✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The Introit of the Day

Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5-6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b

- P** Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.
- C** **The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims
his handiwork.
In them he has set a tent for the sun,**
- P** which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
- C** **Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**
- 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** Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

The Kyrie Eleison



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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

A 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.

A 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.

A 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.

A 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

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” ³And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in?’ ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”” ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will

plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ...

¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle

Romans 16:25-27

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

The Congregation rises.

The Gradual and Verse

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.; Matthew 1:23a

- P** Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.
- C** **Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.**

- P** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C** **From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

- P** Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
- C** **and they shall call his name Immanuel. Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in

your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

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.



“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

- 1 All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.**
- 2 Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God,
Who from His altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod
And crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod
And crown Him Lord of all.**
- 3 Ye seed of Israel’s chosen race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all.**
- 4 Hail Him, ye heirs of David’s line,
Whom David Lord did call,
The God incarnate, man divine,
And crown Him Lord of all.
The God incarnate, man divine,
And crown Him Lord of all.**
- 5 Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.**
- 6 Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.**

The Hymn continues on the next page...

7 **Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.**

Text: Public domain

The Sermon

A Coming House for the Eternal

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** Lord, the time of preparation is almost over and Your visitation is near. Keep us focused on the Gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ. May it bring about the obedience of faith in us and all who hear Your Word this season. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord, You continue to provide servants for Your Church to proclaim the coming of Your Son. Be with all professional church workers as they work to serve Your people with the gifts of Word and Sacrament, especially at this Holy Time. Allow them to boldly speak the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed in Your Son. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord of the nations, look with mercy upon all those throughout the world who make, administer and judge the laws of their lands. May they use their authority wisely and according to Your will, defending justice, protecting the innocent and vulnerable, and seeking the peace of all. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord, we thank You for those who look out for our well-being and protect us from harm. Give Your blessing and protection to police, to firefighters, to medical workers, to the members of our armed forces and to all first responders whose vocations put them on the front lines of danger, trouble and disaster. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord, nothing is impossible with You. You sent Your Son into the world to be the great physician of body and soul. Give to _____ and all who are ill comfort and healing, if it be Your will, and patience and trust that come what may, You are with them. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Lord, You promise rest to Your faithful ones. Be present with Your comfort and peace with _____ and all those who mourn, that they may have hope in Your Son's return to give resurrection and life at the appearing of Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord, You are the Giver of every good gift. Grant Your continued blessing to _____ and to us all that we may all rejoice in the great things You do for us each day of our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord, You graciously hear the prayers of Your children. Hear us now as we make intercession to You for _____ and for all those people and concerns we lift to You from the silence of our hearts ... Receive all of our petitions, and grant what we ask for the sake of Your Son and according to Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord, even as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Your Son, He comes to us in the Sacrament of the Altar. May all who receive the bread and wine, that is the Body and Blood of Jesus, do so for the strengthening of faith and the forgiveness of sins. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord, while we await the coming of Your Son, we remember with thanksgiving Katharina von Bora Luther, St. Thomas, St. Stephen, and all those who were before us in the faith and are now with You. Keep and preserve us in the one true faith to life everlasting until You bring us together with them into Your eternal Kingdom. 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 Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- 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.

PEACE PEACE PEACE

✠ The Service of the Sacrament ✠

The Hymn of Preparation

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 357

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain***

***Refrain* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord’rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain***

**3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai’s height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain***

**4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse’s tree,
Free them from Satan’s tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow’r to save,
And give them vict’ry o’er the grave. *Refrain***

**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: 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:

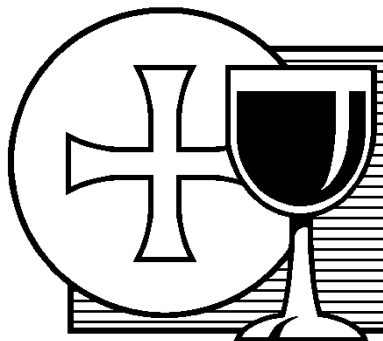
- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks because His future coming was proclaimed by the prophets. The Virgin Mother bore Him in her 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 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.

The Congregation is seated.

The Distribution of 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.

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 at the Distribution: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”



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-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev’ry nation,
Joy of ev’ry longing heart.
- 2** Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

The Postlude

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

✧ *To God All Praise and Glory!* ✧



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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NOTES AND NEWS

The flowers on the altar are presented to the Glory of God by Cullen Elias in honor of his birthday.

2021 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 the Sunday after Christmas. Each poinsettia costs \$10.00 and the orders are due by December 20th. Order slips are available on the literature table in the rear of the nave for you to let the church office know how you would like to dedicate your flowers.

PORTALS OF PRAYER...The January – March 2021 Portals of Prayer are available in the narthex. Large print editions will be placed out as soon as we receive them.

PERSONAL SCRIPTURE STUDY ... Even though we are not able to hold our Sunday Morning Bible Class at this time doesn't mean that you can't continue to be "in the Word" on your own. Pastor has provided parts of our Bible Study guide, "A Longer Look at the Lessons", for your use during the Advent and Christmas Seasons. These materials are posted on the church website, and can be found at: <http://tlcmr.org/our-ministries/christian-education/online-bible-study-materials/> (The link can also be accessed off of our church website home page.)

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONS AND BIBLE STUDY ... **SPECIAL TIME.** Owing to a scheduling issue, our final Advent Devotions and Bible Study will be held **this Tuesday Afternoon at 4:00 PM** as Pastor concludes our study with the final stanzas of the hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel". Please also note that there will not be Devotions and Bible Study during Christmas Week, but we will return in the New Year on January 6th.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP ... In these 2020 days, nothing seems to be "normal". But our plan here at Trinity is to have as "normal" of a Christmas celebration as we can. Barring any changes regarding attendance capacities, the listing of worship opportunities for the Christmas Season can be found after the announcements here in the bulletin. We also plan to continue to livestream the Christmas services on Facebook Live to give the opportunity for our members to worship virtually in these holy days. Please join us as we greet the Christ Child anew into our midst. *Come and worship Christ the newborn King!*

If there are any changes to our worship plans, we will send out an email message to our members as soon as those changes can be announced. Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR... The book of Galatians gives us a glimpse inside the family of God. It describes the Christian family as one that stands firm in Christ's freedom, walks united in the Spirit, and bears one another's burdens in love. Listen to the Lutheran Hour next Sunday December 27, 2020, for this message by Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook, "Welcome to the Family!", on WMZQ 98.7 FM at 7:00 AM or on Sundays at 1:30 PM and 6:30 PM on WFAX 1220 AM. If you are out of the radio station's range you may listen on line to WFAX worldwide at WFAX.com.

LOST PHONE ... A cell phone was recently found in the church kitchen, for which we do not know whose it is. If it might be yours, please speak with Pastor so we can get it back to you.

AVAILABLE ... If you have been looking for an artificial Christmas tree, there is one available to a good home. Please see Sylvia Royal for details.

OUR PRAYER LIST ... The weekly "O Christ, Hear Us" page in the bulletin is a listing of those we remember in prayer during worship at Trinity and for whom you are invited to pray for in your own personal prayers during the week. In the version of the weekly bulletin that is published online, we only list the persons we are praying for by their first names because of privacy concerns and laws, while we continue to lift them up by full name in our spoken prayers. Pastor continues to keep the list current and invites you to send him by email any new prayer requests, or to let him know of any changes or deletions which need to be made. The "full text" version of the Prayer List, as it would ordinarily be found in the bulletin, can be made available to Trinity members who request one by sending an email to Pastor.

FROM YOUR CHURCH'S PUBLISHER ... Concordia Publishing House is assisting congregations and their members with materials to help sustain us spiritually during this time of quarantine that many find ourselves in. Please visit www.cph.org and check out the new and free content available on their homepage which contains many free resources for devotion, learning, and worship.

ALTAR FLOWERS ... If you had scheduled a Sunday to donate Altar Flowers during the time when we were away from our church building, and have already paid for them in advance, we would like to still honor your gift by purchasing those flowers for a Sunday service now that we've returned. Please let the church office know which Sunday you would like to sponsor. We also welcome other donors for other available Sundays as well. If you have any questions, please contact Rona by calling the church office or by email (trinity-elc-office@verizon.net).

The flower chart for 2021 will be made available soon for you to reserve your Sundays for next year.



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 WEEK ...

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve, December 24, 2020
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day, December 25, 2020
Scripture Readings, Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-18

The First Sunday after Christmas, December 27, 2020
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE



*Please join us for worship either in person or by livestream
as we greet the Lord who comes again to us.*

*Livestream Worship is available on our Church Facebook Page
either live at the scheduled time or at any time from the Facebook Page under “Videos”.
The link to the Facebook Page is available on the Church Website: www.tlcmr.org
Also available are the orders of service on the Church Website.
Just scroll down on the homepage to the section “Livestreaming Worship”*

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve – December 24, 2020 – 7:00 PM
Candlelight Eucharist

Join us for this celebration of Word and Sacrament on the night of the Savior’s birth that will include the Blessing of the Creche, Candlelighting, the hearing of St. Luke’s Christmas Story, a Christmas Message from Pastor, Carol and Hymn Singing, and sharing in Holy Communion.

*For those watching online, we invite you to have a candle to light wherever you are
as we sing “Silent Night” and hear the Christmas Gospel.*

Christmas Day – December 25, 2020 – 9:30 AM
Festival Eucharist

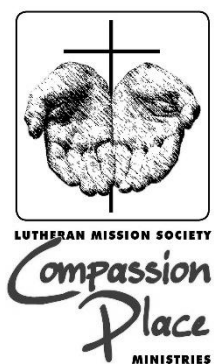
As we greet the Lord on the happy morning of Christmas, join us for this time of worship celebrating Jesus, the Word made flesh for us.

The First Sunday after Christmas – December 27, 2020 – 9:30 AM
Divine Service with Christmas Carol Sing

Join us for this opportunity to sing the well-loved songs of Christmas as we sing out our joy in the Savior’s birth.

The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord – January 3, 2021 – 9:30 AM
Festival Eucharist

Let us go with the Magi to Bethlehem to greet the One who is our King and as He gives us His gifts of grace which come through His Word and Sacraments.



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

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

Our operating hours will be:

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.

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, please wear a mask as much as possible for the sake of your neighbors.
- ❖ Please spread out in church in order to do the recommended distancing (six feet). In addition to the pews in the nave, you may also be seated in the balcony or church overflow. Of course, families who reside together may sit together.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Limit your socializing indoors after the service; or better yet, use distanced visiting with one another outside.
- ❖ 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.

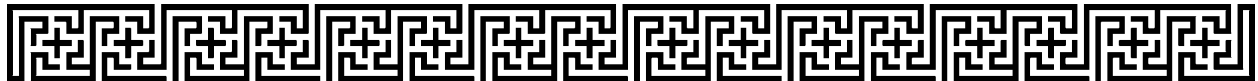
PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20 – 27
May Be Subject to Change

Today	<i>The Fourth Sunday in Advent</i>	
	9:30 AM	Worship Service with Holy Communion (at church in person and via Facebook Live)
Monday	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
Tuesday	9 AM—Noon	Church Office Open
	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
	4:00 PM – <i>Special Time</i>	Midweek Devotions and Bible Study (via Facebook Live)
Wednesday	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
Thursday	<i>The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve</i>	
	9 AM—Noon	Church Office Open
	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Eucharist (at church in person and via Facebook Live)
Friday	<i>The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day</i>	
	9:30 AM	Christmas Day Festival Eucharist (at church in person and via Facebook Live)
Next Sunday	<i>The First Sunday after Christmas</i>	
	9:30 AM	Worship Service with Holy Communion (at church in person and via Facebook Live)

CHURCH STATISTICS

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Worship Attendance: 19; Communed: 18.



✠ O Christ, Hear Us! ✠

Intercessions for the Week of December 20, 2020

Prayers for Continued Healing and Help

For Members of Our Trinity Family:

John, Diane, Julie & Kenny, Elizabeth, Joseph, Diane, Evelyn, Waymond, Alan, August, Clara, David, Ernie, Paul, Sylvia, Angela, Priscilla, and David, Sr.

For Those Who Have Asked of Our Prayers:

Luke, grandson of Charlie & Jean; John, relative of Pastor; Dina, niece of Sylvia; Betty, mother of Helen; Susan, relative of Gus & Betty; Joe, friend of Cullen; Britnany, niece of Lynda; Juliet, mother of Ras-I; Kristie, co-worker of Joyce; Giovanna, co-worker of Joyce; Linda, daughter of Gus & Betty; Sue, co-worker of Joyce; Rosemary, sister-in-law of Sylvia; Nicole & daughter, Anya, co-worker of Joyce; Eric, homeless; Mary, cousin of Pastor; Alan, cousin of Kim; Danielle, neighbor of Kim; Shirley, aunt of Kim; Lisa, neighbor of Peter & Kim; Dennis & Caron, former Concordia Teachers; Tasha, and her son Layton, friends of Kristina; Bill, brother of Peter; Robin, friend of Kristina; Zoila, mother of David; Richard, son of Art, Jeff, husband of Mary; Jeannette, mother-in-law of John; Ty & Clare, friends of David & Joyce

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

Baine Casto, Sarah McCoy, Patrick Sanga, and Cullen Elias, who celebrate their birthdays this week.

We Keep In Our Prayers

- ✠ Our Trinity family, our ministries, and our mission.
- ✠ For 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 Elma Pervaiz, our Center Coordinator, and for the work of our Compassion Center.
- ✠ 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 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 the shedding of their blood.
- ✠ Prayers for peace in our world, especially in those places that are affected by war, oppression, or by acts of terror, and for those who find themselves in harm's way in the war on terrorism.
- ✠ All those we know who are sick, who grieve, and who are in any need of prayer.