

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET  
STEPHENS CITY, VA

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9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG  
DECEMBER 12, 2021 ADVENT 3

## PRELUDE

*Savior of the Nations Come*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

## GATHERING SONG vs. 1,3,4

*Hark, the Glad Sound!*



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751  
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## KYRIE *Kyrie (Schubert)*



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797-1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com  
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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Spirit of the Lord God, you bring good news to the oppressed, bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and release the prisoners. You comfort all who mourn and shower you people with the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. We will greatly rejoice in the Lord, our whole being shall exult in God, for the sake of the one who brought righteousness to live, Jesus Christ, our salvation. **Amen**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Anne Vermillion

*As the first candle is lit, the congregation says:* **O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, Desire of every nation, Savior of all peoples, Come and dwell among us.**

*As the second candle is lit, the congregation says:* **O King of all nations, Jesus Christ, only joy of every heart, Come and save your people.**

*The third candle is lit.*

Jeremiah 1:4-10, 17-19

<sup>4</sup>Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

<sup>5</sup>"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born, I consecrated you;

I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

<sup>6</sup>Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy."

<sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy';

for you shall go to all to whom I send you,

and you shall speak whatever I command you.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD."

<sup>9</sup>Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,

"Now I have put my words in your mouth.

<sup>10</sup>See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,

to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

<sup>17</sup>But you, gird up your loins; stand up and tell them everything that I command you. Do not break down before them, or I will break you before them. <sup>18</sup>And I for my part have made you today a fortified city, an iron pillar, and a bronze wall, against the whole land — against the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests, and the people of the land. <sup>19</sup>They will fight against you; but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, says the LORD, to deliver you.

Prayer: We beseech You to hear our prayers, O Lord, and by the grace of your coming enlighten our darkened minds. In Christ who lives and reigns with God the Father In the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. **Amen.**

**C: O Key of David, Jesus Christ, the gates of heaven open at your command, Come and show us the way to salvation.** (*From Christmas Prayers, Victor Hoagland, C.P.*)

Sing v. 5 of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

O Come, O 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.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-7

Marcie Stern

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;

<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;

<sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion —  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

<sup>5</sup>Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks,  
foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines;

<sup>6</sup>but you shall be called priests of the LORD,  
you shall be named ministers of our God;  
you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations,  
and in their riches you shall glory.

<sup>7</sup>Because their shame was double,  
and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot,  
therefore they shall possess a double portion;  
everlasting joy shall be theirs.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup>He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup>Soldiers

also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## HOMILY

Pastor JMe Lowden

## CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God’s presence.

Holy God, bind up the broken hearted, guide those who care for the captive and refugee. Comfort all who mourn, strengthen those who feed your flock. We lift up to you Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Rodney, Yvonne, Marcie, Theresa, Ruby and others we name before you now. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, your Spirit brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Breathe life into us, that we are inspired to live in harmony with one another and the planet. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy God, we pray for all congregations and their leadership. We ask your presence at our meeting today, that we might make good decisions for Trinity and the community we serve. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing God, you exult over us in singing. Enliven the song of this assembly and bless the ministry of church musicians especially Ricky Gearhart, the Trinity Choir and the Trinity Chimes. With instruments and dance, join our voices to the song of all creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Other petitions may be offered now.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

## PEACE

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

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*  
Arr. Martha L. Thompson

Trinity Chimes

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Those communing from home, have your package ready to open, but do not consume the elements until Pastor JMe acknowledges those at home and gives the prompt: "Take and eat. The body and blood of Christ given and shed for you." Then you may partake of the elements*

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

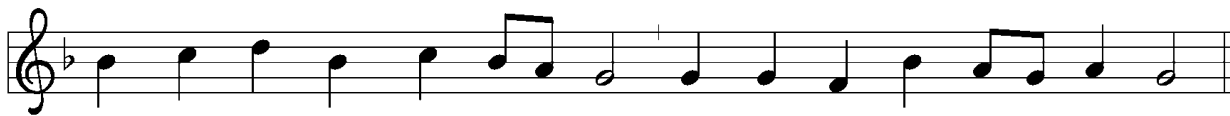
Taste and see that the Lord is good.



## COMMUNION SONG



- 1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.  
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,  
3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!  
4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.  
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.  
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,  
hallows night with newborn light.  
Night cannot this light subdue;  
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,  
virgin's son, incarnate Word!  
To the holy Trinity  
praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. hymnal version  
Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524  
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

# SENDING SONG *vs. 1,3*

# *Let Streams of Living Justice*

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home-land bright-ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934  
 Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934  
 Text © 1989 William Whitla.

Please be seated following the hymn for the annual meeting of the congregation. Visitors may remain or proceed to the parish hall for coffee and refreshments.

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CHURCH MEETINGS ARE BRILLIANT

# Congregational Meeting





# TRENDING @ TRINITY

Today is the last day to order poinsettias.

Today's prelude composed by J.S. Bach is based on the German chorale, Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland, "Savior of the Nations, Come"; text by Martin Luther, music Johann Walter. It is one of the "Great Eighteen" of the German chorales composed by Bach. Notice the piece seems to end but after a pause, it continues for two more measures then ends. Those final two measures are a direct quote from the great German organist, D. Buxtehude years before Bach. In those days it was considered a tribute and honor to quote someone else's work. Of course, no copyright laws existed then.

Join us Wednesday evening for Holden Evening Prayer service at 7PM. This beautiful, quiet service of about a half hour will be a spot of peace and calm in what can be a hectic season.

What was the Angel Tree is now a Tree of Warmth. The tree will accept all donations of hats, gloves, scarves, socks. If you have coats for donation, place them in the black bin in the front stairwell. Donations will be accepted through Jan. 2 at which time they will be given to the Valley Assistance Network, a comprehensive resource and referral system.

Looking for volunteers. If you are not already on the email list for worship volunteers and are interested in reading, greeting or being a communion assistant, please let the church office know. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this important way to serve Trinity.

2022 Offering envelopes are now available in the Parish Hall. If you don't see your name on a set and would like to have envelopes, please speak to Michael Lambert or the church office.

The Financial Secretary's records of giving for 2021 will close on December 31, 2021. To be included on your 2021 giving statement, contributions for the tax year 2021 must be in by Sunday, December 26. Any offerings received after that date will be posted in records for 2022.

Christmas Eve worship times are 4PM and 11PM. Sunday, December 26 will be a service of Lessons and Carols. Both services will be live on Facebook and through Zoom.

The Winchester Area Guild of Organists presents a Virtual Lessons and Carols on their website (<https://winchesterago.com/>) from now until January 6. The site will also have links for those who wish to donate to Winchester Area Thermal Shelter (WATTS) or Winchester Rescue Mission.

**Zoom to Worship**, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981 Passcode: 321080

Dial 1-301-715-8592 (Washington D.C)

**Facebook Live:** you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>