

Fourth Sunday of Advent

You are to name him
Jesus

MATTHEW 1:21



810 Fairfax Street
Stephens City, VA
Sunday Worship, 9:30AM
(540) 869-4019
December 21, 2025



TRINITYLUTHERAN
CHURCH OF STEPHENS CITY VIRGINIA

The Chancel Flowers are given today by the Landes Family in loving memory of Carlton & Virginia Snapp.

Please Consider Donating Chancel Flowers

Would you like to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion? Consider donating **chancel flowers** for a Sunday service.

Flower donations are a beautiful way to:

- Honor or remember someone special
- Celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or milestone
- Add beauty to our worship space

If you'd like to donate flowers for an upcoming Sunday, please sign up on the **flower calendar** in the church Narthex or contact Martha Cooley.

You're welcome to take the flowers home after the service, or they can be delivered to someone in need of encouragement.

Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 4718 0792 Passcode: 173681

Dial 1-301-715-8592 US

Facebook Live: you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account <https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

This Weeks; Greeter: Diann Dailey. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Roger Wickboldt. Communion Assistant: Deb Wickboldt. Lighting & Reading of the Advent Wreath: Brandon Hampton & Kim Begnaud- Hampton.

Next Weeks; Greeter: Pam Reichert. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Pam Reichert. Communion Assistant: David Reichert.

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WELCOME

We gather together in the name of the Father, and of the Son ✝, and of the Holy Spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please Stand

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection

Almighty God,

You have called us to love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, but we are not sufficient for these things.

We confess that our affections continually turn away from you:

from purity to lust,

from freedom to slavery,

from compassion to indifference,

from fullness to emptiness.

Have mercy on us.

Order our lives by your holy Word,

Re-order our affections by your Holy Spirit,

and make your commandments the joy of our hearts.

Conform us to the image of your Son, Jesus Christ,

and keep us, while we wait for him to come in glory.

Amen.

Our living and gracious God hears our cry, receives our confession, and grants us his forgiveness. As a called and ordained minister of Word and Sacrament, through the self-giving sacrifice of our Lord on the cross, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son ✝, and of the Holy Spirit.

GATHERING SONG

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came (ELW 265)



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924


Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

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

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.




1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

Please be seated

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Four candles are lit, as prayer is spoken.

Praise to you, O God, who lives with us,
sharing our flesh and bones.

As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed,
so we dream and wait for you.

Bless us and let your face shine upon us,
more radiant than these candles,
and more dear than all else we seek.

Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good,
and banish all our fears.

We pray in the name of Emmanuel,
your promised child and our Savior.

Amen.

He Came Down

(ELW 253) **V.1 only**

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

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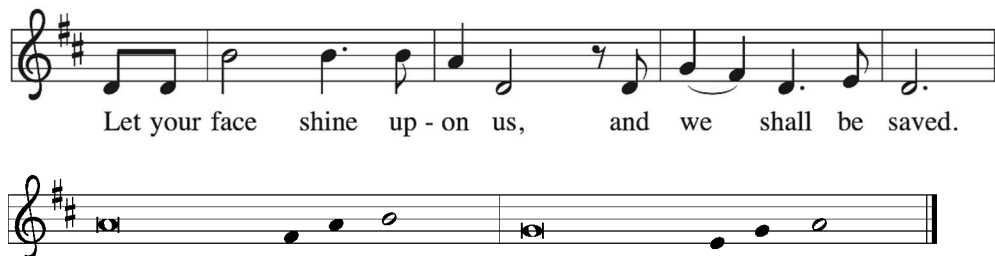
FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰ The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.” Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19



- ¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.
- ² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and | come to help us.
- ³ Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ⁴ **O LORD | God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? R
- ⁵ You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.
- ⁶ **You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.
- ⁷ Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ¹⁷ **Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.
- ¹⁸ And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
- ¹⁹ **Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. R

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

A reading from Romans.

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

⁷ To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(ELW p.188)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴ Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the

deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

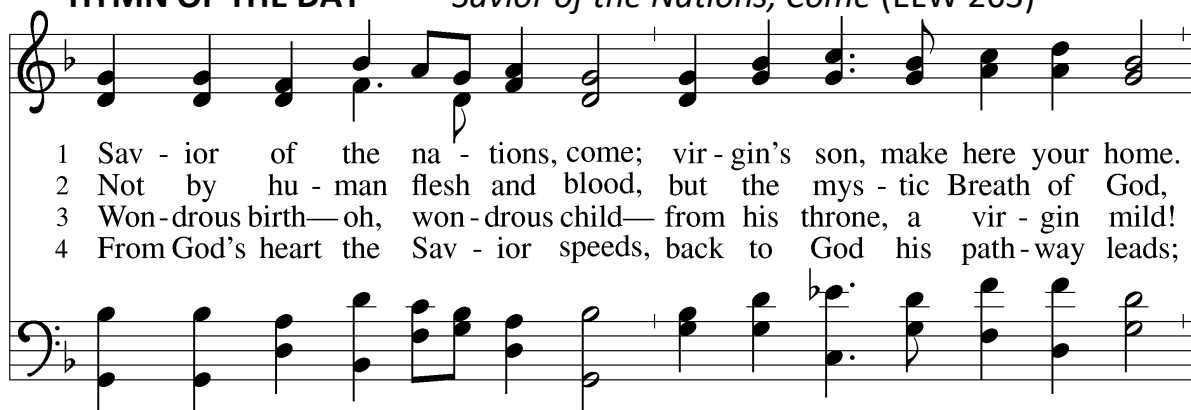
SERMON

Rev. Larry Closter

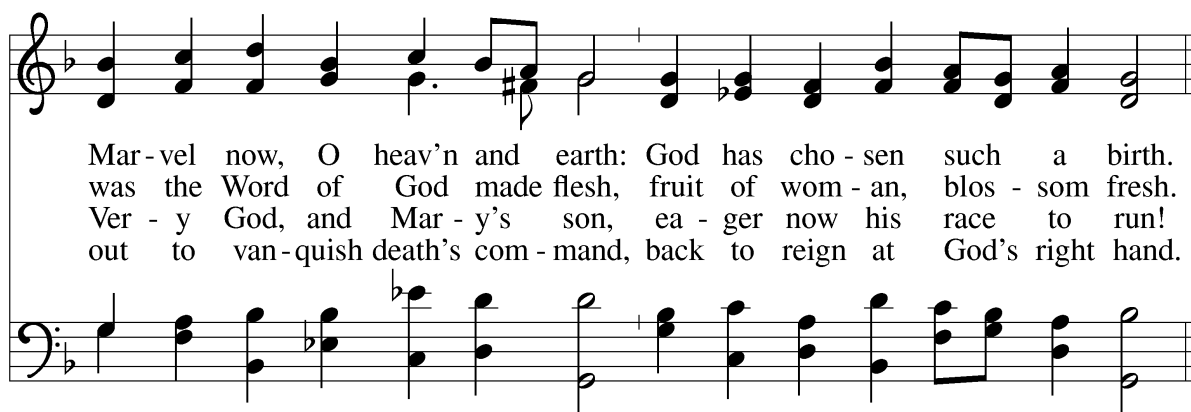
Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Savior of the Nations, Come (ELW 263)



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!

CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was

buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the

Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

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

hear our prayer.

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

hear our prayer.

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

hear our prayer.

When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the

challenges of depression, or who are ill especially for Shirley, Louise, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Michael, Jeff (**worshippers may add names silently or aloud**). God of grace,
hear our prayer.

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

We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service. Strengthen our earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your in love. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

OFFERING *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Lloyd Larson Trinity Chime Choir

NOISY OFFERING The Noisy offering this week will benefit **WATTS** (Winchester Area Temporary Transitional Shelter), for more info visit <https://watts-homelessshelter.org/>

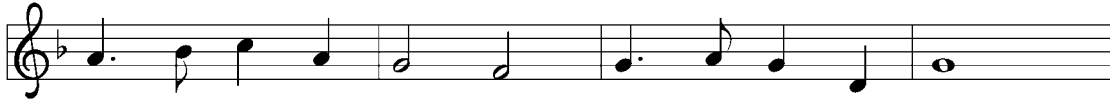


Offering is an act of worship that shows our gratitude to God for all that we are and have in our lives. The offering today will provide support for the ministries of Trinity both locally and in the world around us. You may provide your offering in person, scan the QR code adjacent or send it by mail. We thank you for sharing not only your monetary gifts but also your gifts of time and talent to further our mission to share Jesus' love in worship, fellowship, hospitality, and community, doing God's work with our hands.

Please stand

OFFERING PRESENTATION

In the Bleak Midwinter (ELW 294) V.3



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter, a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

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.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS (for the sick and homebound)

Let us pray. O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger bless these elements with your divine grace and those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray

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

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

For those communing at home, have your package ready to open. The pastor will acknowledge your presence and request that you consume the elements at this time.

Please be seated

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

For those who prefer not to partake of the wine there are cups filled with grape juice in the center of the communion tray.

COMMUNION SONG

(ELW p. 191)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

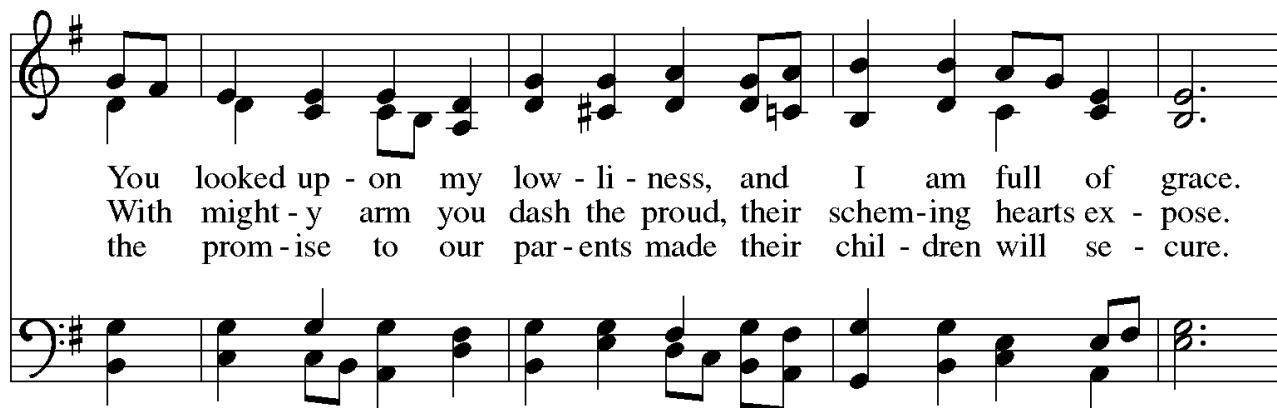
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

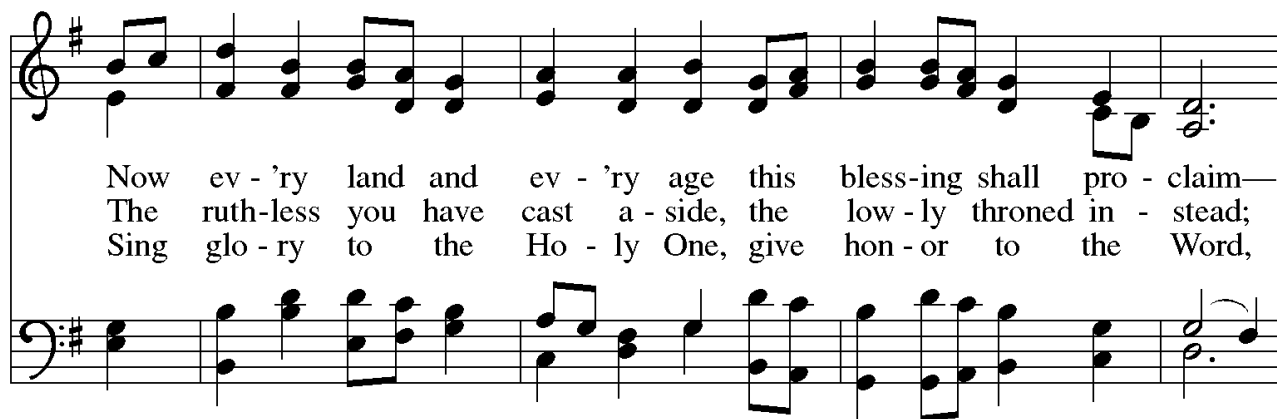
SONGS DURING COMMUNION

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness (ELW 251)

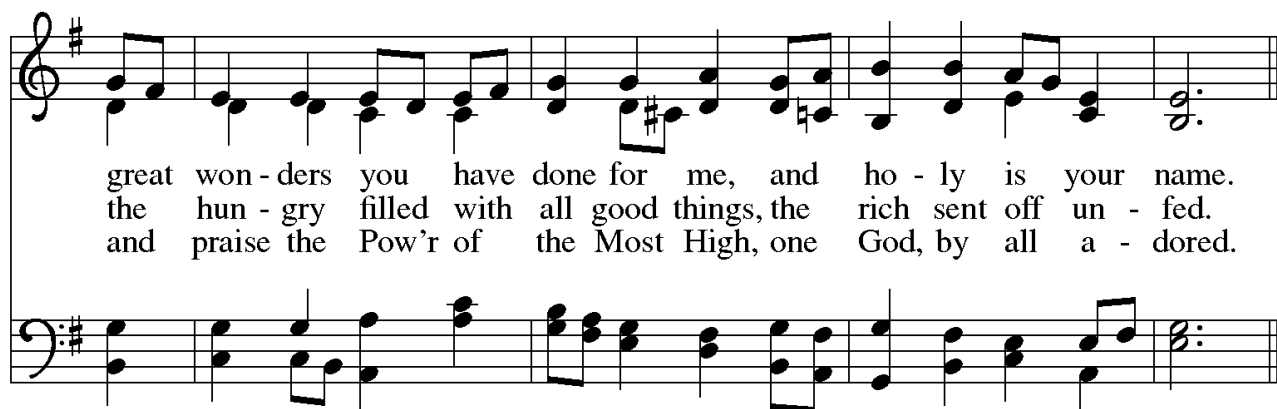
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

He Came Down (ELW 253)

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have peace; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

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Please stand

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.

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

BLESSING

The peace of God which passes all understanding and the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, ✝Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Canticle of the Turning (ELW 723)



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come


Hugo Distler (1908-1942)





~The Trinity Times~ Church & Community news

IN THE KNOW Upcoming Events & Reminders


THIS WEEK AT TRINITY *Here's what's happening at a glance:*

 **Monday, December 22** – CMSP Music private lesson @ 2:30 pm | piano, Room 203 & violin, Sanctuary

 **Wednesday, December 24** – Christmas Eve Services
– 4PM (*Family Service*) & 11PM (*Midnight Service*)

 **Thursday, December 25** – *Merry Christmas!*
As this Advent season ends and the Christmas season begins take a moment to be still and ponder the wonder of God sending his Son to be present among us. Love one another. *Pastor Larry*

 **Friday, December 26** – No Bible study.

 **Sunday, December 28** – First Sunday of Christmas ~ *Service @ 9:30 AM*
– Coffee Hour | Parish Hall – All are welcome!
– Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director
– Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Sunday Servants** 🙌

We'd love your help in making each Sunday special. Whether you'd like to greet, read, assist with Communion, or take part in special services like lighting the Advent Wreath—there's a place for you!

Reach out to **Christine Cornwell** or sign up through **SignUpGenius** in the newsletter.

- 🙏 **Prayer Team Table**

Located just inside the sanctuary entrance. Submit a card with your prayer request or contact **Lorrie Closter 540-840-8401**, to add a name to the Prayers of Intercession.

- 🏠 **Hospital Visitation**

Pastor Closter is registered with Valley Health for hospital visits. Due to HIPAA laws, the hospital cannot notify us when someone is admitted.

To request a visit, contact the church office at **540-869-4019**, or after hours, call Pastor Closter at **540-848-5325**. You may also reach out to **Pastor Closter** or **Martha Cooley**.

- 🎵 **Choir Rehearsals** - Normal Thursday Rehearsals will resume **September 4th** @ 5:45 PM 🎵

- 🎵 **Chime Choir** – Sundays after service | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director – music@trinitychurchvirginia.org

- **Food Pantry Item of the Month: Pancake syrup** | Contact: Kim Begnaud-Hampton– kbegnaud0101@yahoo.com

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Congregational Council

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we give thanks for this faithful community and the many ways God's love is shared among us. May the joy, peace, and hope of Christmas fill your hearts and homes, and may the promise of Emmanuel—God with us—guide us into the new year.

Merry Christmas!

From the LCW (Lutheran Church Women):

Thank You for a Joyful Christmas Luncheon

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Christmas Luncheon this past Saturday. It was a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, and delicious food, and a true gift to gather together during this holy season.

We are deeply grateful to all who helped plan, organize, prepare, and serve, as well as to those who shared their time and presence. Your hospitality and generosity helped create a welcoming space where the joy of Christmas was felt by all.

Moments like these remind us that the heart of the season is found in community and connection.

Thank you for being part of Trinity's Christmas celebration, and may God's peace and joy be with you throughout the season. Merry Christmas!

From the Social Outreach Ministry Team:

🎄 With Grateful Hearts – Thank You!

What a beautiful transformation this season has brought! Our Angel Tree blossomed into **The Tree of Warmth**, and because of your generosity, it is now filled with hats, gloves, socks, scarves, and hand warmers that will be shared with patients and families served by **Sinclair Health Clinic** after the New Year. Thank you for helping us extend warmth, care, and compassion beyond our church walls.

🎄 Angel Tree & Christmas Food Box Ministry

We offer heartfelt thanks to everyone who adopted an angel, donated food, volunteered time, and supported our Christmas Food Box ministry. Your generosity brought joy, dignity, and hope to families throughout our community.

This ministry was strengthened not only by the faithful support of Trinity members, but also by the kindness of **neighbors, friends, local partners, and community members outside of Trinity** who stepped forward to donate, serve, and lend helping hands. Together, we became a wider circle of care—and a powerful reflection of Christ's love in action.

Because of you:

- Angel Tree gifts were lovingly chosen and shared
- The Parish Hall became a true command center of teamwork and service
- Christmas food boxes were prepared and distributed with abundance and grace

Each food box—filled with a holiday meal and pantry staples—represented more than food. It was a message of hope and reassurance that no one is alone during the Christmas season.

We are deeply grateful for every donation, every volunteer, and every prayer—both from within Trinity and throughout the wider community—that made this ministry possible.

Thank you for sharing the light of Christ so generously this Christmas.

With gratitude,


The Social Outreach Ministry Team

Trinity Lutheran Church





Stay in the Loop!

Want to receive our **weekly Trinity Times Newsletter** by email?

 Fill out a welcome card (basket in the Narthex) with your name and email, and we'll add you to the list.

Prefer print? Pick up a copy **next to the name tag table in the Narthex**, or call the office to request a mailed version:

 **540-869-4019** |  Tuesday–Friday, 8 AM–1 PM